



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

October 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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Parish Giving Co-Ordinator

Richard Player	r.player@hobnob.org.uk	07952 947482
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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.

If you would like a print copy of the Parish Magazine please contact the Parish Administrator

WEDDINGS

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

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 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

£2,580.04

Please ask friends, family and work colleagues if they have any
unwanted foreign coins or notes, current UK coins or notes, any
old British or Irish currency and even obsolete currency

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

SERVICES – October 2026

	HORNDON	ORSETT	BULPHAN
Thursday 1 st October			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 2 nd		Oasis Café 9-11.30am Edward Bear 9.30-11am Orsett Churches Centre	
Saturday 3 rd	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		4pm Forest Church – Pet Blessing service
Sunday 4th October <i>18th Sunday after Trinity</i>		10am All Together Holy Communion Service	
Monday 5 th	11am Horndon School Harvest Festival		Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 6 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Wednesday 7 th		1.30pm Orsett School Harvest Festival	9.30am Bulphan School Harvest Festival
Thursday 8 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 9 th		Oasis Café 9-11.30am Edward Bear 9.30-11am Orsett Churches Centre	
Saturday 10 th	Open Church 10am to 5pm with refreshments		
Sunday 11th October <i>19th Sunday after Trinity</i> Harvest Festival			8.45am CW Holy Communion Service 11am Family Harvest Festival Service
Monday 12 th			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 13 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 15 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 16 th		Oasis Café 9-11.30am Edward Bear 9.30-11am Orsett Churches Centre	
Saturday 17 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 18th October <i>20th Sunday after Trinity</i>	8.45am BCP Holy Communion Service 10am Holy Communion Service 4pm Refresh Service		
Monday 19 th			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 20 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 22 nd			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 23 rd		No Oasis or Edward Bear	
Saturday 24 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 25th October <i>21st Sunday after Trinity</i>		8.45am CW Holy Communion Service 10am Holy Communion Service 4pm Commemoration of the Departed Service	
Monday 26 th			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 27 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
	12noon Holy Communion Service		
Thursday 29 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 30 th		No Oasis or Edward Bear	
Saturday 31 st	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 1st November <i>4th Sunday before Advent</i>			10am All Together Holy Communion Service
Monday 2 nd			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.



**Parish of Horndon,
Orsett and Bulphan**

Christmas bazaar



**Saturday 21st November,
12noon to 3pm
at the Orsett Churches Centre,
High Road, Orsett. RM16 3ER**

Please come along



**Books, jigsaws, guess the weight of the
cake, colour a Christmas decoration,
bric-a-brac stall, lucky dip and a raffle.
Refreshments with cakes and mince pies**



**Knowing and sharing the love of Jesus in the Church and community
Registered charity number: 1199779**



ORSETT CHURCHWARDENS REPORT



With the summer behind us we find ourselves in one of the busiest periods of the church calendar. There are numerous upcoming events to which everyone is invited.

On 11th October we are holding our annual Harvest Festival in Bulphan, giving us an opportunity to reflect upon and thank all those who work on the land growing our fruit and vegetables. This is at the slightly later time of 11am and will be followed with refreshments and entertainment by members of our congregation.

Our service to commemorate those we have loved and lost is on 25th October in St Giles & All Saints starting at 4pm. If you would like someone to be remembered at this service there are sheets in each of our churches and at the Oasis Café on Friday mornings. Alternatively, please feel free to contact us and we will ensure your loved one is added to the list.

November gives us the opportunity to pay tribute to all those who have fought to keep our country safe. As usual, there are remembrance services in each of our villages. The weekend starts with a service at Orsett Memorial on Saturday 7th at 10.30am organised by members of Chadwell British Legion. On Sunday 8th we have services at the memorials in Horndon and Orsett at 10.45am and a service in Bulphan at 2pm.

At the end of November our thoughts start to turn to Christmas (sorry, I know it's only October) as we hold our Christmas Bazaar. This will be on 21st November in the Orsett Churches Centre from 12 noon until 3pm. This is still in the planning stages and more information will come out in due course, but keep the date free.

God Bless

Christine & David Mortimer



CHAIR YOGA

ORSETT CHURCHES CENTRE
MONDAYS 1.15PM - 2PM
£8.00 PER CLASS
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YOGA ON THE HILL
HOLISTIC THERAPIES

ORSETT CHURCHES CENTRE, HIGH ROAD, ORSETT RM16 3ER
TO BOOK CALL OR EMAIL NANCY - 07522 283837 / [NANCYSMITH1@SKY.COM](mailto:nancysmith1@sky.com)

✨ Chair Yoga Class ✨

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 🕒 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

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01375 372195
WWW.SMITHSORCHARDGARDENCENTRE.COM

Horndon on the hill
Church Wardens musings

Hello All

Well, here we are in October, how time flies.

It was great this morning to see so many people at Open Church enjoying the conversation and banter. It was lovely to welcome back Diane Moorse.

Do come and join us on a Tuesday or Saturday morning from 10-12 you will be made most welcome.

I would like to thank Colin and Kevin for completely refurbishing our Church Shed.



Janet, Glen and myself entertained on September 1st to a very appreciative audience and raised £210 for church funds.

As I write this we will be having a Book Fayre on Saturday so no total yet.

I think you will all agree that our grounds are now looking very good. Thanks go to Tony, Steve and Colin for their Tuesday work, the community pay back team and Alastair's pupils. Please also look at the wild garden at the North end of the Church it does look extremely good, thank you Beverley.

Don't forget lifts are always available for Open Church of Church services.

Just ring 01375 674212.

God Bless

Sonia Ward

Bulphan Churchwarden's Report



If the awaited approval for the work on the floor of the nave comes through, it is hoped that the repair works will commence on Monday 12th October and will take about 3 weeks, depending on the extent of the rot.

The works will start the day after The Harvest Festival Service at Bulphan which is on Sunday October 11th commencing 11.00 am, which ends with entertainment and a light lunch to celebrate the Harvest. Janet McCheyene is organising the entertainment for after the service. We will need some assistance after the service to put all the kneelers, cushions, bibles etc within the altar area to ensure

the area is cleared ready for the contractor's commencement.

Thurrock Deanery made a good impression at The Orsett Show held on Saturday 5th September, this is seen as a mission event and was well received. Like everything it's down to preparation and organisation. We have a very good team from across Thurrock that turn up on Friday and again on Saturday to set up and take down the 2 marquees. Prior to this a small group consisting of Edward Mortimer and my neighbour David Leaman collected the tables and chairs from Chadwell on Thursday, then then Marquees from Corringham on Friday. Special thanks to everyone that helps to put up and take down the marquees, with a special thanks to Edward this year my neighbour David Leaman who filled in at the last minute, for all the hard work they did.

There was a good feeling of Christian fellowship within the marquees. As ever we were short of volunteers especially for the children's activities, but Tina and Alyson held the fort admirably although it did mean that the children's parents had to muck in at times. Chris and Kim Ford cheerily welcomed people as they came in, keeping everyone well supplied with refreshments. Most of Thurrock's clergy were present throughout the day and led 3 mini services which were held hourly from around lunchtime, we also had a prayer table with a prayer tree. For the past 3 years Horndon on the Hill Morris Dance Group visit us at around the time of the 3pm mini service and we then conclude with a Morris dancing lesson which most of the volunteers take part in, generally very badly, but it is a lot of fun. The Show was supposed to finish later this year, at 6pm, but it seems this wasn't communicated very well as most stallholders started taking down about 4pm. Taking everything into consideration it was a very good if not exhausting day. With the 2 full on days before The Show, it is a hard job but seen as worthwhile as The Show has a footfall of at least 13000 people and our Marquees offer a small haven for people, to just sit and rest, away from the hub-bub of the show.

We give thanks for Alastair who brings his school pupils and carries out so much work at the church and of course Bulphan in Bloom for all they do. So much to do we need all the help we can get.

God Bless Frank Woollard



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For a brochure or more information contact

Abbeyfield The Octagon

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SS15 4AY

Tel: 01268 530414

Email: karen@abbeyfieldbasildon.com

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200 Timberlog Lane,
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SS14 1PG

Tel: 01268 550880

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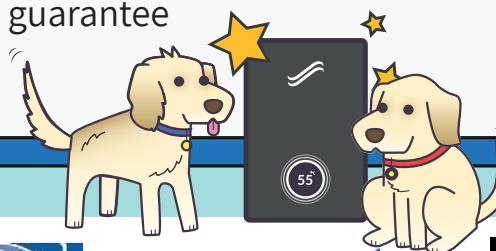
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THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptism

12 Sep 26	Isla Diana Travis	O
14 Sep 26	Theodore Robert Frost	O

Renewal of Vows

05 Sep 26	Mr Les Brockis & Mrs Tracey Brockis	H
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Funeral

21 Aug 26	Catharina Rate	O
08 Sep 26	Patricia Ann Mortimer	O

Interment of Ashes

26 Aug 26	Dennis Baker	O
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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:

Monday 12th October	7.30pm at	Orsett Church
Saturday 14th November	12 noon at	Horndon Church
Monday 14th December	7.30pm at	Orsett Church
Saturday 9th January 2027	12 noon at	Horndon Church
Monday 11th February	7.30pm at	Orsett Church
Saturday 13th March	12 noon at	Horndon Church

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

OCTOBER COVER PICTURE :

**Finger post, Orsett Road,
Horndon on the Hill**



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 October 2026

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

4th October	Local Arrangement	
11th October	Revd Fiona Smith	Holy Communion
18th October	Mrs Christine Asser	
25th October	Local Arrangement	

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 Bible Reflections

You can receive monthly Bible Reflections written by sending your email to Maureen McPherson at mail@south-fields.com. Hard copies can be handed out if you don't have email. There are now two resources you may be interested in receiving.

Adult Bible Reflection

These are written by Maureen and typically comprise commentary on passages of scripture combined with a contemporary application of the theme(s) being looked at.

Children & Young Teenagers

To support families in nurturing faith at home a Young Peoples Bible Reflection is also now available. The email will **not** be sent directly to children. This resource will enable parents /grandparents /guardians to provide Bible engagement for the younger generation. The e mail offers a simple, enjoyable and spiritually nourishing monthly resource that families can use together and includes:

Talking to God – a short, child-friendly prayer

A Bible Passage – one verse or a short passage

Mini Reflection – a few sentences explaining the message

Colouring Page – linked to the Scripture

Word Search or Puzzle – reinforcing the passage in a fun way

Cycle of Faith

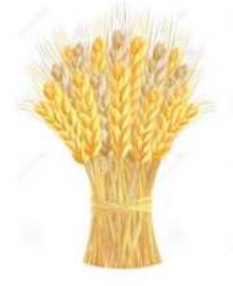
Our series of bike rides continues with our next ride planned for 3rd October. The leisurely ride is led by a qualified British Cycling ride leader and first aider. Under 18's are welcome but must be accompanied by parent/guardian or responsible adult. Please contact Jeff Bell at jeff3bell@gmail.com for further details.



Zion Hall Mission, Bulphan

Interdenominational Church

Church Road, Bulphan



<https://zhm100.wixsite.com/zionhallmission>
zionhallmission@outlook.com

Who are we? We are a group of a dozen or so Christians who meet on Sunday evenings at 6.30pm.

Where do we meet? Zion Hall Mission Chapel is on Church Road in Bulphan between the village hall and St Mary's church, look out for the green gates as the building itself is set back from the road.

What happens in our services ? We have different preachers every week and our services typically have about five hymns interspersed with readings, preaching the word and a time for prayers.

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.

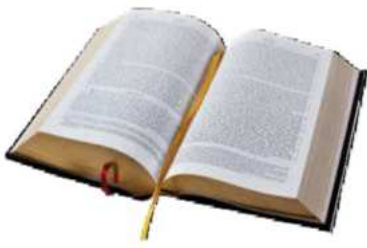
The services for **October** are as follows:

4th October	6:30 pm	Neil Hunt
11th October	6:30 pm	Peter Crosby
18th October	6:30 pm	Rev Pholani Ncube
25th October	6:30 pm	Rev Max Blake

We have our **Harvest Service on 4th October**, a service where we focus on God's continuing provision to us for our daily sustenance. For the service we decorate the chapel with flowers and produce. Please feel free to bring any goods to the service for display. After the service the goods will be sold off and the money donated to the RNIB / donated to the local food bank. The service has proved to be popular in the past and we extend a particular invitation to come to share in this time of thanksgiving and celebration.

For those who earlier in the year followed the series 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



PRAYER DIARY

Some thoughts to include in your daily prayers

October 1 st	For the victims of natural disasters throughout the world
October 2 nd	For those we love but see no longer
October 3 rd	For those living in Lodysons Close, Orsett
October 4 th	For neighbours we do not yet know
October 5 th	For those living in York Road, Horndon
October 6 th	For those living in Brentwood Road, Bulphan
October 7 th	For the Christian community in the Middle East
October 8 th	For those living in Daltons Shaw, Orsett
October 9 th	For those living in Bloomfield Walk, Orsett
October 10 th	For members of the Deanery Synod
October 11 th	For those living care homes
October 12 th	For the Orsett Churches' Centre
October 13 th	For patients in St Luke's Hospice today
October 14 th	For those living in Victoria Road, Bulphan
October 15 th	For those living in Kirkham Road, Horndon
October 16 th	For our Bellringers
October 17 th	For the work of all retired clergy
October 18 th	For Pleshey and all retreat houses throughout the land
October 19 th	For those living in Shelford Close, Orsett
October 20 th	For those who will die this month
October 21 st	For those living in Hew Watt Close, Orsett
October 22 nd	For those living in Cassell Close, Orsett
October 23 rd	For those who are seeking employment
October 24 th	For those struggling with great transitions
October 25 th	For our Deanery Clergy
October 26 th	For His Majesty's Forces serving overseas
October 27 th	For those living in Church Close, Horndon
October 28 th	For all carers
October 29 th	For the work of the Diocese in Europe
October 30 th	For the homeless
October 31 st	For those living in Brentwood Road, Orsett

Who are you, God and who am I?
St Francis of Assisi

WELCOMING BATS

IN OUR CHURCHES



In our historic church buildings, we often find that we have some very special guests: bats! One of the most common visitors is the pipistrelle bat, which has made a home in each of our churches. These small, agile creatures typically roost in the nooks and crannies of our church roofs and attics, finding a safe haven in the quiet, sheltered spaces.



Bats, including pipistrelles, are vital to our local ecosystem as natural pest controllers. They feed on insects, helping to keep the local insect population in balance. Because of their importance and their vulnerability, bats are legally protected in many regions. This means that any maintenance work in our churches has to be carefully planned to ensure we don't disturb them.



In particular, there are certain times of year when maintenance work should be avoided. During hibernation periods and when bats are nursing their young, they are especially sensitive to disturbance. For this reason, it's imperative to get a bat conservation group involved before any work takes place. They can assess the situation and help ensure that our bat friends remain safe and sound.



By coexisting with these remarkable animals, we honor not just their role in nature, but also the spirit of stewardship and care that our churches stand for.





The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan



*warmly invites you to join our
Harvest Festival Service and Lunch on*

SUNDAY 11th OCTOBER



11AM

at

St Mary's Church, Bulphan

**Celebration Family Service
Harvest Lunch and
home-grown entertainment!**

Share songs, poems &
performances

For more details or to
contribute to the finger food
lunch/performance item

Contact Janet 07752 836902
janetcc101@gmail.com

*N.B. Our Sunday services are
usually at 10am: please note this
one is at 11am*



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





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.





W.A.D.E.R.S.
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www.waders.org.uk

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

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

Please contact a Committee Member before attending your first session
so you know what to expect.
Sharon: 07792 827638 for Laindon
Kay-Anne: 07899 745020 for Corringham
Dawn: 01375 461885 for Blackshots
Email: ask-waders@hotmail.com

The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan

Edward Bear Toddler Group

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

There is no charge for this Toddler Group

Every Friday during term time
9.30 am – 11.00 am

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



In the
Orsett Churches' Centre

Every Friday during term time
9.00-11.30am

Everyone is welcome

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

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

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

MOTHERS' UNION

Chelmsford Diocese Mothers' Union (CDMU):



Maxine, our Diocesan President, is continuing her fundraising challenge to lead midday prayers in a historic place around the diocese each month. Last month, she led midday prayers from the end of Southend Pier – the world's longest and most unluckiest pleasure pier! She was joined by several local MU members. Some walked the 1.33 miles to the end and some took the pier train. It was wonderful to pray together outside, and to be joined online by many who couldn't make the journey. And what trip to the seaside is complete without an ice-cream – and a Rossi's ice-cream too! Maxine is raising funds as part of Mothers' Union 150th anniversary celebrations and all donations, using the link below, are gratefully received. This month Maxine will be leading midday prayers in the Olympic Park in Stratford. By the time you read this, Maxine, her husband Jon, and I will be at the MU Worldwide Gathering in Durban so I'll report on that next month! Looking to November, CDMU will be celebrating 150 years of MU at Chelmsford Cathedral on 14 November at 11.30am. All members, past and present, are welcome. I hope to be able to take the Orsett MU banner to be part of a display from around the diocese.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/maxine-paul-2>



Prayer Diary 2026: October

The theme for October in our 2026 Prayer Diary is 'Caring is Sharing – Sharing is Caring': At the very beginning of His ministry, Jesus declared that one of the tasks God had sent Him to do was, 'to proclaim liberty to the captives, to let the oppressed go free' (Luke 4.18). He announced that He had been anointed to fulfil Isaiah's prophecy, which He quoted in the synagogue at the beginning of His ministry (Isaiah 61.1). Throughout His life, He continued to reveal in word and action God's love and compassion, God's desire for freedom and justice for all who are oppressed or held captive, whether in physical or spiritual bondage. Jesus' call is also one for us all, especially those of us in Mothers Union, to pray and to work for the liberation of others. During October, MU members will be focusing on Prisons Week (11-17 Oct) and Anti-Slavery Day (18 Oct).



Monthly Prayer: *Gracious God and Father, As we welcome a new day and a new month, we pray that You will put a song in our hearts and on our lips to celebrate the glorious freedom won for us by Jesus in His death and resurrection. Freedom from sin and guilt; freedom to be who we are meant to be in Christ. May our joyful response be to join our MU brothers and sisters across the world 'to proclaim liberty to the captives and let the oppressed go free.' We give thanks for all that MU has done in Your name and pray with hope and confidence that it will continue to serve You and show Your love now and in the future. Amen*

Creative Prayer: Hold out your hands and look at them, these are the hands God gave you to care and to share. Trace one hand on a piece of paper and, on each finger, write or draw one way you can care or share this week. As you decorate your hand, pray: "Jesus, bless these hands. Make them caring and sharing hands, just like Yours." Take your handprint home or place it somewhere you'll see it, to remind you each day that caring is sharing, and sharing is caring.

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

October history dates

- 1st 1974 The first McDonalds restaurant opened in London.
- 2nd 1909 The first rugby football match was played at Twickenham, between Harlequins and Richmond.
- 3rd 1959 Postcodes were introduced in Britain.
- 4th 1911 Britain's first escalator opens at London's Earls Court.
- 5th 1930 The British airship R101 crashes near Beauvais, France killing 48 people.
- 6th 1968 The first three places in the US Grand Prix were taken by British drivers: Jackie Stewart, Graham Hill and John Surtees.
- 7th 1922 The first royal radio broadcast was made, by the Prince of Wales, on 2LO, 11 days before it changed its name to the BBC.
- 8th 1965 London's Post Office Tower, once Britain's tallest building, opened.
- 9th 1967 Transport Minister, Barbara Castle, introduces the breathalyser. The breathalyser offered a way of testing blood alcohol concentration level at the roadside.
- 10th 1881 The Savoy Theatre, the first public building to be lit by electricity, opened with a performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's 'Patience'.
- 11th 1899 Start of the Anglo-Boer War.
- 12th 1823 Charles Macintosh began selling raincoats, now better known as - Macs.
- 13th 2014 176 people took part in the 48th World Conker Championships at Southwick, in Northamptonshire.
- 14th 1066 Harold II, England's last Anglo-Saxon King was killed at the Battle of Hastings in Sussex – possibly by an arrow in the eye as shown in the Bayeux Tapestry.
- 15th 1666 Samuel Pepys, diarist, records the wearing of the first waistcoat by King Charles II.
- 16th 1902 England's first prison for Young Offenders is opened at Borstal in Kent.
- 17th 1091 A tornado struck London. It was Britain's earliest reported tornado. The wooden London Bridge was demolished, and the church of St. Mary-le-Bow in the city of London was badly damaged. Other churches in the area were demolished, as were over 600, mostly wooden, houses.
- 18th 1826 Britain's last state lottery was held, prior to the launch of the National Lottery in 1994.
- 19th 1914 Wartime licensing laws came into operation, premises having to close at 10 pm
- 20th 1946 'Muffin the Mule', a wooden puppet operated by Annette Mills (sister of actor Sir John Mills) first appeared in a children's television programme on BBC TV.
- 21st 1805 Admiral Nelson is mortally wounded at the Battle of Trafalgar, near Gibraltar.
- 22nd 1957 The children's cartoon hero Captain Pugwash makes his television debut.
- 23rd 1642 The first major battle of the English Civil War takes place at Edgehill in south Warwickshire.
- 24th 1857 The founding of the world's first official football club, Sheffield Football Club, in Yorkshire, by a group of former students from Cambridge University.
- 25th 1854 Lord Lucan leads The Charge of the Light Brigade at Balaclava during the Crimean War – famously recorded in Tennyson's poem.
- 26th 1863 Formation of the English Football Association who document the first rules of football.
- 27th 1662 Charles II of England sold the coastal town of Dunkirk to King Louis XIV of France.
- 28th 1831 English physicist Michael Faraday demonstrates the dynamo founding the science of electro-magnetism.
- 29th 1863 Eighteen countries, including Britain, met in Geneva and agreed to form the International Red Cross.
- 30th 1925 The first television transmission of a moving image is made by John Logie Baird.
- 31st 1517 Martin Luther nails his '95 Theses' to the church door at Wittenberg, Germany triggering the Protestant Reformation.



Bulphan WI

Although we had been looking forward to hearing all about mudlarking in September, unfortunately our planned speaker was unable to attend, and so we heard from Maggie Piper, who spoke about Essex, and in particular her '20 curiosities of Essex'. They ranged from St Clement's church at West Thurrock to the house Grayson Perry designed at Wrabness. It was interesting to see places that we knew and had visited, as well as giving us ideas about future trips to take.

Having been suggested by one of our members, we are forming a choir. The initial meeting will have, hopefully, been held by the time this article is published.

On Monday 7th December at 2 pm our WI is organising a carol concert at Orsett church. All are most welcome to attend, there will be refreshments afterwards and a collection for the upkeep of Orsett church.

Wednesday 14th October's presentation is from Tropics skincare, and women visitors can join us for free from 7.30pm, although we do appreciate donations to cover the cost of refreshments.

Lesley Crisp

Secretary Bulphan WI

The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan

Commemoration of the Departed Service

4pm - Sunday 25th October

at

**St Giles and All Saints Church,
Orsett**

All are welcome to come and light a candle
in memory of a loved one

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

Jigsaw sale

All proceeds to Parish funds

Refreshments and our delicious bacon
rolls available while you browse

SATURDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 10am to 12 noon

**St Peter & St Paul Church,
Horndon-on-the-Hill**



Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan
Knowing and sharing the love of Jesus in the Church and community
Registered charity number: 1199779



Jigsaws of a reasonable/saleable standard are required.
Please NO jigsaws where you know pieces are missing
or that you would not be prepared to buy yourself.



'A Parish Magazine?



What exactly is it?

I used to think it was a bit boring!

I first saw 'The Horn' magazine when we moved to Horndon-on-the-Hill in 1961. It consisted of a few sheets of A5 paper stapled together and contained details of church services, finances, meetings, and records of baptisms, weddings and funerals, with not much else.

In later editions there were notes about the Horndon Kneelers, individually hand-made locally and dedicated to people and organisations in the area.

My own kneeler contribution (not expertly presented and, I must confess, completed with plenty of additional help) was made in 1962 and decorated with a horn, reflecting the name of the magazine in those days. It was later renamed Hobnob.



But what a change there has been since then! Have you read the recent editions?

The service details are still there but also interesting reports, what's happening in the community, Local adverts, photographs, and information about all the events in our parish and other local churches.

Do join me with a word of appreciation to all who are involved in producing this monthly, for just £1.00.



Many thanks from a grateful subscriber.

Diane Moorse



EST.



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It's been a wonderful first month at Bulphan! We have come back to school with enthusiasm and excitement for our new classes and learning. Our new Reception class have settled in quickly to the school. They are a lovely group of children who we can't wait to get to know and see them flourish and shine with us.

Our Pupil Parliament has entered a second year of development, this year with our previous Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Ministers becoming Lords; their role to support and advise our new PM and DPM in their roles and responsibilities.

We have already held our first PTA events of the year – our sponsored walk, and the postponed Summer Fete. Both were wonderful events. We are still totalling up the money and can't wait to speak to the children about how to spend it.



Unbelievably, we are already advertising our tours for the next class in Sept 27 (please see the flyer on the next page) ...so if your child or someone you know is looking for a Reception place in September 2027, come and take a look around our friendly school!



Bulphan
Church of England Academy

Flourishing on our journey
'God's word is a lamp to guide our feet and a light for our path' Psalm 119:105

RECEPTION TOURS 2026

Wednesday 14th
October @ 9.30am

Thursday 5th November
@ 2pm

PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL THE SCHOOL OFFICE TO BOOK A SPACE.
ADMIN.BULPHAN@DCVST.ORG / 01375 891220



We're looking forward to going to St Mary's Church later this month for our Harvest Service, to celebrate the season and give to those in need. We will be collecting donations on behalf of Thurrock Foodbank.



Horndon-on-the-Hill

V I L L A G E H A L L

HALL PAINTING - October 2026

The Village Hall will be freshly painted.

AGM - Tuesday 13 October 2026 at 7 pm

This will be held at the Methodist Church, with tea and cake.
Everyone is welcome.

GARDENING WORK PARTIES

First Wednesday and third Sunday of every month
New volunteers are always very welcome.

ITALIAN WINE TASTING - Saturday 9 January 2027

Join us for our winter community event. More details will follow.

SPRING COMMUNITY EVENT - Saturday 10 April 2027

Please save the date. More details will follow.

SUMMER COMMUNITY EVENT - Saturday 10 July 2027

Please save the date. More details will follow.

AUTUMN COMMUNITY EVENT - Saturday 9 October 2027

Please save the date. More details will follow.

COULD YOU HELP US WITH GRANTS?

We are looking for someone who could help us find and apply for grants. You would not need to attend every meeting, although you would always be very welcome. If you have relevant knowledge or would simply like to help, we would love to hear from you.

Nell Edwards, Vice Chair and Bookings
Vicechairhothvhc@gmail.com

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

A warm welcome back to a new academic year from all at Orsett. We've had a busy start to the year already settling our new Reception children in, welcoming a few new families further up the school and getting back into the normal routines. We've even had a visit from Ms Gosling's pet tortoise which was an extra surprise!



We held our annual elections for our new Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Pupil Parliament. We were so impressed with everyone who put themselves forward for a role and made speeches to their classes. We are looking forward hearing about their ideas and plans they have for this year.

Unbelievably, we are already advertising our tours for the next class in September 27 (please see the flyer below) ...so if your child or someone you know is looking for a Reception place in September 2027, come and take a look around our friendly school!

We have already taken part in 3 different sporting events in Thurrock, and always, we are so proud of the children for the sportsmanship and good behaviour at these events. For a smaller school, we always do well at these events, and our Christian Value of perseverance really shines through. We've been really impressed by the girls and boys football teams who took part in tournaments, both coming third place.

In worship, we have focused on remembering our school's Christian Values for the new year – thinking about how Zaccheus' story were good examples of all three – Honesty, Perseverance and Respect. Reflecting on how meeting and speaking with Jesus changed his life for the better and his involvement in his community.

We're looking forward to going to St Giles' in the coming weeks for Harvest, to celebrate the season and give to those in need.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'J Dickson'.

Mr J Dickson
Head of School

RECEPTION TOURS 2026



Tuesday 13th October @
2pm

Thursday 5th November
@ 9.30am

**TO BOOK PLEASE FILL IN THE MICROSOFT
FORM**



<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx>

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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



WOOLMARKET MUSIC

Our September performance was given by "Lady & The Scamp". Debbie (the Lady) and Gareth (the Scamp) gave us a great evening's entertainment by singing many well-known songs ranging from the 1940s, 50s and 60s which we all enjoyed singing along to them. A very relaxing evening.

Our AGM took place in the interval, where officers were reappointed and pleas were made to publicise our small music appreciation group. Thanks to all who come along each month to our performers but we are still looking for more people to attend to do spread the word to as many people as you can.

Notices are displayed each month around the village, there are Facebook posts, notices in the church magazine and on Thurrock Nub News events diary.

Below is our programme for Autumn 2026 right up until July 2027.

Do come along to any of the concerts. It's always a great evening's entertainment.

Woolmarket Programme 2026/2027

All performances at 7.30pm

September 10 th	Lady & The Scamp (Vocals and guitar)
October 8 th	David Silkoff (Piano)
November 12 th	Benjamin Carnell (Cello) and Accompanist
December 17 th	Christmas Party with the Forum & Gardeners' Club
January 14 th	Liam Parradine (Trombone)
February 11 th	Turner Boys, plus other guests (sax, piano, etc)
March 11 th	Ilda Mici (Violin)
April 10 th	Alegro Choir
May 13 th	Lily Barker (Soprano) and Accompanist
June 19 th	Claudio Allodi (Accordion)
July 8 th	Lynn Creasey (Harp)

£10 admission or free to members and those under 18

Hobnob Magazine - What's Your Hobby?

We would love to include articles about the hobbies, interests and clubs that keep people in our parish busy and connected.

Do you belong to a local club, choir, walking group, gardening group, book club or sports team? Perhaps you have an unusual hobby, a long-standing interest, or a skill you enjoy sharing with others.

We'd love to feature short articles about what you do, how you got involved, and what you enjoy about it. It could be a great way to introduce parishioners to activities they might not otherwise know about—and perhaps encourage some new members!

If you'd like to tell us about your hobby or club, please email your article to magazine@hobnob.org.uk.

David Mortimer and Lynda Robertson



Working party

A smaller group than usual went out on 13th September, we deadheaded and weeded the containers around the village, cut back the shrubs and trees to the right of the village hall, weeded and cleared the memorial rose bed at the village hall. After the recent rain it was lovely to see the grass growing in the churchyard but that meant we needed to cut it and do some strimming!



A huge thank you to everyone who gave up their time and energy to help.



Our next working day is on Sunday 25th October.



We will be planting our winter primulas, and any help would be much appreciated.



Everyone to meet at 9.30am at St Mary's Church, Bulphan.

Woolmarket Ladies Meeting

September 2026

This was our first meeting back after the long, hot, Summer break.

Elaine was on holiday, so Jan and Nell led the meeting.

Our activity for the evening was to play board games that the members had brought for the evening. We split into teams and played such games as Headbandz, Scrabble etc.

Nell presented Jan with a bouquet of flowers for her tireless work as Treasurer over previous years, and as a thank you for her excellent help mentoring Nell who took over the role. Nell also presented flowers to Bernie for her wonderful organisation of the raffle.

Joy and Bernie informed the meeting that we will be holding a Christmas afternoon tea on Sunday 29th November in the village hall. The cost of a ticket will be announced at the October meeting.

Our Christmas meal at the Ship will take place on Thursday 3rd December. Further details will be given next month.

One of our members reminded us that a games night takes place on the third Friday in the month in the village hall. The October games night takes place on Friday 16th October. All are welcome.

The next Woolmarket Ladies meeting will take place on Tuesday 6th October at 8.00 pm in the Woolmarket. Our entertainment for the evening will be 'The Three Amigos', a group covering 60s and 70s music. New members are always welcome. We look forward to seeing you there ladies.

Gill

Horndon-on-the-Hill Society & Community Forum

Meets at 7pm on the 1st Wednesday of the month downstairs in The Woolmarket, High Road, Horndon-on-the-Hill (no meeting in August)

If you wish to be added to Horndon's Forum email circulation list, please email the chairman at horndonchair@thurrockforums.org or phone 07724 848069

Minutes of meetings can be found under the 'files' tab on our Facebook page
www.facebook.com/groups/954323667945399

Bulphan Village Community Forum

Meets in Bulphan Village Hall RM14 3RU from 7.30 - 9pm on the 4th Wednesday of alternate months (Jan, March, May, July, September, November)

If you wish to be added to Bulphan's Forum email circulation list, please email the chairman at bulphaninfo@thurrockforums.org or phone 07752 836902

Minutes are available on request

The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan

Forest Church

St Francis Pet Service

- 3rd October 2026 -

4pm at St Mary's Church, Bulphan

Encounter God in the great outdoors: in the sky, the earth, the trees and the wildlife. This service is for all, old and young and includes outdoor fun activities on a Biblical theme and worship around a fire.

The service will carry on even if it is raining so please dress appropriately.

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





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



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fuel cost)

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

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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

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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**

