



# HOBNOB

On-line

FLOWER FESTIVAL

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

June 2026



# THE PARISH OF HORNDON, ORSETT AND BULPHAN

Website: [www.hobnob.org.uk](http://www.hobnob.org.uk)

Facebook: @HOBNOBchurches

## RECTOR

## VACANCY

### PTO\*

Rev Max Blake

[max@hobnob.org.uk](mailto: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	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	<a href="mailto:b.macrae@hobnob.org.uk">b.macrae@hobnob.org.uk</a>	01375 673327
	Sonia Ward	<a href="mailto:sonia51anne@yahoo.co.uk">sonia51anne@yahoo.co.uk</a>	01375 674212
Sacristans	Jane Barry	Beverley Macrae	Judy Rood
Vergers	Robin Clark	Felicity Tarbard	Sonia Ward

### St Giles & All Saints Orsett

Churchwardens	Christine Mortimer	<a href="mailto:c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk">c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk</a>	01375 641485
	David Mortimer	<a href="mailto:d.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk">d.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk</a>	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	<a href="mailto:bookings@orsettchurches.co.uk">bookings@orsettchurches.co.uk</a>	

### St Mary-the-Virgin Bulphan

Churchwardens	Alastair Macrae	<a href="mailto:Alastairmacrae51@gmail.com">Alastairmacrae51@gmail.com</a>	01375 673327
	Frank Woollard	<a href="mailto:f.woollard@hobnob.org.uk">f.woollard@hobnob.org.uk</a>	01375 891034
Vergers	Frank Woollard		
Parish Room Bookings	Lynda Robertson		07974 803471

### Parish Administrator

Lynda Robertson [l.robertson@hobnob.org.uk](mailto:l.robertson@hobnob.org.uk) 07974 803471

### Parish Baptism Co-Ordinator

Christine Mortimer [c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:magazine@hobnob.org.uk)

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

## WEDDINGS

To arrange Weddings, please contact Lynda Robertson:

[l.robertson@hobnob.org.uk](mailto:l.robertson@hobnob.org.uk)

07974 803471

# SERVICES – June 2026

	HORNDON	ORSETT	BULPHAN
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>		9-11.30am Oasis Café 9.30-11am Edward Bear Toddler Group At Orsett Churches Centre	
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		4pm Forest Church
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity			10am All Together Holy Communion Service
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments	2pm Holy Communion Service at the Whitecroft	
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup>			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>		9-11.30am Oasis Café 9.30-11am Edward Bear Toddler Group At Orsett Churches Centre	
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Trinity	8.45am BCP Holy Communion Service 10am Family Service		
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>		9-11.30am Oasis Café 9.30-11am Edward Bear Toddler Group At Orsett Churches Centre	
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Trinity		8.45am CW Holy Communion Service 10am Holy Communion Service	
	4pm Refresh Service		
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
	12noon Holy Communion Service		
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>		9-11.30am Oasis Café 9.30-11am Edward Bear Toddler Group At Orsett Churches Centre	
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup>	10am – Feast & Fayre opening service		
	Open Church 10am to 5pm with refreshments		
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June</b> Feast of St Peter and St Paul	9am Family Service (outside if weather permits)		8.45am CW Holy Communion Service 10am Morning Praise Service
	Open Church, with refreshments, after service		
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup>			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>		9-11.30am Oasis Café 9.30-11am Edward Bear Toddler Group At Orsett Churches Centre	
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup>	4pm Forest Church		
<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	10am All Together Holy Communion Service		

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



# THE PARISH REGISTERS

## **Baptism**

10 <sup>th</sup> May	Charles Gary Surrige	(O)
10 <sup>th</sup> May	Charlotte Grace Fitzgerald	(O)
10 <sup>th</sup> May	Noah Samuel Alan Blackshaw	(O)
10 <sup>th</sup> May	Joshua John William Blackshaw	(O)

## **Funeral**

29 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Ronald David Porter	(B)
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## **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:**

<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June</b>	7.30pm at	Orsett Church
<b>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July</b>	12 noon at	Horndon Church
<b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August</b>	7.30pm at	Orsett Church
<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September</b>	12 noon at	Horndon Church
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October</b>	7.30pm at	Orsett Church
<b>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November</b>	12 noon at	Horndon Church

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

**JUNE COVER PICTURE**  
**Flower Festival at**  
**St Peter & St Paul, Horndon**

# DeliverEat

Home Cooked Dishes

Community Service Delivered2U

**Daily Hot Food Delivery to the Elderly  
and Vulnerable**

www.delivereat.uk - Book now on 07545839126  
or Text or Email annette.carmody1@gmail.com

We deliver a fresh Hot Home Cooked Mini Meal to your door 7 days per week  
in Thurrock, Basildon, Canvey Island, Benfleet, Langdon Hills, Laindon, Hornchurch,  
Romford, Collier Row, Harold Hill and other areas in Essex.

Min Daily Order £8.95 for Thurrock and £11.00 for Havering (to cover our travel  
fuel cost)

Feel free to book just 1 day, 2 days or any amount of days between 1-7 as we  
are flexible

Invoices issued Thursdays for payment Friday either on-line by Direct Debit,  
Bank Transfer, Card Payment or Cash

Visit our website above for further information and call or text to arrange a  
meeting to onboard your loved one with us ASAP



## Bulphan

## Community

## Café and Post Office



**A warm welcome to all.  
Comprehensive Post Office services;  
hot and cold drinks;  
licensed bar;  
cakes (including gluten free),  
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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month from 2-4pm for adult care and support drop-in sessions
- Regular visits from the Community Police

## 'Forget-Me-Not' Coffee morning



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

*We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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**

## 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

**£5 per week**  
Just come along  
No need to book



Come alone,  
or with  
friend/partner

Please text or call Allison for more information  
07773 539345



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.

# ORSETT CHURCHWARDENS REPORT



As summer approaches, the rain and the sunshine has made the grass within the churchyard grow voraciously. This is always a difficult time of year to keep on top of the mowing but it has been hampered by events out of our control.

The sit on mower needs attention again, this time a broken drive belt is the problem. We are trying to find someone who can replace this for us but attempts so far have been unsuccessful. On top of this the community payback workers were unable to attend on 12<sup>th</sup> May due to strike action and we now have to wait until 2<sup>nd</sup> June for their next visit. We will attempt to cut some of the grass before this date but with only push mowers available, we would ask for your understanding regarding the current state of the churchyard.

They say bad news comes in threes and we have just found out that our advert for a new incumbent has been unsuccessful this time around. This is not the end of the road, but just a setback. We will re-advertise in due course and would ask that you keep our situation in your prayers as we wait for the right person to come along.

As we wait for a new incumbent, it's a good time to think of all the different things that Revd. Sue had a hand in. 'Vicars only work on a Sunday' is the old adage but for those in the know this is far from the truth. As well as Sunday morning services, there is Edward Bear Toddler Group, Refresh, Forest Church, Pastoral Visits, Orsett Charities, Orsett Churches Centre, School Assemblies and Services, Whitecroft Visits, Arranging and taking Weddings, endless meetings of one kind or another and plethora of things too numerous to mention.

We would like to thank all those who have stepped into the breach and taken on these various roles during the interregnum. It has been a challenge for many of us but with prayer and determination we have all found skills which we didn't know we had.

God Bless

Christine & David Mortimer



## **Horndon on the Hill Churchwarden Musings**

Hello

I'll start by looking back on some events in our lovely church in April/May. Firstly, the concert by David van Day and Sue Moxley. David a former singer in Bucks Fizz entertained us from hits of the 1970. It was wonderful to see so many people singing along and dancing around the church. Next came Matthew McCombie who played our newly refurbished Organ. Matthew is an internationally renowned pianist and has recently taken to giving Organ recitals. He entertained with an eclectic mix of favourite tunes. And finally Mosaic Choir. A group of local musicians hired by Woolmarket Music gave a most entertaining concert of songs from the shows and popular classics. I do hope you managed to see all or some of these great artists.

Well moving forward, Yes, it's that time of the year again when we celebrate the Feast of St. Peter and Paul and have our Flower Festival in the village church. This year it falls on 27/28<sup>th</sup> June. Do come into the church and look at the displays, have a lunch, coffee, tea and cakes and listen to many musical events.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Max who has taken the majority of our services since we have been without a Rector. We couldn't have managed without him and his wise words.

Please do support your Village Church and the churches of Orsett and Bulphan especially during this time of change.

If you would like a lift to any event or service please do get in touch with any of the Churchwardens who will be most willing to assist.

God Bless

*Sonia Ward*

# Bulphan Churchwarden's Report



A massive thank you from the family and friends of Ron Porter who helped in any way to make the very sad funeral of Ron Porter as good a celebration of his life as possible. The service on 29<sup>th</sup> April at St Mary's Church was attended by over 150 people. There were so many people who were involved in organising the church service and the wake that followed in Bulphan Village Hall, it would be right to say that the whole community pulled together to show their

appreciation for all the good works that Ron had carried out over many years.

We move on and our thoughts are with Traudi, Ron's wife of nearly 60 years.

There are sadly many people living in Bulphan Village who like Ron have lived there since the 1960's / 1970's and are now, like me, described as elderly. Many are suffering either physical/mental ailments and do require a lot of caring for. The Church does have a Pastoral Team who do go out and visit and if required can administer communion. Whilst The Church is in interregnum, we do not have a priest at present, however anyone requiring this service can contact a churchwarden.

The Church is still actively seeking a replacement priest, and it is not that easy, the first advertisement did not attract any applicants, there are 63 vacancies within Chelmsford Diocese. We can only pray that God has in mind the right person to send to us.

Chelmsford Diocese is one of 42 within The Church of England it is the second largest in terms of population with a population of over 3 million. Within Chelmsford Diocese there are 23 Deaneries of which Thurrock Deanery is the one that we are part of. Because parishes are struggling to pay the Family Purse which pays for priests Chelmsford Diocese like others is reducing its costs in the only way it can by reducing clergy numbers. Thurrock Deanery at present has 10 paid priests and it planned to reduce this to 8. Meetings have already taken place on how Thurrock Deanery can be restructured considering reduced clergy numbers. However, it is planned, with the increasing population of Thurrock the reduced priest numbers it will put a heavy strain upon the priests that remain.

Back to St Mary's Bulphan, we are still awaiting all the quotes for the replacement of the floor, parts of which are suffering with rot.

The order for the lightning conductor test has been placed. The Churchyard continues to look good thanks to Bulphan in Bloom.

Alastair and I continue to attend to all the minor jobs that turn up all the time.

Frank & Alastair



# Let's Talk

Let's talk. We'll be here to listen to your community concerns, provide crime prevention advice and talk about what matters to you when it comes to policing in your communities. Need a confidential chat? We'll be here for that too - just ask.

## Location:

Oasis café, Orsett church centre,  
High Road, RM163ER

## Date & Time:

Friday 19th June 2026  
10:00-11:00 hours



Find out how Essex Police is making a difference in your area online at: [essex.police.uk/yourarea](https://essex.police.uk/yourarea)



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](mailto:janetmcc101@gmail.com)

The Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on:  
01245 294444

or

[safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org](mailto:safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org)

## Smiths

### ORCHARD GARDEN CENTRE

TWO AND A HALF ACRES OF  
SHOW HOUSES AND DISPLAY AREAS



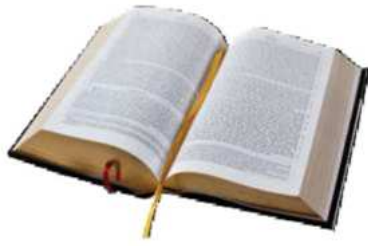
### ORCHARD COFFEE BAR

OPEN DAILY 10:30AM - 3:30PM  
SERVING HOT & COLD MEALS & SNACKS

CHADWELL ROAD, GRAYS.

01375 372195

[WWW.SMITHSORCHARDGARDENCENTRE.COM](http://WWW.SMITHSORCHARDGARDENCENTRE.COM)



# PRAYER DIARY

Some thoughts to include in your daily prayers

June 1 <sup>st</sup>	For Bulphan in Bloom
June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	For the Friends of Orsett Church
June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	For those who live on Stanley Road, Bulphan
June 4 <sup>th</sup>	For our Local Ward Councillors serving the Parish
June 5 <sup>th</sup>	For those who live on Blackshots Lane
June 6 <sup>th</sup>	For the Orsett Fire Station and all fire-fighters
June 7 <sup>th</sup>	For our village halls and those who run them
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	For our Archdeacon
June 9 <sup>th</sup>	For our Clergy and those supporting the Parish during interregnum
June 10 <sup>th</sup>	For neighbours and friends who have moved away
June 11 <sup>th</sup>	For those who live on China Lane, Bulphan
June 12 <sup>th</sup>	For those who live on Stephens Crescent, Horndon
June 13 <sup>th</sup>	For those who live on Francis Close, Horndon
June 14 <sup>th</sup>	For those who live on High Road, Orsett
June 15 <sup>th</sup>	For those in St Luke's Hospice
June 16 <sup>th</sup>	For those who live on Mill Lane, Orsett
June 17 <sup>th</sup>	For those who live on Malting Lane, Orsett
June 18 <sup>th</sup>	For those who live on Holmes Close, Horndon
June 19 <sup>th</sup>	For those who live on Bristowe Drive, Orsett
June 20 <sup>th</sup>	For those who live on Hillcrest Close, Horndon
June 21 <sup>st</sup>	For those who live on Peartree Lane, Bulphan
June 22 <sup>nd</sup>	For the shops in Orsett, Horndon and Bulphan
June 23 <sup>rd</sup>	For those who live on Ellis Close, Orsett
June 24 <sup>th</sup>	For our police and community support officers
June 25 <sup>th</sup>	For those who live on Alderton Road, Orsett
June 26 <sup>th</sup>	For those who live on Grosvenor Road, Orsett
June 27 <sup>th</sup>	For the work of the Thurrock Food Bank
June 28 <sup>th</sup>	For those who live on School Lane, Orsett
June 29 <sup>th</sup>	For St Peter & St Paul, Horndon on the Hill
June 30 <sup>th</sup>	For those who live on Paddock Close, Orsett

“...by the grace of God, I am what I am,  
and his grace toward me has not been in vain”

*1 Corinthians 15:10*



# 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 June 2026

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

7 <sup>th</sup> June	Local Arrangement	
14 <sup>th</sup> June	Mr Steve Burton	Church Anniversary
21 <sup>st</sup> June	Local Arrangement	
28 <sup>th</sup> June	Revd Fiona Smith	<b>9:30am</b> (Feast and Fayre)

### Christian Aid Week

On May 14<sup>th</sup> we were pleased to mark our second anniversary of our Community Cuppa and Chat morning and to give donations from the morning to the charity Christian Aid.

### Cycle of Faith

Our series of bike rides continues with rides planned for 20<sup>th</sup> June, 25<sup>th</sup> July and 22<sup>nd</sup> August but please keep an eye out in the HOBNOB for any changes.

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. Please contact Jeff Bell at [jeff3bell@gmail.com](mailto:jeff3bell@gmail.com) for further details.

### Horndon – on – the – Hill Feast and Fayre

We look forward to the annual Feast and Fayre on **27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> June**. The Chapel will be open with an exhibition and a beautiful display of flowers. Everyone is warmly welcome to step aside from the busyness of the day for a quiet time, conversation and to simply look around the chapel. The Methodist Hall will also be open as usual for tea, coffee, cold drinks, sandwiches, rolls, crisps, ice creams and a variety of desserts. All are welcome to come in for a chat and refreshments.

In the car park this year we will have face painting and children's events and on Sunday a choir and storytelling. As usual we will be having a sale of clothes, jams and cakes.

### Coffee mornings and lunch

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

# Zion Hall Mission, Bulphan Interdenominational Church Road, Bulphan

<https://zhm100.wixsite.com/zionhallmission>  
[zionhallmission@outlook.com](mailto:zionhallmission@outlook.com)

We enjoy meeting every Sunday evening and extend a warm welcome to all to our services. Please feel free to drop in and join us for worship and fellowship.

The services for June are as follows:

7 <sup>th</sup> June	6:30 pm	David Raj
14 <sup>th</sup> June	6:30 pm	Peter Crosby
21 <sup>st</sup> June	6:30 pm	Revd Pholani Ncube
28 <sup>th</sup> June	-	No Service

For those who followed the series on the history of Zion Hall over the last 6 months and would like to see inside our building and view at first hand items illustrated in the series of articles, 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.

If you live locally and would like to come along to a service but need transport, or for any other information on our Church or our services please contact the Secretary: Ian Blackburn on 07880 235140 or at [zionhallmission@outlook.com](mailto:zionhallmission@outlook.com)





EST.



1802

*The Foxhound*  
ORSETT



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LARGE BEER GARDEN & PLAYGROUND

FOOD SERVED TUESDAY - SUNDAY

INTERACTIVE DARTS

LIVE SPORTS

LIVE MUSIC

FUNCTION HALL HIRE

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@THEFOXHOUND PUB ORSETT

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Live well,  
*your* way

with care in the comfort of your own home

We can offer you the option to continue living a happy and fulfilled life in your own home. We do this with tailored, personal home support based on what you need.

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- Personal Care
- Live-in-Care



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**01375 803600**

**[www.homeinstead.co.uk/thurrock](http://www.homeinstead.co.uk/thurrock)**

# FOREST CHURCH

The May Forest Church had the theme of hearing impairment lead by Janet.

Janet explained that there were different versions of Signing Language in the UK and different countries have their own sign languages just like spoken language. The most common one in the UK is British Sign Language, but another widely used signing language is Makaton which is not a pure sign language and is used by many with hearing difficulties. So as with all language learning there are choices in sign language. Given the significance placed on BSL, something many of us don't realise is there are dialects in BSL. Such that a Scottish signer may not be understood by or understand someone from another part of Britain and vice versa. Some of these can be very local, almost town to town. So as with people learning a foreign language, those learning BSL do so in a standard form that can bear no resemblance to the reality of living or working somewhere.

Our activities for this was playing charades where people had to use actions for us to guess bible stories. Although this was fun, it does get across the difficulties faced by those unable to properly verbalise. We also discussed the sort of things people with hearing impairment may find difficult and what they do to overcome these difficulties and how we might be able to more understanding of their difficulties.



**The next Forest Church is at 4pm on  
Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June at St Mary's, Bulphan**

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



# PLANT SALE & CREAM TEAS

Sunday, June 14th

From 2 to 4 pm

Bulphan Church

Join us for a selection of plants  
available at great prices!

Indulge in delicious cream teas and  
homemade cakes.

Everyone is welcome!



WOOLMARKET MUSIC PRESENTS

## YOON-SEOK SHIN

Thursday 11th June

at 7.30pm

in the Woolmarket

£10.00 entry or free to members and under 18s  
Membership is £75 per annum

# Horndon on the Hill Flower Festival

Since the re-launch of the Feast and Fayre in 1974, a flower festival has been staged in the church of St Peter and St Paul in Horndon over the weekend, into the following week. The Feast and Fayre was originally staged on the Patronal Festival of St Peter and St Paul, and continues to this day, so quite fitting that the church takes the lead with events in the church.

Each year the flower arrangements are based on a general theme, which this year is “Back to the Wild”, and those with an artistic flair, skill and imagination produce some quite amazing displays.

If you are coming to the Feast and Fayre make sure you visit the church to see this year’s displays.

As with everything the flowers cost a lot more each year and if you would like to donate towards the flowers, so the displays can be continued, you can visit Horndon church for a service, or, open church 10 to 12 on Tuesday, or, Saturday or contact the Parish Administrator, Lynda, [l.robertson@hobnob.org.uk](mailto:l.robertson@hobnob.org.uk) to arrange a bank transfer.

## Examples of displays from previous years





# COMMUNITY INFORMATION FOR HORNDON - ORSETT - BULPHAN

## **POLICE at Grays** **101 or 999**

Community Officer: PC Javier Rodriguez-Perez  
email: [thurrockcommunitypolicingteam@essex.police.uk](mailto:thurrockcommunitypolicingteam@essex.police.uk)

## **DOCTORS**

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

## **FORUMS**

Horndon on the Hill	<a href="mailto:Horndonchair@thurrockforums.org">Horndonchair@thurrockforums.org</a>
Orsett	<a href="mailto:apeaford@icloud.com">apeaford@icloud.com</a>
Bulphan	<a href="mailto:Bulphaninfo@thurrockforums.org">Bulphaninfo@thurrockforums.org</a>

## **LOCAL COUNCILLORS**

Mr William Cook	<a href="mailto:William.Cook@thurrock.gov.uk">William.Cook@thurrock.gov.uk</a>
Mr Steven Taylor	<a href="mailto:Steven.Taylor@thurrock.gov.uk">Steven.Taylor@thurrock.gov.uk</a>

## **LOCAL MP**

Mr James McMurdock	<a href="mailto:james.mcmurdock.mp@parliament.uk">james.mcmurdock.mp@parliament.uk</a>
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 to 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 to place adverts rests with the PCC.

Please send details of your request to advertise to [magazine@hobnob.org.uk](mailto: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-rate invoice will be issued.



# Ecology and Social Justice Action Group

## Caring for Creation: Tackling Plastic Pollution in the UK

As members of the Ecology and Social Justice Action Group, we are called to be good stewards of God's creation. One of the most pressing environmental issues facing the UK today is plastic pollution. From the vast stretches of our coastlines to the rivers that weave through our cities and countryside, plastic waste is causing significant harm to wildlife, ecosystems, and even our own health.

Each year, millions of tonnes of plastic end up in our environment, with much of it making its way to the sea. Seabirds, fish, and marine mammals can mistake plastic for food or become entangled, leading to injury or death. Microplastics—tiny fragments of plastic—are now found in our soil, water, and even the food we eat. The problem is not only an environmental crisis but also a social justice issue, as it disproportionately affects poorer communities and future generations.

There is hope, however. Across the UK, communities, businesses, and policymakers are coming together to address this challenge. Many local councils have introduced recycling initiatives and restrictions on single-use plastics. Churches and faith groups are also taking action—through litter picks, awareness campaigns, and supporting national movements like the Plastic Free Communities initiative.

As a parish, we can make a difference by reducing our own plastic consumption, supporting local recycling efforts, and raising awareness among friends and neighbours. Every small step counts, whether it's carrying a reusable shopping bag, refusing unnecessary packaging, or joining a community clean-up. Together, let us answer our calling to care for God's creation and build a cleaner, greener future for all.

Lynda Robertson





# 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,



**SATS** - Year 6 have been incredible over recent weeks, working diligently to ensure that they were ready for their KS2 SATs. Last week they proved over and over again how committed they are to



achieving their best. We are all so proud of them! They still managed to fit in some abstract art.

### Tree of positive affirmations

All the classes have been busy creating their leaves full of positive messages to hang on our new tree. We had some volunteers from Year 5 help to hang them onto the branches, and we think it looks amazing! The tree is now on display in the reception area, please feel free to come and read some of the messages, they will brighten your day.



**Bishop of Bradwell** - We were delighted to welcome the Bishop of Bradwell, The Right Reverend Adam Atkinson, and the Archdeacon, The Venerable Sue Lucas, to our school last week. They led a special Collective Worship for the children, which included some thought-provoking moments—even a touch of challenging maths!

It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our school community, and we were very grateful for the encouragement they shared with both pupils and staff. As they left, both the Bishop and Archdeacon took the time to comment on how impressed they were, particularly by the kindness shown by our children. They described our school as having a strong sense of calm and peace, and as a truly welcoming place to visit, something we are incredibly proud of.

Kind regards

Mrs Bradley – 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](mailto:info@osborne.coop) Website [osborne.coop](http://osborne.coop)

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

# MOTHERS' UNION

## Chelmsford Diocese Mothers' Union (CDMU):



This month we are prayed for within the MU Wave of Prayer (18-20 June) together with our link dioceses of Rejaf (South Sudan), Owo and Doko (Nigeria), Military Episcopate (Kenya) and Jamaica and the Cayman Islands. We hope to organise a Zoom prayer session on Saturday 20 June at 3pm together with our link dioceses – we pray the technology will work! CDMU will also be involved in the Bradwell Pilgrimage this year on Saturday 4 July – are you going? It's always a wonderful day out and an opportunity to visit the Chapel of St Peter-on-the-Wall, built 1400 years ago when Cedd arrived bringing Christianity to Essex.

Our Diocesan President Maxine is continuing her sponsored 150<sup>th</sup> Midday Prayer Challenge. Tickets are available for our Anniversary Challenge Tea Party on 22 August at the Chapter House, Chelmsford. There are 3 timeslots (10.30-12, 12.30-2 and 2.30-4pm). Tickets are £10 per adult and £5 per child. Please let me know if you would like to tickets.

## National Month of Prayer for Toddler Groups – June



Did you know that every June is the National Month of Prayer for Toddler Groups? This year's theme is Jesus the Good Shepherd, based on John 10:14-16. Lucy, together with three MU members, will be going to the launch event at the Houses of Parliament on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

**Did you know that Orsett Edward Bear Toddler Group was started by and continues to run with help from Mothers' Union members?**

Could you pray for all the children, carers, families and helpers of Edward Bear Toddler Group?

## Celebrating 150 years of Mothers' Union



The 150<sup>th</sup> Celebratory on 10 June 2026 at 5pm at St Paul's Cathedral with the Archbishop of Canterbury will be live-streamed on our Mothers' Union Facebook page [www.facebook.com/MothersUnion](http://www.facebook.com/MothersUnion) as well as Midday Prayers from the Annual Gathering on 11 June 2026. Join us online!



## Prayer Diary 2026: June

The theme for June in our 2026 Prayer Diary is 'Join In and Celebrate': In June we have the climax of our 150th year. At the heart of our celebration is the opportunity to give our joyful thanks and praise to God for His love – especially for giving us His only Son, for faithfulness, guidance and provision for all past and present members. We will be worshipping together at our service in St Paul's Cathedral and our Annual Gathering in the Emmanuel Centre. We thank God too during June for parents, the courage of refugees, Petertide Ordinations and commitment to awareness raising for ending plastic pollution. 'Come on and celebrate, celebrate and sing to our King!'

**Monthly Prayer:** *Father God, we join in and celebrate your love to us through Mothers' Union. We praise you for the past 150 years, for the vision of Mary Sumner and for all who have followed her, praying and serving in Your name. We delight in all Your gifts to us, the joy of family, the wonders of Your creation, the fellowship of our fellow members and, most of all, Your love to us through the gift of Your son, Jesus Christ. May we always walk in Your footsteps. Give us the strength to be different, to stand up for justice and peace, and be a sign of Your reconciling love for all. We ask this in your name. Amen.*

**Creative Prayer:** Deliver a prayer postcard to a friend who doesn't know about MU or hasn't been to a meeting. Write a prayer on the card, but also invite them to an MU event this month, a branch meeting or a service. Tell them why you want them to come along and be part of our family of activists. Ask them to Join us, Join in!

## 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](mailto:Dm.rep@muchelmsford.org.uk) and mention this Hobnob article.

Lucy Bubb, Mothers' Union contact



## 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](mailto: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](mailto:stuart.prinn@gmail.com)  
For all Poppy Appeal supplies contact  
[aafisher53@yahoo.com](mailto:aafisher53@yahoo.com)



## How you can help us prevent wildfires this summer



A message from Group Manager Scott Ford

A recent wildfire in Friday Woods, Colchester, is a reminder of how quickly fires can spread during warm and dry weather.

Every summer, firefighters are called to grass and countryside fires across Essex, and most of them are preventable. As temperatures rise, we're asking everyone to help reduce the risk and protect the places we all enjoy.

You can help reduce the risk by taking litter home, disposing of cigarettes carefully, and avoiding campfires, disposable barbecues and bonfires during dry conditions. Even a small spark can quickly become a large fire.

We're also encouraging residents to download the what3words app before heading outdoors to help us locate fires and incidents quickly and accurately.

If you see a fire, call 999

If you spot a fire in the countryside or open grassland, don't assume someone else has already reported it. Calling early can make a huge difference and helps firefighters stop a small fire becoming a large wildfire.

Disposable barbecues, campfires, bonfires, and open flames can easily set dry grass alight during hot weather. Many country parks and open spaces ban barbecues completely, and for good reason. Instead, why not pack a picnic and enjoy the outdoors safely?



Most wildfires are caused accidentally by people, which means together we really can make a difference. A little extra care can help protect wildlife, open spaces, homes, and the countryside we all love to enjoy during the summer months

Thank you for helping to keep Essex safe.

## Hands Across the Years: Celebrating Our Restored Kneelers

If you have taken a seat in St Peter and St Paul church recently, you may have noticed the beautifully restored kneelers now returned to the pews. Being far more than practical items; they are pieces of living history, crafted with care, creativity, and community spirit.

The original kneelers were made in the early 1980s to celebrate the church's 750<sup>th</sup> anniversary. In a curious twist of fate, they were created during an interregnum; just as their restoration has taken place during another.

By early 1982, enthusiasm for the project had grown so much that there were more kneelers than the church could accommodate. Each was designed by its donor, and no two are alike. Some designs clearly reflect the church, the village, or familiar local symbols. Others are more mysterious, their meanings tucked away in personal stories or memories that may no longer be widely known.

A revised Booklet will shortly accompany the collection. It will record the title of each kneeler, and a brief description. It will list the maker, the donor, and any dedication. Many of those who stitched or inspired these kneelers are sadly no longer with us, but we are fortunate to still have some of the original crafters and donors within the village today.

Anne Phimister and Val Blake can hardly believe that more than forty years have passed since the project first began.

The work itself was a real labour of love. While the brown borders were straightforward, if rather time-consuming, the intricate central designs took far longer to complete. Under the guidance of Linda Williams, the group met regularly, at either the Vicarage or at Betty Soden's home in Stephens Crescent. These sessions soon became as much social occasions as crafting ones, with plenty of conversation shared over the steady rhythm of tapestry work.

Anne explained that creating the kneelers was quite an undertaking, carried out using traditional tapestry methods. A large wooden frame was needed, and the canvas was so substantial that you had to sit directly in front of it and stitch the design in place, very much as it would have been done in centuries past.

Val still laughs (with only a hint of lingering indignation!) about the time her carefully stitched eagle, symbolising St John the Evangelist, was mistaken for a "dead brown sparrow."

As part of the restoration project, every kneeler has been repaired where needed and carefully cleaned. Each will be catalogued and photographed before being submitted to the Royal School of Needlework for their archive, ensuring that this remarkable piece of our village's heritage is preserved for generations to come.

These kneelers remind us that faith is not only spoken or sung, but stitched, shared, and passed on.

Bev Macrae



Val Blake's St John the Evangelist – the flying eagle



Felicity Tarbard's Font that was started when her first son was baptised and completed when her youngest son was – 3 years later!



3 pink Roses – made by Anne Phimister / J.Staines and J. Petit - this was one of 2 made by Anne (the other dedicated to Thurrock Harriers). Anne had totally forgotten about this one!



Dedicated to Mr and Mrs King and representing baptism dates and marriage.

# ALL OUR YESTERDAYS

Happenings around the Parish this month in the past

1889

**Grays & Tilbury Gazette, and  
Southend Telegraph  
Sat 1<sup>st</sup>**

## ***Inquest Bulphan***

INQUEST – An inquest was held on Monday last, before Mr C. C. Lewis on the body of Ada Shearman, 13 years of age, the daughter of William Shearman, labourer, who is one of the Peculiar People. It was adjourned until Wednesday, in order that the post mortem examination might be made. On its resumption, Dr Corbet in evidence said that he had ascertained that death ensued from an abscess on the brain. In his opinion if a doctor had been called in there would have been very little chance of recovery. On this evidence the jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes.

*The Peculiar People did not believe in medical intervention, relying on faith and prayer*

1900

**Barking, East Ham & Ilford  
Advertiser  
Sat 23<sup>rd</sup>**

## ***Woollings sale***

TO BE DISPOSED  
BAKERS and OTHERS – FOR SALE by Tender by order of the Executors, the old established BAKERS and CORN DEALER'S BUSINESS; successfully carried on for many years by the late Mr Alfred Woollings, at Orsett, Essex: doing about 20 sacks weekly: books can be inspected; excellent house with large and lovely garden; established and in the same family over 200 years. Particulars only of Messrs Talbot and White, 24, High Street, Southend on Sea

1903

**Eastern Mercury  
Tues 2<sup>nd</sup>**

## ***Land for sale***

Acres (Freehold) from £35, Horn-don on the Hill, 17 miles East London suitable for retirement, poultry rearing and fruit growing; instalments if desired; no law costs; plots from £4; high and healthy; close to village; 1½ mile station; cheap fares. Iles, Sons and Co. Ltd., 37 High Street, Southend on Sea.

1905

**Grays & Tilbury Gazette, and  
Southend Telegraph  
Sat 3<sup>rd</sup>**

## ***Rev returning to Orsett***

The Rev W.C. Bishop has returned home after being in France for six months. Archdeacon Duskerley, who has resided at Orsett during the absence of the Rector, has been presented with a pair of field glasses on leaving. The Rev E. de Ste Croix, curate at Orsett for three years, has received from the parishioners a purse of gold, as a token of respect and appreciation on his leaving for Bramford, Ipswich.

1909

**Daily Mirror  
Tues 8<sup>th</sup>**

## ***No babies in church***

BABIES IN CHURCH  
Essex Rector Says their presence Mars Solemnity of the Services  
Should babies be taken to church? Writing in the Orsett Deanery magazine for June, the Rev W.C. Bishop, the rector of Orsett, Grays, Essex, condemns the practice on the ground that the solemnity of the service is marred by their presence.

Referring more particularly in a recent confirmation service, the rector says :-

“Why will people risk spoiling all the solemnity of this service by bringing babies? Surely the candidates for the rite of confirmation are the people to be considered on such an occasion? But no? Some people wish to “see the sight”, and they will bring a baby or small children, who cry or talk, and the solemn effect of the service is largely spoiled.”

“No doubt it is annoying in a congregation if a baby cries and makes a disturbance”, Archdeacon Sinclair told The Daily Mirror yesterday which asked for his opinion on the subject, “but it must not be forgotten that there is a great many poor mothers who cannot get to church at all without bringing their babies. Particularly is this the case in the very poor but populous centres.”

“It would be directly contrary to Scriptural teaching to refuse little children of any age to be present at a service”, the Rev. Edwin Dalton, general book steward and secretary to the book compositor of the Primitive Methodist denomination in London, told The Daily Mirror.

“My experience inclines me to the opinion that the presence of children of all ages and sizes is helpful rather than injurious to a service. Nothing should be done to weaken the interest of the little people in public worship. Besides, mothers generally look well after their young children, and if a baby does give signs of not being quietened she generally takes it out.”

1914

**Eastern Counties' Times  
Fri 26<sup>th</sup>**

## ***7 Kings cycle club***

SEVEN KINGS CYCLING CLUB  
The quaint old village of Orsett was visited on Saturday by 32

members of the above club, and although this on the longest runs on the fixture card, the conditions were so ideal that both journeys were completed in excellent style. Leaving "the island" at 3.45, some choice Essex bye-lanes were travelled via Hornchurch, Upminster, Corbets Tey, South Ockendon and Stifford, the destination being reached about 5.30. Arriving at the Whitmore Arms, the club was greeted by Mr and Mrs Fielding, the host and hostess, and their youngest daughter, a charming maid of some twelve years, and were informed that tea was quite ready, and some ten minutes later, seated in a room overlooking some choice pastoral scenery, this important part of the day's worked was commenced. After the meal was over, some sports were indulged in the adjacent meadows, including rounders, football and tennis, and after a quiet stroll a return was made to the inn for the usual musical evening. Mr Chris Wakeman opened the programme with some pianoforte selections, Miss Beatrice Davies following with one of the old favourites, "A Japanese love song". Mr Will Hole next appeared, and by special request gave "Toddling home". Miss Mabel Manch giving a sentimental song, entitled "Less than the dust". "Muddled melodies", by Mr Bert Harvey, was received with great applause, and for an encore he gave one of Jay Laurier's songs, "Ring-a-roses". Last but by means least, came Mr Chris Wakeman, who was very well received in "My motor bike", and for the inevitable recall "I do like a nice mince pie" was given. As time was getting on, the captain ordered a start for home, and at 9.15 Orsett was left behind. As there were sundry items of lamp trouble, the return journey was rather slow, but all were as usual in a very cheerful state of mind, and the number of choruses sung on the way would number hundreds. Cameron road was reached just after eleven o'clock.

*It is worth bearing in mind that 2 days after this was reported, on June 28<sup>th</sup> 1914, Archduke Franz Ferdinand was assassinated,*

*which put in motion the events that started WW1 on August 4<sup>th</sup>. A mere 6 weeks had passed and pleasant bike rides may not have been a priority.*

**1915  
Holloway Press  
Fri 4<sup>th</sup>**

***poultry farm sale***

POULTRY FARM, Horndon on the Hill - Bungalow (4 rooms and scullery), greenhouse and sheds; good, well-stocked garden; main water; about 3 acres; price, freehold, £250; more land could be obtained; 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> miles from Stanford le Hope station. - W. Tyrrell, Estate Agent, Horndon on the Hill

**1920  
Chelmsford Chronicle  
Fri 18<sup>th</sup>**

***Orsett House training centre***

The Orsett House Training Centre at Orsett has been established in premises made available by the Chairman, Lieut-Col F.H.D.C. Whitmore, C.M.G., D.S.O., T. D., D. L. In addition to training in pig and poultry keeping, which is being carried on at Orsett House, combined with market gardening and fruit growing on well managed local holdings, the committee are providing hostel accommodation for trainees unfit for agricultural work, who will learn basket making under the Ministry of Labour. *The basket works in Maltings Lane, Orsett, became a thriving business providing work for those who had served in WW1.*

**1922  
Eastern Counties' Times  
Fri 9<sup>th</sup>**

***Southend archdeaconry formed***

LONDON OVER THE BORDER  
The 44<sup>th</sup> annual report of the London-over-the-Border Church Fund, the president of which is the Bishop of Chelmsford, included the following of local interest :-  
THE ARCHDEACONRY OF WEST HAM

Hitherto the "London-over-the-Border" has lain in the Archdeaconry of Essex. This Archdeaconry has comprised seventeen of the Rural Deaneries of the diocese. A new Archdeaconry has been formed lately under the style of the Archdeaconry of Southend, which will comprise ten of the 17 rural deaneries referred to. The rural deaneries of Barking, Chafford, Leyton, Orsett, Walthamstow, West Ham and Woodford remain in the old Archdeaconry. The name of the Archdeaconry having become somewhat of a misnomer, the Archdeaconry of Essex will be called henceforth the Archdeaconry of West Ham. Several names were considered but it was felt that the name of "West Ham" connoted the character of the work which the Church has to do in the "London-over-the-Border" area.

**1928  
Chelmsford Chronicle  
Fri 15<sup>th</sup>**

***Death of Rev SW Fischel***

We regret to announce the death of Sydney Walter Fischel, vicar of Horndon on the Hill, which occurred in a nursing home in London. The rev gentleman was 68 years of age, had been vicar of Horndon since 1898, previous to which he held curacies at Eastbourne 1888-90 and St. Bartholomew, Bethnal Green 1890-98. He was educated at Chichester Theological College and ordained in 1888.

*Rev SW Fischel (Horndon Rector 1898 - 1920) was the instigator of restoring of Horndon on the Hill church 1898-1901.*

*Not only the church where he worked to raise £4700, but the vicarage, £2000, new cemetery, £500 and enlarged the school, £800. All of these things indicate he was a man of great determination.*

*There is plaque in church commemorating the restoration of the church.*

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



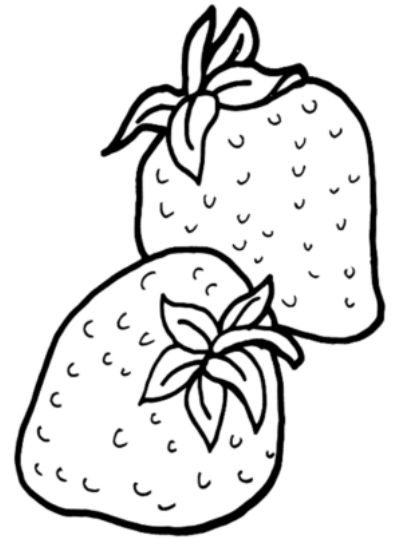
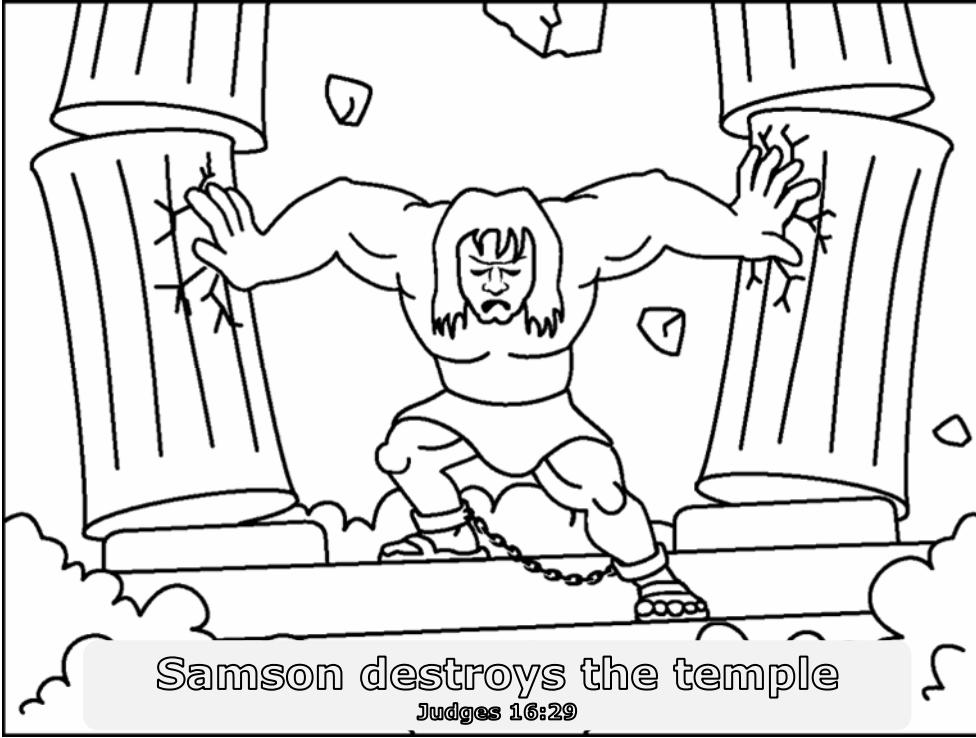
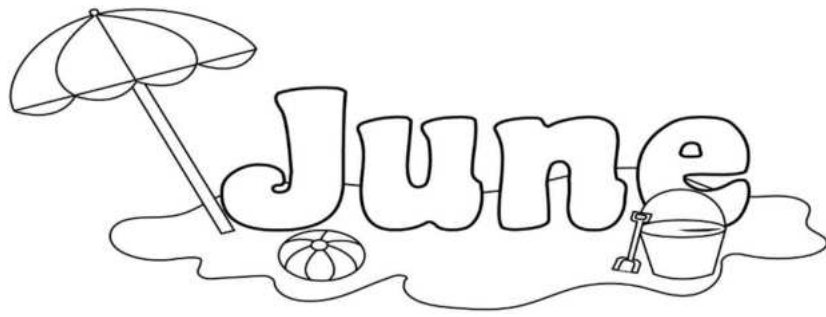
Bulphan Village Hall, Church Road RM14 3RU

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*



# The Whitecroft Care Home

The Whitecroft is a 51-bed residential and dementia care home in Orsett, run by Runwood Homes Senior Living. It is the only care home in the parish, and I have been visiting monthly for 17 years, together with a minister and other church members. I take the accordion and we have a service which includes 4 hymns, a reading, a talk and the giving of communion. Numbers attending were usually between 20 and 30 residents, some staff and sometimes family members. Also attending over the years have been the home's resident dog, later a budgie who joined in the hymns loudly.

Families were informed on 26<sup>th</sup> March that the home would shut permanently due to construction and noise coming from works for the Lower Thames Crossing. The property, originally a farmhouse and subsequently a restaurant, will be used by Balfour Beatty as their offices during the construction. When we visited in mid-April, staff were very emotional and some residents were bewildered and anxious.

Our most recent visit in May barely a dozen residents came, and Michael (who likes to say a prayer, read the Bible passage and recite a poem) said he was moving out later that week. Others don't know where they are going. Staff are being provided with details of any vacancies which occur in Runwood Homes, but they are having to compete against their colleagues to be successful. Many of them don't have transport to go to other sites.

I noticed on the corridor wall there was a display of what the residents had wished for, obviously written in the New Year: of course, none of them had any idea at that point that they would have to leave their home and friends. I found some wishes very poignant and some amusing: here they are:

*"I wish.....*

*For good health for my family*

*To go to a nail salon*

*For 3 packets of biscuits*

*To go bowling*

*For a family photo*

*For Tottenham to win the league*

*For all residents to make an effort to be kinder to the carers*

*To leave here*

*To move to my own place*

*For a girlfriend*

*For loads of money*

*John was still here*

*To win the lottery*

*For more singing*

*For payday every day"*

I do hope some of them got their wish before leaving Whitecroft.....I will miss them.

Janet McCheyne



# The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan



## Prayer Group

For everyone !!

Every 3rd Tuesday of each month,  
8-9pm at The Woolmarket, High Road , Horndon on the Hill

- **16<sup>th</sup> June - Ourselves (Petition)**
- **21<sup>st</sup> July - Leaders (Intercession)**
- **18<sup>th</sup> August - Personal communities (unanswered prayer)**
- **19<sup>th</sup> September - Music & reflection (contemplation)**
- **20<sup>th</sup> October - Guidance (Listening)**
- **17<sup>th</sup> November - Personal & Global (Spiritual warfare/conflict)**

Any enquiries – Please contact Lisa at  
email [lisa@lisaanderson.studio](mailto:lisa@lisaanderson.studio) or **01375 643709**

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

## **MODERN SLAVERY: RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW**

Modern slavery and exploitation thrive when people do not know what it looks like or where it can be found. Let's get informed!



Hear two expert speakers share their knowledge about:

- forms of modern slavery operating in Thurrock
- some common situations where people face exploitation at work
- the impact that modern slavery has on some individuals
- what can be done to reduce incidents of modern slavery in our area

Led by: Chris Elliott and Jennifer Hyde,  
the Southwark Diocesan Advisors on Modern Slavery  
*(snacks will be provided in the breaks)*

Where: Gardner Hall, Fobbing SS17 9JH  
When: Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2026, 10.30am – 1.30pm



# WOOLMARKET MUSIC

**Mamma Mia!** What a wonderful evening's entertainment we had at our last meeting. Daryl Barber brought along Mosaic Choir and they sang a grand selection of popular songs – some old, some new (including "Mama Mia" originally recorded by Abba). He also made everyone laugh with some 'cheesy' jokes.

Mosaic has always been known as Thurrock's fun choir. It is open to singers coming along to one of their rehearsals and finding out what all the fun is about.

Talk to Felicity Tarbard to find out more or search online for Mosaic Choir.

## NEXT MONTH

In June we'll be welcoming back Yoon-Seok Shin, an internationally renowned pianist. Yoon has visited us a few times before and we always very much enjoy his wonderful playing.

Do come along to the Woolmarket on Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm.



On 10th May, during our monthly clear-up, we handled the usual deadheading around the village and mowed the grass in the churchyard. We also spent time at the village hall cutting grass, trimming the edges, and weeding the rose bed.

Next, we plan to replace the winter plants with geraniums and will experiment with new plant varieties in the large containers.

Our next clear-up day is on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July.  
We will meet at 9.30am at St Mary's Church, Bulphan.

We invite you to join us and help keep Bulphan looking its best.

Before



After



## You can raise FREE donations for The Parish Of Horndon, Orsett And Bulphan EVERY time you shop online.

Just letting you know that The Parish Of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan are now registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online.

Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment.

**Enter [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and then go to 'find a cause' and search for 'The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan'.**

How to sign up should be very straightforward.

Thank you so much! Your support would be much appreciated.

You can also get to our page by using this QR code



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## The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan

### GIFT IN WILLS

In our Parish, we welcome all gifts in wills, however large or small and we promise to use your gift to make a difference to our Parish.

A charitable legacy is a gift of money and this type of giving is commonly referred to as gifts in wills. Gifts in wills can be left to The Parish or an individual church and are exempt from inheritance tax.

Since needs change over the years, we encourage you to leave a gift in your will for the general purposes of the parish rather than for a specific purpose.

You can be confident that your gift will be used to make a real difference to the work of the Church.

We acknowledge gifts in whatever way the donor and/or their executors feel most appropriate. Equally, we can make sure that gifts remain anonymous if the donor prefers.

Further guidance can be found on the Church of England's website  
<https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/church-legacy>

If you wish to talk to someone in confidence about the sorts of purposes your gift might fund, and how/if you would like your gift to be acknowledged, please contact Revd Sue.

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



# Bulphan WI

At our Annual Meeting in May we had an opportunity to look back over the past year and celebrate our achievements. This we did with some cheese and biscuits and wine in addition to the usual cake and hot drinks.

Our delegate for the National Meeting in June, who is the Secretary of a neighbouring WI, came to hear our discussions around the two Resolutions going forward this year. They were around accessible public toilets for everyone and the issue of women's homelessness. Having heard our views, she now knows how to cast the vote on our behalf.



The current committee and President were re-elected for the coming year, and Sharon was awarded the Competition Cup and a plant by President Janet.

Long membership certificates were given to Margaret (25 years), Zoe (10 years) and June (10 years). Ann (10 years) was not at the meeting, but a fellow member volunteered to present hers at her home.



At next month's meeting on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June we will hear from local best-selling author Emma Robinson about her journey to become published. Visitors are most welcome, look out for the flag outside the village hall!

Lesley Crisp  
Secretary



# Armed Forces Day

## Saturday 27th June 2026

8pm: Village Hall and cash bar open  
8.30pm: *Travelling Tilburys live band*  
9.15pm tribute by our town crier  
Followed by lighting of the beacon  
9.30 - 10.15pm *More from the band*  
*Bar & nibbles available throughout*

**FREE EVENT: all welcome**



**Horndon-on-the-Hill**  
VILLAGE HALL

### Village Hall Update

You'll be pleased to hear that we are on schedule for new toilets starting with the disabled toilets, and a new kitchen ready for Feast and Fayre.

Planning an event? Visit [www.vhhorndononthehill.co.uk](http://www.vhhorndononthehill.co.uk) to see our facilities, check availability, and see how easy it is to book the hall.

# June in history

- 1<sup>st</sup> 1977 The maximum speed limits on Britain's roads was changed to 70mph.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 1924 England spoke to Australia by wireless, the first time that a wireless conversation had been held between 2 countries or over so great a distance.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 1978 The Guinness Book of Records entered the record books as the most-stolen book from British libraries.
- 4<sup>th</sup> 1805 The first official Trooping The Colour took place at Horse Guards Parade in London.
- 5<sup>th</sup> 2014 Property experts estimated there could be up to 1,000 JCBs buried underground in London, as it is cheaper to bury them than to lift them to street level following basement extensions.
- 6<sup>th</sup> 1683 The Ashmolean Museum, on Oxford's Beaumont Street, opened as the world's first university museum.
- 7<sup>th</sup> 1939 King George VI became the first British monarch to visit the United States of America.
- 8<sup>th</sup> 1724 The birth of John Smeaton, considered the founder of English civil engineering. He built the Eddystone lighthouse, at the same time developing cement that could be used underwater.
- 9<sup>th</sup> 1549 The Church of England adopted the Book of Common Prayer, compiled by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Cranmer.
- 10<sup>th</sup> 1864 Cricket authorities in England legalised over-arm bowling.
- 11<sup>th</sup> 1959 The Hovercraft, invented by Christopher Cockerell, was officially demonstrated for the first time, at Southampton.
- 12<sup>th</sup> 1458 Magdalen College, Oxford, was founded.
- 13<sup>th</sup> 1987 Princess Anne was given the title Princess Royal.
- 14<sup>th</sup> 1919 At 14.13 GMT, Captain John Alcock and Lt. Arthur Whitten-Brown took off from Newfoundland on the first non-stop transatlantic flight to Galway, Ireland, in a Vickers Vimy. They landed safely 16 hours later, on the 15<sup>th</sup> claiming a £10,000 prize from the Daily Mail.
- 15<sup>th</sup> 1215 King John agreed to put his royal seal on the Magna Carta, or Great Charter of English liberties, at Runnymede, near Windsor.
- 16<sup>th</sup> 1958 Yellow 'No Waiting' lines were introduced to British streets.
- 17<sup>th</sup> 1964 The first purpose-built floating trade fair docked at Tilbury in London with 22,000 samples of Japanese goods on board.
- 18<sup>th</sup> 1583 The first Life Insurance policy was sold in London, and when a claim was eventually made, it was disputed.
- 19<sup>th</sup> 1809 Curwen's Act was passed in Britain, to prevent the sale of parliamentary seats, thus decreasing the number of seats which the British government could manipulate for its regular supporters.
- 20<sup>th</sup> 1984 The biggest exam shake up for over 10 years was announced with O Level and CSE exams to be replaced by new examinations, to be known as GCSEs.
- 21<sup>st</sup> 1854 The first Victoria Cross, was awarded to Charles Lucas, who was awarded it during the Crimean War for conspicuous bravery.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> 1802 Britain's Health and Morals of Apprentices Act limited children to a maximum 12 hour working day; whilst under nines were banned from the mills.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> 1940 The BBC's Music While You Work programme was first broadcast on radio to brighten up the lives of munitions workers doing boring factory jobs.
- 24<sup>th</sup> 1559 The Elizabethan Prayer Book was first used.
- 25<sup>th</sup> 1891 The first episode of an Arthur Conan Doyle novel involving the fictional detective Sherlock Holmes was printed in the Strand Magazine in London.
- 26<sup>th</sup> 1939 Britain's first National Serviceman, Private Rupert Alexander, signed up for the Middlesex Regt. His service number was 10000001.
- 27<sup>th</sup> 1693 The first women's magazine, The Ladies' Mercury, was published by John Dunton in London. It contained a question-and-answer column which became known as a 'problem page'.
- 28<sup>th</sup> 1950 A novice U.S. team beat the highly fancied England players 1-0 in the first round of the World Cup in Brazil.
- 29<sup>th</sup> 1905 The Automobile Association was set up by motorists angered by police harassment and to warn drivers of speed traps.
- 30<sup>th</sup> 1973 Observers aboard the Concorde jet observed a 72-minute solar eclipse.



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# Church of St Peter & St Paul

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June  
(Horndon Feast & Fayre weekend)

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>

10 am Feast & Fayre Opening Service

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>

9 am Family Service - Outdoor (*weather permitting*)

Over The Weekend

- ❖ There will be refreshments available during the day
- ❖ Musical performances
- ❖ The Flower Festival displays

We invite people to come and look around our beautiful 13<sup>th</sup> century church, with its many historic features.

We offer an opportunity to sit in the relative peace of the church and depending on the weather somewhere cool or dry.