



HOBNOB

ON-LINE

ORSETT MASONIC HALL

THE PARISH MAGAZINE FOR
ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL CHURCH, HORNDON ON THE HILL
ST. GILES AND ALL SAINTS CHURCH, ORSETT
ST. MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, BULPHAN

MAY 2026

SERVICES – May 2026

	HORNDON	ORSETT	BULPHAN
Friday 1st May		9-11.30am Oasis Café 9.30-11am Edward Bear Toddler Group At Orsett Churches Centre	
Saturday 2 nd	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments	4pm Forest Church	
Sunday 3rd May <i>5th Sunday of Easter</i>	10am All Together Holy Communion Service		
Monday 4 th			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 5 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 7 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 8 th		9-11.30am Oasis Café 9.30-11am Edward Bear Toddler Group At Orsett Churches Centre	
Saturday 9 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 10th May <i>6th Sunday of Easter</i>		8.45am CW Holy Communion Service 10am Family Service	
Monday 11 th			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 12 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 14 th	2pm Holy Communion Service at the Whitecroft		Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 15 th		9-11.30am Oasis Café 9.30-11am Edward Bear Toddler Group At Orsett Churches Centre	
Saturday 16 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 17th May <i>7th Sunday of Easter</i>	4pm Refresh Service		8.45am CW Holy Communion Service 10am Holy Communion Service
Monday 18 th			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 19 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 21 st			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 22 nd		9-11.30am Oasis Café 9.30-11am Edward Bear Toddler Group At Orsett Churches Centre	
Saturday 23 rd	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 24th May <i>8th Sunday of Easter</i>	8.45am BCP Holy Communion Service 10am Family Service		
Monday 25 th			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 26 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 28 th	12noon Holy Communion Service		Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 29 th		No Oasis or Edward Bear-School holiday	
Saturday 30 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 31st May <i>Trinity Sunday</i>		10am All Together Holy Communion Service	
Monday 1 st June			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 2 nd	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 4 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 5 th		9-11.30am Oasis Café 9.30-11am Edward Bear Toddler Group At Orsett Churches Centre	

Open Church means that the Church is open for private prayer, refreshments are available at all sessions except Thursdays at Bulphan.



THE PARISH OF HORNDON, ORSETT AND BULPHAN

Website: www.hobnob.org.uk

Facebook: @HOBNOBchurches

RECTOR

VACANCY

PTO*

Rev Max Blake

max@hobnob.org.uk

07716 969772

*(permission to officiate)

PARISH CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Churchwardens	Alastair Macrae	Beverley Macrae	Christine Mortimer
	David Mortimer	Sonia Ward	Frank Woollard
Treasurer	Lynn Bennett		
Secretary	Lynda Robertson		
Parish Administrator	Lynda Robertson		
Deanery Synod Reps	Karen Collier	Alastair Macrae	Janet Wilkins
	Frank Woollard		
Lay Representatives	Jane Barry	Sandra Billinger	Samantha Pankhurst

CHURCH OFFICERS AND CONTACT DETAILS

St Peter & St Paul Horndon-on-the-Hill

Churchwardens	Beverley Macrae	b.macrae@hobnob.org.uk	01375 673327
	Sonia Ward	sonia51anne@yahoo.co.uk	01375 674212
Sacristans	Jane Barry	Beverley Macrae	Judy Rood
Vergers	Robin Clark	Felicity Tarbard	Sonia Ward

St Giles & All Saints Orsett

Churchwardens	Christine Mortimer	c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk	01375 641485
	David Mortimer	d.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk	01375 641485
Sacristan	Janet Wilkins		
Vergers	Jo Metcalf	Christine Mortimer	Libby Seggons
Tower Captain	Judith Church		01375 891556
Mothers' Union contact	Lucy Bubb		07970 728673
Edward Bear Toddler Group	Karen Collier		01375 370441
Oasis Café	Sandra Billinger		01375 891040
Churches Centre Bookings	Gary Jones	bookings@orsettchurches.co.uk	

St Mary-the-Virgin Bulphan

Churchwardens	Alastair Macrae	Alastairmacrae51@gmail.com	01375 673327
	Frank Woollard	f.woollard@hobnob.org.uk	01375 891034
Vergers	Frank Woollard		
Parish Room Bookings	Lynda Robertson		07974 803471

Parish Administrator

Lynda Robertson l.robertson@hobnob.org.uk 07974 803471

Parish Baptism Co-Ordinator

Christine Mortimer c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk 01375 641485

Musicians

Jane Barry 07552 199697
Janet McCheyne 07752 836902

Parish Magazine (HOBNOB)

Submit articles to magazine@hobnob.org.uk

Please note to guarantee inclusion in the current month, articles must be submitted by the 21st of the preceding month.

WEDDINGS

To arrange Weddings, please contact Lynda Robertson:
l.robertson@hobnob.org.uk 07974 803471



THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

22nd March

Rafe Jude Mann

(H)

12th April

Jake Webb

(H)



Wedding Enquiries

If you would like to enquire about booking a wedding at:
Horndon, Orsett or Bulphan churches,
please contact: Lynda Robertson: 07974 803471
l.robertson@hobnob.org.uk



Baptism Enquiries

To arrange a baptism, you will need to attend a Baptism Preparation Meeting, where we will discuss the meaning of Baptism, the responsibilities of parents and Godparents, go through the Baptism service and give you the opportunity to ask questions. At the end of the meeting, we can check the diary, and you will be able to book your Baptism.

Forthcoming Baptism Preparation Dates:

Saturday 9th May

Monday 8th June

Saturday 11th July

Monday 10th August

Saturday 12th September

Monday 12th October

CANCELLED

7.30pm at Orsett Church

12 noon at Horndon Church

7.30pm at Orsett Church

12 noon at Horndon Church

7.30pm at Orsett Church

For more information, please contact:
Christine Mortimer: 01375 641485
c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk

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Churchwarden's Report - St. Peter and Paul Horndon on the Hill

With apologies to those on the Electoral roll who would have received and hopefully read a version of the following as this also formed part of our APCM Report.

We have now been in interregnum for eight months, which has brought additional responsibilities for our lay leadership and church officers. Our advert for a new incumbent has now been published in the *Church Times* and the Diocesan website. We hope that this will lead to the appointment of an incumbent in the near future.

We have restored our church porch, where the oak had split and become rotten. We also rehung the plaque commemorating the 1899 reordering of the church, which had been removed during the millennium project. It now sits to the side of the door. Our thanks go to Peter Woodard for rehanging the plaque and crafting a mahogany mount that complements the existing wall hangings.

The patronal Flower Festival which takes place over the final weekend of June was again a great success. We are very lucky to have such talented arrangers and our thanks go to Felicity Tarbard who each year coordinates this event (no mean feat!) We should also thank Danielle from Beans and Blooms for the stunning flowers. This year's theme is 'Return to the Wild!'

We secured the support of the Community Payback team. Their help, particularly during the summer, has been invaluable in keeping The Mill Lane cemetery in a manageable condition. The Tuesday Gardeners continue to maintain the church grounds, and they are happy to welcome new people. If you can spare an hour or two on a Tuesday morning, please speak to Sonia or me. We were also fortunate to have pupils and staff from Castledon School, Wickford, carry out several deep cleans inside the church.

Inside the church, the kneelers have been repaired and restored. The booklet listing all donors and needleworkers is currently being updated and will be reissued in due course.

Our thanks go once again to Tony Ward, who continues to manage the allotments so effectively, ensuring that fees are collected and regulations followed.

We support Thurrock Foodbank and are grateful to Jane Barry for transporting donations. We also thank her for many years of dedicated organisation of the annual World Day of Prayer service held each March.

Open Church on Saturday and Tuesday mornings continues to flourish, with many villagers now attending regularly. During the interregnum, Max attends on Tuesdays and is available for quiet conversation.

Sonia and I would like to express our thanks to all who support the life of our church: Max and the visiting clergy; those who lead services; Janet McCheyne, our Safeguarding Officer; and the Pastoral team and bellringers. Finally, we offer special thanks to Robin Clark for the many unseen tasks he undertakes so faithfully.

Sonia Ward and Bev Macrae

ORSETT CHURCHWARDENS REPORT



Following our APCM meeting on 26th April, this is our opportunity to thank all those volunteers who fall below the radar for their tireless work in keeping our beautiful church open.

The churchyard is in constant need of attendance and we have been lucky to have the services of the Community Payback workers, who come every 3 weeks no matter what the weather and carry out much needed mowing and trimming. You may have noticed we have 2 flowerpots at the entrance to the church which are tended by Mike Dovey who very kindly changes the flowers each season. We are fortunate to still have an open churchyard for burials and our thanks also go to Jamie and Tim, our gravediggers and Edward who prepares the ground for interment of ashes.

As well as the regular Sunday services we are happy to host other events throughout the year, including a much loved Pound Nativity. This is a very popular service which wouldn't go ahead without Jackie Firman and her team. Orsett Primary School visit to celebrate Harvest, Christmas, Easter and a very moving leavers service. Our thanks go to Mr Dickson and all the teachers involved in putting these services together and all the pupils who make these very enjoyable with their wonderful behaviour and beautiful singing. These services remind us that, even though maintenance work needs to be regularly undertaken, our church is primarily a building to be used for worship.

Following Revd. Sue's departure many of us have had to take on extra responsibilities in order to keep the wheels moving. Our thanks go to Lynda Robertson for her stalwart admin and to the many priests around the deanery and beyond for stepping in to lead services. But our main thanks go to Revd. Max for being the backbone of our parish during this period.

We would like to thank everyone for their words of encouragement and offers of help: Janet as sacristan, Sandra for refreshments, Janet and Jane our organists, Jo and Libby as vergers, Judith and her team of bell ringers, our readers and intercessors, and those who are always happy to step into the breach when the need arises.

God Bless

Christine & David Mortimer

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**In Horndon Woolmarket
from 10 am – 12 pm**

*We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of
each month for anyone who
would like a cuppa and a chat.
Everyone is welcomed!*

Bring & Buy and Raffle

*All proceeds go to the
Havens Hospices in Essex.
Havens Hospices provide specialist care
and support for people of all ages, and
their families, who are living with
incurable conditions*

**For further details contact
Beverley on 01375 671474**

Bulphan

Community

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hot and cold drinks;
licensed bar;
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crisps and biscuits Free Wi-Fi**

Thursdays & Fridays from 1.30 - 4.30pm

- *Local councillors Barry and Dave visit regularly*
- *A social worker visits on the 2nd & 4th Friday of
the month from 2-4pm for adult care and
support drop-in sessions*
- *Regular visits from the Community Police*



The Games Café

at

**Horndon on the Hill Village Hall
EVERY FRIDAY EVENING**

7.30pm to 9.30pm

We have 2 Short Mat Bowls
carpets, so up to 12 people can
play in teams of 2 or 3
No previous experience needed



We are all '**have a go**' amateurs
who welcome and encourage all new-comers

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We play cards and board games:
SkyJo, Sequence, Dobble,
Trominoes, Bananagrams and
many others.
Guest games always welcome!

Please note: There is a £10 joining fee payable on your third
visit, to cover set up costs, replacement games and low
attendance weeks. Thank you.

Bulphan Churchwarden's Report



On Sunday 12th April at about 3.30 pm Ron Porter passed away peacefully at home with his wife Traudi, of nearly 60 years, by his side.

Ron had been a Churchwarden at St Mary's Church Bulphan for over 40 years, he had known six Rectors during that time commencing with Hugh Crossley and finishing with Susan Mann.

When I first came to Bulphan in 1981 Ron and Ted Webb were the wardens, and then when Ted left about 17 years ago, Ed Hanson asked me to take his place.



Ron over the years stamped his mark on St Mary's Church. As you come down the path, enter the porch doors, designed by Ron; look towards the altar repositioned to face outwards; Ron designed the dais and I could go on. In the late nineties when the Church was remodelled and the Parish Room built Ron was heavily involved in all aspects. Not to forget The Village sign which Ron designed and won the award.

Many will have memory or story about Ron from his architectural work, membership of The Lions, photography, Bulphan in Bloom and of course his Churchwork.

Ron was always very precise, accurate and had excellent taste, you could say he was a perfectionist.

Before the Parish Room was built, the Parish Council met in members houses, like the early apostles. I can remember meetings at Ted and Jean Webb's house with Rector Vic Harrod and his curate Jean Whitehorn. Lots of laughter, food and wine. It was decided that not everyone needed to bring a bottle of wine. Certainly, the members of that committee were a match for "The Vicar of Dibley" there was a lot of Church business sorted and Jean Whitehorn was one of the first women to be ordained.

Some memories of Ron; he volunteered to help at Bulphan Primary School for many years, in the reception class, the children loved him and thought he was Father Christmas which of course he was for many years. In his Range Rover pulling The Lions Christmas sleigh with Father Christmas on board around the streets of Havering collecting for various charities. Collecting the prize for Best Kept Churchyard competition at Chelmsford racecourse, a surprise even for him. I can remember at Christmas time Ron and I both standing on top of stepladders as Ron commenced decorating the Christmas tree with the strand of 2000 LED lights that he had purchased. After a few minutes getting rather annoyed that I had not put the lights on level, taking them all off and starting again. The white lights and baubles always looked impressive, not many realise the effort that went into them.

We have lost a dear loving family man and friend, who devoted so much of his time and effort and support of the Church and Bulphan village.

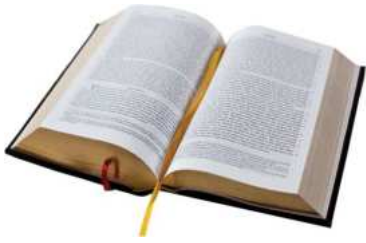
On a personal note I shall miss Ron dearly and think of him often with so many fond memories.

Donations in memory of Ron may be made to Pancreatic Cancer UK. There will be a collection box at the church, or donations can be made online using this QR code or <https://togetherinmemory.pancreaticcancer.org.uk/In-Memory/Ron-Porter>



Bulphan in Bloom, who Ron had a long association with, have worked hard making the churchyard ready for Ron's funeral on 29th April. Many thanks to them.

Frank Woollard
Church Warden



PRAYER DIARY

Some thoughts to include in your daily prayers

May 1 st	For those living in Albert Road in Bulphan
May 2 nd	For the Clergy and Lay Ministers in our Deanery
May 3 rd	For those living in Church Road in Bulphan
May 4 th	For all the youth of our Benefice
May 5 th	For the Orsett Churches' Centre
May 6 th	For an end to conflict in the Middle East
May 7 th	For the wonder of our planet
May 8 th	For those living in Baker Street in Orsett
May 9 th	For members of our congregations who live in Grays
May 10 th	For humanitarian organisations working around the world
May 11 th	For the people of Ukraine and those who have perished in this war
May 12 th	For those living in The Spinney in Orsett
May 13 th	For those living in St Giles Close in Orsett
May 14 th	For those living in Gordon Road in Horndon
May 15 th	For those living in Victoria Road in Bulphan
May 16 th	For Christians in lands where the church is being persecuted
May 17 th	For those living in Prince Charles Avenue in Orsett
May 18 th	For the children who will be born today
May 19 th	For those living in the High Road in Horndon
May 20 th	For those living in Church Lane in Bulphan
May 21 st	For those living in Penn Close in Orsett
May 22 nd	For those living in Orsett Road in Horndon
May 23 rd	For our farming community
May 24 th	For those living in South Hill Crescent in Horndon
May 25 th	For those living in Victoria Road in Horndon
May 26 th	For our schools, the pupils and staff
May 27 th	For the hospitals in Orsett and Basildon
May 28 th	For those living in Mill Lane in Horndon
May 29 th	For those living in The Green in Orsett
May 30 th	For those living in Doesgate Lane in Bulphan
May 31 st	For those in hospital

*Beyond all question, the mystery from which
true godliness springs is great:
He appeared in the flesh,
was vindicated by the Spirit,
was seen by angels,
was preached among the nations,
was believed on in the world,
was taken up in glory.
1 Timothy 3:16*



HORNDON-ON-THE-HILL METHODIST CHURCH

4, High Road. Horndon-on-the-Hill

Minister: Reverend Fiona Smith

Senior Steward: Mr Graham Hodgson

<https://www.southessexmethodist.org.uk/>

All are welcome to our services and other activities.

Services May 2026

Sunday 10:30am Worship in the Chapel unless stated otherwise

3 rd May	Local Arrangement	
10 th May	Revd Fiona Smith	Holy Communion
17 th May	Mr John Annim	
24 th May	Local Arrangement	
31 st May	Mrs Maureen McPherson	

Coffee mornings and lunch

All are welcome to our Community Cuppa and Chat in the Methodist Church Hall. We meet between 10:00 – 12:00 noon for the coffee morning with drinks, savouries and biscuits and have extended this to continue for a soup and a roll between 12:00 noon - 13:00.

Monthly Email Reflections

You can receive a Monthly Bible Reflection written by Maureen McPherson just by sending her your email (mail@south-fields.com). Hard copies can be handed out if you don't have email but would be interested in receiving the monthly reflection.

Cycle of Faith

Following our break over winter we intend to hold cycle rides on a frequent basis through summer and first of 2026 is planned for 23rd May. The ride will go to Thameside Nature Park, Linford, Coalhouse Fort and back. This time a shorter ride than last time at around 12 miles. If the weather is nice, we will stop at Coalhouse Fort for a picnic. We will meet at St Margaret's Church, Stanford Le Hope for a 10am start.

The leisurely ride is led by a qualified British Cycling ride leader and first aider. Under 18's are welcome but must be accompanied by parent/guardian or responsible adult. If you are interested, please contact Jeff Bell at jeff3bell@gmail.com for further details.

Preliminary dates for further rides are 20th June, 25th July and 22nd August but please keep an eye out in the HOBNOB for details nearer the time.



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Church Road, Bulphan



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Secretary: Ian Blackburn
ianbb4@outlook.com 07880 235140

We enjoy meeting every Sunday evening for worship and are very pleased to see newcomers. We extend a warm welcome to all. The Sunday services for February are:

3 rd May	6:30 pm	Peter Crosby
10 th May	6:30 pm	Lee Woodward
17 th May	6:30 pm	Evening service
24 th May	6:30 pm	Rev Max Blake
31 st May	6:30pm	Rev Pholani Ncube

**75th Anniversary
Year**

This is the last part of a series of articles on the history of the Mission between 1938 – 51 explaining the background to our 75th Anniversary which we held last December. After five years of deliberations building work was now proceeding at breakneck speed after the granting of the Building Licence.

Decline and Revival: A history Part 6 - 1950 to 1951

The October AGM was attended by 27 persons and it was acknowledged that the Mission had grown *'in these difficult years'* and that unusually the congregation averaged almost its membership; a sign of the commitment of those involved in the fellowship. Mr Gurnett the Chairman gave thanks to God for seeing the Mission through the long difficult years and suggested that one day there may be a reason to thank God for those difficulties. The builders had made very good progress and plans were made for the New Hall to be opened on Saturday 2nd December. The opening ceremony was to be performed by the oldest member Mrs Beard and one of the youngest, Mr G P (Peter) Miller, and current visiting preachers were to be invited.

Later in October we read that plans were being made for the duties and wages for a cleaner one of whose duties was to *'wind clock!'*, hymn books had arrived and further detailed arrangements relating to hat and coat pegs, a hymn board, and a cupboard were well underway. A further social had brought in the nearly £15 and the Building Fund had virtually reached its target of £300. The programme for the reopening day was also progressing well.

Zion Hall Mission
BULPHAN

BUILT 1910	DESTROYED 1940	RE-BUILT 1950
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RE-OPENING SERVICES
SATURDAY :: DECEMBER 2nd, 1950

3 p.m. OPENING CEREMONY
 Followed by
 DEDICATION SERVICE
 Conducted by **Mr. B. N. GURNETT**
(Chairman of Misses)
 Soloist: **Miss PAT MOGG** (Grays)

5 p.m. Light Refreshments available in-Parish Hall at usual prices

7 p.m. PUBLIC MEETING
 Chairman: **Mr. B. N. GURNETT**
 Speaker:
Rev. W. HAROLD TEBBIT (Romford)
(Late General Superintendent, Eastern Area of the Baptist Union)

ALL ARE WELCOME

M. LTD., GRAYS

The hand bill advertising the reopening of the Mission chapel

From the minutes of the November meeting, it had been acknowledged that the original budget for a new organ had needed to be increased and a new one had been bought for £30 despite the price being seen as prohibitive a month before.

Completion of the chapel must have been very close timing though since with less than three weeks to go the floors had not been finished and it seems like the gas fittings were only just being decided upon. 250 hand bills were printed for distribution to advertise the dedication service. Finally the big day came. The Dedication Service started at 3pm, being opened in prayer by the

Bulphan Rector; Rev Rosser and the service being conducted by Mr Bernard Gurnett. Miss Pat Mogg from Grays was to be the soloist. The service was followed by a buffet tea at the Parish Hall at 5pm. (I note that the handbill says 'at the usual prices' so must have been tight!). The tea was followed by an evening rally at 7pm taken by Mr Harold Tebbit former Baptist Union General Superintendent for the Eastern Area.

Although the new building was now being used for services as the year turned to 1951 it was inevitable that there would be some settling in and tidying up arrangements. The old organ needed to be disposed of, the Council who ran the village Hall were wanting to know when the Mission was 'removing from the Hall'

At the January 1951 meeting it was commented that the Hall was '*cramped and uncomfortable*' and that '*removal of the partition wall (between the Hall and Committee room) would make things better and give more room*'. Although a structural beam had been built into the wall to allow such an option and the size of the congregation is not known this does seem quite remarkable with the building having just been finished a few weeks before. It is possible the work had been finished a little too quickly as it is noted '*Concerning floor, this would be put in order when drier weather was here*' In terms of fitting out there was some still to follow including a text over the pulpit for which suggestions were invited. At this time the grounds surrounding the Mission were simply rough ground with access being by a slightly raised concrete path and it was proposed that there be a light placed at the gateway and along the path although quite what form they would have taken is not stated.

Nevertheless, the decline that had set in before the Second World War and struggles of the past 10 years were over and the Mission was about to enter a new era on a very healthy footing with a sign of this being a proposal to set up a Sunday School. With 12 - 16 positive responses this was soon to become a reality ... but that's another story.



The text board still displayed above the pulpit with the text taken from Psalm 96 verse 9

Decline and Revival: A history 1938 to 1951 – A summary and reflection

Prompted by the 75th Anniversary of the rebuilt chapel in 1950, we have traced the working of Zion Hall Mission through one the most difficult periods in its history. By 1938 a degree of lethargy had set in only to be followed by the loss of the building early in the Second World War. Enthusiasm continued to wane until a 'man for the hour' in the shape of Bernard Gurnett rallied forces. Despite many setbacks and delays, progress was made and not only was the new building completed but the fellowship of the Mission emerged stronger than before.

But it was not just down to one-man, close teamworking developed between those not just directly involved in the building project, but those arranging and nurturing the services held in the Village Hall, fund raising and social event organising. Not least, the whole community of our three villages (and wider) gave considerable help in our time of need, through events, donations, practical help and advice. Today's world is different but we should all be encouraged by those who work hard in the Parish to support current initiatives thus making our churches and communities alive and vibrant.

Today at Zion Hall we give thanks to God for all those who played their part so that we can continue to offer a place for folk to come aside and 'Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness'. If anyone would like to see inside our simple building and view at first hand items illustrated in this series please let me know and I'd be pleased to show you around. Better still, come along to one of our Sunday services to see the building and experience the life of the church.

My thanks go to HOB Parish for allowing me to share this commentary over the months.



Horndon-on-the-Hill BRIDGE CLUB

In Horndon Village Hall every
Friday from 1.30 - 4.30pm
Admission £2.00 (includes tea/coffee biscuits)
Very friendly atmosphere
Intermediate standard basic ACOL played
For details telephone: Stuart Cameron 01375 673 237

BULPHAN SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB



We are a small, friendly short mat bowls club who meet once a week at Bulphan Village Hall. We are looking for experienced or new players. If you are interested in joining us, you would be made very welcome.

Please feel free to come along and find out more or ring Lesley on 07766 505755

TUESDAY SESSIONS: Tuesday 1.45 - 4.15pm

We have all the equipment for new players to try the game for the first time, and there is always someone who can explain the rules and help you get started.



COMMUNITY RECYCLING

Do you have any unwanted items that you would like to pass on for no charge?

If you do please email or phone
sonia51anne@yahoo.co.uk / 01375 674212

Items must be fit for purpose.

They will be advertised in the HOBNOB for 2 issues.

Please supply a picture and contact details.

Horndon On The Hill Branch

incorporating Stanford, Corringham, Fobbing & Linford

We meet at The Welcome Club
1 Victoria Road, Stanford-le-Hope

Meetings 8.00pm on the last Tuesday each month except in December.

New members welcome, enquiries to the
Chairman stuart.prinn@gmail.com
For all Poppy Appeal supplies contact
aafisher53@yahoo.com



Pastoral Care Team

As a Pastoral Care Team consisting of Lisa, Jo and Bev, many of you will know that our ministry began during the difficult days of COVID. What started as a response to isolation has grown into a steady and prayerful commitment to those in our parishes who can no longer be with us in church as they once were.

Our training took place in different ways. For Lisa, everything happened online throughout 2021, with many hours spent on Zoom. Jo and Bev trained afterwards, attending classroom sessions at the Diocesan offices in Chelmsford on consecutive Saturdays. Each of us completed a final dissertation, and after passing, we received our certificates at Chelmsford Cathedral.

The heart of our ministry is simple: to visit those who are housebound and who were once regular members of our congregations across the three villages. These visits take place monthly, offering companionship, prayer, and a listening ear. One of the greatest joys of this work is the gift of time; time to sit, to listen, and to be present.

We also keep in touch with families when needed, and occasionally visit those in hospital. When appropriate, we can also ask the hospital chaplain to visit.

Since the summer of 2025, and through the encouragement of Revd Sue Mann, both Lisa and Jo have been licensed to give Home Communion. Now, during this time of interregnum, this has become a particular comfort to many who miss receiving the sacrament regularly.

We also help maintain the Parish Prayer List. We check regularly that those on the list wish to remain there, and we work with the Parish Administrator to keep it up to date. For some, being held in prayer is deeply important. One person recently said, "I'm doing so well being on it, why would I come off!"

You may not see the visits we make, but please be assured that we are quietly looking out for people. If someone comes to mind, perhaps someone you haven't seen in their usual seat for a while, please remember them in your prayers. And if you would like to write them a card, simply pass it to Bev and we will gladly deliver it.

As a team, we know that our strength and wisdom must come from God. It is His compassion that we hope to reflect, offering comfort, encouragement, and spiritual support to those we visit.

If you have any questions about our work, or if someone comes to mind who may appreciate a visit, please do not hesitate to contact us.

With every blessing, Lisa, Jo and Bev

The Pastoral Care Team



a leap of faith!

This is Mark Willett's account of his "leap of faith" ...

After experiencing a series of medical and personal issues I felt the need to do something positive. Something that would renew my spirit.

I'd always said that I'd never do a free fall parachute jump. What was the point? Putting your life in danger by jumping out of a plane at 12,000 ft ... No thanks!

So, I was still wondering why I booked one a few days after I did.

When I told my son he said.

"Why are you doing that? You've always said that you'd never do that"

I think I'd reached a point where I wanted to do something outside of my comfort zone. To do something to raise funds for Blood Cancer UK. To do something to test my nerve. To test my faith.

My family, Church Family & friends all gave generously, and I felt a great sense of achievement. Then it actually hit me; I've actually got to through with this.

Last summer the date came and I built myself up leading to the day ... only to receive a message the night before that it was cancelled due to bad weather. I'd never really considered just how good the weather has to be for skydiving. No wind, no rain, no cloud. In fact, a further 6 cancellations took me to the start of winter and a closedown until the spring. To be honest, I thought that the new date in March this year would be a nailed-on cancellation for bad weather.

The day arrived with no cancellation message the previous evening so an early drive to Headcorn Aerodrome ensued.

The early morning fog lifted, the clouds parted & the wind dropped and before I knew it I was kitted up & ready for take-off.

I prayed.

Not really for anything except for my saviour to be alongside me, whatever I was about to experience.

And here's the thing; from that moment on I felt absolutely no fear whatsoever.

No fear - when the plane took off and climbed to 12,000 ft.

No fear - when I jumped out of the aircraft.

No fear - when I was free falling through the air at c.125 mph.

When the parachute opened a true sense of peace overcame me as I admired God's Earth way below and for the few minutes I floated back to the ground, I truly felt the Holy Spirit within me.



On landing I cried. Not tears of relief but tears of joy, tears that I knew signalled a new beginning. A beginning of the rest of my life with an even stronger faith.

As the days went by I was able to fully realise that the Lord had guided me to that jump.

I needed to take that leap of faith and could never have imagined what a significant spiritual experience it turned out to be.

A huge thanks to all who supported me, helping me raise over £3000.

Mark x

SERVING FAMILIES IN AND AROUND ORSETT

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our local experts



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We're here for you anytime.
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we can provide a funeral to suit you.



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Hilltop Foot Health

Professional foot care services

Do you need help with:

- Nail trimming
- Fungal nails
- Thickened nails
- Cracked Heels
- Athletes Foot
- Ingrowing nails
- Corns
- Callus
- Verrucas

To book your foot health appointment, call:

Hazel: 07885 504476 - Brenda: 07950 728920

Treatments in the comfort
of your own home
or in our clinic in
Horndon on the Hill



Hazel Fay S.A.C Dip. FHP
Brenda Martin S.A.C Dip. FHP



Bulphan Village Hall, Church Road RM14 3RU

With a wide variety of groceries, fresh vegetables, fresh meat, fresh-baked bread, off licence, greetings cards and all household essentials, you can also make bill payments for water, electricity and gas with key and card top ups, replacement gas/electricity keys and cards, mobile phone top ups, the Health Lottery and National Lottery and a hot drinks machine.

LOTS OF FREE PARKING

Stamps are always available for sale at the till and there are main Post Office services at the Village Hall (next door) on Thursday and Friday afternoons, 1.30 - 4.30pm

IT'S ONLY A LITTLE SHOP, BUT IT CERTAINLY OFFERS A LOT

MOTHERS' UNION

Time to join (or re-join) Mothers' Union?

If you find the Mothers' Union article each month interesting, why not join as a member? Or re-join, if your membership has lapsed? You could be a diocesan member, like me, and be part of this amazing global movement, making a difference at grass-roots level. It costs £34 per year (equivalent of 65p per week!). To join, either contact me or email Judith on Dm.rep@muchelmsford.org.uk and mention this Hobnob article.

Chelmsford Diocese Mothers' Union (CDMU):



Our Diocesan President Maxine is continuing her sponsored 150th Midday Prayer Challenge and will be on top of Chelmsford Cathedral tower on Ascension Day (14 May) and having lunch with members afterwards – you are welcome to attend. Tickets are still available for our Anniversary Challenge Tea Party on 22 August at the Chapter House (near Chelmsford Cathedral). There are 3 timeslots (10.30-12, 12.30-2 and 2.30-4pm). Tickets are £10 per adult and £5 per child and numbers for each session are limited. Please let me know if you would like to tickets.

MU midday prayers are said, each day, on the MU Facebook www.facebook.com/MothersUnion I will be leading live on Tuesday 5 May.

Thy Kingdom Come: God With Us



The global prayer movement, Thy Kingdom Come, is a call to prayer over the 11 days between Ascension Day (Thurs 14 May) and Pentecost (24 May), to pray for five people to know God in their lives. This year the theme is 'God with us'. Mothers' Union members are also called to pray for five and invite one person to an MU event and to become an MU member. Perhaps someone is praying for you?

There are 11 daily videos being streamed by Thy Kingdom Come, focusing on a different person each day and how God is present in their lives. Some of those involved include Jasmine Mitchell (winner of Great British Bake Off 2025) and our own Worldwide

President, Kathleen Snow, who will be talking about Mary Sumner and Mothers' Union – keep an eye out!

Celebrating 150 years of Mothers' Union



The last day to buy your tickets for 150th Celebratory Service on 10 June 2026 at St Paul's Cathedral with the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Annual Gathering on 11 June 2026 at The Emmanuel Centre (next to Mary Sumner House, London) is 16 May, so get in quick! <https://www.mothersunion.org/event/150/>

Prayer Diary 2026: May



The theme for May in our 2026 Prayer Diary is 'Thy Kingdom Come': As we wait for God's kingdom to come, we have time to think about how we can make His kingdom known here and now. Let us spread God's message to as many people as we can through our faith in action at Mothers' Union, working to end poverty, violence and injustice for all Your people at home and around the world.

Monthly Prayer: *Our Father, Thy kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven. Let us make a heaven here on earth, for all, acting as Your hands and feet, ensuring that the world is a place of plenty for all, safe for all, loving for all, comfort for all. Let Your wondrous earth be a place where all cannot just grow, but flourish and become everything You wish them to be. Amen*

Creative Prayer: Prayer flames – get creative with paper and card! Use orange and red card to make flames of Pentecost, writing prayers on them and displaying them at home or in church. Alternatively, make some doves to represent the Holy Spirit and write prayers on those. You could even have a display of doves, which represent both RISE UP and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

Lucy Bubb, Mothers' Union contact



HORNCHURCH PASSION PLAY

Every 4 or 5 years since 1995 on the green outside The Queen's Theatre, Hornchurch, the Easter story has been staged on Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday. Many know the Easter story from Bible verses and numerous film and TV productions; from Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday to his crucifixion on Good Friday and rising on Easter Sunday. But to see it portrayed like this brings home that while some of the events were quite ordinary and day to day others were not; Jesus' rant overturning tables in The Temple and trying to reason with the Sanhedrin, there was something else going on. What adds to the 'realness' is the dialogue between people in the cast and being up close you are eavesdropping. It loosely follows what is written in The Bible, although scripted the general chat among Jesus' followers, as they are trying to make sense of things and airing their concerns as to Jesus' actions and reaction to things was it may have been, brought a degree of reality. It's not just Bible readings.

At Hornchurch the proceedings started with a band walking and playing on Billet Lane meeting Jesus and his followers outside the Art Centre before coming into Jerusalem (the green) singing with banners waving, moving through the crowd (audience) to sets around the green depicting the points in the Easter story. The thing not one of the immediate parts of the Easter story was Jesus' healing of the Centurion's servant in Capernaum.



The Last Supper, as far as the disciples were concerned, was a normal supper, except it got a bit strange when Jesus broke the bread saying it was his body and the wine was his blood and then he washed their feet. Then he said he would be betrayed by one of them and denied three times before the cock crowed. These actions and comments were met with bemused looks and comments among the disciples as they would have been.



Feet washing



There were cast members dotted around the audience calling out throughout the performance, and temple priests walking through the crowd telling us to call for Barabbas to be released during Jesus' trial, with Pontius Pilate trying to make sense of it. Roll on 2030 or 2031.



W.A.D.E.R.S

JOIN THE WADERS AND
HAVE A SPLASHING TIME

Water Assisted Disabled Exercise & Rehabilitation Scheme
www.waders.org.uk

Exercise in water for people with mobility difficulties
(Supervised by a qualified Aquatic Physiotherapist)

Tuesday:

Laindon Pool
SwimMania, Stannetts,
Laindon North Trading Estate,
Basildon, S15 6DN
7.30pm-8.10pm
8.20pm-9.00pm

Tuesday:

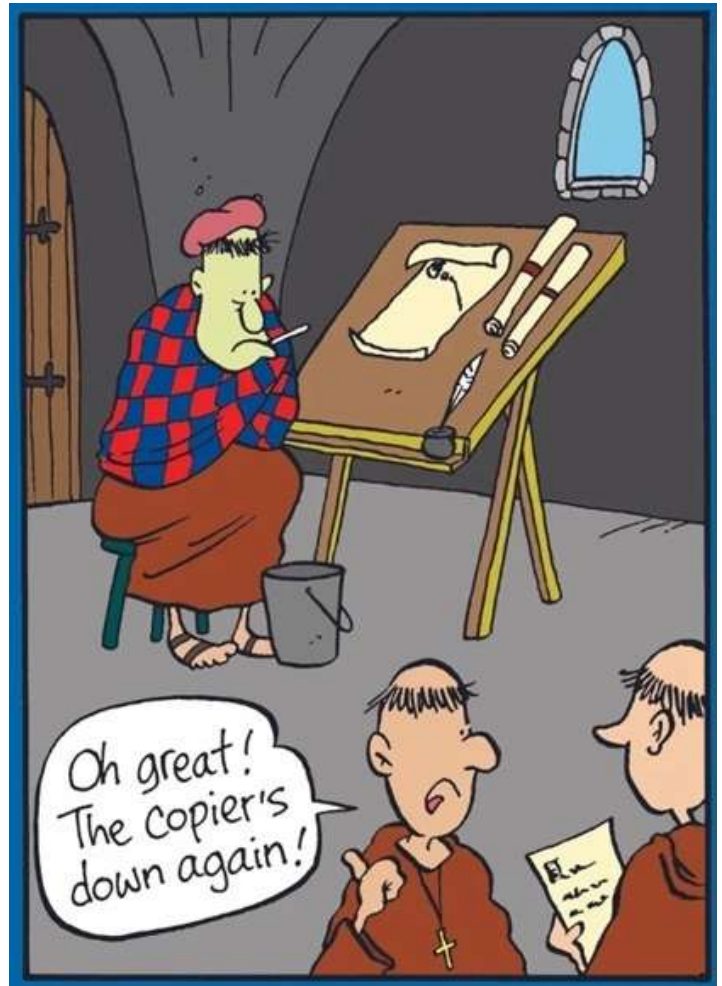
Impulse Leisure Blackshots
Teaching Pool
Grays RM16 2JU
8.00pm – 9.00pm

Friday:

Corringham Leisure Centre
Swimming Pool
Corringham SS17 7NB
11.15am-12.10pm
12.20pm-13.15pm

Please contact a Committee Member before attending your first session
so you know what to expect.

Sharon: 07792 827638 for Laindon
Kay-Anne: 07899 745020 for Corringham
Dawn: 01375 461885 for Blackshots
Email: ask-waders@hotmail.com



The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan

Edward Bear Toddler Group

Edward Bear welcomes his little friends and
their accompanying adults in the
Orsett Churches' Centre Chapel

There is no charge for this Toddler Group

Every Friday during term time
9.30 am – 11.00 am

For further details
please contact:
KAREN COLLIER
on:
01375 370441



In the
Orsett Churches' Centre

Every Friday during term time
9.00-11.30am

Everyone is welcome

*The perfect place to go after
the school run!*

The dates of Edward Bear and Oasis Cafe are on our website www.hobnob.org.uk, on the 'What's on' page

Knowing and sharing the love of Jesus in the Church and community



WOOLMARKET MUSIC

On 19th April, we welcomed back a dear friend to Woolmarket Music. Hannah Woolmer once again performed for us and with her accompanist, Richard Stokkerei, Hannah delighted us with a programme of folk songs and melodies from around the UK. She also played a couple of pieces which she has composed for documentaries on Netflix. Richard played a couple of guitar solos. All in all, it was a very relaxing evening of beautiful and haunting violin and guitar music.

Next month we shall be enjoying Mosaic Choir, Thurrock's Fun Choir, details below.

A poster with a colorful geometric background of triangles in shades of purple, green, yellow, and red. At the top, it says 'WOOLMARKET MUSIC' in black. Below that is the 'mosaic' logo, which features a stylized human figure with a rainbow-colored head and the word 'mosaic' in white lowercase letters on a red and blue background. The main text is in bold black font: 'will be singing at St Peter & St Paul's church, Horndon on the Hill on SATURDAY 16TH MAY AT 7.30PM'. At the bottom, it says '£10 admission or free to members and under 18s'. A small watermark 'Made with PosterMyWall.com' is visible in the bottom left corner.

WOOLMARKET MUSIC

mosaic

will be singing at
St Peter & St Paul's church,
Horndon on the Hill on
SATURDAY 16TH
MAY AT 7.30PM

£10 admission or
free to members
and under 18s

Made with PosterMyWall.com



Bulphan WI

Bulphan WI was formed in 1929, and in April members and invited guests gathered for a cockney-themed party. Tasters of jellied eels and cockles were on offer, followed by a main course of either pie, mash and liquor or fish and chips. Sally's bread pudding rounded off the meal nicely.

Entertainment was provided by local singer Geri, plus we had a visit from the Pearly Queens of Hackney and Clacton. Carol and her mum spoke about the history and costumes of the Pearly community, and their charitable work. They joined in with the singing and dancing and hopefully had as much fun as everyone else.

Many members and guests dressed to impress.



Our walking group had a visit to Miss Willmott's garden and some members are looking forward to a visit to the National Flower Show at Hylands House this month.

Our meeting in May is our Annual Meeting when we look back over the past year and elect a President and committee for the coming year. We will also vote on which of the two national Resolutions to support, either the issue of homelessness affecting women or the lack of accessible public toilets. Along with some cheese and grape based refreshments, and the coming year's programme being revealed, it looks likely to be an enjoyable and busy meeting.

Visitors are most welcome, first visit is free.

Lesley Crisp

Secretary

FOREST CHURCH

There was no Forest Church in April as it coincided with Easter Saturday.

So, a catch up from a previous Forest Church. Our activity in February was planting wildflower seeds in pots; these have grown really well, as can be seen in the photo, soon to be ready to be planted out. In years past we have scattered seeds and seed bombs to try to establish wildflowers in all three churchyards, with no real success. So, this year a different tack was taken and hopefully with a little more success and hopefully an abundance of flowers to attract insects.



**The next Forest Church is at 4pm on
Saturday 2nd May at St Giles, Orsett**

**Remember we hold Forest Church regardless of the weather,
so please come dressed appropriately**



Horndon on the Hill Church of England Primary School

We are all part of God's family. Through trying our best in all that we do, we find a sense of belonging.
1 Corinthians 12:27 'All of you together are Christ's body and each of you is a part of it'.

Dear all,

We have had an eventful couple of weeks. Thank you to any of you who were able to come along to our Senior Citizens Afternoon Tea. Everyone had a brilliant time – including the children!



Our annual Easter Egg raffle was a success; the children managed to raise £500 selling tickets for eggs that had been donated. The school council decided that they would like to donate the money to St Peter's and St Paul's Church in our village. The wardens purchased a lawnmower with the proceeds and invited some of the children along for a photoshoot before they begin using the mower. Moving forward, the children have decided that a percentage of all the monies raised over the next year will be donated to our church.



We also held a Break the Rules Day at the end of the Spring Term. All the children (and most of the staff) also held a Break the Rules Day at the end of the Spring Term. All the children (and most of the staff) participated and raised a considerable amount of money for lunchtime play equipment. The children have a long list of things they want for their playground so there may be more fundraising ideas coming along this term.

We are looking forward to an eventful summer term and hope that we will see you at our May Fayre or our Teddy Bear's Picnic. Please come along to our Sports Day if you are free. We would love to see you!

Kind regards

Headteacher



Horndon-on-the-Hill C. of E. Primary School is a proud partner in the Osborne Co-operative Academy Trust

Telephone 01375 648966 Email info@osborne.coop Website osborne.coop

Registered office St Clare's School, Butts Lane Stanford-le-Hope, Essex. SS17 0NW Registered at Companies House, Cardiff, Company Number 7703865

WILDFLOWER FOLKLORE

As we in our modern lives as rush around our rural parish we may glimpse flashes in the fields, hedgerows, and paths, of wildflowers blooming, painting the countryside with colour. But many of these flowers have centuries of folklore attached

and, tales once passed down but now lost that offer a glimpse into how we once lived in harmony with the land. Many would have been used to treat all manner of ailments and unknown to our ancestors went on to form the basis of modern medicines.

Cowslip This bright yellow flower covers meadows in spring, with its bell-shaped blooms nodding. Once called "Fairy Cups," cowslips were believed to mark the hidden entrances to fairy realms. It was said that if you picked a cowslip, you risked being spirited away! In some places, children would gather them for May Day celebrations, weaving them into garlands to honour the coming of summer.



Red Poppy Another common sight is the red poppy, its red popping in the cornfields. Since WW1 it has come to be the symbol of remembrance, but in times past it had a more mystical meaning. Poppies were associated with sleep and dreams, thanks to their opium-rich sap. They were once tucked into pillows or hung above cradles to soothe restless sleepers. In some traditions, a blooming poppy in your garden foretold a visit from a long-lost friend.



Deadly Nightshade Perhaps the plant with the most mystical tales is deadly nightshade, also known as belladonna, which grows in some of the shadier corners. This toxic plant was once thought to be used by witches in their potions and spells. Our forebears knew of the danger it presented and through tales warned children never to touch it, as its dark berries could both entrance and endanger. Yet, belladonna was also used for centuries in tiny doses as a beauty product. Women would drop its juice into their eyes to make them look large and luminous. Deadly nightshade is in the same family of plants as tomatoes, potatoes and aubergines.



Foxgloves With spires of purple, pink, and white flowers foxgloves, are seen along the edge of woodland and hedges. Known also as "Fairy Gloves," these flowers were believed to be worn by fairies to protect themselves from being seen by humans. Farmers believed that planting foxgloves near their homes could keep evil spirits at bay, and healers once used their extracts for heart conditions, that later led to the development of digitalis in modern medicine. Like deadly nightshade, children were warned of the dangers associated with foxgloves, through stories.



Dandelions With the bright yellow flowers followed by their distinctive seed heads, dandelions are a scourge of many gardeners as they pop up in lawns and almost impossible to get rid of, but they have their legends. As children how many of us would blow on the fluffy seed heads to tell the time, each puff representing an hour. Others believed that sending your wishes with dandelion seeds would carry them straight to loved ones far away. Another popular tale is of bedwetting if you touched one, although in the 19th century the leaves and roots were used as a diuretic in a medicine to flush the kidneys.



These old tales may seem quaint now, but they show the deep understanding that we had between people and place, in times when many wildflowers weren't just a pretty addition to the view. So many wild plants had all manner of uses that were incorporated into daily life as food and medicines, that we have forgotten. So next time you are walking through the countryside, take a closer look at the flowers beneath your feet. They might be telling stories older than the hedgerows themselves.

The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan

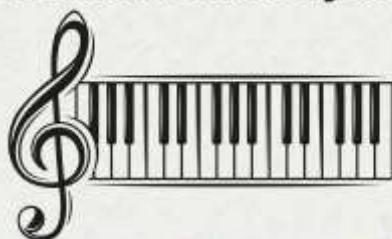
Organ Recital by Matthew McCombie

Saturday, 9th May 2026 at 12 noon.

At St Peter and St Paul Church, Horndon on the hill

Tickets are £10 person and includes a buffet lunch

**For tickets please contact Sonia Ward on 01375 674212 or
by email sonia51anne@yahoo.co.uk**



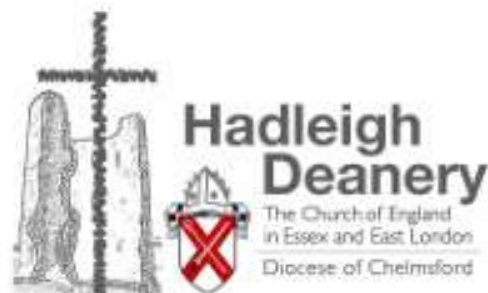
Knowing and sharing the love of Jesus in the Church and community


You shall be like God: *a theology of power*

How do we make sure that our churches are safe places where those with less power are able to flourish and experience transparent models of leadership?

Starting in the garden of Eden, this training takes a sweeping journey through the story of God and humankind. We examine what it means to be made in God's image, the impact of the Fall, and reflect upon Biblical examples of power used well - and poorly. It will provide an opportunity for you to become more aware of the types of power you possess and how it impacts the way you interact with others.

We are delighted to be hosting Bekah Legg CEO of Restored UK who will be leading us for a morning of reflection on the dynamics of power in relationships and with a particular focus upon the church.



Sat 30th May **Book Your**
11:00 - 13:00 **FREE**
Ticket 

St Michael's Church : St Michael's Road : Daws Heath : Benfleet : SS7 2UW



The churches in this Parish are committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of everyone within the church community; especially children, young people and vulnerable adults.

The Parish Safeguarding Representative is Janet McCheyne, who can be contacted on: 07752 836902

or
janetmcc101@gmail.com

The Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on:

01245 294444

or
safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org

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COMMUNITY

RECYCLING

Unwanted items to pass on for no charge

The following are in full working order and available free of charge

- 32" Sony Bravia TV with stand
- Matsui VCR
- Matsui DTR3 Digital Set Top Box
- Dion recorder
- Tesco DVD1030 DVD Player

All free from Upminster RM14 2LT
07741 178759 any questions please ask



ALL OUR YESTERDAYS

Happenings from the Parish as reported in May in the past

1765 The Ipswich Journal Sat 25th Sale of effects

To be SOLD by AUCTION
(By John Thomas, of Rumford)
On MONDAY the Twenty-seventh
of May 1765

All the Household-Furniture, Brewing Utensils, &c. belonging to the late Mrs ELIZ COLLINGWOOD, deceased, at the BELL at HORNDON ON THE HILL in the County of Essex' consisting of Bedsteads & Furnitures, Feather-Beds, Blankets, and Quilts, Chest of Drawers, Tables, Chairs, Looking-glasses, China, an eight-day clock, Kitchen-Furniture, 2 Coppers and Iron-work, Tubs, Casks, and all sorts of Brewing Utensils; also a Water-Cart, a Malt-Mill, a Sow and Pigs.
NB The sale to begin exactly at Eleven o'clock

1792 The Ipswich Journal Sat 5th Vandevord marriage

CHELMSFORD 4 May
Monday was married at Horndon on the Hill Mr Wm Mott, saddler, to Miss Eliz Vandevord

1863 Chelmsford Chronicle Fri 29th Harrow Inn to let

To Let, Harrow Public, Bulphan Fen

Messrs Collis & Warren
HAVE TO LET the "Harrow" Public-house situate at Bulphan Fen. There is a garden, large yard with skittle-shed and stabling; and about five acres of meadow land; rent £25; coming-in £200 - Collis and Warren, Administrators and Surveyors, Romford, Essex.

1871 Chelmsford Chronicle Fri 19th Robbery from The Bell

Wholesale Robbery - Jas. Cutler, Hy Cutler, Geo Dyson, Hy Dyson

and Marshall Page, labourers of Horndon on the Hill, were brought up on remand charged with having, on the morning of the 29th of April, stolen from the bar of the Bell public house, Horndon on the Hill, the property of Mr Isaac Greenaway, the landlord, a quantity of beer, spirituous liquors, cigars, tobacco, soap, sugar and 9d in copper money. The prisoners all pleaded guilty. Hy Cutler who was only 13 years of age, was discharged; the others were each sentenced to one month with hard labour at Springfield gaol.

1873 Essex Newsman Sat 10th Situation wanted

SITUATION WANTED, by a respectable young man, as PORTER, or to look after a horse and cart, and willing to make himself useful; age 19 years.
Address J Meeks, Orsett, Essex

1874 Essex Newsman Sat 9th Wanted Nursemaid

WANTED, a NURSEMAID, from 16 to 18 years of age, good character indispensable.
Address- Mrs Pollett, Horndon on the Hill, Romford.

1874 Essex Herald Tues 12th Church restoration

BULPHAN

RESTORATION OF THE PARISH CHURCH - It has been decided to carry out extensive alterations and improvements in the parish church of Bulphan. The nave and chancel are to be reconstructed, the roof to be covered with patent tiles, the screen, which is of great antiquity, is to be restored, the chancel to be furnished with new panels, and the handsome east window is to be reconstructed and raised higher. The whole is to be carried out at an estimated cost

not exceeding £1,000 from designs supplied by Mr T Stretfield, Great Marlborough-street, and the work to be done by Mr J Hammond, builder, of Great Warley.

1879 Essex Weekly News Fri 16th Bees

HORNDON ON THE HILL
On Monday morning, the 12th inst, between 11 and 12 o'clock, Mr H Tyrrell had his first swarm of bees; and considering the cold winds that have prevailed, and the backward state of vegetation, this is unusually early for so late a season.

1884 Southend Std & Essex Weekly Advertiser Fri 9th Camping on highway

ORSETT : ENCAMPING ON THE HIGHWAY - Benjamin Harris, a hawker late of Bulphan, was summoned for encamping on the highway at Orsett on the 21st April. Sergeant William George Giffard said on the 21st April, about 12pm at night, he was on duty between Orsett and Bulphan, in the parish of Orsett, when he found the defendant encamped on the highway within about six feet of the middle of the road; he called up the defendant, who was in bed, and asked him who was there. Defendant said he had a mare with him who was near foaling, and could not get any further. About 2pm the next day, witness served a summons on the defendant three miles off; the mare had not foaled. Defendant, in his absence, was fined 5s and 4s 6d costs.

1888 Essex Newsmen
Sat 5th
Schoolmistress leaves

BULPHAN

PRESENTATION - On Thursday, April 26th Miss Russell the National School governess, who is leaving the neighbourhood, was presented with a very handsome marble timepiece by the Rector and famers, as a mark of their esteem. The school children also gave several useful presents.

1907 Essex Times
Sat 18th
Whittington memorial

**MEMORIAL TO THE LATE
CANON WHITTINGTON**

RECTOR OF ORSETT

IT IS PROPOSED TO ERECT A MEMORIAL TO THE LATE CANON WHITTINGTON IN ORSETT CHURCH

Any subscriptions for the above may be sent to Francis HD Whitmore, Esq., Orsett Hall, before June 12th. The form the Memorial will take will be dependent on the amount contributed.

1913 Essex Times
Sat 17th
New tennis ground

**HORNDON ON THE HILL
NEW TENNIS GROUND**

There was a pleasant gathering on Whit-Monday at the opening of the lawn tennis ground. After a speech from the Vicar, Rev S.W. Fischel, Mrs Edward Abram, in a few well-chosen words, declared the ground open. Master Graham Newton presented Mrs Abram with bouquet on behalf of the members of the new club. . Tea was handed round, and although the afternoon was showery, enjoyable games were played until dark.

1917 Westminster Gazette
Fri 18th
Flag placed in Bulphan church

ANOTHER FLAG WITH HISTORY

A flag such that as is commonly used by army signallers has been suspended in the parish church of Orsett, which contains as number of other war emblems. The flag

has been riddled with bullets and is heavily stained with mud. An inscription underneath where it hangs states that it was "the first British flag hoisted at Monchy after its capture by the British on April 11, 1917, and was used to denote the headquarters of the officers commanding the defences of that place where the Yeomanry, in spite of losing more than two-thirds of their fighting strength, held on until relieved.

1918 Essex Newsmen
Sat 4th
Situation vacant farm worker war bonus

Situation vacant :
GENERAL Workman, offhand grass farm; 36s weekly, war bonus. Woolings, Bulphan, Essex

1935 Chelmsford Chronicle
Fri 24th
Two on a bicycle

Two on a bicycle
John W Lewis, London Road, Grays, labourer, was summoned for carrying an additional person on a bicycle at Horndon on the Hill, on May 6. Dorothy Brown, Vincent Avenue, field worker was summoned for being so carried. They were fined 5/- each.

1944 Chelmsford Chronicle
Fri 26th
Situation wanted cowman

Situation Wanted
As Cowman; age 48; good milker; life experience; two sons for farm work; milk if required. H Hayhow, Little Malgraves, Bulphan

1948 Chelmsford Chronicle
Fri 7th
Tractor demo

**DEMONSTRATIONS OF THE NEW
FOWLER Mk V F TRACTOR;
FISH R-HUMPHRIES Mk III
4 FURROW PLOUGH;
DAVID BROWN "CROPMASTER 6"
SIX-SPEED TRACTOR**

WILL BE HELD ON
(at among other places)
Thursday, 13th May 1948
**BARRINGTONS FARM,
BULPHAN**
*(By Permission of
Messrs JM Pinkerton & Son)*

Arranged by
SOLE ESSEX DISTRIBUTORS
"Fowler" and "David Brown"
Products
ERNEST DOE & Sons LTD
ULTING, MALDON, ESSEX

NOTE : David Brown purchased Aston Martin, Lagonda & Tickford coachbuilders - his initials 'DB' were used for a Aston Martin cars.

1988 Brentwood Gazette
Fri 13th
Bus route saved

County council public transport chiefs have decided to not axe the Bulphan to Basildon bus service - the only link between the two towns, They ruled in favour of keeping the route despite knowing fares covered only a quarter of the £30 cost of running the one-day-a-week service The service was up for review at last Wednesday's public transport committee meeting as contracts on some routes are due to expire between July and August.



COMMUNITY INFORMATION FOR HORNDON - ORSETT - BULPHAN

POLICE at Grays **101 or 999**

Community Officer: PC Javier Rodriguez-Perez
email: thurrockcommunitypolicingteam@essex.police.uk

DOCTORS

Horndon on the Hill		01375 642362
Orsett & Bulphan	Orsett Surgery	01375 892082
Bulphan	West Horndon Surgery	01708 852318
	Ockendon Surgery	01277 811770

FORUMS

Horndon on the Hill	Horndonchair@thurrockforums.org
Orsett	apeaford@icloud.com
Bulphan	Bulphaninfo@thurrockforums.org

LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Mr David Day	david.day@thurrock.gov.uk	07355 924361
Mr Barry Johnson	BJohnson@thurrock.gov.uk	07831 609714

LOCAL MP

Mr James McMurdock	james.mcmurdock.mp@parliament.uk
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA	

SCHOOLS

Horndon C of E Primary	Headteacher: Mrs D Bradley	01375 673260
Orsett C of E Primary	Head of school: Mr J Dickson	01375 891383
Bulphan C of E Academy	Head of school: Mr J Dickson	01375 891220

Advertising in the HOBNOB

Policy

If you would like advertise in the HOBNOB, we offer space to businesses, contractors and organisations within a 15 mile radius of the parish, excluding the area South of the Thames. It is expected that advertisers uphold ethical working practices and in sympathy with the ethos of the church. Ultimately the decision on placing adverts rests with the PCC.

Please send details of your request to advertise to magazine@hobnob.org.uk



Our annual advertising rates are £50 for a quarter page and £75 for a half page. If the advert is placed part way through the year a pro rata invoice will be issued.

The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan



DONATE
YOUR OLD
OR FOREIGN
COINS &
BANKNOTES
TO HELP

- ✓ All foreign coins & banknotes
- ✓ Current UK coins and banknotes
- ✓ Any old British & Irish money
- ✓ Even obsolete currency!

Small text at the bottom: Currency services supplied by  cash4coins

Please help raise funds for our churches

Thank you to everyone who has already donated coins or notes.

Since August 2021 we have raised, for church funds

£2,210.57

Please ask friends, family and work colleagues if they have any unwanted coins or notes.

Donations can be taken to one of our churches or you can email Lynda at l.robertson@hobnob.org.uk and she can arrange collection.

Knowing and sharing the love of Jesus in the Church and community

Registered charity number: 1199779

Would you consider donating to support the work of the Parish and help us maintain our three churches?

The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan is registered with the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) which allows you to give to this Parish securely and safely online.

- Give monthly, quarterly or annually by Direct Debit
- Give One-Off amounts by Credit/Debit cards and Apple/Google pay wallets
- You have the option to sign up to inflation-linked giving annually
- If you pay tax you can enhance your gift by having Gift Aid at 25% added to your giving
- You may give securely and donate anonymously, if you prefer

You can set up Parish Giving in three different ways

- set up your Direct Debit online, www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/parish-horndon-orsett-bulphan-essex/
- Fill in a gift form at church
- Or call PGS on 0333 002 1271 and they will take you through it, step by step.

You will need the following information to hand:

- Parish code = 080608339
- Your personal bank account details
- You will need to confirm if you want to increase your gift in line with inflation each year
- Confirm if you are a UK taxpayer and therefore eligible for gift aid

Should you have any questions or need help please contact Lynda Robertson by email: l.robertson@hobnob.org.uk or by phone on 07974 803471