PARISH MAGAZINE



St. Mary's, Herriard



All Saints', Turworth



St. Mary's, Upton Grey



St Lawrence, Weston Patrick

August 2026

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

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Weston Patrick/Corbett	Peter Stemp	07470 251008
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BENEFICE MAGAZINE – August 2026
Edition for the Parishes of Herriard with Winslade, Tunworth, Upton Grey and Weston Patrick

Letter from the Benefice Ministry Team

Summer's Gentle Invitation



One of the joys of belonging to the North Hampshire Downs Benefice is that, although our twelve churches each have their own unique character and village community, together we seek to serve the people of our villages by offering welcome, friendship, support and spaces for reflection.

As July and August arrive, the rhythm of life changes almost imperceptibly. Gardens flourish, hay is gathered, children enjoy their holidays, and many of us find there is a little more room to breathe. Surrounded by the beauty of the Hampshire countryside, summer gently invites us to slow down and notice the world around us.

In the Church, this season is known as *Ordinary Time*. Despite its name, there is nothing ordinary about it. Following the great celebrations of Easter and Pentecost, the church calendar becomes quieter before the busy seasons of Harvest, Remembrance, Advent and Christmas arrive. The liturgical colour is green, symbolising growth, life and fruitfulness. As hedgerows fill, crops ripen and gardens bloom, we are reminded that much of life's growth takes place quietly, in everyday moments.

Our own lives need these quieter seasons too. In a culture that often celebrates constant busyness, rest can feel like a luxury, yet it is woven into the very pattern of creation.

Rest is not laziness; it is a gift from God - orchestrated by Him right at the beginning of Creation, that we should have some time of rest; and time to focus on Him. Jesus, too, often takes ‘time out’ from his busy ministering to find rest and time to pray and be with His father.

Whether we call it Sabbath, downtime or simply making space to breathe, stepping back from life's constant demands renews us. It helps us regain perspective, notice what truly matters and return to our daily lives with fresh energy.

Perhaps this summer offers an opportunity to rediscover that gift. Put the phone aside for an afternoon, read the book that has been waiting

on the bedside table, share an unhurried meal with family or friends, or walk one of our beautiful footpaths. Listen for the skylark, admire the wildflowers, notice the bees, or simply enjoy the peace that comes from being still.

Summer also brings many visitors to our villages, exploring our beautiful corner of Hampshire. Their presence gives us an opportunity to offer a warm welcome. Sometimes hospitality is found in the simplest of gestures: a smile, a cheerful greeting, offering directions to someone who looks a little lost, or recommending a favourite café, pub or village walk and help visitors experience the warmth that makes our villages such special places.

Each of our twelve churches is more than a historic building. They are places of peace, prayer and hospitality. Whether you live locally, are visiting, or simply passing by, our church doors are open. You are warmly invited to step inside, enjoy a few moments of quiet or simply rest in the **cool** stillness.

As one benefice serving twelve villages, we hope this summer will be a season of growth - not only in our gardens and fields, but also in kindness, neighbourliness and gratitude.

Sometimes the richest blessings are found not in life's great celebrations, but in its ordinary days.

… perhaps that is why *Ordinary Time* is anything but ordinary.

Amen.

Rev'd Debbie Veel, Assistant Minister
Vicar of Newnham & Nately Scures

FROM THE REGISTERS

Wedding: Sebastian Aldous and Emma Gosnay at St Mary's Herriard, on 20th June

Wedding: Jonathan Janaway and Sarah Gee at St Mary's Upton Grey, on 4th July

Baptism: Wilf Tudor at St Mary's Upton Grey, on 12th July

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 2nd August

9.00am	Tunworth	BCP Holy Communion
10.00am	Herriard	BCP Holy Communion (said)
10.30am	Upton Grey	CW Holy Communion

Thursday 6th August

10.00am	Herriard	Celtic Morning Prayer (said)

Sunday 9th August

9.00am	Tunworth	Family Service
10.00am	Weston Patrick	CW Holy Communion (Patronal Festival)
10.30am	Upton Grey	Morning Worship
5.00pm	Herriard	Evensong

Thursday 13th August

10.00am	Herriard	Celtic Morning Prayer (said)
10.00am	Upton Grey	BCP Holy Communion (said)

Sunday 16th August

10.00am	Herriard	Morning Worship with Baptism
10.30am	Upton Grey	CW Holy Communion
6.00pm	Tunworth	Evensong

Thursday 20th August

10.00am	Herriard	BCP Holy Communion (said)

Sunday 23rd August

9.00am	Tunworth	1662 Morning Prayer
10.00am	Herriard	Family Service
10.30am	Upton Grey	Informal Service
5.00pm	Weston Patrick	Hymns & Pimm's

Sunday 30th August

10.00am	Odiham	Benefice CW Holy Communion

CHURCH NEWS

The Revd Suzanne Newcombe's Ordination to the Priesthood
Please see the reports in the Herriard and Weston Patrick sections of this magazine.

The Revd Simon Butler's Installation, Collation and Licensing on Sunday 11th October in Winchester Cathedral
Please see the invitations in the Upton Grey and Tunworth sections of this magazine.

Children & Youth Activities

Children's Holiday Club
Going Bananas
Monday-Thursday August 3rd-6th, 9.00-12.30, at All Saints Odiham.
For more information and to sign up please see https://allsaintsodiham.churchsuite.com/events/nu37zls3 on the moretolife.church website.



All the other children/youth activities are taking a break in August, restarting in September:
* *Tuesday Toddlers* (South Warnborough) restarts 10.00-11.30 Tuesday 15th September
* *Get OWT* (Upton Grey) restarts 10.00-11.30 Tuesday 8th September
* *More4Kids & More4Youth* (4.30-7.30) and *All Saints After School* (3.00-4.45) restart in Odiham on Thursday 10th September
* *Homework Club* (Odiham) restarts Tuesday 8th September 3.00-5.30
* *More4Kids Upton Grey* restarts Wednesday 16th September 3.30-5.00
* *Youth Hub* (6.30-8.30 Sunday at the Herriard Hub) will restart in September - dates to be confirmed

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 6th August.**
- Coffee and cake drop-in at **Upton Grey Village Hall**, 11.00am-1.00pm on **Monday 10th & 24th August.**
- Coffee morning at **Weston Patrick Village Hall**, 11.00am-12.30pm on **Wednesday 26th August**

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

NEWS FROM THE VILLAGES

Farming News – July 2026

I'm writing this as we are mid-way through harvest in the second week of July. Which is extremely early, even after last year which was a record finish to harvest for ourselves. This has been the knock on effect of three heatwaves and very little rain since March. Unfortunately this has knocked the yield, which is a real shame as the autumn-sown crops have shown good potential leading into late spring. But the lack of rain and the extreme heat have burnt off the crops before they fully ripen. The yields aren't disastrous but they have just come up shorter than we were expecting. We still have roughly half of our wheat left before we will finish on our spring-sown barley. There are positives to this dry weather though, it makes harvesting the crops a lot easier, the combine harvester is working in the conditions that it is designed to and is able to thrash the grains out with ease. Also, not having to anxiously look at the four different weather apps I have on my phone, hoping for a dry weather spell, makes it more relaxing to plan our harvesting operations.

We started this year's harvest with our oilseed rape, which like last year we ended up cutting in the early hours of the morning to try and conserve moisture in the grain. We have strict moisture stipulations to stick to. Oilseed rape needs to be between 6% and 9% moisture content. Any wetter than 9% and the grain will need to be dried or it will start to germinate and spoil. Any lower than 6% and the pressing plants cannot extract the oil from the grains. So waiting for the dew to set in overnight and harvest the crop before the early sunrise was required. Not what we would like to be doing at that time of day, but it was a must.

The hens have been managing well in this heat and are still laying a good number of eggs, we're also pleased with their new feed ration that uses our home-grown wheat. Now for us to focus on gathering the last of the harvest, and prepping to start planting next year's oilseed rape in early August, assuming that we get some form of rain on the forecast.

As always thank you to the villagers for their patience whilst we move the combine harvester around the parish and operate at anti-social hours of the day.

Will Cheyney

UPTON GREY NEWS

www.uptongreychurch.co.uk
www.uptongreyvillagehall.co.uk
www.uptongreyparishcouncil.co.uk
facebook.com/uptongreyvillagecommunity

Upton Grey Village Hall 100 Club July Winners

Congratulations to this month's winners:
First Place: Deere £100
Second Place: Harker £40
If you'd like to join, please contact UGVH100@gmail.com

Get OWT!

Get Out With (your) Toddlers is taking a break in August, **restarting on Tuesday 8th September** (10.00 to 11.30am, just by the Churchyard).

More4Kids Upton Grey

Taking a break in August, **restarting on 16th September** (3.30-5.00 on Wednesday afternoon, monthly in the Village Hall).

Upton Grey Annual Golf Day 2026

Nine of the village's finest athletes participated in the UG golf day at Test Valley GC on 18th June. The weather was set fair, and the standard of golf was at a (surprisingly) decent level, and keenly contested, with the following results:

- **Individual Prize**
  1st place - Phil Whitehead – 38 points
  2nd place – Tom Bennett – 37 points
  3rd place – Lucy Church 36 points
- **Team Prize**
  Winners – Phil/Tom/Andy Hogg
- **Nearest the Pin**
  Not awarded as no-one was able to register a shot on the green! – will roll over to next year!

Great fun was had by all, and we look forward to next year's event to be organised by Phil. **David Cook**

Save the Date

**** Upton Grey Fun Run, Sunday September 27th***

Come along and run or walk a route along our public footpaths to raise money for our village church. All ages and dogs welcome. Open to Upton Grey villagers. Expect a friendly gathering with music, medals and refreshments afterwards. Timing and ticketing information TBA.
Sponsored by Proviz!

**** 3.30pm Sunday 11th October*** in Winchester Cathedral

The Revd Simon Butler's Installation, Collation and Licensing.
Simon has made it known that he would like an invitation extended to everyone who might like to attend the service in Winchester Cathedral at 3.30pm on Sunday 11th October when he will be Collated as Archdeacon of Winchester and Installed as a Canon of Winchester Cathedral. Anyone who would like to attend will be most welcome.

**** 6.00pm Saturday 17th October*** in Upton Grey Village Hall

The Rt Hon The Lord Roberts of Belgravia will talk about his forthcoming book *Napoleon and his Marshals*. This is a fund raising event for All Saints' Church Tunworth.
Please contact gabrielle02@btinternet.com for tickets which are £30.

Pickwick Papers – A Riotous Comedy on Sunday 9th August

Upton Grey Drama Group are lucky to again have the Rain or Shine professional theatre company perform for us on **Sunday 9th August in Church Meadow, Upton Grey**. This year we will be entertained by the riotous comedy of Pickwick Papers! **Gates open at 3.30pm for the 4.30pm performance**. Parking available in Church Meadow.

We will be entertained with the lovable Mr. Pickwick and his eccentric band of companions as they bumble their way on a rollicking journey through confusing courtships, courtroom shenanigans, questionable duels, and carriage rides gone terribly wrong. Expect fast-paced wit, multi-rolling mayhem, with mischief aplenty from a cast of larger-than-life characters in Rain or Shine's new and hilarious adaptation of Dickens' raucous classic.

'A hilarious show' ... 'Funny, Fast-paced, Fantastic' … 'Five brilliant actors doing the work of ten!' is just some of the feedback they have received.

Dickens has never been this delightfully unpredictable! Pack your picnic and prepare for an uproarious adventure with The Pickwick Society – where the only certainty is that a thoroughly good time will be had by all!

Tickets for adults and children over 11 years are just £20.00 and are available on the gate or in advance from: www.ticketsource.com/rain–or–shine–theatre–co/the–pickwick–papers–at–upton–grey–church–meadow–hampshire/2026–08–09/16:30/t–yzzzjoy or send a WhatsApp to Alison Barker on 0750 234 1112 to receive a link to buy tickets. **Upton Grey Drama Group**



Junior Tennis Coaching
Summer Tennis: Monday 10th – Thursday 13th 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 highly regarded. He makes the sessions fun for all. He also coaches at Odiham tennis club. 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 £18.00 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 on: slivingstonbooth@gmail.com with your child/children's name(s), age(s), and your contact details.

Payment should be made by 1st August 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

HERRIARD AND WINSLADE NEWS
www.herriard–pc.gov.uk
www.herriardvillagehub.co.uk
Herriard Village Group on http://www.Facebook.com

Herriard Parish Council Meeting - 24th August at 7.30pm, Herriard Village Hub
The agenda will include an update from the independent Leader of Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Mr Paul Harvey, on the issues facing our Local Government, such as the water crisis, unrealistic housing targets, tackling the infrastructure deficit, and the local economy. All Herriard residents and those from outlying villages are welcome to come and hear the Councillor speak and have the opportunity to question him about important issues that affect us all.

Afternoon Tea - Tuesday 18th August
A reminder that we have the village Afternoon Tea on Tuesday 18th August at The Herriard Hub at 3.00pm. Please do come along - all are welcome.

North Hampshire Downs Churches – Herriard Youth Hub
Please note: no Youth Hub meetings in August, will restart in September.

Looking ahead – dates for your diaries…
Sunday 11th October, 10.00am, **Harvest Festival service**
Wednesday 14th October, 7.00 for 7.30pm, **Harvest Supper** at The Herriard Hub

WEEKLY COFFEE MORNING IN HERRIARD

Every Thursday at the Village Hub

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Do come and join us – everyone welcome

Herriard Village Hub: Going Green!

We are excited to announce that our roof repairs, solar panelling, and inverter installations will begin on Monday 13th July. The works are expected to take 6 to 8 weeks, weather permitting.

Business as usual: The Hub remains fully open! All private bookings, Soul Bounce classes, and our weekly Thursday Coffee Mornings will go ahead as normal.

Parking note: Please be aware that there may be increased demand for street parking during this period, depending on the space required by our contractors.

Thank you for your patience as we take this big step toward a greener future. For any enquiries, please contact us via www.herriardvillagehub.co.uk.

Suzanne's Ordination – Winchester Cathedral – Saturday 27th June



(after the Service – Rev'd Suzanne with the Bishop of Warrington, Bishop Kelly, Bishop Philip and Bishop Rhiannon)

There was a strong contingency from the North Hampshire Downs Benefice to witness Suzanne's Ordination, along with 12 other new Priests in the Diocese, at Winchester Cathedral at the end of June. It was a fantastically joyous and moving service.

For Suzanne's husband, John, it must have been a very proud moment, but the big surprise he had to keep for that last week must have been overwhelming! Their daughter Elizabeth and her partner Andy had been travelling since before Christmas, and Suzanne thought they were still in Thailand. But no - they had come home early and were there in the Cathedral! That was quite a surprise for Suzanne, but for all who witnessed her reaction that was an incredibly special moment.

Rev'd Suzanne's first Holy Communion Service as ordained Priest Sunday 28th June – St Mary's Herriard

A joint service with Weston Patrick was held at St Mary's Herriard to celebrate Suzanne's first Holy Communion as Priest. The service was very special – for Suzanne her first Holy Communion service but also, alongside her, her sister leading the Intercessions, the Weston Patrick Choir leading the singing, organist Andrew Hinde (who so kindly stepped in at the last moment) and a fantastic turnout from congregations across the Benefice. And afterwards everyone enjoyed a glass of fizz and a piece of cake! Thanks also to Lesley, Churchwarden of St Lawrence Weston Patrick, for standing in as joint Churchwarden that day. Most of all - huge congratulations and well done to you, Suzanne, on your Ordination as Priest - we are so delighted for you and we know we are truly blessed to have you as our Priest!

From Suzanne's sermon on July 28th

This week I heard a story from an Inspector from the Diocese who went into a school. On the wall was a picture of a lighthouse adopted as a symbol for the school. The Inspector stopped a small boy in the corridor and asked him, as they were not near the sea, why the school had this symbol. The boy explained it is what we are meant to be, we should be lighthouses, shining out with kindness and caring. The Inspector though this a good explanation but was unprepared for what came next. The boy continued 'we have to be a light shining out, but if we do that sometimes we see others shining right back at us'. Not finished, he said 'and do you know what that is? It's the kingdom of God'. This small child was showing what this passage says about abundant, bountiful forgiveness, love and grace we should show to each other, and if we all do this in our church community we will see the kingdom of God in action. Our congregations are called to constantly give to each other, and as we all adopt this attitude this will be what we also receive, and in so doing we experience what it is like living in the kingdom of God. However, we are not to stop at this but to take this attitude out through the doors to our homes and communities. We can't guarantee that we will get the same attitude back, but we are called as we read in the Book of Common Prayer at Communion to 'let our light shine before men, that they may see our good works and glorify our Father which is in heaven'.

Pet Service – Sunday 21st June

On a beautiful sunny day and in the shade of the trees in the churchyard 47 of us came together for a wonderful Pet Service! Eleven dogs and one chicken were impeccably behaved as Suzanne blessed them one by one!

We are so grateful to Hazel and the Long Sutton Primary School who delighted us with their singing. Before enjoying coffee, cold drinks and delicious pastries the children sang The Blessing - a beautifully moving way to end such a lovely service.



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.

Foodbank at St Mary's Herriard with Winslade

We have a box in the Church for food donations. If you can't make our Sunday service, you can 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:

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

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TUNWORTH NEWS

Coffee & Cake: Thursday 6th August 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.

Prayer half-hour
The monthly Prayer Half–Hour sessions are on hold pending the arrival of the new Vicar.

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. The Home Group is taking a break in August**.** If you would like to know more, please contact Gabrielle.

Save the Date

6.00pm Sunday 20th September – Harvest Evensong.

3.30pm Sunday 11th October – The Revd Simon Butler's Installation, Collation and Licensing at Winchester Cathedral.
Simon has made it known that he would like an invitation extended to everyone who might like to attend the service in Winchester Cathedral at 3.30pm on Sunday 11th October when he will be Collated as Archdeacon of Winchester and Installed as a Canon of Winchester Cathedral. Anyone who would like to attend will be most welcome.

6.00pm Saturday 17th October in Upton Grey Village Hall
The Rt Hon The Lord Roberts of Belgravia will talk about his forthcoming book *Napoleon and his Marshals*. This is a fund raising event for All Saints' Church Tunworth.
Please contact gabrielle02@btinternet.com for tickets which are £30.

WESTON PATRICK & WESTON CORBETT NEWS

A Perfect Way to Raise Funds, a BBQ in an English Country Garden!
The sun shone, the Pimm's flowed and the BBQ sizzled. The garden of the Old Rectory in Weston Patrick looked beautiful as Clare and Ed Longfield welcomed many villagers and friends to the Village Summer BBQ in aid of the Church and PCC of St Lawrence and the Friends of St Lawrence. Our sincere thanks to Clare and Ed for letting us use their exquisite garden.



Whilst getting together as a community was one key aim, raising funds for the repair, maintenance and upkeep of our beloved Church and grounds here in Weston Patrick was another. Last but certainly not least, it was also a wonderful way to say Au Revoir to Linda Scard, our much loved and esteemed vicar for the last few years.

Linda has led our Church of St Lawrence and devoted much of her own time, energy and spiritual guidance to us all and so this was also a chance to present her with our thanks and some gifts we hope she will take much pleasure from.

Here we see her with one of those gifts, a marvellous painting done by Rebecca Del Mar of Weston Patrick, who beautifully captures a key theme from Linda's famous Harvest sermon.



Do ask Linda about that sermon next time you see her. We shall miss Linda's wise guidance and sense of fun but are delighted to welcome as our newly ordained vicar of Herriard and now Weston Patrick, Suzanne Newcombe. We have all got to know Suzanne in her role as curate and look forward to her guidance.

Despite the heat of the day (and it was hot!), thanks also to our wonderful BBQ chefs, Dom, Nick and Peter all of whom braved the heat to bring us stunning venison, sausages and other delicacies. Thanks also to the many contributors to the stunning buffet. We dined like Lords!

To raise further funds over and above the price of tickets, a much anticipated raffle was held and to the delight of all raised yet more valuable funds for the PCC and the Friends. Thank you to all who

submitted items for the raffle. Thanks also to Clare, Ed and Lesley who masterminded the whole event!

Thanks must go to all who attended and made the evening such a success. Thanks also go to those who although unable to attend kindly donated the ticket price to our funds and very importantly, to all who donated food, time and energy getting ready for the event and then clearing up.

In total just under £2000 was raised from ticket sales, the raffle and donations. This has been divided between the PCC and the Friends. A wonderful total from a wonderful day. All attendees declared the day a great success. A huge thanks to all from the PCC and The Friends of St Lawrence. See you for summer 2027…

Saturday 27th June saw the **Ordination of Priests** at Winchester Cathedral. What an utterly joyous occasion. Several members of the PCC including our Churchwarden, Lesley Don, plus friends and neighbours from Herriard, had the great privilege of attending and supporting Suzanne Newcombe as she was ordained Priest. It was a very moving occasion. Here is Suzanne after the service with our Churchwarden Lesley Don and Fiona Ives, Churchwarden, Herriard. Please keep Suzanne in your prayers.



Our next service will take place on **Sunday 9th August at 10.00am** (our Patronal Festival Communion Service). Then we will be holding a **Hymns & Pimm's** service on **Sunday 23rd August at 5.00pm**. 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

Reverend Suzanne Newcombe 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 2nd 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:
07484 162186 or suzanne@moretolife.church

Our Village Coffee morning will be held on the fourth Wednesday of the month, on **26th August at 11.00am** 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 paying particular attention, now, to the influence of women in the bible. For more details or if you would like to join us, please contact 07484 162186 or suzanne@moretolife.church

The Annual Ride and Stride for Churches will take place on **Saturday 12th September 2026**, and St. Lawrence will be open for any visitors passing by.

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

A Moonlight Walk and Festival for St Michael's Hospice, 26th Sept.
Step right up for an unforgettable Moonlight Festival! Join St Michael's Hospice on Saturday 26th September 2026, 8.00pm at Festival Place, Basingstoke, for a magical evening of music, entertainment and community spirit.

Choose from a 6k or 10k route, enjoy a festival atmosphere before and after the walk, and help raise vital funds to support local patients and families across North Hampshire. Your ticket includes a free event t-shirt and wristband. So, gather your friends, dress to dazzle, and light up the night for your local hospice. Tickets are available on our website at www.stmichaelshospice.org.uk/support-us/fundraising/events/moonwalk

North Hampshire Downs Mothers' Union
Our branch usually meets on the first Monday of the month. In August we are looking forward to celebrating our 150th Anniversary with a service of Evensong in Winchester Cathedral on **Sunday 9th August** at 3:30pm. Everyone is welcome to join us for what I am sure will be a lovely service and then for refreshments afterwards.

If you want to find out more about Mothers' Union or our branch, please contact Sue Murphy on suemurphymubranch@outlook.com or 01252 845011 / 07881 828450.

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North Warnborough & District Garden Club
We do not have a meeting in August but look forward to seeing everyone in September after the summer break. Please visit our website at https://www.nwdgc.org.uk for information.



National Garden Scheme, Hampshire

The NGS is now gearing up to 2027, when we celebrate our centenary. How different life and gardens were then. The first 600 gardens opened in May 1927 and the cost per head was 'a shilling'. They raised a total of £8,191.00, which went to help support the District Nurses. Currently we open 3,500 gardens, nationwide and the admission fee to visit a garden is anywhere between £4.50 and £10.00, depending on the garden. In 2025 the National Garden Scheme raised a staggering £3.8m - it would be great to make it £4m leading into our centenary year.

As well as donating to several well-known charities, the National Garden Scheme also supports many other Nursing, Health and Caring projects - the latest one being a donation of £37,828.00 to the rooftop critical care unit garden at Kings College Hospital, London. This donation was used to support the planting. This is the first rooftop critical care unit garden in the world. You can read more about this amazing garden on the NGS website - under New & Lifestyle.

We have a few gardens opening in September which you may like to visit, thus helping us reach our goal of £4m donated to very deserving charities.

Bramdean House, Bramdean Alresford, SO24 0JU
Opening: Sunday 13th September 1.30 to 3.30pm children free.
Admission: £7.00 children free. Cashless payments available.
Refreshments: Tea, coffee and cake (Donations to Bramdean Church)

This is a real plantsman's garden, full of interest all year round. 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.

September brings us to the end of our National Garden Scheme Open Gardens for another year - can you believe it!!This will be my last article for a few months - unless the National Garden Scheme Head Office release some more exciting news regarding our Centenary Celebrations in 2027.

Now that Autumn is just round the corner, don't forget we give talks about the National Garden Scheme - 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.

I wish you all very best wishes for the rest of 2026.

Pat Beagley (Head of Publicity)

Borough Councillor Community Grant 2027/27 Open for Requests

As your elected Borough Councillors, we have a small pot of money ranging from £250 to £2,000 (up to a maximum of £3,000 if we pool our allocation), available to award to locally based community groups or charities in our Ward of Basing and Upton Grey. These awards are governed by strict criteria clearly detailed in this link:
https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/cllr-community-grants

Cllr Onnalee Cubitt, Cllr Sheena Grassi and Cllr Kate Tuck would love to hear from you if your group or charity is interested in seeking a small grant by **no later than Monday 14th September 2026** by email to cllr.kate.tuck@basingstoke.gov.uk with a brief outline of how much grant you are seeking together with your reasons to be selected as one of the chosen groups for us to support PRIOR to you submitting the formal application. We shall then "sift" the brief outlines received and collectively determine which applications we will support. Sadly, not every application will be successful.

We really look forward to hearing from you and your group and to learning about your deserving causes and the benefits such a grant would provide to our wonderful community. Please spread the word.

Best Wishes,

Cllr Onnalee Cubitt, Cllr Sheena Grassi and Cllr Kate Tuck

Do you love to sing? We do

Hampshire Harmony is an upper voice choir based in Basingstoke, with a growing reputation across the county.

We have lots of fun together; we run workshops and have training days in addition to our regular practices on Monday evenings. Our MD, Clare Oliver, is a wonderful leader and voice coach, who is ambitious for our future. We shall be singing at the Tower of London this Christmas!

If you are thinking of joining a choir and you are an adult, who sings Alto, Mezzo or Soprano, contact us via the website and follow us on Facebook and Instagram so you can keep up with what's on.

You can also meet us at the Oakley Village Show on **August 8th**.

We look forward to entertaining you or maybe to you joining us.

Cross Barn Theatre, Odiham – Cinema/NT/Jazz

We take our usual summer break in August, returning in September with titles to be announced soon. Please check our website for up-to-date information. Purchase tickets online at http://www.thecrossbarn.org.uk

Shaun Wallace to support Cardiac Health as guest speaker at Annual Lecture



Cardiac Health is delighted to announce that renowned barrister, television quiz champion, author, and motivational speaker Shaun Wallace will be the guest speaker at this year's Cardiac Health Annual Lecture at the Alton Maltings on **Wednesday 7th October**.

Best known to millions as "The Dark Destroyer" on ITV's *The Chase*, Shaun Wallace has built an extraordinary career defined by determination, discipline, and achievement. Called to the Bar in 1984, he has enjoyed a distinguished legal career as a Criminal Defence Barrister spanning more than three decades. Alongside his work in law, Shaun has become one of the UK's most recognisable quiz personalities, making history in 2004 as the first Black winner of Mastermind before going on to star in The Chase.

Shaun is widely respected not only for his professional success, but also for his commitment to charity and community causes. He has used his profile to support a wide range of organisations through fundraising, awareness campaigns, charity quizzes, and public speaking engagements.

Cardiac Health is honoured to welcome Shaun to this special event, where he will share his inspiring personal story of ambition, resilience, and perseverance while helping to shine a spotlight on the importance of cardiac health awareness and support for patients and families.

Guests will have the opportunity to meet Shaun after the lecture, when he will be signing and selling copies of his bestselling autobiography, Chasing the Dream, and posing for photographs. This promises to be an inspiring and memorable evening in support of Cardiac Health and its vital work to improve health in the community through exercise.

Tickets can be purchased from the Cardiac Health website: www.cardiachealth.org.uk/events

Odiham Voluntary Care Group Needs Drivers!

If you would you be prepared to join us as a volunteer to support those in several local villages in need of transport to medical appointments?

We are also looking for a Treasurer (about two hours a week on average).

Please contact 07551 587862 if you can help.



North Hampshire National Trust Supporter Group visit to Chichester Flower Festival and Fishbourne Roman Palace

On the wettest day of June so far, 40 members of the *North Hampshire National Trust Centre* (NHNTC) boarded a coach – inauspiciously delayed by traffic problems – to visit the *Chichester Flower Festival,* a biennial event held in the Cathedral. For this year's festival there were 66 spectacular floral displays installed throughout the historic building.

The installations were designed by leading Sussex floral artist Caroline Daines around the theme *'Nature's Embrace'*. To bring those 66 massive displays to life, an army of over 100 volunteer flower arrangers worked behind the scenes using more than 50,000 individual blooms. The centrepiece in front of the high altar was particularly impressive – if difficult to view in its entirety on account of the crush of the 'spectators'. Additionally, the festival spilled out into the city centre for its 30th anniversary, with over 15 local businesses putting up extra bespoke floral installations along the high street.

Members made their own arrangements for lunch – many choosing the cathedral café – before the coach continued on its short journey to Fishbourne Roman Palace, where an enthusiastic guide – a classics graduate and former schoolteacher – provided fascinating details of the Palace … and it was a 'palace', not a 'villa', that was larger than Buckingham Palace. Mind you, half of it cannot be viewed, since it is now under the houses of the village!

The NHNTC is a supporter Group for the National Trust, generating a financial surplus from its activities to give to the Trust, largely through donations to *The Vyne*, near Basingstoke. Currently it is helping to fund the purchase of a new passenger buggy to ferry folk from the car park to the main building and its café, the Brewhouse. Activities include afternoon talks and social events in the winter at the Elizabeth Hall, Hook, and coach outings - not just to NT properties – in the summer. Non-members are most welcome at our events, as are new members for the modest annual subscription of £8. Details of all our activities are to be found on our website at: www.nhntc.com

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 2026

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

AUGUST DATES

3rd-6th Aug		'Going Bananas' holiday club, Odiham church	9.00-12.30
9th Aug	Sun	Pickwick Papers Comedy, UG Church Meadow	3.30pm
10th-13th Aug		Upton Grey Junior Tennis Coaching	9.00-12.45
18th Aug	Tues	Herriard village Afternoon Tea, Herriard Hub	3.00pm
23rd Aug	Sun	Hymns & Pimm's, St Lawrence Weston Patrick	5.00pm

ADVANCE DATES

27th Sep	Sun	Upton Grey Fun Run	
11th Oct	Sun	Simon Butler's installation & collation, Winchester Cathedral	3.30pm
17th Oct	Sat	'Napoleon and his Marshals', Upton Grey Village Hall	6.00pm
31st Oct	Sat	Upton Grey Bonfire, Fireworks, Halloween Events	3.00pm
12th Jun	Sat	St Mary's UG, Summer Fete (2027)	

REGULAR EVENTS

Each Mon/Thur	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 Thur	Prayer group, 4 Little Hoddington	5.00–5.45pm
Each Thur	Coffee, Tea & Cake Morning, Hub, Herriard	10.00am
Each Thur	Upton Grey bell-ringing practice, St Mary's, UG	7.45pm
Every 1st Thur	Prayer Half-Hour, All Saints Tunworth	10.00am
Every 1st Thur	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 2026.

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

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