PARISH MAGAZINE



St. Mary's, Herriard



All Saints', Turworth



St. Mary's, Upton Grey



St Lawrence, Weston Patrick

September 2026

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Benefice Rector	Rev Chris Dudgeon	chris@moretolife.church
Vicar, Upton Grey & Tunworth:	VACANT	
Vicar, Herriard & Weston Patrick:	Rev Suzanne Newcombe	suzanne@moretolife.church
Children & Youth Outreach Pastor:	Helen Chatfield	youth@moretolife.church
Church Office	01256 703791	admin@moretolife.church

Church Wardens

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Upton Grey	VACANT	
Weston Patrick	Lesley Don	07939 201573

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Onnalee Cubitt (cllr.onnalee.cubitt@basingstoke.gov.uk)	07762 067411
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County Councillor: Juliet Henderson (juliet.henderson@hants.gov.uk) 01256 862413

Member of Parliament: Alex Brewer alex.brewer.mp@parliament.uk

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

Letter from the Benefice Ministry Team



Well, just when you think a heatwave is ending, you get 170 more! It seems like we have had a never-ending stream of heatwaves this year, with heat records being broken and re-broken on a fairly constant basis. With the grass turning brown, and soil becoming dust, it has at points felt fairly oppressive.

However, we had a lovely moment during our annual Holiday Club in August. It was the Wednesday morning when all of a sudden, it rained. It lasted perhaps 5 minutes at most, but there was definite water falling from the sky. And it just so happened to be one of the few times when almost every single child was doing an activity outdoors. Children were running, dancing and (literally) singing in the rain. One description was "almost like a child seeing snow for the first time." It was almost magical.

And this moment prompted some thinking for me. Sometimes life can feel hectic, overwhelming and unrelenting. Like a series of heatwaves, it can seem like the busyness of life robs us of actual living. That we have too much going on to be able to just sit back and enjoy the good things of this world.

Sometimes, life can feel like a series of heatwaves in the drought that it produces. For some of us life can feel difficult, perhaps we long for the busyness. But things just feel a bit empty, listless…dry.

Whatever the reason, whatever the particularities, many of us are longing for change. Whether it's waiting for the actual rain to fall to water our gardens and bring the green back. Whether it's waiting for the pause in chaos, some breathing room, some space. Waiting for life to slow down.

Or whether it's waiting for something to happen, to break us out of the monotony. We long for change, refreshing… for life.

This is the promise of God. The promise he gives us wherever we find ourselves. He promises to meet us. To provide for us. One of my favourite songs that we sing in church is All Who Are Thirsty. The opening verse is wonderful;

All who are thirsty
And all who are weak

Come to the fountain
Dip your heart in the streams of life

I love that imagery, the idea of dipping your heart, refreshing your heart in the living waters of Jesus' love.

So by the time this goes to print and you read it, who knows…maybe we're on heatwave number 3000. Maybe the last remnants of lawn have been scorched away. Or maybe, just maybe, we may have seen some rain. Begun to feel it's refreshing presence. Started to see the difference it makes.

Why not come along to church one Sunday? Find out a bit more about this life-giving, life-sustaining, life-enriching presence of Jesus. Perhaps see what difference he can make in your life.

God bless, and hope to see you around,

The Revd Matt Bianchi (Vicar, All Saints Church, Odiham)

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 6th September		
9.00am	Tunworth	BCP Holy Communion
10.00am	Herriard	BCP Holy Communion (said)
10.30am	Upton Grey	CW Holy Communion
Thursday 10th September		
10.00am	Herriard	Celtic Morning Prayer (said)
10.00am	Upton Grey	BCP Holy Communion (said)
Sunday 13th September		
9.00am	Tunworth	1662 Morning Prayer
10.00am	Weston Patrick	CW Holy Communion
10.30am	Upton Grey	Morning Worship
5.00pm	Herriard	Evensong
Thursday 17th September		
10.00am	Herriard	BCP Holy Communion (said)
Sunday 20th September		
10.00am	Herriard	Morning Worship
10.30am	Upton Grey	CW Holy Communion
6.00pm	Tunworth	Harvest Evensong
Sunday 27th September		
9.00am	Tunworth	Family Service
10.00am	Herriard	Family Service
10.30am	Upton Grey	Informal Service
5.00pm	Weston Patrick	Evensong

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funeral: John Westbrook at Basingstoke Crematorium on 30th July
Interment of Ashes: Kenneth Kent at St Mary's Upton Grey on 4th August
Baptism: Inigo Seccombe at St Mary's Herriard on 16th August
Funeral: Sylvia Vine at Basingstoke Crematorium on 18th August (to be followed by Memorial Service at St Mary's Herriard on 3rd September)

CHURCH NEWS

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
All the children's/youth activities are 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* (4.30-6.00, including meal 5.30-6.00) restarts in Odiham on Thursday 10th September
* *More4Youth* (5.30-7.30, including meal 5.30-6.00) restarts in Odiham on Thursday 10th September
* *All Saints After School* restarts in Odiham 3.00-4.45 Tuesday 15th September
* *Homework Club* restarts in Odiham 3.00-5.30 Tuesday 8th September
* *More4Kids Upton Grey* restarts 3.30-5.00 Wednesday 16th September
* *Youth Hub* (6.30-8.30 Sunday at the Herriard Hub) restarts soon, contact Helen Chatfield (youth@moretolife.church) for more information

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

- Coffee and cake in the church porch, **All Saints Tunworth**, at 10.30am on **Thursday 3rd September**
- Coffee and cake drop-in at **Upton Grey Village Hall**, 11.00am-1.00pm on **Monday 14th & 28th September**
- Coffee morning at **Weston Patrick Village Hall**, 11.00am-12.30pm on **Wednesday 23rd September**

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

KidsZone

As I sit on a (very) early train to Gatwick, ready to fly out on holiday to a Caribbean island, I find myself flicking back through the photos of Going Bananas holiday club last week and reliving some of the awesome memories that were made. Whether it was children dancing in the three minutes of rain Odiham has received in the last two months or the teenagers fully committing to the actions of 'Twisting back in time', whether it was the laughing faces of the children when Ripe splatted Rotten (yes that's me…) with a rather over-enthusiastic custard pie, or the awe I felt at the clean-up team, as we walked back into church after the family picnic. More than 100 children and young people - not to mention more than 40 adult volunteers - came together, made memories, had fun and 'did church'.

It might not have looked much like a traditional church service, but we came together, laughed, sang and learned about God as one big family. It didn't matter how old or young we were - we were 'church'.

And that was the thing I will most remember about this (and every single holiday club I've ever done!), that a church isn't made up of bricks and mortar, but of the people who are in it. In the Bible, in a book called 1 Peter, which was probably written by the same Peter who walked on water at holiday club, we are called living stones. God is building us up to be his church that the world sees - and last week, what a beautiful church the world saw!

They say a picture paints a thousand words - and we hope these few pictures give you a glimpse of the joy, friendship and love of God we all felt at holiday club.

God Bless



Helen Chatfield
Children & Youth Outreach Worker

youth@moretolife.church
07540 140228

Photos from the *Going Bananas* holiday club, August 2026















NEWS FROM THE VILLAGES

Farming News – August 2026

Greetings from the Herriard Serengeti where our heifers in the fields are doing a very good impression of the Great Migration. We're taking them 21% protein nuts and extra hay in our pickup truck to supplement the lack of grass in the fields. When they hear the engine approaching there is a thunderous sound of hooves on hard ground, loud blaring and the sky fills with dust. It really does resemble something you'd see on safari. Even more so when I know our old Ford Ranger pickup, repainted in dark green, is ex Windsor Safari Park and very used to doing this sort of thing in its previous life. No matter how hungry they are, I still feel safer feeding our heifers than I would a pride of lions!

This weather has dominated everything we do and every conversation we have had over the past few months as I'm sure it has with most of you too. Generally, the cows don't like anything over 20 degrees and so when we've had four months in a row with days over 35 degrees for the first time ever, we know there are going to be some problems. Although cows look very placid, they are working incredibly hard keeping their four stomachs ticking over turning grass, maize and the other ingredients in the ration into milk. Their energy requirements are enormous so when it's hot their appetites decrease and so feed intakes drop, milk yield drops and fertility becomes a challenge. All our milking cows are in the barns so at least they have shade, cool sand beds, easy access to water and if there is some wind, a gentle breeze across their backs.

We have been fortunate to make three early cuts of grass silage. The grass yield wasn't the best but at least that's now safely in the silage clamps and I know how many tonnes I've got to feed for the coming winter. We harvested our maize at Park Farm on 11th & 12th August which is by far and away the earliest ever. Normally we harvest maize in the latter half of September or into October. The yield hasn't been the best and cob development patchy but given the dry conditions probably better than expected. Yields were also poor last year because of the dry summer, so I planted a lot more acres of maize this year to build our silage stocks back up. I'm very glad I did as we will now have enough in the clamps to see us through to next harvest and beyond. This is so important because we can now sample and analyse the grass and maize

silages we have in stock, run the results past our cow nutritionist and plan our years feeding.

We are trying to reduce the number of variables associated with these more extreme swings in the weather. As I mentioned a couple of months ago after our trip to Ireland, we can't grow grass like they can, so trying to achieve consistent milk yields from grazed grass is difficult and this year would have been impossible. Many dairy farmers that do this only make enough silage to feed their cows over the winter months, but they are having to feed their winter ration now leaving them little to feed their cows later in the year. It's going to be a long, tough winter for many.

We always have to look at the upside though and those good moments are many and never far away; when I was checking the maize to see if it was ready for harvest the other evening down near Weston Corbett, I could hear the sound of the church bells drifting up from Upton Grey which was not only beautiful but to my untrained ear, sounding very professional! I had to stop, stand and listen surrounded by nothing but gently rustling maize plants. And after sheeting up the maize silage the other night, after a particularly long day, Murray, Ric, Simon, Sam and I, dragged some chairs out of the farm office and sat in the yard downing some well-earned beers looking over the cows chilling in the yards as the sun set. Murray commented 'it's really nice just sitting here enjoying the view when we're not rushing around'. Every now again we have to take a step back and in amongst the mayhem, appreciate what we have.

After another particularly long day last week I collapsed in a heap in front of the telly and flicked through the umpteenth channel of dross (I can remember when there were only three channels!) and came across the end of an old Grand Designs when Kevin McCloud was concluding a barn conversion someone had renovated on their grandparent's farm. He summed up what the family had been through with 'The very spirit of agriculture can be defined with the phrase "tenacious resilience", the idea of the individual carrying on regardless'… I'm still trying to work out whether that is a positive? **Joe Ives**

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

Upton Grey Village Hall 100 Club August Winners
First Place: Rachel & Steve Surrall £100
Second Place: Christine and David Gath £40
Congratulations to this month's winners.
If you'd like to join, please contact UGVH100@gmail.com

Get OWT!
Get **O**ut **W**ith (your) **T**oddlers, having taken a break in August, **restarts on Tuesday 8th September** (10.00 to 11.30am, just by the Churchyard).

Ride & Stride: Saturday 12th September
The church will be open on Saturday 12th September for *Ride & Stride.*



More4Kids Upton Grey
Having taken a break in August, More4Kids Upton Grey **restarts on Wednesday 16th September** (3.30-5.00 in the Village Hall).

UPTON GREY



FUN RUN

SEPTEMBER 27TH 2026

OR WALK!

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kids go free!

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Upton Grey Fun Run & Walk, Sunday September 27th, Start 10.00am
This is the inaugural village fun run, an inclusive event for all ages and abilities, in aid of our church. Come walk 1km or run our longer distance (it's about 5.8km)! More information when you register at the village shop or by mailing uptongreyfunrun@gmail.com. (Pre-registration important) We have limited spots and, sorry, there will be no parking available in the village. The event starts and finishes at the far end of Cleves Lane.

Harvest Festival Supper - Saturday 10th October
Harvest Festival Supper in the Village Hall in aid of St Mary's Church, Upton Grey. Doors open 7.00pm. £12.50 per person. Tickets will be available from the village shop. Supper - Pay Bar - Raffle - Tombola - Quiz and Bingo! Contact: Rosie Ralls - rosieralls@btinternet.com

The Revd Simon Butler's Installation, Collation and Licensing Sunday 11th October 3.30pm, 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.

Saturday 17th October 6.30pm, 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.
Tickets are £30 - https://buytickets.at/allsaintschurchtunworth/2341335

Save the Date: Upton Grey Safari Supper, 20th March 2027. Starts at 7.15pm and tickets will cost £16 per person.

St Mary's Church
Upton Grey

Harvest Supper and Festival

Upton Grey Harvest Supper

Saturday 10th October at 7pm in the Village Hall
Pay Bar, Raffle, Tombola, Quiz and Bingo
Tickets £12.50 each from the Village Shop

Harvest Festival Service

St Mary's Church Sunday 11th October at 10.30am.
Please bring harvest gifts for donation to charity.

Harvest bring and share lunch

Sunday 11th October at Noon in the Village Hall.
All welcome.



Upton Grey says farewell to the Revd Simon Butler

After 10 years as our Vicar, Upton Grey said farewell to the Revd Simon Butler at his last service in St Mary's at 5pm on 19th July 2026. Rather than a formal service, it was a *Hymns & Pimm's* event, starting off with *Pimm's* being served outside the church in the summer sunshine. People then moved into the church, where Simon led the congregation through seven hymns, introduced by the lucky people who had chosen them. The church was packed with over 60 people present.

At the end of the service, Sarah Barnes gave a short speech thanking Simon for all he had done for both the village and The Benefice. A farewell collection had been taken, and Simon was presented with a Ceramic Kamado Style Charcoal Egg BBQ Grill, together with a card and a substantial cheque. He was also presented with framed print showing St Mary's Church.





Simon responded by telling the assembled congregation that he had found his time in Upton Grey inspiring, and that it was something he would always treasure.

A picture was also presented to Sarah Barnes, our wonderful hard-working Churchwarden who, sadly for us, is leaving Upton Grey - as announced in July.

The evening ended with more *Pimm's* in the churchyard.

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

Macmillan Coffee Morning, Thursday 24th Sep, Herriard Hub



We are hosting a Macmillan coffee morning and would love you to drop by and support this important money raising event. Your support means we can do whatever it takes to help more people with Cancer.
Date Thursday 24th September ***Time*** 10.00am-1.00pm
Venue Herriard Hub, King John's Road, Herriard, RG25 2PG
Hot drinks, delicious cakes, great company plus a Raffle.
Please bring cash/cards for donations. Thank you. **Pat Pegg**

Sylvia Vine 'Celebration of Life'
There will be a 'Celebration of Life' service for Sylvia Vine on **Thursday 3rd September** at 11 o'clock, at St Mary's Church Herriard, Basingstoke RG25 2PL. All are invited to attend this service to remember Sylvia, a long standing member of St Mary's Church and PCC.

North Hampshire Downs Churches – Herriard Youth Hub
Having taken a break in August, the Youth Hub restarts soon.
Sundays 6.30-8.30 at the Herriard Hub. Please contact Helen Chatfield (youth@moretolife.church) for more information.

WEEKLY COFFEE MORNING IN HERRIARD

Every Thursday at the Village Hub

Open any time between 10.00 and 12.00

Good coffee and fresh baked cakes

Donations from £2.50 each to cover costs

Do come and join us – everyone welcome

Herriard Village Hub Update

*** Exciting News**

Our new roof and solar panels are now complete!

As well as improving the Hub's sustainability, the building can now be opened during Emergencies to provide a safe community venue during local power outages - an important asset for Herriard and the surrounding area.

*** Looking for a Venue?**

The Hub is available to Hire for parties, wedding receptions, meetings, classes and community events. **Facilities include** Main Hall, Club Room & Bar, Garden area with picnic seating, fully equipped Kitchen, WiFi, Sound System & Microphones, 50" TV, Pool Table, Darts & Table Tennis. **Find out more or book online at:**
www.herriardvillagehub.co.uk

Coming Up: The Hub would love to welcome you along to one of our upcoming events. View Online Calendar for further information.

*** Harvest Supper – Wednesday 14th October**

Join us for an enjoyable evening celebrating the harvest.
Book by Friday, 9th October with Fiona Ives 07867 973266 or fiona@ashmeadow.co.uk

*** Quiz Night – Saturday 24th October**

Contact **Gill Fitt** 07957 400 029 to book individually or as a group (max **6 per team)**

*** Herriard Folk Returns – Saturday 31st October**

Our Halloween Folk Music Evening launches the new season, with guest performers followed by our friendly Open Jam. Everyone is welcome! Children & Students Free.

*** Herriard's Festive Christmas Fair – Sunday 15th November**

Our annual Christmas Fair is open to everyone, with festive stalls and gifts. Meet a children's author, decorate a miniature willow tree to take home, enjoy games, homemade cakes, savoury bites and seasonal refreshments.

Regular Activities

*** Coffee Mornings** - Every Thursday **10.00am to Noon**
*** Soul Bounce** - Fridays at **9.30am**

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Ride & Stride: Saturday 12th September

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St Mary's Herriard will be open between 9.30am and 12noon on Saturday 12th September for this most worthwhile annual event, and will be offering refreshments to visitors.



Family Service

All are welcome to our family service at 10.00am on **Sunday 27th September**. The service is followed by refreshments (this month - fresh pastries!). Please invite friends and neighbours to join in this simple service for all ages

Harvest Festival Church Service, Harvest Supper and Auction

Our Harvest Festival Service is on **Sunday 11th October at 10.00am.**



Cheyney Farming

Please do join us for this celebration and thanksgiving for Harvest 2026 - everyone is very welcome indeed. The Church always looks stunning with an abundance of seasonal produce and flowers, and we will be collecting contributions for the local food bank (The Camrose Centre) during the service.

Our Harvest Supper and Auction will be at The Herriard Hub on **Wednesday 14th October at 7.00 for 7.30pm.**

We do hope you can join us for the legendary and delicious Herriard Harvest Supper followed by the much anticipated Auction!

You do need to book your places beforehand - please contact Fiona on 07867 973266 or email fiona@ashmeadow.co.uk ***before Friday 9th October.***



Park Farm: Forage Maize Harvest

Dates for your diaries…

* **Sunday 11th October** 10.00am - Harvest Festival
* **Wednesday 14th October** 7.00 for 7.30pm - Harvest Supper
  (see details for booking your places)
* **Sunday 8th November** 10.45am - Remembrance Sunday Service
* **Sunday 29th November** 6.00pm - Advent Carol Service
  (with the Ancora Female Voice Choir)

Alpha Course

An Alpha course will take place in October in Herriard. This is an opportunity to explore faith in an informal setting and discuss life, faith and meaning. It is open to all. If you would like to join the group please contact Suzanne - suzanne@moretolife.church

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's aim is to promote fulfilling lifestyles, emotional wellbeing and support long-term changes for those experiencing the effects of homelessness, mental and physical ill-health, poverty, substance misuse, domestic violence, unemployment, exploitation and social isolation

TUNWORTH NEWS

Coffee & Cake: Thursday 3rd September
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 September dates the 9th and 23rd. 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.
Tickets are £30 - https://buytickets.at/allsaintschurchtunworth/2341335

9.00am Sunday 1st November
Bishop Kelly will be preaching at our Patronal service.

Reverend Simon Butler's last service at Tunworth

The Reverend Simon Butler pictured at the conclusion of his last service at Tunworth on 12th July and accepting the plaque for the bench and other presents gifted to him from all Tunworth residents in much appreciation of his 10 years as Vicar of the parish.



WESTON PATRICK & WESTON CORBETT NEWS

Our next service will be Holy Communion on **Sunday 13th September at 10.00am** and then Evensong on **Sunday 27th September at 5.00pm** along with our brilliant choir.

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 4th September**. 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 **23rd September from 11.00 am** in the Village Hall. Adults and children, all 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. Suzanne Newcombe:
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.

Please note that our Harvest Festival for Weston Patrick and Weston Corbett will take place on **Sunday 11th October with a service at 11.00am followed by Harvest Lunch.** Details to follow but if anybody would like to reserve a ticket for Harvest Lunch please contact: lesleydon6@gmail.com

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

Friends Of St Michael's Hospice Carol Service, 8th Dec, All Saints Odiham
We are again holding the Friends of St Michael's Carol Service on Tuesday 8th December 2026 at All Saint's, Odiham. Doors open at 6.00 pm, and the service will commence at 7.00 pm. We are joined this year by Trinity Boys Choir and Al Petrie. We will again be serving canapes and wine before the service and mince pies as the congregation leaves. Tickets are £40.00 and can be purchased at Katherine Jane, High Street, Odiham or at www.stmichaelshospice.org.uk/events. We hope you can join us for a festive evening.

North Hampshire Downs Mothers' Union
Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families
On 9th August each year we remember Mary Sumner, the founder of Mothers' Union. This year our celebrations were particularly special as we also celebrated the 150th Anniversary of our organisation.

Mary Sumner Day started with Sunday Worship on BBC Radio 4 focussing on Mary Sumner and her legacy. Then within the diocese there were two services celebrating Mary Sumner Day; in the morning a service at St Mary's Church in Old Alresford in the morning, and in the afternoon a special service of Evensong in the Cathedral when we were joined by the Lord Mayor of Winchester, the Lady Mayoress and the Deputy Lieutenant, as well as many Mothers' Union members from this diocese and further afield. Bishop Kelly gave an inspiring sermon about

Mary Sumner, and about her vision for Mothers' Union which works to promote the well-being of families, and to improve the situation of women and girls around the world. We hope to continue doing that for the next 150 years!





Our branch usually meets on the first Monday of the month, so our next meeting will be on **Monday 7th September** at the RAF Chaplaincy Centre at 7:30pm. 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.

The Dummer Fair Returns for 2026 Celebrating 30 years

The Dummer Fair returns this October to the Dummer Cricket Centre, celebrating a special 30 years as one of Hampshire's most loved and beautifully curated shopping events. The Fair features a selection of over 90 independent stalls offering a unique mix of homeware, gifts, gourmet foods and high quality fashion.

Join us on Wednesday 7th October (5.00–9.00pm) for a preview evening, or Thursday 8th October (9:30am–3:30pm) for a full day of shopping - perfect for getting ahead for the festive season.

Proudly supported by Phillips Law, Knight Frank and Shaw Gibbs, the Fair raises vital funds for **Treloar's**, supporting physically disabled young people by providing necessary care, therapy and education.
Advance booking is recommended, visit www.dummerfair.org.uk for an early bird discount.

For more information, please contact – The Dummer Fair Team: dummerfair@treloar.org.uk or see the website: www.dummerfair.org.uk

Family Counselling – Don't Shout, Talk it Out

Family life hard? Communication breaking down? Don't understand each other? Hart Voluntary Action's Family Counselling can help.

Our confidential Family Counselling service gives your family the chance to express and explore each other's feelings in a safe and non-judgmental environment. Both self-referrals and referrals from GPs & other professionals are welcome.

We offer up six family counselling sessions to Hart & Rushmoor residents. They are free-to-access and take place in Odiham. For full details and to refer visit www.hartvolaction.org.uk/counselling

North Warnborough & District Garden Club

Our next meeting will be on the 24th September in the Village Hall. Pamela Holt will talk to us about Indoor Plant Propagation. Please arrive by 2.10pm. The talk will start at 2.30pm. Visitors welcome £3. For further information please view our website www.nwdgc.org.uk

National Garden Scheme, Hampshire

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

Cross Barn Theatre, Odiham – Cinema/NT/Jazz

Sept 18 **Film: The Devil Wears Prada 2** starring: Meryl Streep, Ann Hathaway, Stanley Tucci, Emily Blunt

Set two decades after the events of the first film, it follows Andy Sachs (Hathaway) as she helps Miranda Priestly (Streep) navigate a new media landscape and corporate threats to the survival of *Runway* magazine.

"Meryl Streep still wears Miranda Priestly like a finely tailored suit in this enjoyable sequel, which is dressed to the nines in off-the-rack wish fulfilment and some trenchant observations about the state of modern media" Rotten Tomatoes

Sept 25 **Film: The Christophers** starring**:** Ian McKellen, Michaela Coel, James Corden, Jessica Gunning

An irascible, dyspeptic old English painter (McKellen) who hasn't painted in decades & has been broke for years, has two estranged children (Corden & Gunning), desperate for an inheritance. They hire an art restorer & former forger (Coel), to pose as a prospective assistant to complete eight unfinished canvases which will be 'discovered' upon their father's death.

"A deliciously sly, twisty, darkly comedic take on the art world, starring McKellen who has never been better on film" Spectator

Tickets £7.50, Doors open at 19.00. Films starts at 19.45.
Coffee/tea, wine/soft drinks and ice creams available
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.



A Summer Serenade that Entertained

Hampshire Harmony choir gave their last concert of the season, Summer Serenade, at The Costello School Basingstoke on the afternoon of Sunday 12th July.

Despite the clash with the Wimbledon finals and it being a very hot day, there was an enthusiastic audience of around a hundred who came out to support the choir and their charity of the year, St Michael's Hospice.

Some feedback from audience members *"It was my pleasure to be there. The choir was excellent and I am not surprised that you have won awards." "My hubby said 'It was the best performance I've ever seen from HH!'" "Totally excellent." "Loved it."*

If you are an adult who sings Soprano, Mezzo or Alto and you want to sing with a choir that is going places and which sings a wide range of musical genres in 3-part harmony or more, then start the September term by coming to our Free Open Evening at Carnival Hall Basingstoke on Monday 7th September at 7.30 pm.

Please book your place at hampshireharmony.org to ensure music will be available for you on the day. The first term will of course be preparing for three Christmas Concerts, on the 6th, 13th and 20th December, the one on the 13th being at The Tower of London.

See our website hampshireharmony.org to find out more about us and like and follow us on Facebook at Hampshire Harmony and/or Instagram at Singwithhampshireharmony.

Join our choir and become part of this welcoming team, which thrives under the skilled direction of singing teacher Clare Oliver, accompanied by Jonathan Hedgecock.

We are charity no.1058910, and this year we are supporting St Michael's Hospice, charity no.1002856.



Our Inspiring MD Clare Oliver in action

Free Course in Alton Helps People to Kick Bad Habits

The Harvest Church in Alton is offering free, non-judgmental support to local people so that they can overcome damaging habits and start again - through a course called **Fresh Start**.

That might be something like **smoking, over-eating, catalogue shopping, internet or mobile phone addiction, gambling, drinking or using drugs** – in fact any habit which once might have brought us comfort or fun, but is now controlling or spoiling our daily living.

Fresh Start is for anyone who feels that it's time to cut down or stop. This is so hard to do on your own, so the course leaders support you in a small group setting where everyone is fighting similar situations and can encourage one another in a confidential environment. They also offer one-to-one coaching.

This free course is inspired by the tried-and-tested 12-steps approach and lasts nine weeks. It has run 21 times in the Alton area. Many group members find a place to belong and make lasting friendships.

For more detail, see https://harvestchurch.uk/fresh-start

After previous local courses, a man tackling an internet addiction said: "I'd like to thank you…for putting on the Fresh Start course and helping me achieve my goals...I am very grateful for the work you did with us." Another, tackling a gambling addiction, said: "It's the best thing I ever did. It saved my marriage. It saved my children from probably leaving me with my wife; it saved me from me. Without this course, I would never have been where I am today: I would probably have been in a worse hole, or even dead." A woman now in recovery from alcohol addiction said: "I wouldn't be where I am today, if I hadn't come on Fresh Start".

"The next course will start on **Thursday 1st October, 10.30am at Alton Maltings**. So, if you, or anyone you know, needs a fresh start, register for the course by calling Mark on 07769 030913 or email freshstart@harvestchurch.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 – SEPTEMBER 2026

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

SEPTEMBER DATES

3rd Sep	Thur	Sylvia Vine Memorial Service, St Mary's Herriard	11.00am
12th Sep	Sat	Ride & Stride (Hampshire churches)	
20th Sep	Sun	Harvest Evensong, All Saints Tunworth	6.00pm
24th Sep	Thur	Macmillan Coffee Morning, Herriard Hub	10.00am-1.00pm
27th Sep	Sun	Upton Grey Fun Run	10.00am

ADVANCE DATES

10th Oct	Sat	Upton Grey Harvest Supper, UG Village Hall	7.00pm
11th Oct	Sun	Simon Butler's Installation/Collation, Winchester Cathedral	3.30pm
11th Oct	Sun	Upton Grey Harvest Service and Lunch	10.30am
11th Oct	Sun	WP Harvest Service and Lunch	11.00am
11th Oct	Sun	Herriard Harvest Festival Service, St Mary's Church	10.00am
14th Oct	Wed	Herriard Harvest Supper, Herriard Hub	7.00pm
17th Oct	Sat	'Napoleon and his Marshals', Upton Grey Village Hall	6.00pm
24th Oct	Sat	Herriard Quiz Night, Herriard Hub	
31st Oct	Sat	Upton Grey Bonfire, Fireworks, Halloween Events	3.00pm
31st Oct	Sat	Herriard Folk Returns, Herriard Hub	
15th Nov	Sun	Herriard's Christmas Fair, Herriard Hub	
8th Dec	Tues	Friends of St Michael's Carol Service, All Saints, Odiham	7.00pm
20th Mar	Sat	Upton Grey Safari Supper (2027)	7.15pm
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 Fri	Soul Bounce, Herriard Hub	9.30am
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 October issue is 15th September 2026.

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

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