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PARISH CHURCHES



Worship Week of  
Prayer

Church Magazine  
September 2025



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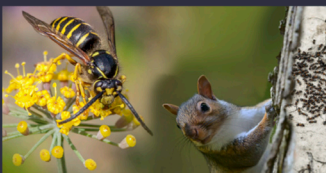


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## September 2025

### Vicar's letter . . .

Dear Friends,

Over the summer, I have had the privilege and joy of meeting our first grandchild, a little girl: the first girl born in our family for over 120 years! Holding this precious bundle as she made small gurgling noises and, over time, started to recognise and reach out, was a reminder of the importance of communication.

We learn, we experience and we relate through our communication: what we see, hear and speak. We communicate with God, both listening and speaking, primarily through what is called prayer. Time and again in the Bible we read of Jesus setting himself apart to pray and, on the eve of his arrest, it was to prayer that he turned.

Prayer is 'being' with God: in silence, in meditation or through making verbal requests and thanksgiving. Prayer is two-way, as we not only say what is on our heart, but listen and sense God's response to our plea.

The first week of September will see an encouragement for prayer across the world, and so we aim to play our part in Wonersh. To make this as available as possible, we will erect a tent outside St John's Church so that anyone can find space, solace, peace and the presence of God at any time, day or night.

As a church we will be committing to pray at various points throughout the day and there will be some subject material and aids to prayer inside the tent. Perhaps you have not prayed before: do not let that put you off. Come to meet God in silence or pour out your heart and soul; seek and find the God of compassion and relationship, who longs to communicate. Further details of the Wonersh Week of Prayer can be found on p.5.

With love,

*David*

# September Diary

for St John's Church, Womersley

Tues 2	9am	Morning Prayer
Thurs 4	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sun 7		<b>12<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>
	10am	All-Age Worship, followed by <b>Family Fun Day</b> [see p.5]
Tues 9	9am	Morning Prayer
Thurs 11	10.30am	Morning Worship
Sun 14		<b>13<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>
	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am	Morning Worship
Tues 16	9am	Morning Prayer
Thurs 18	10.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
Sun 21		<b>14<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>
	10am	Holy Communion (CW)
Tues 23	9am	Morning Prayer
Thurs 25	10.30am	Discovery Service
Sun 28		<b>15<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>
	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am	Morning Worship
Tues 30	9am	Morning Prayer

## October

Thurs 2	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sun 5		<b>16<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>
	10am	All-Age Service

.....

CW = Common Worship (2000)      BCP = Book of Common Prayer (Traditional 1662)





Bible Stories  
Crafts & Activities  
Games  
Songs & Prayer  
Friendship

Come & Join us at  
The Vicarage,  
St John's Church, WonerSh  
Sundays, 10-11.15am



**Midweek Service**  
Every Thursday at 10.30am



Thursday services take place in  
St John's church and are followed  
by coffee and a chat  
in the Selwyn Room.

Transport is provided  
for those needing it,  
and many say that  
this quiet and reflective service  
is the highlight of their week.

**Everyone is welcome!**

## Connect Groups

We want to encourage each other to grow in faith. Our small groups offer a place where we can learn and develop in an informal environment.

Groups of around 10-12 people meet on a regular basis (usually weekly) in local homes to study the Bible, pray, get to know each other and develop deeper friendships. Most groups meet in the evening, but there are some during the day.

If you are interested in joining a group or would like to find out more, then please contact **David Peters** ([vicar@wonershchurch.org.uk](mailto:vicar@wonershchurch.org.uk) / 07521 090179).

## Church Office

The Church Office (in The Vicarage) is open as follows:

**Monday** 9 am - 2 pm

**Tuesday - Thursday** 9 am - 1 pm

**Friday** 9 am - 2 pm

The office number is **01483 890266** (if outside office hours you may leave a message), or email [office@wonershchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@wonershchurch.org.uk).

## Copy Deadline for October 2025

Please submit articles for the October issue by **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September**.

E-mail address for copy is [magazine@wonershchurch.org.uk](mailto:magazine@wonershchurch.org.uk).

For advertising, please contact John Gosden ([JohnGosden@aol.com](mailto:JohnGosden@aol.com) or tel.502076).

# Children and Families Update

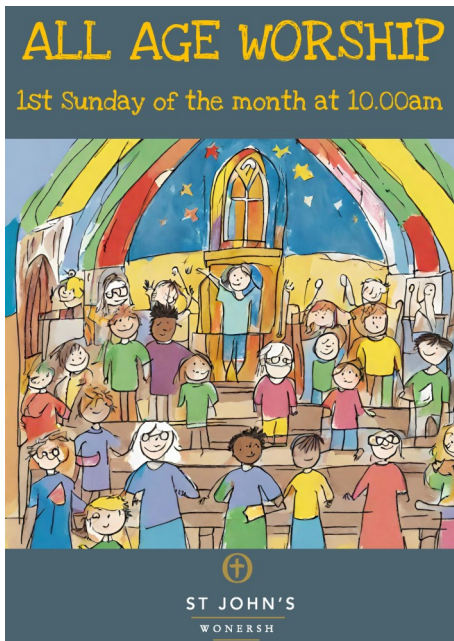


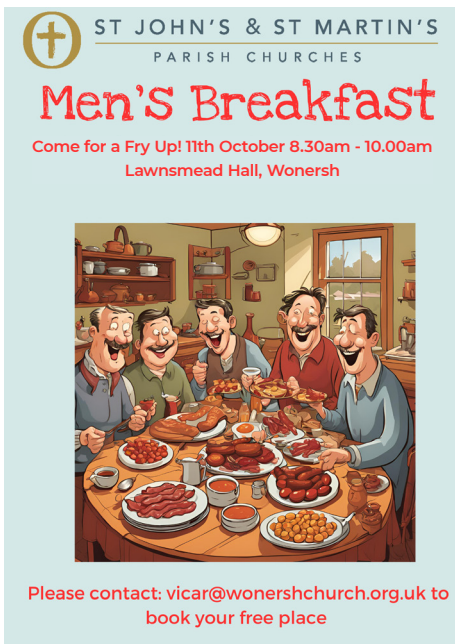
At the time of writing we're right in the middle of the school holidays and are experiencing our fourth heatwave of the summer months. This August at St. John's we've continued meeting for Kids Church and have been enjoying God's creation outdoors, while learning how we can be better stewards of our planet. We've also spent many happy hours fashioning models out of old boxes, emphasising the importance of reusing materials where we can.

The theme of our next All-Age Service, **7<sup>th</sup> September at 10am**, is 'The Blessing of the Backpacks': we welcome all families to join us so that we can bless your children (complete with backpacks and new school bags please!) as we mark the beginning of the new school year. We will be looking at how to trust God when things are a bit new and scary and how we can be assured that we never walk alone.

This service is followed by our annual **Family Fun Day** in the Vicarage garden from **11.30am - 3pm** (see flyer on p.5), a great way to mark the new school year. This is the fourth time we've run it and it's a lovely, vibrant event. Do join us for an incredible BBQ, bouncy castle and ball pit, our amazing balloon man Geoff, Boogie Dance Workshop, face painting and general family fun. We suggest a voluntary £5 donation per adult on entry (we have a card machine). We look forward to seeing you there!

With love, Clare  
([clare@wonershchurch.org.uk](mailto:clare@wonershchurch.org.uk))





## Wonersh Week of Prayer 1st – 7th September St John's Churchyard



As you may have read in the leader this month, there will be a 'tent of prayer' erected in the churchyard, immediately in front of St John's Church, in the first week of September. Christian communities across the world are uniting in a week of concerted prayer for each other, our communities and world-wide issues.

The tent will be open day and night; there will be items to read, brochures giving helpful ideas for prayer, and pens and paper for anyone to record their prayers, thoughts or images.

As a church we will commit to pray for specific periods each day, not only in the tent but wherever we are: when on the train, at lunch, out walking, or with friends. We believe that prayer makes a difference and so, if there are specific items for prayer, write them on the paper in the tent or let David know – [vicar@wonershchurch.org.uk](mailto:vicar@wonershchurch.org.uk).

Please come and experience the power of prayer for yourself. Spend some time in quiet, seeking God, or speak out your needs as they did in the Bible, in the book of Psalms. Come seeking to communicate with a God who hears and who cares for this world - after all, God made it.

We also have regular times of Morning Prayer: 20-30 minutes of readings, silence and prayer - every **Tuesday, 9am** at St John's Church / every **Wednesday, 9am** at St Martin's, Blackheath.

## Jazz Concert at St John's

If you missed the Jazz concert at St John's in July, you missed a real treat. It was such a fun evening and the music made everyone happy - performers included! The jazz improvisation from the incredibly talented Royal Marines and Eton musicians was exceptional, and the joy it brought will be remembered for a very long time.

It was a great opportunity to invite non-church friends to share the enjoyment, as well as raising funds for the beautiful peaceful space of Church Green that is appreciated by so many.

Thanks go to Liz Hayley and her amazing fellow musicians.

*Ann Clover and Deirdre Glynn-Jones*



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## Heritage Open Day

### St John the Baptist Church, Wonersh

### Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September, 10am - 1pm

Once again, St John's Church in Wonersh may be visited as part of the annual **Heritage Open Days**. Thought to be Saxon in origin, the church was rebuilt soon after the Norman Conquest and, despite two significant restorations in 1793 and 1901, it still retains many of its Norman characteristics.



Members of Wonersh History Society will be on hand to point out many items of interest and to answer visitors' questions.

Society members will also have available leaflets describing a 45-minute self-guided walk around our pretty and historic village. This walk was developed to celebrate the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

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## Cre8tivity

### Do you find it difficult to prioritise time for creative projects?

Cre8tivity is a small group meeting once a month at the Vicarage to encourage participation in the creative arts. Bring along any project you are working on (or would like to start). We have lots of assembled experience in knitting, sewing and crochet and would love to see what you are making. We can even offer help if you get stuck. Bring a friend!

Dates for the Autumn are:

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November**

Each session will run from 8 - 9.30pm.

Further details from [community@wonershchurch.org.uk](mailto:community@wonershchurch.org.uk).





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## **Volunteers Needed**

Local Hospice Care charity Phyllis Tuckwell is looking for volunteers to help serve customers in its Cranleigh shop, which sells a wonderful array of donated preloved items. If you have a few hours to spare, and would like to join a friendly team helping a vital local cause, this could be just the thing for you!

To find out more, contact Phyllis Tuckwell's Voluntary Services team on **01252 729400** or email [voluntary.services@pth.org.uk](mailto:voluntary.services@pth.org.uk).

If you're carrying something heavy,  
you don't have to carry it alone.

## PASTORAL & BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

Life can sometimes present us with difficulties  
that feel overwhelming:

- The loss of someone close
- Family tensions or breakdown
- A difficult diagnosis
- Feeling isolated, exhausted, or numb

Our Pastoral and Bereavement Support Team is  
here to listen. We offer a free, safe, confidential  
space to talk with someone trained in pastoral  
care or bereavement support.

Get in Touch:

<https://www.wonershchurch.org.uk/>  
[office@wonershchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@wonershchurch.org.uk)



ST JOHN'S & ST MARTIN'S  
PARISH CHURCHES

## Meals Ministry

Are you recently bereaved? Facing serious illness?

Do you have a new baby?

Let us support you with some free home cooked  
meals delivered to your door



Please contact: [clare@wonershchurch.org.uk](mailto:clare@wonershchurch.org.uk)  
or phone: 01483 890266

## North Guildford Food Bank



More than 40% of clients using the foodbank now give the cost of living as the main reason they are struggling financially. Worryingly too, over the past year, the number of clients we have helped, who are fleeing domestic violence, has doubled. With no sign of the need slowing down, your support is invaluable to us.

Our Harvest Service at St John's will be on **5<sup>th</sup> October**. This is such an important time in the foodbank year when we can increase our stock in readiness for the busy winter months. We would be grateful for any of the usual tinned and non-perishable items, basic toiletries, washing detergent or cleaning sprays.

Our requests for September are :

**Tinned meat**

**Tinned fish**

**Jars of Pasta Sauce**

**Liquid Detergent**

**Deodorant (m/f)**

**Bags for life**

As always, thank you for your continued support.

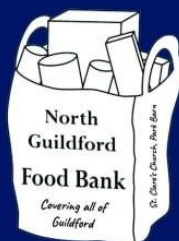
Donated items can be left in the foyer of St John's church, or in the crate on Rosie Couzens' doorstep (**10 Little Orchard Way, Shalford, GU4 8JY**).

If you would rather make a financial donation, please refer to our website: [northguildfordfoodbank.co.uk](http://northguildfordfoodbank.co.uk), which lists the ways you can donate (if you are a taxpayer, Gift Aid can be claimed by the Food Bank on personal donations).

# Thank You for Your Support in 2025

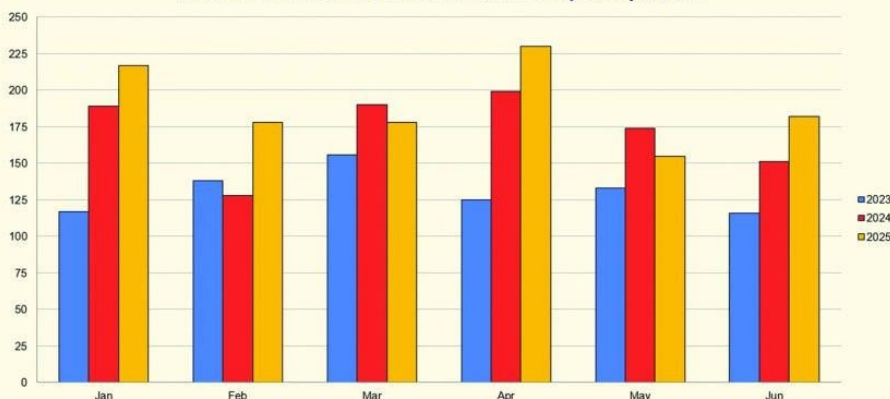
Thanks to your generosity, hundreds of local families received the support they needed during difficult times.

Your donations of food, money, and time have made a real difference in people's lives. We couldn't do this without you.



**1140** PARCELS DELIVERED **1728** ADULTS FED **1073** CHILDREN FED

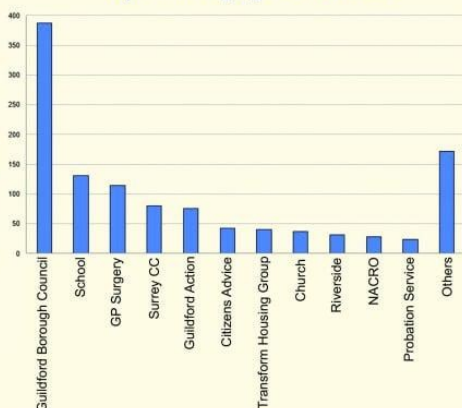
*Number of Food Parcels distributed Yearly Comparison*



*Main Reasons for Referral in 2025*



*Top Referring Agencies in 2025*



# Blackheath Focus

## September 2025



### Services at St Martin's

Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Morning Prayer	9am
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	Sung Holy Communion	10am
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> September	Morning Prayer	9am
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> September	<i>Services in Womersh</i>	<i>8am / 10am</i>
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	Morning Prayer	9am
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	Choral Evensong	6pm
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	Morning Prayer	9am
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	'Be Still with God'	6pm
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Morning Prayer	9am
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Service (see <i>below</i> )	10am

## St Martin's Harvest Service and Blackheath Harvest Giving Day Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October



We will again be supporting **Guildford Action** and **Guildford Hygiene Bank**.

All donations very welcome:

**tinned items, fresh fruit and vegetables**  
for Guildford Action;

**hygiene products, washing powder, toothpaste**  
and **toilet paper** for the Hygiene Bank.

Every donation gratefully received!

Please bring your gifts anytime and leave them in the church porch, or bring them to the **10am Harvest Service on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October**.

Produce to decorate the church would also be very welcome. These can be left in the Church on Friday, or on Saturday morning.

There will be a **Harvest Tea**, also celebrating Jan's ordination, in the afternoon (see p.11).



# Join us for Afternoon Tea to celebrate Harvest, and Jan's Ordination

Sunday October 5th  
3.30 pm to 5 pm  
in Blackheath Village Hall  
Do let us know if you can attend  
[community@wonershchurch.org.uk](mailto:community@wonershchurch.org.uk)



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## **Paths to the Sacred: Indigenous Wisdom, The Mystery of God & Metaphysical Verse St Augustine's Abbey, Chilworth, GU4 8QR**

The Benedictine monastery of St Augustine's Abbey is hosting a rich series of public events this autumn blending faith, wisdom and the arts.



On the morning of **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September**, a six-month reflective series begins on *The Spirit of Indigenous Wisdom*, exploring Aboriginal and Christian insights through story, silence and nature.

On the morning of **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September**, Benedictine monk Fr John Seddon OSB starts his monthly presentation of Bishop Robert Barron's series *The Mystery of God*, tackling atheism, the paths to God and the Trinity.

And on the evening of **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September**, the Abbey hosts *Mysteries of the Metaphysicals*, an evening of sacred poetry, music and reflection.



All are welcome - attend as many as you like. Ticket prices are **£10** per person per session - all proceeds support the monastery. Advance booking essential - details and bookings at [chilworthbenedictines.com/events](http://chilworthbenedictines.com/events).

# Village News

## Wonersh & District Garden Club

We have an interesting programme lined up for the Autumn. Everyone is welcome to come and see the exhibits in our **Autumn Show on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September**. Usually a very colourful affair, public viewing is at **2pm** in the Wonersh Memorial Hall.



### Looking ahead

Our AGM will be held on **1<sup>st</sup> October**, followed by a talk by garden historian Cherrill Sands on **'20th Century Women Gardeners'**.

**'Alstroemerias'** are the subject of the talk by Ben Cross of Crosslands Nursery on **5<sup>th</sup> November**.

Both meetings will be held at 7pm for 7.30pm start, in the Memorial Hall.

For more information, or to become a member, please contact Hilary Goodridge: [hilarygoodridge@ymail.com](mailto:hilarygoodridge@ymail.com) or 01483 535108.

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## U3A Wonersh & District

Your local U3A, covering Blackheath, Bramley, Chilworth, Shalford, Shamley Green and Wonersh



### What's on in September 2025 – join us for these activities

Mon 1	<b>Pilates:</b> Lawnsmead Hall, Wonersh	Wed 17	<b>Table Tennis:</b> Bramley Village Hall <b>Pub Lunch:</b> The Star, Witley
Wed 3	<b>Table Tennis:</b> Bramley Village Hall	Thurs 18	<b>Latin:</b> Godalming
Thurs 4	<b>Mah Jong:</b> Bramley Library Room <b>Latin:</b> Godalming	Fri 19	<b>French:</b> Godalming
Fri 5	<b>French:</b> Godalming	Mon 22	<b>Coffee Morning:</b> Percy Arms, Chilworth
Mon 8	<b>Pilates:</b> Lawnsmead Hall, Wonersh <b>Book Club:</b> Selwyn Room, Parish Church	Tues 23	<b>Tai Chi</b> (2 groups): Lawnsmead Hall
Tues 9	<b>Tai Chi</b> (2 groups): Lawnsmead Hall <b>Exploring Churches:</b> venue TBA	Wed 24	<b>Coach Trip:</b> Down House, Kent/Titsey Place <b>Table Tennis:</b> Bramley Village Hall
Wed 10	<b>Table Tennis:</b> Bramley Village Hall	Thurs 25	<b>Line Dancing:</b> Shalford Upper Hall <b>Latin:</b> Godalming
Thurs 11	<b>Line Dancing:</b> Shalford Upper Hall <b>Latin:</b> Godalming	Fri 26	<b>Art:</b> Bramley Village Hall
Mon 15	<b>Pilates:</b> Lawnsmead Hall, Wonersh <b>Play Reading (NEW):</b> Selwyn Room, Parish Church	Mon 29	<b>Pilates:</b> Lawnsmead Hall, Wonersh
Tues 16	<b>Tai Chi</b> (2 groups): Lawnsmead Hall <b>Long Walk:</b> meet Munstead Hilltop Cafe <b>Big Band Music:</b> Shalford Hall Club Room	Tues 30	<b>Tai Chi</b> (2 groups): Lawnsmead Hall

*Join us for some very interesting talks, visits and activities. Newcomers are welcome.*

*For further details, please visit*

<https://u3asites.org.uk/wonersh>

*or phone Jacqui on 07814 379294.*

# Wonersh History Society

## Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September, 8pm

### Wonersh Memorial Hall



**Shalford Mill** is possibly best known these days as having been the headquarters of **Ferguson's Gang**. Brynhild Catherine Jervis-Read (Sister Agatha) and Peggy Pollard (Bill Stickers) persuaded the then owner of the mill, the Godwin-Austen trust, to donate it to the National Trust. The Gang was to raise the money for its repair and future running costs. The conservation architect, John Eric Miers Macgregor (the Artichoke), also became a member of the Gang, as did Major Arthur Godwin-Austen (the Pious Yudhishtira). The Gang used the Mill from 1932 until 1966. Much more about the building will be revealed to members of Wonersh History Society by David Hunt at our September meeting.

Guests are welcome for a fee of £3. To find out more about the Society, including how to join, visit [www.wonershhistory.co.uk](http://www.wonershhistory.co.uk).



## Wonersh United Reformed Church

Minister: Revd Graham Hoslett (tel: 07425 569807)

Facebook - Wonersh United Reformed Church

### September 2025 - News

As you will see in the article [on p.17] written by Dennis Cruickshank from the Wonersh History Society, this month is the 145<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Wonersh URC. We are grateful to Dennis for this article.

But we are told in the Bible in Ecclesiastes 3: *'There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, ... a time to search and a time to give up.'*

Just before the summer break in July, we took the decision as a church that the time had come for us to close. This may come as a shock and a sadness to you, but this is what we believe is the Lord's will for us and, as such, this is what we must do. So we will be holding our final service of worship as a church on the afternoon of **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October**.

Until then, we will continue to meet for Sunday worship at **10.30am** each Sunday; for **Film Club** on Wednesdays **3<sup>rd</sup> September** and **1<sup>st</sup> October**; and for **Tea@3** on Thursdays at 3pm. We will be celebrating the 145<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the church on **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September** at **7pm** with an evening of Rock and Roll in aid of Marie Curie - details to be announced.

We are also told in Ecclesiastes 3 v.11: *'God has made everything beautiful in its time.'* Our time as a congregation has drawn to a close. Please pray for us as we seek to end well, giving thanks for all God has accomplished in and through us in the village.

Revd Graham Hoslett

# Wonersh Cricket Club



The nights are starting to draw in and the box of fresh cricket balls that we had in April is nearly empty. The 2025 season is, sadly, nearly over. It has been an extremely successful season for Wonersh with plenty of runs being scored and some fantastic team performances.

Our midweek side made it to the Midweek Cup final. This uses the ECB's new '100 ball' format which provides fast entertaining cricket. The final was held at a neutral venue, Wood Street Village cricket club. Unfortunately Wonersh CC lost against a very strong Peper Harow CC side who had been formidable all season and were deserved winners.

Our 1<sup>st</sup> XI league side finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in Division 3 of the Surrey Downs League thus achieving promotion to Division 2, which is an excellent achievement, under the leadership of Rupert Miller. Rupert has led from the front scoring runs for fun, including 3 league hundreds.

Our Sunday team has had some notable results with the aim of giving experience to our younger players and encouraging those who have not played for a few years.

The junior section continues to be a success and we have had lots of juniors involved in the senior side. Congratulations to our U14 players and coaches who finished joint top of their league.

A big thank-you to everyone in the village who has popped down to support us - it really makes a big difference.

As always, please reach out if you would like to get involved in the club: [secretary@wonershcc.co.uk](mailto:secretary@wonershcc.co.uk).

## **Blackheath Village Hall**

**will be hosting a**

## **Macmillan Coffee Morning**

**on**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

**10am to 12 noon**

**Lots of delicious Cakes and Savouries**

**Bring and Buy table**

**Games - and much more!**

**Please come along and support  
this amazing charity – all welcome!**



**MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT**



# Monday Lunch Club

Lunch Club is held every Monday in Lawnsmead Hall. We currently have a thriving membership of up to 18 regular lunchers who enjoy a delicious home-cooked lunch and the opportunity to join other villagers for a chat and catch-up.

We have a great team of volunteers to cook, lay tables, serve and wash up. But we always need new people to help. If you are willing to join our rota of cooks who make lunch in pairs, or help in any way, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact Louise Healy on **01483 898539**.

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"A great big 'thank you' to all the cooks, helpers and drivers who make Monday Lunch Club really special to the very contented people who enjoy lunch every week. The different menus are all delicious, and the social side full of laughter and chatter.

Thank you all once more!"

*Rosina Henham*



## Memory Lane

Memory Lane next meets on **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September** when the ML Carer Guests have the privilege of a discussion with Annabel Connor, Carer Coach for NHS Foundation Trust.

Following on from the ML *Walk in the Park* the next Monday at 10.30am around Knowle Park, we are back in the Cranleigh Arts Centre on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September** for a rather special gathering, when both carers and volunteers welcome back Dr Jill Rasmussen. Dr Rasmussen is the National Advisor on Alzheimer's, advising both General Practitioners and Parliament. Anyone in a caring role will be welcome to join the guests on this occasion. This will also be an opportune time for anyone who would like to be considered for joining the Memory Lane Team of volunteers.

All through August and September the ML musicians and singers have been rehearsing for this year's concert, coming to Cranleigh Village Hall at **2.30pm** on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October**. "**Musical Memories**" is based on last year's success, with the addition of a Dementia Choir. It promises to be a joyful occasion and tickets are still available at this time. Please call Jan on **07876 528704** to ensure you do not miss it!

*Memory Lane meets at 2.15pm every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in the Cranleigh Arts Centre. If you would like further details on these meetings, "Walk in the Park" or "Musical Memories", just call Memory Lane on **01483 274398** or email: [mamwild@aol.com](mailto:mamwild@aol.com).*



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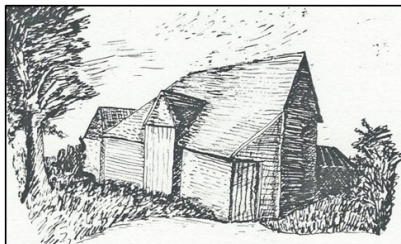
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# Wonersh United Reformed Church

In 1860 Great Tangley Manor was operating as a farm occupied by Mr. William Colebrook, a Guildford butcher. He was a non-conformist, and very interested in the welfare of his employees. William invited them to his house one night each week for reading the Scriptures. This was quickly followed by a Sunday evening service in the kitchen at Great Tangley, largely attended by his farm workers, employees of the Unwin printing works at Chilworth, and their families.

The kitchen soon became too small for the numbers attending, so William decided to use one of his barns instead. The place was rough - stools without backs and a dirt floor – but that did not deter people from attending. The Colebrooks, at their own cost, later laid a floor, installed seating and lamps, and the congregation grew further – particularly of children in Sunday School.



*The Barn 'Chapel' 1860 - 1880*

By 1880 it was apparent that the 'Old Barn' was no longer suitable or large enough. To the rescue came William Seth Smith of Little Tangley, who generously gave a piece of his land for the building of a new home for the services. Designed by his architect son Howard, the foundation stone was laid on 21<sup>st</sup> April 1880. The builder - Goddard and Sons of Farnham & Dorking - used Bargate Stone with Bath stone dressings and, according to a Surrey Advertiser report, the cost was £1,950.

The last service in the Barn was held on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September 1880; the new Church building was opened on 22<sup>nd</sup> September that year. Proud locals christened it the 'Non-conformist Village Cathedral'. For forty years it continued under the old name of the Tangley Chapel, then it became known as The Wonersh Congregational Church. For just over 100 years the church was a member of the Guildford Group of Congregational Churches, but in 1972, when the Congregational Churches in England & Wales and the Presbyterian Church of England joined to become the United Reformed Church of England & Wales, the Wonersh Church became an independent United Reformed Church.



In July 2025 it was announced that Wonersh United Reformed Church would cease its services and other activities on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2025, ending 145 years of significant contributions to the community of Wonersh. From its ecumenical work to its close association with Wonersh Scouts; the Summer Fair book stalls; the annual 'Songs of Praise on the Lawn'; carol concerts; the Wednesday Film Nights, and more besides: its closure will leave a gaping hole that will be difficult to fill.

*Wonersh History Society*



Please visit [www.stcatherines.info](http://www.stcatherines.info) for more details.

## RETIREMENT OF HEADMISTRESS, MRS PHILLIPS



As Mrs Alice Phillips retires after 25 remarkable years as Headmistress of St Catherine's, Bramley, we reflect with deep gratitude on her profound impact on our school and girls' education worldwide. A hands-on and visionary leader, Alice was present in every aspect of school life, inspiring generations with her warmth and dedication. Under her leadership, St Catherine's has flourished, becoming a beacon of all-girls education. As a former President of the Girls' Schools Association, she helped shape national thinking on girls' education. Alice's legacy is one of transformation, empowerment, and belief in every girl's potential to thrive, lead, and make a difference.



## BABY CATS | PAINT, PUZZLES AND PLAY!

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September | For 2-4 yrs**

Explore creativity and fun with painting, puzzles and playtime designed for curious little learners.

9.30 - 10.30am | St Cats Prep Gym

There is no charge, but please book your place on [tinyurl.com/ytervwkn](http://tinyurl.com/ytervwkn).

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## Bramley Library

**Do you have some free time to join  
our enthusiastic team of volunteers?**



Some computer skills are essential - the ability to carry out day-to-day library duties, and a desire to assist our visitors with their enquiries, are also required! Hours are flexible, full training is given.

To find out more, call in for a chat when the library is open:

Tuesday/Thursday/Friday, 10am - 12.30pm and 2 - 4.30pm

Wednesday/Saturday, 10am - 12.30pm



## Church Walking Group

Our friendly group enjoyed a walk around Bramley on a sunny day in June, followed by lunch at the Jolly Farmer pub.

The next walk will be on **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September**, around Peaslake. Further details available from Catherine Keech ([catherine@keechonline.com](mailto:catherine@keechonline.com)).



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## St Andrew's Church, Grafham Heritage Open Day Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September, 10am - 4pm

Visit this Gothic Revival gem, whose architect made a village. Discover more about the life of the Guildford-born Victorian architect, Henry Woodyer, who designed and built not only the church but a vicarage and school; the love story that inspired him; and the church's significant features.



Delicious refreshments will be available for you to enjoy in our lovely country churchyard with views over the Surrey Hills. Parking available 300 yards north of the church along the A281 at the Grafham Room (GU5 0LJ).

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## Bramley Music Celebrity Recital 2025 Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October, 7pm Holy Trinity Church, Bramley, GU5 0HD

Tickets are now on sale for this very special concert with famous international concert pianist **Piers Lane**. Piers will be putting our lovely Steinway grand piano through its paces with a superb programme of music:

- Chopin - 'Les Sylphides' pieces
- Six Rachmaninov Preludes
- Debussy - 'Clair de Lune'
- Strauss/Schultz-Evler - 'Arabesques on The Blue Danube'

This concert may well sell out quickly, so buy your tickets early - £15 (under 18/ students £5) - online from [bramleymusic2012@gmail.com](mailto:bramleymusic2012@gmail.com) or in person (cash only) from Robertsons in Bramley High Street. We are pleased to be supporting **The Meath Epilepsy Charity**.

.....

**A date for your diary:** Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November, 4pm - Piano Quintet Concert  
**The Oxus Quartet** will be joined by **Margaret Roberts** at the piano to bring us music by Schumann, Piazzolla and Amy Beach. More details nearer the time.



## Wonersh Environmental Advisory Group (WEAG)

WEAG includes the smaller Barnett Fields Group (BFG), and now has over 100 members - the passion, enthusiasm and energy is very apparent!

The amount of work done over the last year has been exciting and transformational. The list is endless:

- Healy's Wood is now open with paths, glades, dead hedging, bird boxes, etc.
- The Barnett Fields have mown paths, wild flower areas, reconfigured water troughs, new hedging and solar-powered electric fencing, new trees and more.

The BFG members are having fun learning new skills including the use of chain saws and brush-cutters, fence-post stripping and splitting, as well as scything. The feedback from walkers and dogs is enthusiastic!

None of this happens without the WEAG/BFG volunteers, and residents who have been so generous donating new oak gates and benches. We have also received free trees and grants from the likes of Surrey Wildlife Trust and Surrey County Council and, of course, the Wonersh Fair who sponsored the picnic table and the adjacent bench and gate.

We use our own wood from Healy's Wood for kissing gates and deer protection. This timber comes from the thinning of the closely-planted native trees in Healy's Wood, which will be progressively thinned and coppiced over the coming years. This will allow the better trees to mature and encourage biodiversity in the undergrowth, which is currently fairly sterile with little light.

The response from residents to the recent request to sponsor trees has been fantastic. We now have funds for new trees in the Barnett Fields, which will be planted later in the year, along with new hedging also funded by grants. We are also planning replacement trees and other biodiversity projects for the rest of the commons.

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## Walkies Challenge 2025



Phyllis Tuckwell's Walkies Challenge will take place across the whole of September. Simply walk 100k with your dog over the month, and get friends and family to sponsor you. It's a great way to spend some quality time together, meet other dogs and their walkers, and enjoy the late summer sunshine.

Once you have registered, you will receive a fundraising pack, a bandana, and a tracker which you can use to mark off your milestones over the month.

We'll even have a group dog walk at the end of the month to celebrate your success.



See [pth.org.uk/news-and-events/events/upcoming-events/](https://pth.org.uk/news-and-events/events/upcoming-events/) for more details, or to register.

<b>VICAR: Rev'd David Peters</b>	<b>07521 090179</b>	<a href="mailto:vicar@wonershchurch.org.uk">vicar@wonershchurch.org.uk</a>
<b>CHURCH OFFICE</b>	<b>01483 890266</b>	<a href="mailto:office@wonershchurch.org.uk">office@wonershchurch.org.uk</a>
<b>(for all other church contacts)</b>		

## Village Contact Points

**Wonersh & Shamley Green CE Primary School** **892345**

Headteacher: Mr Tim Cheesman

**Police:** Emergency **999** or **112** Non-emergency **101**

Safer Neighbourhood Team

[waverley@surrey.police.uk](mailto:waverley@surrey.police.uk)

Inspector Rob Brian (ID 3048)

[Rob.Brian@surrey.police.uk](mailto:Rob.Brian@surrey.police.uk)

Sergeant Phil Bayman (ID 40264)

[Phil.Bayman@surrey.police.uk](mailto:Phil.Bayman@surrey.police.uk)

PC Gavin Greenaway (ID 40221)

[Gavin.Greenaway@surrey.police.uk](mailto:Gavin.Greenaway@surrey.police.uk)

PC Billy Dann

[Billy.Dann2@surrey.police.uk](mailto:Billy.Dann2@surrey.police.uk)

**Waverley Borough Councillor:** Michael Goodridge MBE **535108**

[michael.goodridge@waverley.gov.uk](mailto:michael.goodridge@waverley.gov.uk)

**Lawnsmead Hall:** Church Office

**890266**

**Memorial Hall:** Hilary Solt

**07931 516910**

**WonCares** (Monday to Friday)

**894004**

**Wonersh Connections**

[www.wonershconnections.org](http://www.wonershconnections.org)

### 1st Wonersh Scout Group



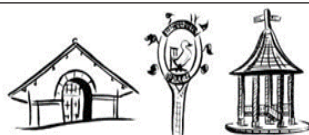
**Group Scout Leader:** Robin Beeson **07766 641777**

email: [1stwonershgsl@gmail.com](mailto:1stwonershgsl@gmail.com)

## Wonersh Parish Council

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[www.wonershparish.org](http://www.wonershparish.org)



### Your councillors:

Please telephone any of us if you have a local issue you would like to discuss.

The Parish Office, located at Wonersh Sports Pavilion, is open by appointment - call the Parish Clerk (Lisa Davison) on **892601** or email [clerk@wonershparish.org](mailto:clerk@wonershparish.org).

Email and telephone messages are monitored Monday to Thursday.

Anthony Shutes (Chair)	890831
Max Gibbs	07766 994005
Chris Howard	07879 841000
Ben Knight	07966 269182
Stephen Lavender	07966 533951
Rob Merriman	07711 654699
Kat Parkinson	07773 441164
Kevin Sloan	898472
George Sobek	07354 809130



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