



HOBNOB

On-line

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

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	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
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Parish Baptism Co-Ordinator

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

SERVICES – July 2026

	HORNDON	ORSETT	BULPHAN
Thursday 2 nd July			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 3 rd		9-11.30am Oasis Café 9.30-11am Edward Bear Toddler Group At Orsett Churches Centre	
Saturday 4 th	4pm Forest Church		
Sunday 5th July 5 th Sunday after Trinity	10am All Together Holy Communion Service		
Monday 6 th			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 7 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 9 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 10 th		9-11.30am Oasis Café 9.30-11am Edward Bear Toddler Group At Orsett Churches Centre	
Saturday 11 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 12th July 6 th Sunday after Trinity		8.45am CW Holy Communion Service 10am Family Service	
Monday 13 th			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 14 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments	9.30am Orsett School Leavers' service	1.30pm Bulphan School Leavers' service
	3pm Holy Communion Service at the Whitecroft		
Thursday 16 th	9.30am Horndon School Leavers' service		Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 17 th		9-11.30am Oasis Café 9.30-11am Edward Bear Toddler Group At Orsett Churches Centre	
Saturday 18 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 19th July 7 th Sunday after Trinity	4pm Refresh Service		8.45am CW Holy Communion Service 10am Holy Communion Service
Monday 20 th			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 21 st	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 23 rd			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 24 th		No Oasis Café or Edward Bear	
Saturday 25 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 26th July 8 th Sunday after Trinity	8.45am BCP Holy Communion Service 10am Family Service		
Monday 27 th			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 28 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments 12noon Holy Communion Service		
Thursday 30 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 31 st		No Oasis Café or Edward Bear	
Saturday 1 st	Open Church 10am to 5pm with refreshments	4pm Forest Church	
Sunday 2nd August 9 th Sunday after Trinity		10am All Together Holy Communion Service	
Monday 3 rd			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 4 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		

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

24 May 26

Lincoln Russell Henry Fogarty

O

Funeral

29 May 26

Jean Wood

O

18 Jun 26

Margaret Woodward

O



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 11th July	12 noon at	Horndon Church
Monday 10th August	7.30pm at	Orsett Church
Saturday 12th September	12 noon at	Horndon Church
Monday 12th October	7.30pm at	Orsett Church
Saturday 14th November	12 noon at	Horndon Church
Monday 14th December	7.30pm at	Orsett Church

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

JULY COVER PICTURE
Churchyard, St Mary's, Bulphan



✨ New Chair Yoga Class - Starting in June 2026 ✨

Take time out each week to move, breathe, and reset with a 45 minute Chair Yoga class - suitable for all abilities and designed to support your whole wellbeing.

🧘 **What to expect:** Gentle chair-based movement, calming breathwork, and guided meditation

💪 **Physical benefits:** Improve flexibility, balance, posture, and strength

🧠 **Mental benefits:** Reduce stress, boost mood, and enhance relaxation

💛 **Social benefits:** Meet others, enjoy a friendly atmosphere, and feel part of a community

📍 Orsett Churches Centre, High Road, Orsett RM16 3ER

🕒 Monday afternoons (starting in June) 🕒 1:15 - 2:00pm

💷 £8 per class 💷 Block booking available: £7.50 per class

☎ To book or find out more:

Nancy – 07522 283837 📧 nancysmith1@sky.com

📱 Follow me on Facebook & Instagram: Yoga on the Hill

Give yourself 45 minutes to feel better in body and mind 💛



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

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



Bulphan Churchwarden's Report

When did you first become religious? I am not religious as you are. Well, I am not religious, although I am trying to be a Christian, someone who follows Jesus, and generally like most of us failing miserably.

As Christians we are commanded to keep two commandments, the first to Love God, and the second to Love our neighbour.

Is loving God the easiest? I open The Church twice a week, I always look up at the altar and generally give thanks for all we have been given but sometimes after a horrific occurrence has taken place you feel as though you should shout out, why did you let that happen?

Loving our neighbour, whether family member, fellow Church member or anyone else we encounter does become more difficult. Our neighbour is there and does not always do the things that we feel are right and they are maybe the total opposite to us. Nevertheless, we must as Christians be Loving, Kind and Forgiving and our efforts might be recognised by that person and they respond accordingly.

It is nearly a year since Sue our Rector left and within The Thurrock Deanery, of which we are a part, several priests are retiring at the same time. This has created a shortage of priests, which with sickness, holidays and sabbaticals, has led us to cancel some services. We thank Lynda Robertson for her efforts in securing cover.

Chelmsford Diocese is aware of this, and meetings have taken place with our Archdeacon Sue Lucas and clergy in an attempt to what she calls "boots on the ground quickly". But this will not be a quick process, being months rather than weeks.

St Mary's continues to look amazing thanks to all the hard work of Bulphan in Bloom. We have received tenders for the replacement floor and now starts the long wait for DAC approval.

As Churchwardens, Alastair and I continue to deal with any minor problems that occur each month

God Bless
Frank Woollard

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

POST
OFFICE

Thursday and Friday 1.30 to 4.30pm

in Bulphan Village Hall

A warm welcome to all.

Community Café

hot and cold drinks; licensed bar; free Wi-Fi
cakes (including gluten free); crisps;

Comprehensive Post Office services:

Everyday Personal & Business Banking

Cash withdrawals
Cash and Cheque deposits

Mails

Drop & Go

Parcelforce Express Services

Passport Applications

Passport renewal forms are available

Driving

Vehicle Tax payment

Driving Licence application forms

Travel

Foreign Currency - need to order and it can be collected
the next day the Post Office is in Bulphan

Advice on wills, Power of Attorney and
financial planning on Fridays



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.

'Forget-Me-Not' Coffee morning



**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**





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

By the time this edition reaches you, another Feast and Fayre weekend will have come and gone. As I write, the preparations are still in full swing, and we are hoping for bright skies and welcoming plenty of visitors. The flower arrangers have been whispering about something rather special this year, and I've no doubt their hard work will feature in next month's magazine.

Back in early June, Sonia and I, along with Frank and Alastair, took part in the Archdeacon's Visitation. This annual gathering brings together all newly elected churchwardens for a service led by the Archdeacon, with readings and prayers usually offered by the rector of the host church.

We chose the earliest date available, which took us to St Andrew's in Wickford. The church is a relatively modern building set right in the heart of the High street, and it also serves as the local Foodbank hub; a reminder of the many ways our churches support their communities.

On the repair front, it's been a busy spell. We've recently completed a full electrical inspection and had the lightning conductor overhauled; both routine requirements, though they fall every five and four years respectively. This round proved to be quite an undertaking, especially as a List B application was needed to allow the installation of additional sockets and reduce our dependence on extension leads. As you can imagine, these essential upgrades have made a noticeable dent in our funds.

Just as we were catching our breath, the oak on the newly renovated porch window sills decided to split. Working with the DAC specialists and the original contractor, we've already set the process in motion to have them replaced with new oak. It never rains...

God bless

Bev Macrae

ORSETT CHURCHWARDENS REPORT



Life as a Churchwarden is never dull and Friday July 9th 1926 was a day when it was anything but dull.



Waking up I imagine the churchwardens thought they'd visit the church to see how the restoration of the North Aisle roof was progressing, as it was getting close to completion. Costing £1400 (2025 c.£110,000) it was a huge investment.

By mid-afternoon the new roof was ablaze. There was a lot of speculation as to how this happened; a workman dropping a match, blow torch left running, heavily creosoted timber catching light, who knows. Regardless of the cause the devastation was enormous. From

the accounts in the press, it is uncertain whether there was any one person in charge at the time of the start of the fire on the main roof at about 2.30 pm, although workmen were on the premises, they were not near the seat of the fire. While the roof was ablaze the call went out around the village. Villagers including older children from the school, (organised by Mr Fox the headmaster) worked in the heavy smoke and heat risking their lives to save anything of value from the church. Today with H&S, safeguarding etc it is incredible to think of adults, let alone schoolchildren, doing something like this. But thankfully they did.

It soon became apparent that although the water mains ran by the Church in the High Road and the nearby Workhouse Infirmary, the water pressure was inadequate to reach the fire, which was only a few yards from the water mains in the road. Villagers went door knocking telling people to turn off taps and not use as much water, so the fire engines had sufficient pressure for their hoses. Some villagers manned the hoses to help the firemen. It is safe to say that the selfless actions of many villagers and firemen on that day saved St Gile's.



North Aisle looking west

After the fire, the new roof was ruined and what remained of the original badly damaged, the organ needed a refit (not a cheap undertaking) after getting soaked by the firemen putting the fire out, the old stained-glass windows on the North wall were damaged beyond repair and benches and pews damaged by the burning roof falling in on them, thankfully the church remained largely intact. Some of

the old stained glass, which was salvaged, was used in new windows.



North Aisle looking east



South Aisle looking east

The vicar at the time, John Eisdell said that another round of fundraising would be needed, despite having insurance. The cost of repairing the church came to £7,500 (2025 c.£640,000).

The extensive repairs and restoration was undertaken by Bell and Son, of Saffron Walden under the direction of Sir Charles Nicholson, Diocesan Architect, and Edward Fincham of Grays. The roof restoration was given to local carpenter Leslie Munday, who had been working on the roof restoration. He said it took 11 months to make good the damage.

During the re-build, decisions would have been made about the replacement seating and restoration of damaged fixtures and fittings. At this time the Church of St Martin, Leicester, was becoming Leicester Cathedral and the old seating was being scrapped. These were used to replace the burnt seating in Orsett. To have replaced the benches in Orsett with new, would probably have been prohibitively expensive and who knows, they could have put chairs in, if the ones in Leicester weren't being scrapped. The two screens suffered damaged and were restored. On June

13th 1927 Colonel Whitmore's first

wife Violet died and screens (designed by Charles Nicholson) were erected on the north and south side of the Chancel to her memory and blessed when the church was rededicated. These were paid for by public subscription. Colonel



South Aisle by the Font surveying the damage

Whitmore got involved in the restoration of ancient church records which had been saved from the fire and carrying out detailed restoration work repainting the hatchments and other things.

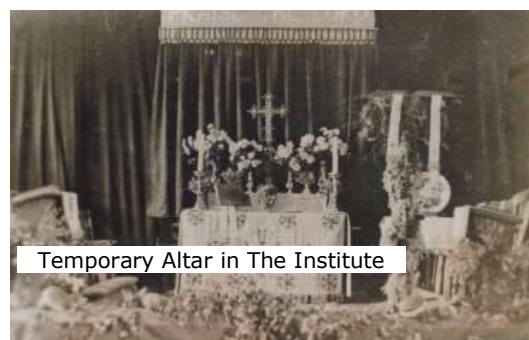
We have a poignant visible reminder of the fire in the church, in the form of a charred wooden door in the North wall. At one time the steps in the wall behind the door led to the top of the



South Aisle surveying the damage

rood screen. Visitors and newcomers to the church ask where does that door go to? Some of the glass from the old windows destroyed in the fire has been included in the new windows in the church.

The church being out of action, a temporary altar was set up in the Literary Institute (now Orsett Masonic Hall) the week after the fire. This allowed acts of worship and elements of church life to continue as normally as possible. This was in place until St Gile's & All Saints was rededicated by Right Reverend Guy Warman, Bishop of Chelmsford, on Wednesday 21st December 1927.



Temporary Altar in The Institute

So now a 100 years on from this event people come into the quiet and calm atmosphere afforded by St Gile's unaware of the chaos and devastation wreaked by a fire, which saw a Herculean effort by many villagers to save the church. What doesn't seem to be recorded is the broader work of Colonel Whitmore, who was a Churchwarden at the time, who you imagine through his contacts and influence was able to galvanise much needed support.

I would like to thank Jackie Firman for letting me use some of her resources to help put this together.

Being a Churchwarden is a huge privilege, being a small part of the history of somewhere like St Gile's, but doesn't come without its challenges, as happened in 1926 until the church was rededicated almost 18 months later. It would be interesting if anyone can identify those in the top two photographs.

God Bless

David and Christine Mortimer



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

FORUMS

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

LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Mr William Cook	William.Cook@thurrock.gov.uk	07889 183732
Mr Steven Taylor	Steven.Taylor@thurrock.gov.uk	07889 966212

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

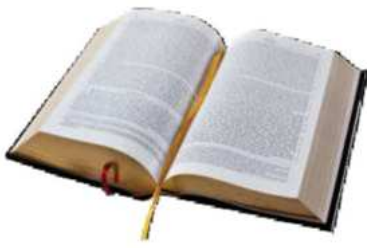
Policy

If you would like 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

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.



PRAYER DIARY

Some thoughts to include in your daily prayers

July 1 st	For those who will marry this month
July 2 nd	For those living on Hornsby Lane, Orsett
July 3 rd	For people we have not yet met
July 4 th	For the homeless and hungry
July 5 th	For those living on Horndon Road, Horndon
July 6 th	For those living on Nelson Road, Orsett
July 7 th	For family and friends overseas
July 8 th	For the leaders of nations
July 9 th	For those who must travel by land, sea or air
July 10 th	For local charities struggling financially at this time
July 11 th	For those living on North Hill, Horndon
July 12 th	For our patrons, the Dean & Chapter of St Paul's
July 13 th	For those living on The Paddocks, Orsett
July 14 th	For our twin dioceses in Romania, Sweden and Kenya
July 15 th	For those living on Annabell Avenue, Orsett
July 16 th	For those living on Pound Lane, Orsett
July 17 th	For children in our Parish
July 18 th	For those living on Fen Close, Bulphan
July 19 th	For those living on Ridgwell Avenue, Orsett
July 20 th	For those living on South Hill, Horndon
July 21 st	For those living on Robinson Road, Horndon
July 22 nd	For those suffering with financial problems
July 23 rd	For those living on Sandown Road, Orsett
July 24 th	For St Luke's and all hospices throughout the land
July 25 th	For those who will not be able to take a summer holiday
July 26 th	For those living on Randall Drive, Orsett
July 27 th	For those living on Saffron Close, Horndon
July 28 th	For those who are ill in body, mind or spirit
July 29 th	For those living on Southview Cottages, Orsett
July 30 th	For those living on Vincent Avenue, Horndon
July 31 st	For the church musicians

People are often unreasonable and self-centred. Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.

If you are honest, people may cheat you. Be honest anyway.

If you find happiness, people may be jealous. Be happy anyway.

The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough. Give your best anyway.

For you see, in the end, it is between you and God.

It was never between you and them anyway.

Mother Teresa



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





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 July 2026

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

5 th July	Mr Habib Nader	
12 th July	Revd Fiona Smith	Holy Communion
19 th July	Mr Ian Brown	
26 th July	Revd Fiona Smith	AGM

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.

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

Our series of bike rides continues with rides planned for 25th July and 22nd 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 for further details.

Zion Hall Mission, Bulphan

Interdenominational Church

Church Road, Bulphan

**<https://zhm100.wixsite.com/zionhallmission>
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 July are as follows:

5 th July	6:30 pm	Maureen Mc Pherson
12 th July	6:30 pm	Rev Max Blake
19 th July	6:30 pm	David Raj
26 th July	6:30 pm	Lee Woodward

For those who followed the series of articles in the HOBNOB on the history of Zion Hall 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





EST.



1802

The Foxhound
ORSETT



FAMILY RUN PUB IN ORSETT

LARGE BEER GARDEN & PLAYGROUND

FOOD SERVED TUESDAY - SUNDAY

INTERACTIVE DARTS

LIVE SPORTS

LIVE MUSIC

FUNCTION HALL HIRE

DOG FRIENDLY

@THEFOXHOUND PUB ORSETT

01375 891 295



 **Home Instead.**
To us, it's personal

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.

- Dementia Care
- Companionship
- Home Help
- Personal Care
- Live-in-Care

Home Instead Thurrock

01375 803600

www.homeinstead.co.uk/thurrock





Monthly Prayer Group

Meeting update - 2026

Prayer brings change...

Pray for yourself or family member ,your neighbour your town or village
or something you heard in the news this week.

You can pray here, at home, walking the dog or driving your car but it
can also be really helpful to pray with others.

We meet every 3rd Tuesday of each month in The Woolmarket,
High Road, Horndon-on-the-Hill, – 8-9pm

This is a friendly group who take in turns leading each month and we
would love to see you. Please feel free to pop in.

The plan for the rest of the year is detailed below. We are revisiting the
Prayer course 1 to refresh and help us.

You can access these resources by clicking on the QR code
or search for www.prayercourse.org



July – Leaders (Intercession)

August – Our communities (unanswered prayer)

September – Music & reflection (Contemplation)

October – Guidance (Listening)

November – Personal & global (Spiritual warfare/conflict)

December – We pause until January ...

We look forward to welcoming you to a meeting.

Lisa Anderson



The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan



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

❀ “The Kneeler That Took the Scenic Route” ❀

Some projects take a weekend. Some take a month. And then there’s *Angela Smith’s kneeler*, a piece stitched with such steady patience that it simply took the time it needed.

After reading last month’s kneeler article, Angela got in touch to share that the kneeler she has been working on may well be one of the longest-running restorations in recent memory. First begun in 1981 and finally completed during lockdown; an impressive 40 years later. It became a project that quietly found its own natural pace over the decades.

The design is a beautiful spray of cherry blossom with bees, created in dedication to the Rev Malcolm Cherry and family. It was originally donated by Jean Smith, then lovingly worked on by Angela and Ros Edwards, who each added their own stitch to its long and winding story. And just when the kneeler thought it had seen everything, Jane Barry stepped in to finish the job, adding the two essential D-rings so it can now sit proudly in the first pew; a place of honour well earned after four decades of waiting.

It’s a reminder that some things in church life aren’t meant to be rushed. Faith, fellowship, and apparently kneelers all flourish in their own time. And if you ask me, any kneeler that’s been in progress since the era of shoulder pads and cassette tapes deserves a little celebration.



ALL OUR YESTERDAYS

Happenings from the Parish as reported in July in the past

1838 Essex Herald

Tues 10th

Queen Victoria coronation

Horndon on the Hill – The coronation of her Majesty was observed in a marked and spirited manner in this rustic village, by a splendid and beautiful illumination. The children of the Sunday School were liberally treated. The poor regaled with fine ale &c. the band playing during the evening attended with banners and appropriate mottos. At The Swan, a numerous and highly-respectable party, without distinction, partook of an entertainment which reflected great credit on the host of that Inn, D. Corbett, Esq. MD in the chair. Some of the farmers gave their workmen with their wives and families substantial proof of their liberality, in the shape of roast beef and plum pudding and ale.

1849 North Wales Chronicle

Tues 31st

Transported

Home Circuit - Chelmsford
Benjamin Cross, aged 28, a miserable looking man was indicted for feloniously and maliciously setting fire to a stack of wheat, valued at £350, the property of Samuel Newcombe, farmer, at Orsett, on the 1st of June. The prisoner was an idle fellow about the parish, and by his own confession had set fire to the stack, because an application he had made to the relieving officer for assistance had been refused. The jury, without any hesitation returned a verdict of guilty, and evidence was given that on two previous occasions the prisoner had been convicted of felony. The Chief Baron, having made some observations upon the wicked and malicious character of the offence committed by the prisoner, sentenced him to be transported for 15 years.

1870 Essex Herald

Tues 5th

For Sale

High House
Horndon on the Hill
Valuable Building and Market
Garden Ground
Adjoining the Stanford le Hope Railway Station
The desirable
FREEHOLD RESIDENCE
Known as High House and several in closures of very valuable Accommodation Land, with possession
Messrs Beadel

Will sell by auction at the Mart, Tokenhouse-yard, London, on Thursday, the 31st of July, at One o' clock precisely.

Lot 2. The Very Desirable FREEHOLD RESIDENCE, known as High House, in the village of Horndon on the Hill, with garden, paddock, stabling, and outbuildings in the occupation of Mr JG Vincent, as yearly tenant.

Lot 3. THREE CLOSES OF FREEHOLD BUILDING and ACCOMMODATION LAND, fronting the High Street also in the occupation of Mr Vincent, with cottage and garden adjoining, containing together an area of 4a. 1r. 4p.

Lot 4. The Valuable PLOT OF FREEHOLD ORCHARD and GARDEN GROUND, with frontage to the High Street, admirably adapted for building purpose in the occupation of Mr John Wright, as yearly tenant.

May be viewed by permission of the tenants, and Particulars, with Plan obtained of Messrs Hicks and Son, Solicitors, Grays Inn WC; at the Mart, EC; and of Messrs Beadel, 23 Gresham Street, London EC.

1881 Chelmsford Chronicle

Fri 15th

Church robbery

ORSETT

Robbery from the church – On the sexton opening the parish church on Sunday morning last he found that the box nailed to one of the walls for the reception of alms for the relief of the poor had been wrenched away and stolen. It was supposed to contain from ten to fifteen shillings in cash, and must have been removed at the close of the previous Wednesday evening's service, as it was evident the church had not been forcibly entered during the interval

1903 Chelmsford Chronicle

Fri 3rd

New church organ

NEW CHURCH ORGAN AT
Horndon on the Hill

On Sunday evening the new organ which has been established in the Parish Church was dedicated to its sacred service by the Bishop of Barking. The church, especially about the chancel and altar, had been decorated with flowers. There was a good congregation. The organ is a ten-stop positive, made by the Positive Organ Company, one manual, and having a patent stop with pedal action. Its case

and framework have been designed by Mr FD Caroe, MA, architect to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and were made by Messrs, Perry Bacon and Bros, Oxford Street. The organ cost £200 in all, and it is pleasant to repeat that it is paid for, and that the church is free from debt. Mr Kenworthy Rumford, that clever singer, was to have been present on Monday, but he telegraphed to the Vicar that he was unfortunately suffering from hat fever. Mr Alf Russell, organist of Stifford Parish Church, gave an organ recital, and Mr Hilary Guantlett played violin solos.

1909 Dundee Evening Telegraph

Thurs 29th

No babies in church

The Rev WC Bishop rector of Orsett, who recently strongly condemned the practice of taking babies to church, now explains in the current number of the Orsett Deanery Magazine that his remarks referred to confirmations, weddings and such like functions. "I did not" he protests "object to mothers bringing their babies to the ordinary services; on the contrary, the clergy are always pleased to see them. If babies are kept awake beforehand they will sleep through the service quite peacefully". Writing in the same magazine on the same subject, the Rev Richard Cook, vicar of East Tilbury, says :- "Babies are a national necessity, but we want them to be of the best quality".

1918 Sunday Mirror

Sun 7th

Fugitive caught

Hun Fugitive Caught – Paul Sosnitz, the German prisoner who escaped from Bulphan, Essex, has been recaptured at Warley

1946 Chelmsford Chronicle

Fri 12th

For sale farm

Opportunity occurs to secure Agricultural and Poultry Farm as going concern situated at Horndon on the Hill, the farm covers a total area of approximately 7 acres, containing a chalet bungalow of 2 beds, 1 reception, kitchen, bath, wc, together with poultry houses, greenhouses, carpenter's shop and stock, including chickens, turkeys, etc., well laid out garden, fruit trees, vegetables etc; price £4500, freehold. Douglas Allen & Co, 813 London Rd, Westcliff

1854 Chelmsford Chronicle**Fri 14th****Stray Horse**

Came astray into the Manor of Bulphan, Essex and BLACK HORSE; the owner describing the same and paying the expenses may have it again by applying to Mr W F Stevens, Bulphan. If not owned in 14 days from the date hereof, it will be sold in auction at Romford Market to defray the charges.

1856 Gravesend Reporter, North Kent & South Essex Advertiser**Sat 12th****Orsett district**

It will be seen that a further effort is being made to separate this district from Brentwood, and to carry all parochial business, as well as the Petty Sessions weekly, to Orsett at the centre of a large and populous hundred. Hitherto gentleman have been obliged to process to Brentwood for the conduct of business, oftentimes at much inconvenience to themselves and merely to gratify a few individuals who seem to have an interest in retaining the old regime. We sincerely trust, however, that this movement for an alteration, which has the support of all the gentleman in the neighbourhood, will meet with the success which it deserves, as not be frustrated by any private interest whatsoever.

1858 The Suffolk Chronicle**Sat 17th****Accident**

A child about 4 years old daughter of Mrs Ansell, Bulphan Fen, Essex, while playing with a circular mirror about the size of half a crown, with back and edges encased in brass, put it in her mouth and swallowed it. At present the medical attendant has been unable to rid the patient of so indigestible a morsel.

1874 Chelmsford Chronicle**Fri 17th****Lightning strike**

Horndon on the Hill CURIOUS FREAK OF LIGHTNING - During the storm on Saturday afternoon the lightning struck the telegraph wire in this village and was conveyed into the shop of Mr Tyrell in which the telegraphic instrument is fixed. The report that followed when the electric fluid reached this spot was equal to that from a cannon, shattering the instrument into pieces and severing the wires in all directions. It appears that the forces of the electricity was to an extent checked by coming into contact

with a gas pipe running close by, which had the effect of leading it to earth, otherwise the results would doubtless have been serious. The shop and post office were instantaneously filled with smoke. At the same time a house in the village occupied by Mr Hills, bricklayer, was struck. A part of one chimney was destroyed and an opening was made into the roof of his house, causing much alarm to the inmates. In neither case was any one injured.

1877 Essex Newsman Sat 21st**School children reward**

REWARD TO SCHOOL CHILDREN

Four children attending Orsett National schools - H Reeve, Wm Smithson, Ellen Binder and Alice Hare - have earned honour certificates. The children are each under 11 years of age, have passed the fourth standard and have made over 350 attendances during the each of the past two years and are therefore entitled to three years' free education, the fees to be paid out of the government grant.

1900 Grays & Tilbury Gazette**Sat 14th****Workhouse day out**

INMATES DAY OUT The Master reported that the old people and children were invited to the grounds of Mr A.W. Kerly of Horndon on the Hill and were conveyed there in horses and carriages, provided by Mr A Ellis - The Chairman : it is not often they ride in a carriage and pair (Laughter) - it was decided that Mr and Mrs Kerly and Mr Ellls should be thanked for their kindness in the matter.

1904 Barking, East Ham & Ilford Advertiser Sat 23rd**House sale - Ferns**

For Sale (owner going abroad), a New house; Coach house, stabling, 2 fowl houses, 6 acres land, 2 acres fruit trees, 4 grass; 2 spring wells; green house; 175ft frontage; main road; Price £575 - The Ferns, Bulphan

1905 Barking, East Ham & Ilford Advertiser Sat 29th**Early harvest**

THE CROPS - Owing chiefly to the recent hot weather the grain crops in the district are being cut - in many cases fully three weeks before the usual harvest time - but in some instances the grain is not so heavy in consequence.

1919 Globe**Sat 12th****Epsom salts**

The manner in which a few days ago the discovery of a Magnesium sulphate spring was made at Bulphan (Essex) recalls the history of the discovery of the well which first brought fame to Epsom and conferred the name of that town on England's best-known household remedy. The two incidents, in fact, resemble each other in some respects. At Bulphan the inhabitants complained of the peculiar taste of the water in the local well, and an analysis was ordered, which resulted in the discovery of 475 grains of Magnesium sulphate (1oz of Epsom salts per gallon). Unlike the inhabitants of Epsom the people of Bulphan did not immediately send for an expert to investigate the cause, but appear to have experimented themselves. At rate, the water in the spring was known amongst the villagers for some time as a healer of external ills, and also as an excellent aperient before any doctor interested himself in it.

1924 Chelmsford Chronicle**Fri 25th****Diamond wedding**

DIAMOND WEDDING - Mr and Mrs John Graves, of Manor Cottage, celebrated their Diamond wedding on Saturday. Congratulations included a gracious message from the King and Queen. Mr and Mrs Graves lost two sons in the war.

1985 Hammersmith & Shepherd's Bush Gazette Fri 5th**Horndon 10K**

A dozen of the Valley's road runners went to Essex on Sunday for the Horndon 10K, over a hilly course. Chris Nelligan was the first TVH man home in 12th place in 32.37 with Brian Standen in 17th in 33.08.

The race was won by Steve Lamb of Basildon in 30.10, ahead of a good class field of over 300 runners.

The road to community adoption and beyond

If you've travelled along the High Road in Horndon-on-the-Hill lately, you may have noticed activity in and around the telephone box. If you are interested in what has been going on, here is the answer!

In November 2024, BT put up a sign to say they were removing the payphone telephone equipment. We wondered what would happen to the telephone box and after enquiries, were told the options either; BT would retain the box but not maintain it or; the village could "adopt a kiosk" and take on the maintenance.

We knew the telephone box was classed as a listed building, so we found out more about it:



It is a 1935/36 Grade II listed cast iron K6 type kiosk (telephone box) designed by Giles Gilbert Scott (who also designed Battersea Power Station and Liverpool Cathedral). The K6 was designed to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of George V and was consequently sometimes known as the "Jubilee" kiosk. It weighs 13.5 cwt and was the most abundant kiosk in the UK, peaking at 73,000 in 1980. The telephone number in this kiosk was 01375 676229.

In March 2025 at a Forum meeting, the village voted to keep use of the kiosk and in October 2025 the adoption papers were signed by the Village Hall trustees and BT.

On 21st April 2025 BT removed the telephone equipment and between November 2025 and Spring 2026 the Telephone Box Restoration Team started to fundraise and obtain quotes for blasting, paint and materials. Donations were received from Horndon Feast & Fayre funds and a resident and further funds were raised at a Quiz Night: with over £1,000 in the kitty, we could make a start.

In May local volunteer electrician Keith Irish made the kiosk safe for blasting. Naomi had already removed all the glazing, frames, mastic, backboard and telephone signs. Letters were delivered to all the neighbouring residents to warn them of noise and debris, and on the hottest day of the year, Kieran (from Blast 1 Cleaning) spent many hours removing the paint. Grateful thanks are due to all the neighbours as it was very disruptive for them.

The next 3 days were spent painting the body of the kiosk. The only window frames that remained were 9 cast iron original large ones, the rest needed replacing as they were previously Perspex. Thanks to generous donations from The Bell, The Swan and Bombers Café, we were able to buy the rest to be able to glaze all 72 panels. So, there is still plenty to do to restore it to its former glory. Then, in consultation with the village community, the decision will have to be made as to what we use it for.

Check out the telephone box's journey through our Facebook Landmark & historical place page "Horndon on the Hill telephone box" or get in contact here hohtelephonebox@gmail.com

Naomi Cooper and Janet McCheyne
The Telephone Box Restoration Team

SERVING FAMILIES IN AND AROUND ORSETT

YOUR FUNERAL WISHES

our local experts



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Memorials

Unattended Funerals

W HOWARD & SON FUNERAL DIRECTORS

32 High Road, Orsett,
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01375 891238

We're here for you anytime.
Whatever your wishes or budget,
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
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- 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

Chelmsford Diocese Mothers' Union (CDMU):



It was so wonderful to be held in prayer by over 4 million MU members in 84 countries as part of the MU Wave of Prayer last month. We managed to organise a Zoom call for prayer and fellowship with our link dioceses, and we had 46 people from Chelmsford, Jamaica and Cayman Islands, Rejaf (South Sudan) and Toungoo and Hpa-an (Myanmar) – it was so amazing to do this! We heard from MU members from each diocese, who explained what projects they have. In the Cayman Islands they have just launched a Parenting Programme, and are planning to go into schools to talk to young boys about how to treat girls and woman with respect in the light of the 'Inside the Manosphere' documentary. In Rejaf, the MU members are facilitating training about gender-based violence as well as provide support to those affected by the civil war. In Myanmar, MU members are supporting community members who have been displaced either through natural disasters like flooding or landslides, or through the civil war. In Chelmsford, we are hoping to relaunch our prison work. There is strong evidence that supporting prisoners to maintain relationships with their families reduces re-offending rates significantly and we hope to help with this.

Celebrating 150 years of Mothers' Union



The 150th Celebratory service took place last month at St Paul's Cathedral with the Archbishop of Canterbury – as someone commented afterwards it was 'an inspirational service, brimming over with God's love and blessing'! There were over 1600 MU members joining in person and many, many more who were able to join by watching the live-stream. Talking to the St Paul's Succentor afterwards, he commented that the 'wall of sound' from the responses and the singing was truly amazing! In her sermon, the Archbishop praised Mothers' Union as 'the powerhouse of the Anglican Communion', affirming its outreach 'a vehicle of transformation ... rooted in kindness and compassionate actions ... sharing the good news ... bringing hope to thousands.' She drew comparisons between the importance of salt and light and the value of the work of others' Union and reminded members that 'the ordinary, everyday things make an extraordinary difference.' The following day, over 600 members met for the annual gathering 'to share and celebrate our legacy, showcase our present and shine a light on our future work and impact.' We were joined by representatives of The Clewer Initiative, who lead work against modern slavery, and the Girl's Brigade, both of whom have entered into a partnership with Mothers' Union.

Prayer Diary 2026: July



The theme for July in our 2026 Prayer Diary is 'Sharing our faith': Jesus tells us to go and make disciples of all nations. At this time of year, we seem to have more time to do things, but do we have the courage to witness to our faith with pride, showing respect for others while remaining steadfast to our calling? St. Francis of Assisi said, 'Go out to preach the Gospel, and only if necessary should we use words.' Mothers' Union was founded on faith; it continues to be built on faith by lives lived in faith for the future of our faith. Let us share this rich faith generously

Monthly Prayer: *Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of faith that we have received from you. Please help us to know more deeply for ourselves the transforming power of the Gospel in our own lives. As we draw encouragement from your gracious gift to us, give us a greater desire to share the Good News with the people we meet, so that they, too, may find hope and may know for themselves the riches of your love. Through your Holy Spirit, may our words and actions bear witness to your presence, through Christ our Lord, Amen.*

Creative Prayer: Take a walk around your community and pray as you walk, for the local businesses, for those who live there, for those who serve in the community such as police, fire and ambulance services, for the schools and school-crossing people, for the town council and for those who keep our parks and green spaces looking their best.

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.

Lucy Bubb, Mothers' Union contact



SATURDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2026

ON YOUR MARKS

On the second Saturday in September each year, 30 counties across the UK Ride & Stride to raise money to help preserve and improve our historic church buildings

GET SET

Add Saturday 12th September 2026 to your diary.
Seek sponsorship from friends & family.
www.friendsofsexchurches.org.uk/ride-stride for further information
or scan the QR code.



Explore villages & parish churches by bike or on foot
Enjoy exercise, meet new people & raise much needed funds for your church.



Registered Charity 236033



PLEASE JOIN US



Bulphan



Cream Tea and Plant Sale

The Bulphan in Bloom cream tea and plant sale took place on Saturday 14th June in good weather, and was enjoyed by all who attended. Pre-sold plants, cream teas, raffle tickets and generous donations together raised a total of £825. Thank you to everyone for your support, which helped make the event such a success.



How do we put up a gazebo?

Our next clear-up day is on Sunday 5th 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.



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
High Road, Orsett

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 Calendar page

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



Bulphan WI

Have you ever dreamt of becoming a published author? Our June speaker had that dream at the age of 9 and she has now published 18 books, working on a couple more at the moment. Emma Robinson lives in Bulphan and told a well-attended meeting of Bulphan

WI about her journey to becoming an author. Her novels explore the power of family and friendship in challenging circumstances, and she also blogs about the funny side of parenting. Emma's talk was illustrated with slides ranging from photos of stories she wrote as a child to covers of her books. After the meeting closed, Emma offered signed copies of her books. We found her a very engaging speaker.



Next month, on Wednesday 8th July we will welcome Mike Tarbard who will speak on the Bata Heritage Centre.

Our future meetings feature hats, mudlarking, skincare with Tropics, Christmas crafts, Tutankhamun's Egypt and some gentle seated exercise.

We meet at 7.30pm in Bulphan Village Hall on the second Wednesday of the month, phone 07752 836902 or email bulphanwi@gmail.com for more details, you will be very welcome. First visit is free, donation requested for subsequent meetings.

Janet McCheyne



Horndon-on-the-Hill

V I L L A G E H A L L

Village Hall Update

We are extremely pleased to announce that the ladies', gents' and disabled toilets, including baby changing facilities, have all been modernised and are now up to standard. The kitchen has also been updated and modernised, making it more user friendly for all groups using the hall. We hope you get the chance to visit soon and see the improvements for yourself.

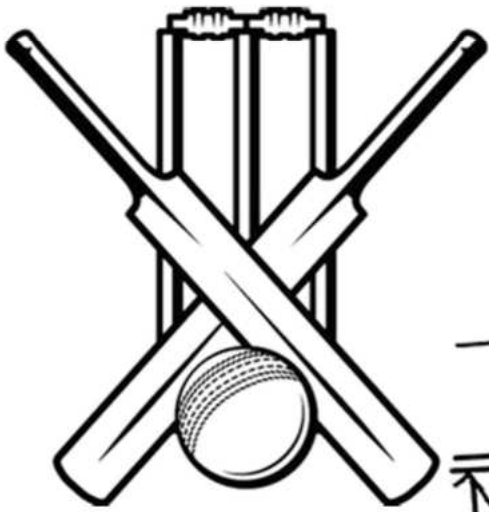
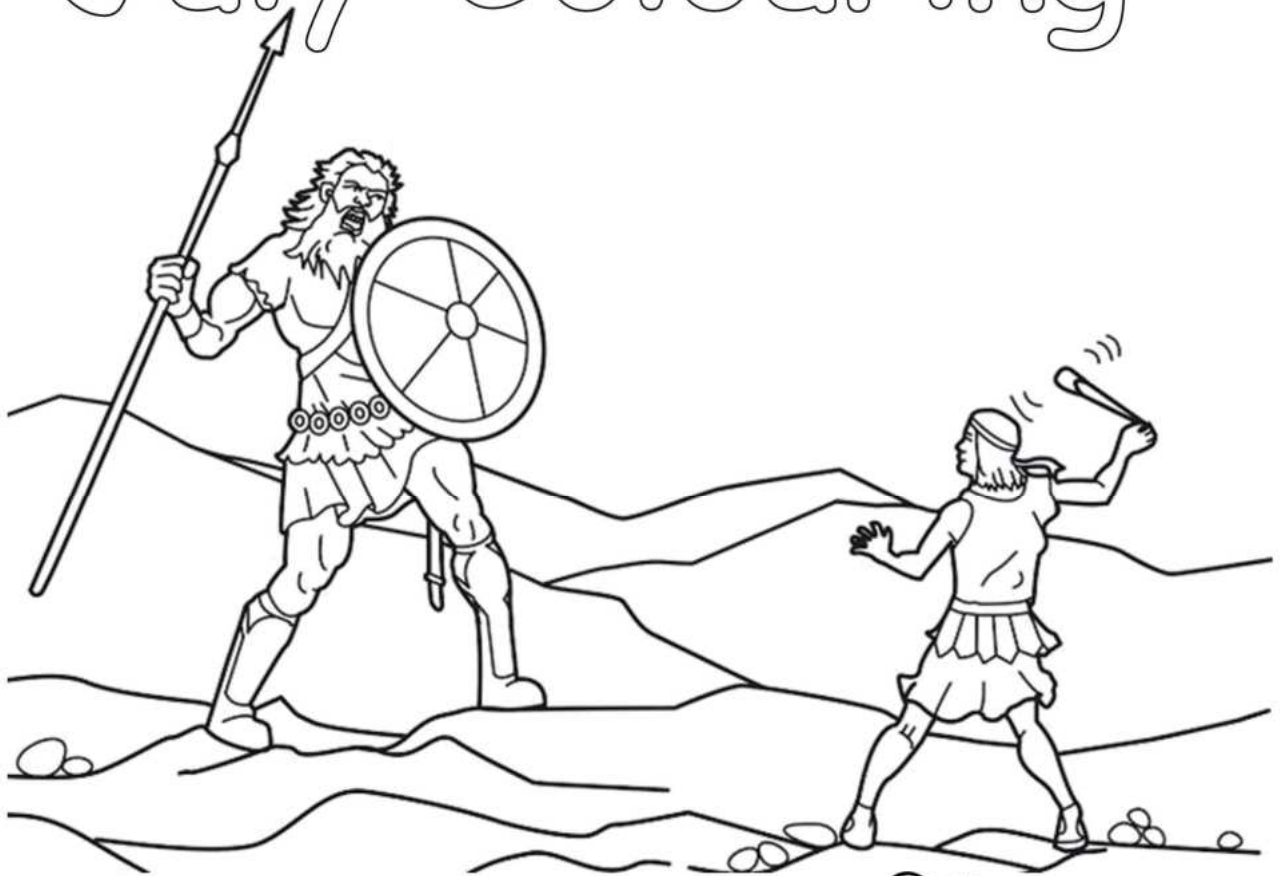
Volunteers Wanted: Village Hall Gardening Team

Following the hard work carried out earlier this year to clear and cut back the Village Hall grounds, we are now looking for volunteers to help keep the area tidy and well cared for. The gardening team will usually meet on the third Saturday of each month, from 10am to 12pm, with additional sessions arranged if needed. There is no pressure to attend every session — volunteers are very welcome to join in whenever they are able, and even an hour would be greatly appreciated. A plan is already in place, but with full-time work it is difficult to keep on top of the garden regularly. A team of volunteers would make a real difference in helping to keep the Village Hall looking its best for everyone to enjoy. It would be helpful if volunteers are able to take home any cuttings or garden waste, although this is not essential. Anyone who enjoys gardening, tidying, or simply helping the community is warmly invited to get involved.

For more information, or to offer your help, please contact the Village Hall team. Nell Edwards, Vice Chair and Bookings

Find out more or book the hall: www.vhorndononthehill.co.uk

July Colouring



Ecology and Social Justice Action Group

Ecosia - the search engine that plants trees



Why we should use the Ecosia search engine

Every day, most of us use an internet search engine without giving much thought to the impact that choice can have. Ecosia is a search engine that works in much the same way as Google or Bing, but with one important difference – it uses its profits to fund tree planting and other climate action projects around the world.

Environmental Benefits

Trees play a vital role in absorbing carbon dioxide, restoring ecosystems, preventing soil erosion and providing habitats for wildlife. Ecosia supports carefully selected projects that work with local communities to plant native tree species and restore damaged landscapes. The company reports that it has helped plant more than 230 million trees across more than 40 countries.

In addition, Ecosia generates more renewable energy than is needed to power its searches and AI queries, helping to reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

A responsible business model

Unlike many commercial technology companies, Ecosia is structured so that its profits cannot simply be distributed to shareholders. It is steward-owned and committed to using 100% of its profits for environmental action. The company also publishes monthly financial reports, allowing users to see how its income is spent.

Privacy

Ecosia states that it collects only the data necessary to provide its service and does not build detailed personal profiles for advertising purposes. While it is not a completely anonymous search engine, it places greater emphasis on user privacy than many mainstream alternatives.

A simple way to make a difference

Changing your default search engine takes only a few minutes and costs nothing. By making this small change, every web search contributes towards projects that help combat climate change, restore forests and support local communities.

For individuals, churches, schools and community organisations looking for practical ways to care for creation, using Ecosia is a simple step that reflects a commitment to environmental stewardship and responsible use of technology.

While no search engine is perfect, Ecosia offers an opportunity to turn an everyday activity into a small but meaningful contribution towards a healthier planet.

<https://www.ecosia.org/>

Lynda Robertson





woolmarket music



On the 11th June we were thrilled to welcome back pianist **Yoon Seok Shin** to Woolmarket Music.

Yoon's wonderful piano-playing and sheer enthusiasm delighted a near-capacity audience in The Woolmarket. We were treated to a great selection of music, ranging from Mozart and Schubert, to Jazz and even Disney!

Our thanks to Yoon for coming back again to Horndon to play for us.

**Our next meeting is on
Thursday 9th July at 7.30pm**

For our final concert of the year we are joined by **Folklore**, for their debut concert at The Woolmarket. A new local group, Folklore will entertain us with a wide repertoire of English, Irish and Scottish folk songs and Sea Shanties, as well as more modern songs in the folk tradition.

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 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 or if you would like your gift to be acknowledged, please contact Lynda Robertson or our Parish Giving coordinator, Richard Player his email is r.player@hobnob.org.uk

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



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