

SEPTEMBER 2026

BENTWORTH, LASHAM, AND SHALDEN PARISH MAGAZINE

**St. Mary's Bentworth; St. Mary's Lasham;
St. Peter and St. Paul Shalden**

Dear Friends

Coming Home

Have you ever visited a place and felt like it was somewhere familiar, somewhere where you have been before. In November 2025 I visited Alton to have a look around and meet a few people, to see whether this was a place where I could minister.

As I walked around the town, looked into shops, watched people shopping, it felt like I had returned home. I was living on Portland, a peninsular of land next to Weymouth. One road on and one road off. Karen and I moved there in 2011.

It is a close community, where everyone knows each other, and are probably related in some way. I had taken funerals, weddings, hosted community events, setup charities, visited the sick, re-ordered the churches – but always I was the "Kimberlin" an outsider.

However, coming to Alton I felt that I was coming home. When we look out from our new kitchen window, I can see what used to be "Alton Free-evangelical Church" – now some residential flats. This was the church that Karen and I were married in in 1990.

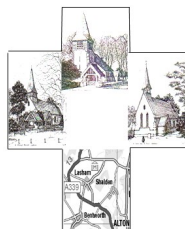
But it is more than the place. It is the feeling that we are where we are meant to be. It is God Almighty who has helped us in this move. When we moved to Portland, we knew it was the right place. Then after 15 years we started to feel that we needed to move on – we had accomplished what our heavenly Father had wanted from us. Now we are in Alton, and it feels like home already.

There is a saying that "Home is where the heart is", and it is true. But for a lot of people home is just a house, a dwelling, a bed for the night. But a home is more than that - it is a sanctuary, a resting place, a place where family happens and a lot more besides.

We have come to Alton for a task. I'm not quite sure what is. So on Saturday 19th September at Jubilee Hall, Bentworth, you are invited to come and help "Shape the Vision" for the Benefice of the Resurrection. This is a shared activity. Where we look at what has happened and will happen.

People are looking for a place to call home. Our heavenly Father is waiting to welcome people home. I hope that as time goes on we will develop what is already here, and introduce new things, so that everyone in this Benefice of the Resurrection will feel that they also have come home.

Rev'd Tim Gomm



THE VILLAGER

the editor

Please send copy for the **October** Magazine to the Editor or your Village Correspondent **by noon on Tuesday 8th September.**

Yet another new advertiser, yellow page 22. The spaces are filling up fast! Treloar have got back in contact with us, so we can publicise their fundraisers again – Dummer Fair in October – which I am so pleased about. Don't forget if you have a charity event let me know, it's always worth putting the information in The Villager – it does go to every village house, and more.

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Please join us for drinks, meet with friends and neighbours, and welcome Rev. Tim Gomm and his wife, Karen.

6.30pm, Friday 4th September
St. Mary's Church, Bentworth

RSVP to Cathy at
cathy.dumelow@gmail.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SEPTEMBER

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1 Medstead Garden Club: Antony Powell <i>Planting for Autumn Colour</i> | 7.30pm |
| 2 Roedowns WI: Hampshire & IOW Wildlife Trust the Wiltshire Room | 7.30pm |
| 2 Alton Camera Club start of new season meetings, Holybourne | 7.30pm |
| 3 Empty Chairs - Meet folk in the Antico Lounge | 7pm Page 30 |
| 4 BLS Welcome drinks St Mary's church Bentworth | 6.30pm Page 29 |
| 8 Villager deadline for the October magazine by noon please | |
| 8 ,Broadlands: Tour of Nicky Henderson's Racing Yard | 10am Page 31 |
| 8 ASA talk: Pepe Martinez <i>Banksy - Fraud or Genius</i> | Alton College 7.30pm |
| 11 Screen on the Green Beech: <i>The Devil Wears Prada 2</i> | 7.30pm Page 32 |
| 12 Ride and Stride - run, walk, ride to raise funds for your church | Page 42 |
| 12 Music for a Late Summer Evening St Andrew's Church | 6pm Page 43 |
| 17 Broadlands: Talk by Suzy Dymond -White at Wivelrod | 6.30 – 8pm Page 34 |
| 18 Bentworth Film Night: <i>Rose of Nevada</i> Jubilee Hall | 7 for 7.30pm Page 33 |
| 19 Veterans Festival Petersfield | 10am – 3pm Page 35 |
| 19 Repair Cafe The Assembly Rooms | 10.30am – 12.30pm Page 30 |
| 19 Benefice Away Day: <i>Shaping Our Vision</i> Jubilee Hall Bentworth | 9.30am Page 47 |
| 23 Start of Alpha Course All Saints Church Hall | 7pm Page 46 |
| 30 Treloar's Padel Championships | Page 37 |
| 30 Broadlands: Singing with Dan St Mary's Bentworth | 6.15 - 8.30pm Page 38 |

OCTOBER

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 2 Start of The Bereavement Journey Alton Maltings | 10am-12 noon Page 45 |
| 6 Start of the 60th season of organ recitals: Dr David Hill MBE St Lawrence | 8pm |
| 7 Cardiac Health Annual Lecture Shaun Wallace Alton Maltings | 7pm Page 40 |
| 7 Roedowns WI: Hampshire Wick – candle maker the Wiltshire Room | 7.30pm |
| 7 Dummer Fair Dummer Cricket Centre | 5pm – 9pm Page 39 |
| 8 Dummer Fair Dummer Cricket Centre | 9.30am – 3.30pm Page 39 |
| 10 ACAN Drop-in 16 Market Square | 12noon – 3pm Page 41 |
| 11 Harvest & Harmony Old Park Farm Beech | 12.30pm RSVP Page 42 |

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## BENTWORTH

### BENTWORTH CARE GROUP

**Jackie Crawford**

The members on duty for medical appointments in appointments in September are:

**Emma Goodwin 07780 706 053; Katy Davis 07879 402 116;**

**David Eyre-Brook 07702 492 509**

We are also happy to do shopping or pick up prescriptions for those unable to do so themselves.

## THE MUCK IN COFFEE MORNING

Once more we are delighted to say that the Muck in has donated £100 to Charity - to Dogs for Autism, who have thanked us very much. As the £1 donation from each of us is more than the coffee/tea and many biscuits costs, we are always happy to pass on the extra to charity, especially local ones like this. Do come and join us on a Monday morning, and swell the coffers for the next donation! 10.30 – 11.30am every Monday morning (except Bank Holidays – so not on August 31st) We meet in Parsonage Farm Barn, with thanks to the Emma & David Wiggin.



## BENTWORTH GARDEN CLUB

**Sarah Whitley**

### BENTWORTH GARDEN OUTING

On 14th July, a group of Bentworth Garden Club members, together with a number of friends, set off from the village green for our annual summer outing. The weather was certainly on our side, and everyone was looking forward to a day exploring two very different gardens.

Our first stop was Knoll Gardens, where we spent the morning wandering through a four-acre sanctuary. It was a lovely to explore the beautiful planting, with its wonderful collection of ornamental grasses and climate-resilient, wildlife-friendly plants. The gardens felt natural and peaceful, with winding paths encouraging us to slow down and enjoy the surroundings. The shade provided by the mature trees was particularly welcome on such a warm summer's day, making it the perfect place to stroll, chat and admire the planting.

Having thoroughly explored the gardens, our attention naturally turned to the excellent nursery. It was impossible to resist the tempting selection of unusual and beautiful plants, and before long many of us were leaving with new "treasures" to take home. By the time we boarded the coach, the luggage compartment was full and I hope they are all now happily settling into their new gardens.

Our second stop of the day was Compton Acres in Poole, which provided a complete contrast to Knoll Gardens. Rather than naturalistic planting, Compton Acres is made up of a series of themed gardens. Visitors can wander from the tranquillity of the famous Japanese Garden to the elegance of the Italian Garden, before exploring the valley gardens with their attractive water features.

Having the opportunity to experience two contrasting approaches to garden design made for a fascinating and enjoyable day.

All in all, it was another successful Garden Club outing, filled with beautiful gardens, good company, plenty of conversation and, of course, a coach full of plants. "



**Bentworth  
Cricket Club**

**Richard Hill**

Bentworth Cricket Club welcomes new playing members to join the team for 2026 season. The club plays in Hampshire Cricket League at a competitive but friendly level. Matches are played every Saturday afternoon from the first weekend in May through to end of August. Indoor nets are held at Alton College on Tuesday evenings in the winter and spring months and outdoor nets at our beautiful ground during the summer.

The club also runs a number of fun and fund raising events to ensure we are a full part of village life.

If you are interested please contact Richard Hill (07887821326) or Ken Thomas ( 07769 947033) in the first instance.

We look forward to meeting you.

## LOCAL CRICKET COMMUNITY HONOURS MEMORY OF BELOVED BOWLER PHIL 'SLINGER' MITCHELL

Ken Thomas

Bentworth Cricket Club hosted a special memorial match on 26th July to celebrate the life of Phil Mitchell, a cherished former player and a well-known fixture of the local cricket scene.

Known affectionately as **"Slinger"** due to his inimitable bowling action, he is a much-missed personality whose absence has left a significant void amongst the cricketing community. His passing, in the autumn of 2025, came as a shock to everyone as it occurred only a couple of months after he last played for Bentworth. The summer memorial event brought together a wonderful turnout of family, friends, and local supporters to honour his lasting legacy.



The match featured two teams drawn from Bentworth Cricket Club and Rotherwick Cricket Club, representing the two local sides that Slinger proudly played for during his cricketing days. The family connection remains today, as his son Matt, continues to play for both clubs and captained one of the sides in his father's memorial match.

To ensure his presence is permanently felt at the club, a lasting tribute was also unveiled. One end of the cricket ground was officially named **"Slinger's End"** in recognition of the many miles he had covered at this end of the ground, bowling off his exceptionally long run up with all the passion and enthusiasm of most half his age.





Following the conclusion of play, players, family, and supporters gathered for a barbecue to celebrate his life, where attendees warmly recollected Slinger's signature West Midlands wit and sharp boundary-side repartee.



## VISITORS TO OUR POND

Jenny Lewis



## BENTWORTH FILM NIGHT

Friday 18th September – Jubilee Hall

Sue Brooking

After a break over the summer, we are back for our penultimate film night of 2026.

We are pleased to announce the screening of **"Rose of Nevada"** on Friday, 18th September.

George MacKay and Callum Turner star in this British tale, directed and written by BAFTA-winner Mark Jenkin.

A fishing boat that vanished 30 years ago mysteriously returns to the harbour of a Cornish fishing village, launching the haunting supernatural drama ROSE OF NEVADA.

Set in Cornwall, this is a timeslip story of two men who join the crew of a fishing vessel that has mysteriously come back to shore after a long absence at sea. When they return from their first voyage, the men realise that they have slipped back three decades to 1993, when the local fishing community was thriving – as opposed to the present, when the village post office has become a food bank, and an old woman's dementia seems to embody all the trauma of calamitous times. This is a tale of the fantastic but rooted in the bleak political realities of 2020s Britain.



Please join us to support your local film night, watch an excellent film, and catch up with friends!

Doors open at 7pm with the film showing at 7.30pm.

Tickets £5 on the door (Small Notes and change for entrance fees, drinks, and ice cream, very much appreciated). This is a social event open to all, please feel free to bring friends along too.

Small Notes and change for entrance, drinks, and ice cream, very much appreciated!

### ***Date for the Diary:***

For the final film night of 2026, we will be showing **"The Devil Wears Prada 2"** on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November**. Put this in your diary and we will provide further details in the November issue of the Villager.

**SPEED, SEATS AND SUNDAY STREETS**

It might not be as exciting as a sequel to Planes Trains & Automobiles, but hopefully more useful! The Parish Council are going to run a presentation evening on possible answers to the question of speeding and traffic volumes at the end of September/start of October. Hampshire Highways run a program called "Community Funded Infrastructure" which allows the Parish Council to pay for certain changes to the roads to reduce speeding, reduce traffic volumes or improve walking. We have gone through their documents and filtered out the possibilities that make no sense (eg removing white lines on the road in the centre of the village, we don't have any to remove!) and now its time to get everyone's opinion. Nothing is set in stone and we there are many different options. The police do have a scheme where we can get a speed camera that they will use to issue fines, but if we doubled council tax, then doubled it again, then doubled it again, we would only just be able to afford to take part (and no that is not a typo, we would need 8 times the current rate and that is not a one off cost). We just don't think that is something many people want to sign up for. The CFI program has a more formal consultation that comes with it with "yes/no" type surveys, but before we go down that path we want as many voices to help shape the proposal that we will need to draft. So even if you cant make it, there will be other opportunities and you can always speak to us or email us.

Further to this we have various pots of money which are allocated to specific purposes, for example picnic benches or seating. Traditionally we would have just put these on the village green and been done with it, but we have had a few ideas about less represented parts of the village which might be good sites. So we would like to get everyone's feedback on these ideas too.

The date of the consultation has not been set, but expect it to be late September, we will publish the date and time on the notice boards and via the website/email list with plenty of notice (with deadlines for The Villager and the time needed for my army of proof readers to edit my writing into something intelligible, I need to write this before we are ready to book the Jubilee Hall).

\* \* \*

**LASHAM****A FASCINATING INSIGHT INTO BUDDHIST MONASTIC LIFE****Ken Thomas**

On Saturday, 11th July, St Mary's Lasham hosted two Buddhist monks and one novice visiting from Taiwan, who kindly agreed to share insights into their lives and spiritual journeys.

Following a warm welcome from the Revd David Chattell, the presentation was led by Sam Thomas, who grew up in Lasham and whose family still lives in the village. Sam has spent the last two and a half years in Taiwan, where he initially moved to learn Mandarin. Upon entering the monastery to train as a Buddhist monk at Dharma Drum Sangha University, he was given the Chinese name "Kwan Zher."



The presentation began with Sam and the two visiting monks, Yan Qing Fashi and Yan Dao Fashi, introducing themselves and sharing their unique paths to the monastery. This provided a fascinating look into the diverse motivations that led each of them to pursue a monastic life.

Yan Qing Fashi then briefly explained the history of Buddhism and the specific lineage of Chan Buddhism practised at Dharma Drum Mountain. Following this, Sam described his first year in the monastery, detailing his initial head-shaving ceremony, his daily routine, and various extra-curricular activities. He also shared insights into the major annual events and celebrations held at Dharma Drum. The entire presentation was beautifully illustrated with photographs of Sam participating in the activities he described.



The talk concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session featuring all three speakers. The event was highly attended by Lasham residents and friends from the surrounding area, who found the presentation both educational and inspiring. It was touching that this included friends of Sam's from his time at Bentworth Primary School and Amery Hill Secondary School. Special thanks go to all three speakers for so generously sharing their time and experiences with the community.

## **THE NEXT LASHAM COFFEE MORNING**

The next Lasham Coffee! Cake! Chat!  
will be in the Church at 10.30am  
on Monday 7th September.

# SHALDEN

## St PETER & St PAUL GUILD OF MARTHA

Kirsty Ennever

### September

5 Jane Shirvell / Lin Baxter  
12 Karen Saponaro / Lynne Hignett  
19 Michele Rankin / Kirsty Ennever  
26 Rozanne Wilson / Rosalind Ommanney

### October

3 Jane Shirvell / Lin Baxter  
9 Karen Saponaro / Lynne Hignett  
16 Michele Rankin / Kirsty Ennever  
23 Rozanne Wilson / Rosalind Ommanney  
30 Debbie Todd / Silvia Blake

## THANK YOU

Divna Aleksic

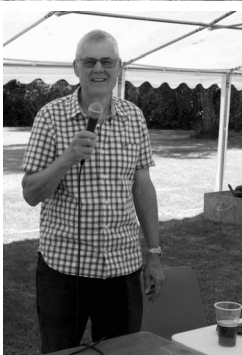
Thank you to all who joined us to bid farewell to Ivan on the 1st of August. We have been touched by the kind messages and cards we have received, along with the lovely tributes from neighbours in Shalden. The village has shown such care and offered support to Dad for many years. It will always feel like home. Divna and Phil.

## SHALDEN FETE 2026

Peter Rankin

### A Glorious Sunday afternoon at the Shalden Village Garden Fete 2026

A heartfelt thank you to Louise and David Lancaster and their lovely family for hosting us again this year at Shalden Park Farm on Sunday 5th July. The venue worked beautifully, offering essential shade for the plant and cake stalls, plenty of sunshine elsewhere, and the lovely tea lawn in front of the house. Thanks also to the Campbells for providing the very convenient car park right next door to the event.



*Cakes  
(& honey)*

*The  
Compère*



Great interest and excitement was shown at the fete with 300 adults paying on entry, plus of course their children who had great fun on the bouncy castle, splat the rat and the teddy shy, not to mention at the very successful toy stall with an ice cream afterwards to cool down.

Over 20 stalls run by our villagers entertained one and all with refreshment provided by cream teas on the lawn, the Pimm's stall, the beer barrel and Ian's sizzling sausages. Tim's bees had worked extra hard this summer to produce the Shalden Honey displayed on the cake stall with 40 jars sold. Wow!



Thanks also go to the Lancaster's whose ever-innovative granddaughters, Isabella, Clemmie & Cosi, set up a challenging impromptu netball competition which raised £20!



Such a hot day was not the best for the fun Dog Show but a paddling pool was provided for the four-legged entrants to compete for a rosette or two, or even the Dawkins Cup and there was a row of super shiny classic cars to envy with thanks to their owners.

- The Fun Dog show was very well managed by Keri Stockham.

The class winners who were awarded rosettes were:

- **Handsome Hound - 1st: Haggis with handler Paige,**  
2nd: Finch with handler Tricia and 3rd Franklin with handler Chris
- **Loveliest Lady - 1st: Nala with handler Jeremy,**  
2nd: Melba with handler Charlie and 3rd: Honey with handler Sam
- **Golden Oldie (7+) - 1st: Lottie with handler Clemmie,**  
2nd: Rooibos with handler Lessie and 3rd: Honey with handler Sam
- **Cutest Puppy (up to 18 mths) – 1st: Roo with handler Marina,**  
2nd: Bertie with handler Vicki
- **Best Junior Handler (12 years and under) –**  
Joint 1st place: Arthur with handler Ollie and Lottie with handler Clemmie
- **Best in Show and winner of the Dawkins Cup: Lottie with handler Clemmie,**  
Reserve: Arthur with handler Ollie

The biggest thanks must go to everyone in Shalden' whether running a stall, helping at the event on the day or beforehand providing items for the stalls, support behind the scenes, or providing us with prizes and goods to sell at the various stalls and not forgetting the build-up and break down crew who can now put up the lovely marquee in an hour. We could not have done it without all 70 or so of you!

Thanks also to our sponsors this year; Farm & Garden Supplies in Alton for the lovely garden ornaments auctioned from the marquee, Peter & Jane Goddard for their contribution to marketing and Keith Gotts who provided the beer, all helping us make it such a successful day.

#### **Shalden Fete donations for 2026**

\* Our hosts nominated worthy cause

|                                                                  |             |                                                 |             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>All Saint's Church Odiham Children's Summer Holiday Club*</b> | <b>£400</b> | <b>MacMillan Cancer Care</b>                    | <b>£400</b> |
| <b>Alton &amp; Basingstoke Cardiac Health</b>                    | <b>£400</b> | <b>Naomi House Children's Hospice</b>           | <b>£400</b> |
| <b>Alton Community Hospital - League of Friends</b>              | <b>£400</b> | <b>Shalden Church Fabric &amp; Organ Fund</b>   | <b>£200</b> |
| <b>Broadlands Riding for the Disabled, Medstead</b>              | <b>£200</b> | <b>Shalden Village Hall Fireworks Committee</b> | <b>£200</b> |
| <b>Dementia Friendly Alton</b>                                   | <b>£400</b> | <b>Shalden Village Hall Repairs Fund</b>        | <b>£200</b> |
| <b>Hampshire Air Ambulance</b>                                   | <b>£400</b> | <b>St. Michael's House Hospice</b>              | <b>£400</b> |

Your generous support for the fete this year enabled Shalden to donate another **£4,000** to a range of local worthy causes. If you have a local worthy cause that you would wish to benefit from the proceeds at next year's fete, please let us know.

The date and venue for next year's Shalden Village Fete are still to be confirmed, but we hope to return to our usual Father's Day timing in June.

## SHALDEN PARISH COUNCIL

**Katherine Horton**  
**Clerk to Council**

**Parish Council meetings: 7:30pm in Shalden Village Hall.** Residents are warmly invited to attend these meetings which provide opportunities through the year to raise questions or share concerns to the Councillors. The remaining dates for 2026 are:

- Wednesday 23rd September
- Wednesday 18th November

Over the summer, the Parish Council has been working on a number of items including:

**Recreation Ground:** Since the last Parish Council meeting, progress has been made towards upgrading the community's facilities. At the time of writing, the existing Sports Pavilion has been disconnected from the utilities, details for its removal are being clarified and the spec of the new unit is being finalised. The intent is for the new Sports Pavilion to be in place by the autumn.

**Golden Pot:** Following public consultation, Hampshire Highways have confirmed the speed limit at the junction will be reduced to 40mph. The implementation date is scheduled for Friday 23 October 2026 with related works being completed ahead of this.

**Planning:** The Parish Council is consulted by EHDC Planning Department as part of the planning application process and has recently commented on proposals that run counter to the principles of the EHDC Local Plan. Details of applications can be found at the following website <https://publicaccess.easthants.gov.uk>

Have you signed up for updates from the Parish Council via the link on the website?

<https://www.shalden-pc.gov.uk>

\* \* \*

## THE CHURCH



**Wendy Burnhams**

Are you grieving the death of a loved one or struggling with the long-term effects of loss? The Bereavement Journey is a seven week programme of short videos and focussed conversations, providing a safe space for you to process your bereavement and discern your next steps. Topics include attachment; separation and loss; difficult feelings; rites of passage; the impact and pain of bereavement; coping with others; coping with change; moving forward; and an optional session on questions of faith.

Friday mornings: 10am – 12 noon,

2<sup>nd</sup> October – 13<sup>th</sup> November 2026, at The Alton Maltings Centre.

Suggested voluntary contribution £30 (for the whole course).

To book your place, or to find out more about it, please email

[bereavement@potr-alton.co.uk](mailto:bereavement@potr-alton.co.uk)

or phone Wendy Burnhams 07514 280 362

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION



### Food waste collections are coming

From October, food waste collections will begin across East Hampshire.

We will collect food waste weekly.

### What you will be able to recycle

You'll be able to recycle all your food waste, including:

- All uneaten food and plate scrapings
- Dairy products like cheese and eggs
- Bread, cakes and pastries
- Raw or cooked meat and bones
- Tea bags and coffee grounds
- Raw or cooked vegetables, fruit and peelings
- Raw or cooked fish and bones
- Rice, pasta and beans

You'll be able to recycle mouldy and out-of-date food, including ready meals removed from their packaging.

### What you will get from us



To enable you to recycle your food waste we will provide most homes with:

- A caddy to keep in your kitchen
- An outside food waste recycling caddy that will be emptied weekly
- Stickers to go on you internal and external caddies, and your refuse bin

### Will I have to use bags?

You don't have to use bags in your food waste.

If you do want to use one, you can reuse plastic bags you've got lying around the house or buy small bags to line your caddy.

Any bags you do use in your kitchen caddy will be removed at the anaerobic digester plant. Biodegradable bags are harder to remove than plastic ones.

### When will I get my caddies?

Caddy deliveries will begin in August and will continue until the end of September.

## EVENTS

### Save the Date: **BRIGHTWELLS CRAFT MARKET, 24th – 25th October**



Farnham Craft Month returns this October, celebrating the town's vibrant creative community and its proud status as England's first World Craft Town. Throughout the month, Farnham will come alive with exhibitions, workshops, open studios, markets, masterclasses, pop-ups, family activities and more — a joyful invitation to explore the art of making.

As part of the festivities, **Brightwells Creative Space** will host a special **Craft Market on 24th & 25th October**, bringing together **17 local artists and makers**. I'm delighted to be taking part and will be showcasing my artwork alongside this wonderful group of creatives.

If you enjoy discovering handmade treasures, meeting local makers, or simply soaking up Farnham's creative energy, please do mark the dates in your diary. It's a lovely opportunity to support local talent and find something truly unique.

**Where:** Brightwells Creative Space,  
Brightwells, East Street, Farnham, Surrey,  
GU9 7UA

**When:** 24th & 25th October 2026

**Times:** TBC

*Botanical Quartet 2015 Lucy Dean*



Follow **@lucydeancreative** and **@farnhamcrafttown** on social media or visit Farnham Craft Town for updates and event details.

### **HERITAGE OPEN DAY - Saturday 12th September**

**Jane Hurst**

Last year we held Alton's first Heritage Day and are now planning the second one which will take place on Saturday 12th September. Many people take advantage of the 'Heritage Open Days' that are held in September and are **FREE**. According to the [heritageopendays.org.uk](http://heritageopendays.org.uk) web site – these events are part of 'England's largest festival of history and culture'.

The Heritage Open Day theme this year is **'Everyday Histories'** which looks at local communities through the ages and the daily lives of local people. Alton has a rich and varied history which we are proud of and that we need to preserve and share while, at the same time, we are supporting the valuable work that is being done by Dementia-friendly Alton who are generously allowing this event to be held in the Assembly Rooms.

We would like to invite local clubs, groups, societies, businesses or families to join in and have a table where they could share their history with everyone.

So, if you have a history that you would like to share – please contact me at [janehurst1@gmail.com](mailto:janehurst1@gmail.com) - it is hoped to make this Alton Heritage Day even better than last year's.

## CURTIS MUSEUM 2026

Jill Line

OPENING TIMES: Tuesday to Saturday 10am – 4.30pm 01420 82802  
[www.hampshireculture.org.uk/curtis-museum](http://www.hampshireculture.org.uk/curtis-museum)

During **September**, we're running an **Ancient Romans vs Ancient Britons** trail. Choose your side and design your weapons. FREE.

This activity runs throughout the autumn term.

### Heritage Open Day Saturday 12th September FREE

Following the success of last year's Heritage Open day we're holding another.

This time we will be joined by re-enactment groups **Herigeas Hundas**, (Army of Dogs), **Butser IX Legion**, and **Experience the Iron Age** to provide live demonstrations, show off medieval skills and trades, and play some live medieval music. Suitable for all the family.



*The Cunning Woman  
and her potions (Herigeas Hundas)*



*Butser IX Legion*



Eloise Trowbridge

### Treloar's Charity Padel Championships – Wednesday 30th September 2026

We're excited to launch the first ever Treloar's Charity Padel Championships, taking place on Wednesday 30 September at Advantage Padel, Kingsley.

Delivered in partnership with BY3 and Advantage Padel, the day will include our padel tournament, breakfast on arrival, lunch, padel themed mocktails, prizes, a goody bag to take home and plenty of networking opportunities, all while raising vital funds to support physically disabled children and young people at Treloar's.

With multiple matches guaranteed for every pair, we can't wait to welcome you for a fantastic day on court!

Spaces are limited, so secure your place today. Book now via Treloar's website: <https://www.treloar.org.uk/events>

## **Dummer Fair – Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th October 2026**

Celebrating 30 years in 2026, The Dummer Fair has become one of Hampshire's most loved and beautifully curated shopping events, welcoming over 1,000 visitors annually.

Taking place at the Dummer Cricket Centre, the Fair features more than 90 carefully selected independent stalls, offering a unique mix of homeware, gifts, gourmet foods and high quality fashion. Early bird tickets are available now and can be purchased by visiting <https://www.treloar.org.uk/events/dummer-fair-2026>

## **Treloar's Christmas Fair 2026 – Friday 11 December 2026**

Join us at Treloar's on Friday 11 December 2026 for the Treloar's Christmas Fair! Feel festive and enjoy the holiday atmosphere at Treloar's as you explore our student stalls with handcrafted goodies and an array of holiday gifts. Try your luck and participate in our annual hamper raffle, offering a chance to win from an assortment of hampers. Enjoy delicious festive refreshments and sweet treats, the perfect way to treat yourself.

All money raised at the Christmas Fair will go towards supporting our students, making it a joyful event with a meaningful cause.

You can find more information on our website:

<https://www.treloar.org.uk/events/treloars-christmas-fair-2026>



## **TV star Shaun Wallace to give the 2026 Cardiac Health Annual Lecture**

**Wednesday 7th October 7pm Alton Maltings**

Cardiac Health is proud to welcome Shaun Wallace, star of ITV's *The Chase*, as guest speaker at this year's Annual Lecture in Alton.

Known as "The Dark Destroyer", Shaun is not only a popular television personality but also a distinguished barrister, bestselling author, and inspiring motivational speaker. His story of determination, achievement, and resilience has inspired audiences across the UK.

Shaun will be sharing his personal journey while supporting Cardiac Health's important work to improve cardiac health and patient care. Guests will also have the chance to meet him afterwards, with book signing, sales of *Chasing the Dream*, and photo opportunities available on the evening.



The event will begin with a wine and canapé reception. Tickets £30

## **50th Anniversary Gala Dinner**

Join us to celebrate 50 years of Cardiac Health with guest of honour Dr Hugh Bethell  
Thursday, 24th September 2026 – 18:30 Location: Farnham Castle, Farnham GU9 0AG  
Price: £75 Ticket includes a welcome drink, two-course meal followed by coffee and tea; bar available. Tables seat 8 or 10 people.



## ALTON ORGAN SOCIETY

Elsbeth Mackeggie Gurney

**The short Summer series of organ recitals ends on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September** with a recital by Rob Godfinch & Geoff Willis. This duo, playing organ & trumpet, always provide a delightful and fun hour of music across all genres. The recital starts at 1pm with refreshments available from 12.30pm – feel free to bring your packed lunch. Entry is free with a retiring collection to cover costs with any excess going toward the Organ Restoration fund.

As noted last month, the 60th season of recitals begins on **Tuesday 6th October** with a recital by our Patron, Dr David Hill, former Director of Music at Winchester Cathedral.

David now has a varied & stellar career as choral Director (The Bach Choir), recitalist and recently completed a sabbatical cover at King's College Cambridge. His support of the Organ Society is so much appreciated and we look forward to welcoming him in October.



David's recital programme includes pieces by J S Bach, Dietrich Buxtehude, Louis Vierne as well as lesser known works by Florence Price and Samuel Coleridge-Taylor. His recital ends with the magnificent Fantasia and Fugue 'Ad nos, ad salutarem undam' by Liszt.

We will be celebrating the start of the season with canapes & fizz (alcoholic & non alcoholic) from 7.15pm; the recital starts at 8pm. We do hope you can join us.

**Season subscriptions** are available for £84 (8 recitals for the price of 6) – please contact Tony Willman [tony.willman@mac.com](mailto:tony.willman@mac.com)

Further information can be found here <https://www.altonorgansociety.co.uk/>

## THE SCREEN BY THE GREEN, BEECH

Joanna Curtis

### **The Devil Comes to Beech. Gird Your Loins.**

The Devil Wears Prada 2 (12A) at the Screen by the Green, Friday 11 September, 7:30pm.

Twenty years on, Meryl Streep returns as Miranda Priestly, still terrifying, now fighting to keep Runway alive as print collapses and a tech investor threatens to replace her writers with AI. Anne Hathaway's Andy Sachs walks back in as features editor, appointed over Miranda's head. Emily Blunt and Stanley Tucci complete the reunion, alongside the original film's writer and director.

Four stars from the Telegraph, the Times and the Independent. A comedy about the collapse of the media that also happens to be a very good night out.

Small venue. Big screen. Special atmosphere

£7 advance | £8 door | [beechvillage.org.uk/events](http://beechvillage.org.uk/events)

*Community cinema with heart and soul*

Beech Village Hall, 1 Wellhouse Road, Beech, Alton GU34 4AQ



\* \* \*

## CLUBS

### ALTON



#### IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO JOIN THE U3A

Would you like to learn, laugh and live? Do you have spare time that you would like to fill? Would you like to meet and make new friends?

Your local Alton u3a has 85 different interest groups to choose from such as, Art and Craft, Dance and Fitness, Games, History, Literature, Music, Poetry and Wellbeing. We also have social, cultural and weekend activities too. Full details are on our website at <https://alton.u3asite.uk>.

Most of our activities take place at the Alton Community Centre, and we do have some outdoor activities such as cycling, walking and birdwatching. Our monthly talks and coffee mornings are open to all.

Our new annual programme of events for 2026-27 starts in September. New and returning members are welcome to join throughout the year. Depending on what you would like to do\*, our membership fees range from £10 to £65 for the year ahead. You may join online via our website or by completing a membership application form that is available from the Alton Community Centre.

Copies of our Annual Programme are available from the Alton Community Centre, Alton Library, the Curtis Museum and Alton Assembly Rooms. If you would like to find out more about a particular group, then you can contact the Group Leader via our website. For general membership enquiries, please contact the Membership Secretary at [alton.u3a.members@gmail.com](mailto:alton.u3a.members@gmail.com).

*\* Subject to a space being available in the group. Please check with the Group Leader first before joining.*

Alton u3a is a Registered Charity no. 1035164



#### ASA

##### Forthcoming Lectures:

Tuesday 8th September: Pepe Martinez *Banksy - Fraud or Genius*  
The lecture will trace the story of Banksy's humble beginnings as a tagger on the streets of Bristol in the 1980's to one of the most recognisable names in the art world.

Tuesday 13th October Steve King: *She Loves You, Music of the 60s*

By 1960 interest in rock 'n' roll had started to fade, its biggest star was moving on and a new generation of teenagers were seeking something different.

These lectures will both be held at Martin Read Hall at Alton College commencing at 7:30pm (doors open 6:45pm).

Vanessa MacMahon

## **MEDSTEAD**

### **HAMPSHIRE FEDERATION OF WI - MEDSTEAD**

**Gill Siddall**

Medstead WI meets on the second Thursday of every month at 2pm in Medstead Village Hall.

With air conditioning installed in the hall a comfortable afternoon is guaranteed out of the heat of this year's summer.

Visitors and new members are very welcome so come along and join in, make new friends, listen to interesting speakers and enjoy a cup of tea and biscuits - sometimes cake!

At the August meeting members will welcome Fiona Birchall who is a fantastic story teller. Members will be spellbound with her tales and most likely you will be able to hear a pin drop as members are so engrossed in her stories.

The meeting on September 10th will be a fun afternoon of puzzles and games. A selection of jigsaws and board games will be on offer.

### **HAMPSHIRE FEDERATION OF WI – ROEDOWNS**

**Diana Constantine**

In July we participated at the Medstead village fete and had a stall selling bric a brac, books and puzzles. It was a very hot day but thankfully a nice breeze and a gazebo enabled us to stay cool.



The August meeting was replaced with a day trip to Portsmouth Harbour and Gun Wharf Quay. Thirteen members enjoyed a boat trip and harbour tour in perfect weather conditions, which meant we could sit on the top deck. There were great views of the harbour and the ships in dock. Following this we enjoyed lunch in a harbour side restaurant, sitting outside while admiring the picturesque view. Luckily there was enough time to wander around the shops before heading home !



### Forthcoming meetings

- |                                 |                                   |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> September</b> | Hampshire & IOW Wildlife Trust.   |
| <b>7<sup>th</sup> October</b>   | Hampshire Wick – candle maker     |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> November</b>  | CPR & defibrillator demonstration |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> December</b>  | 'Strictly sequins at sixty'       |

Roedowns WI meet in the Wiltshire Room, Medstead Village Hall on the first Wednesday of each month at 19.30hrs. Guest speakers, outings and good company.

Tea/coffee, biscuits, raffle and gift voucher prize at each meeting. Visitors and new members are very welcome. Contact Secretary on [roedownssec@hampshirewi.org.uk](mailto:roedownssec@hampshirewi.org.uk) or President Jill Kerr 01420 564116.

## **MEDSTEAD GARDENERS CLUB**

**Caroline Daniels**

**'Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower' Albert Camus**

Well Autumn is on its way and we are hoping for some significant rain to fill rivers, reservoirs and especially help recover our gardens from the severe drought we have had this Summer. September is a busy month for all gardeners as we start to harvest our crops and fruit. It has been a very challenging year and any crops and fruit will be so welcome

On **1st September** we have **Anthony Powell** who will be talking about **Planting for Autumn Colour**. On **October 6th** we will be welcoming **Chris Bird** who will be talking about **Grasses and Ferns**. Some wonderful autumn delights in gardens in September -



Crab Apples,



Damsons and Teasels





The Summer Show 2026 was a great success in the Village Hall in July.

The hall was full of wonderful exhibits at the Summer Show. Judges were complimentary on the quality of exhibits shown.

We also had our Annual Club Summer Social evening on 18th August at Church House hosted by Paul and Alice Beresford. It was a lovely evening looking around the beautiful garden and enjoying good food and company.

#### Medstead Gardener's Club Programme 2026

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

Meetings at Medstead Village Hall. Doors open at 7pm with meetings starting at 7.30pm

| <b>Month</b> | <b>Date</b> | <b>Event</b>                                            |
|--------------|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| September    | Tuesday 1st | Antony Powell Planting for Autumn Colour                |
| October      | Tuesday 6th | Chris Bird Ferns and Grasses                            |
| November     | Tuesday 3rd | Special guest speaker Getting the most from Your Garden |
| December     | Tuesday 1st | AGM and Christmas Social (Members Only)                 |

Membership £12 per person Guests £3 per visit (Max 2 visits)

*Some of the gardening jobs for September* - September is a good month to collect seeds from your favourite flowers and put in labelled envelopes to grow next year. Start to plant up containers for autumn with heathers, cyclamens and pansies. You can lift and divide congested clumps of perennials. Fill any gaps in your borders with sedum plants for late flowering. Take cuttings from fuchsias, salvias and geraniums. Start to trim and tidy hedges and overgrown shrubs. Put sunflower heads out for birds to feast on. You can grow spinach and lettuce in September for harvest later in autumn. Buy bulbs to begin to plant for spring next year.

Enjoy the delights of early autumn and the changing colours in your garden!



**Hugh Bethell**

### **Urgent call for new committee members**

The NHNTC is in peril – not from lack of members, not from a shortage of entertainments and activities, not from any dissatisfaction with our programme, not from any financial problem – but from an inability to recruit new committee members – particularly a new Chairman

The NHNTC has been in operation for the past forty years. It has always been, and still is, a thriving organisation with a membership approaching 300. Our purpose is to provide visits to NT properties, other historic houses and interesting venues, to provide talks from experts in their subjects and to hold social events. We also raise funds for the NT - mainly supporting projects at our local NT property, *The Vyne*.

We are an extremely friendly Group. Other purely social activities include Christmas lunch in a local venue, a Spring lunch and an August cream tea

#### **Visits**

Our visits are held in the summer months and are mostly coach trips to interesting properties and sites. Some of our recent trips included Kenwood House, Longford Castle, the Chichester Flower Festival and the Roman Palace at Fishbourne and Goodwood House (with posh afternoon tea!).

#### **Talks**

Afternoon talks are held monthly in the autumn and winter at Elizabeth Hall in Hook. Each event costs just £4 to members (£5 to guests) and includes tea and homemade cakes. Recent talks have included: *The Post Office Scandal*, *The Butler's Christmas*, *Was Shakespeare really de Vere?* and an *illustrated history of Winchester*.

#### **Fund raising**

Most of the surplus from NHNTC activities is donated to *The Vyne*. Since 1985 over £100,000 has been donated. We have helped to fund a new visitor buggy, the refurbishment of the upper room in the Brewhouse, and many other projects.

#### **Why not join our committee?**

***If you are at all interested in what we do and wish to help or just need more information, please contact the current acting chair, Hugh Bethell, at [hjnbethell@gmail.com](mailto:hjnbethell@gmail.com)***

\* \* \*

## REGULAR FEATURES



**Tim Gordon-Jones**

Quite a few people are asking me how the bees are coping with the hot weather. I've even heard on the radio that bumble bees are having a hard time. However, mine seem to be coping quite well. They are located in a shady area, and there is usually a breeze coming off the field. I'll have to make sure the pond doesn't dry up as this is the only source of water nearby.

Last weekend we extracted another 40kg, from five supers. This beats the record that was set last year and there are still three supers to go. I can't extract any more as the settling tub is full. The honey that is still in the hives is still 'wet' so I can't take it off, but hopefully this will dry with the next heatwave.

I'll keep putting out honey at the gate of Horsley for people to pick up when they like. Please pop cash in the letter box just inside the gate. You can use PayPal if you don't have cash. Use my email address of 'timgj@hotmail.com'. We believe our price is competitive and the honey is delicious.

Bee happy

### **COUNTRY MATTERS - a weather record?**

**Julian Lewis**

The weather has been wonderful but maybe too hot for some. The last significant rainfall was in early June with 68mm (2.75ins) in the first 7 days. Since then we have had 5 mm on the 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2mm on the 17<sup>th</sup> June and 1 mm on the 26<sup>th</sup> July. A total of 8mm (0.3ins) since 8<sup>th</sup> June over 2 months. The rolling annual rainfall has now dropped to 769 mm (31ins). It must be some sort of weather record.

The question is when the rains begin will it be like the very dry summer of 1976 when once it started raining it continued all winter. I was working as a farm student in 1975 - 6 and then moved to Harper Adams Agricultural College in Shropshire in September of that year. That is when the rains began. In that part of Shropshire a lot of potatoes and sugar beet were grown but they could not be harvested because the ground was too hard. Once the rains began the soils quickly became moist and then sodden and then waterlogged to the extent that the root crops could not be harvested because the machinery could not move – it was too wet. The following few years had very damp summers. None of us know what the weather will do later in the year but I think assumptions that every summer will be as warm and dry as 2026 are very brave.

Some opinions are that this year is so hot are because of the decline in pollution in the UK and Northern Europe with the resultant clear skies which is letting in more sunlight rather than reflecting the sun's heat back into space. The world has always had temperature variations and man's activities and greater solar flares may be the cause of increasing global temperatures.

The UK cereal harvest is complete in Southern areas and even in Scotland much has been cut. The high temperatures and strong winds have reduced yields especially of leafy crops such as salads and potatoes. The autumn of 2024 was very wet so planting was very late and into poor seedbeds in December of that year. The crops cut in harvest 2025 were very poor as a result of the awful seeding conditions. Conversely the crops planted in the autumn of 2025 in Southern England had ideal conditions and looked tremendous until the spring. The lack of rain did reduce this year's yields but because the root structures were well developed the yields were better than 2025 in this area.

In the 44 harvests that I have been involved with since moving to Hampshire none have been anything have been like the weather of 2026.

Food prices will rise because of lower yields in the UK and elsewhere in the world. A UK example are milk prices which dropped from about 40 pence per litre to 32 ppl. Milk production fell sharply when the hot weather began mostly because the green nutritious grass turned brown and stopped growing. Winter feed stocks are now being used to feed the animals but the yields have not recovered and yields are still dropping. To stimulate production – encouraging farmers to use more of their precious feed stocks – the price of milk has now increased to around 35 -37 ppl but that is still not enough to cover the farm costs. The effect is seen nationally in the number of dairy farms which has fallen from 8720 in October 2019 to just 6850 in April 2026 and still falling. This is a drop of 22% in less than 7 years – surely an indication that dairy farming is suffering a huge crisis of confidence for the future - but the UK Governments response is “don’t worry we will import our needs”.

Currently some farmers and growers are trying to cultivate the soil to plant cover crops which will hopefully germinate when it rains. When the conditions are as dry as this diesel fuel usage per hectare increases and the soil wearing parts of cultivators and seed drills wear out much more quickly – very expensive items. The cultivations do have the advantage of reducing the likelihood of wildfires. In Spain the woodland cover has increased from 15% to 55% of the land area in just over a century and partly explains the increase in wildfires in that country. Some areas have farms that have been abandoned and therefore the vegetation grows unchecked which is a huge volume of combustible material which is hard to control if it starts burning – either through man’s activities or lightning strikes.

Man’s activities are sometimes amazing but often stupid beyond belief. The Ukraine and Russia between them grow about 14% of the world’s wheat production and provide about 29% of the annual international wheat export trade. The exported wheat is essential for the populations of many of the poorest nations in the world that are unable to grow their own needs. Currently the war situation is that both of these countries are targeting each other’s grain export infrastructure in the Black Sea – ports and ships. The alternative routes using rivers such as the Danube are not viable because of the low water flows and a shortage of trucks. This is resulting in a lack of international grain to trade which, combined with low yield levels in many countries, is slowly pushing the world grain prices higher. The world’s poorest are those that suffer most.

By the time this edition of the Villager is printed and distributed the wonderful sunny and warm days may have been replaced by grey and wet days – certainly the darker evenings are approaching – so make the most of this glorious weather.

## **HAMPSHIRE FARMERS MARKETS**

| <b>Alton</b>           | <b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September</b> | <b>(• 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM)</b> |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Sunday, September 6    | Romsey Farmers' Market                    | • 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM          |
| Sunday, September 6    | Petersfield Farmers' Market               | • 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM          |
| Sunday, September 13   | Winchester Farmers' Market                | • 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM           |
| Sunday, September 13   | Whiteley Farmers' Market                  | • 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM          |
| Saturday, September 19 | Emsworth Farmers' Market                  | • 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM           |
| Sunday, September 20   | Alresford Farmers' Market                 | • 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM          |
| Saturday, September 26 | Ringwood Farmers' Market                  | • 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM          |
| Sunday, September 27   | Winchester Farmers' Market                | • 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM           |

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - ALTON LIBRARY

| Mon              | Tue           | Wed    | Thu           | Fri           | Sat           |
|------------------|---------------|--------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 9.30am to 1.30pm | 9.30am to 5pm | Closed | 9.30am to 5pm | 9.30am to 5pm | 9.30am to 5pm |

# The National Year of Reading 2026

In partnership with

THE  
READING  
AGENCY

GO  
ALL  
IN.

**BUS TIMETABLE** run by Cresta Coaches of Alresford (01962 773236) only on Tuesdays and Fridays (NOT Saturdays) - **SERVICE 208**

|                       |       |       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Alton High Street     | 9.35  | 11.35 | 13.35 |
| Beech Well House Road | 9.43  | 11.43 | 13.43 |
| Medstead War Memorial | 9.49  | 11.49 | 13.49 |
| Bentworth The Star    | 9.55  | 11.55 | 13.55 |
| Alton High Street     | 10.09 | 12.09 |       |

## FRESH START

### FREE COURSE IN ALTON HELPS PEOPLE TO KICK BAD HABITS

Harvest Church in Alton is offering free, non-judgmental support to local people so that they can overcome damaging habits and start again - through a course called **Fresh Start**.

That might be something like **smoking, over-eating, catalogue shopping, internet or mobile phone addiction, gambling, drinking or using drugs** – in fact any habit which once might have brought us comfort or fun, but is now controlling or spoiling our daily living.

Fresh Start is for anyone who feels that it's time to cut down or stop. This is so hard to do on your own, so the course leaders support you in a small group setting where everyone is fighting similar situations and can encourage one another in a confidential environment. They also offer one-to-one coaching.

This free course is inspired by the tried-and-tested 12-steps approach, and lasts nine weeks. It has run 21 times in the Alton area. Many group members find a place to belong and make lasting friendships. For more detail, see <https://harvestchurch.uk/fresh-start>

The next course will start on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October, 10:30am at Alton Maltings**. So, if you, or anyone you know, needs a fresh start, register for the course by calling Mark on 07769 030913 or email [freshstart@harvestchurch.uk](mailto:freshstart@harvestchurch.uk)

harvestchurch



**LIFE-CONTROLLING HABIT?**

**SMOKING**

**GAMBLING**

**SHOPPING**

**OVER-EATING**

**DRINKING**

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

**ETC...**

# Fresh Start

**Support to help you  
discover freedom.**

Join a friendly group and learn the  
skills you need to change your habits  
for good.

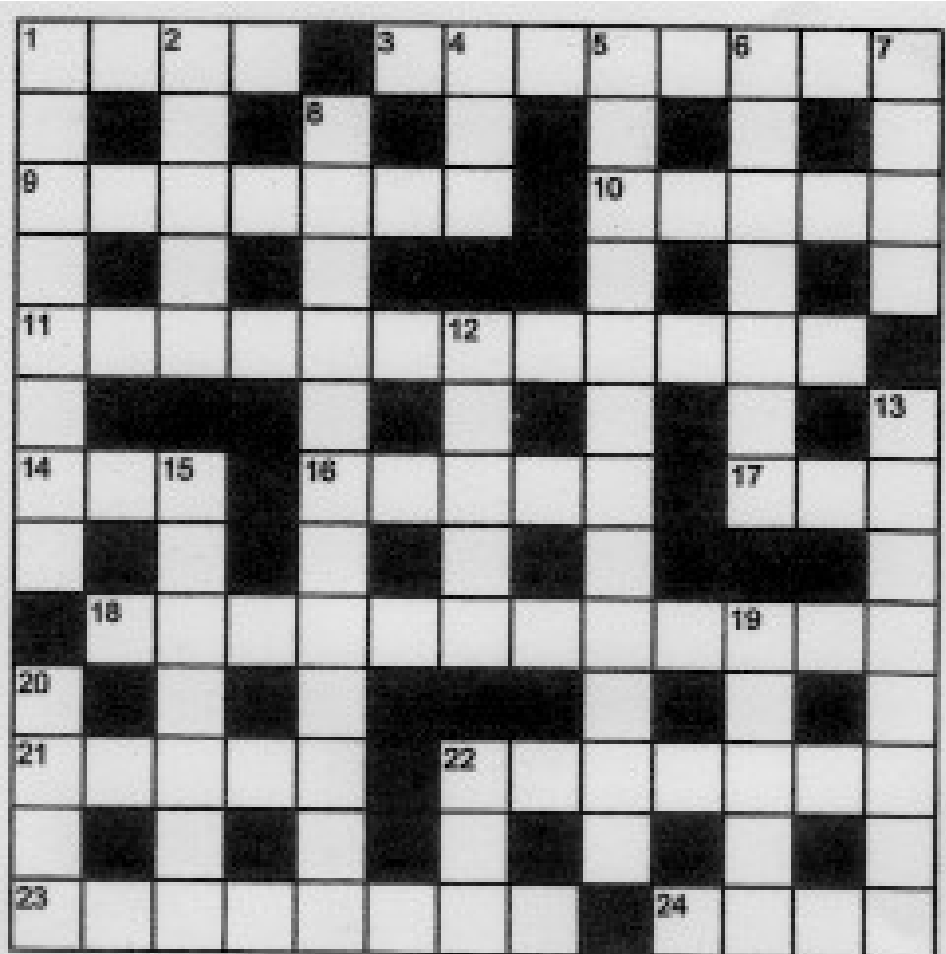
Next course starts Thursday 1st October, 10:30-12:00 at Alton Maltings

Book your free place by contacting Mark  
07769 030913 [freshstart@harvestchurch.uk](mailto:freshstart@harvestchurch.uk)



[www.harvestchurch.uk](http://www.harvestchurch.uk)  
[connect@harvestchurch.uk](mailto:connect@harvestchurch.uk)

# CROSSWORD



## Clues Across

1. Dabs
3. Large fantailed bird
9. Resentment
10. Longs for
11. Branch of religion
14. Cyst
16. Ex MP \_\_\_\_ Lawson
17. Also
18. Impressions
21. Smell
22. Extend (time)
23. Torn
24. Legumes

## Clues Down

1. Heaven
2. Mortis and \_\_\_\_
4. Make a mistake
5. Surrender
6. Companion
7. Waist band
8. Taken over
12. Sleep time ?
13. Delivers
15. Outline
19. Gas
20. Cattle
22. Poet: Edgar Allan \_\_\_\_



## EVENTS



Please join us for drinks, meet with friends and neighbours, and welcome Rev. Tim Gomm and his wife, Karen.

We'd love to see everyone from the parishes of Shalden, Lasham and Bentworth for a relaxed and sociable evening.

**6.30pm, Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September**  
**St. Mary's Church, Bentworth**

**RSVP to Cathy at**  
**[cathy.dumelow@gmail.com](mailto:cathy.dumelow@gmail.com)**



emptychairs.org.uk

# EMPTY chairs

Everyone  
welcome



## NO ONE SHOULD HAVE TO SIT ALONE

A friendly, informal meet-up where anyone is welcome to pull up a chair, share a chat and enjoy some company.

*Join us!* ♥



**THURSDAY  
3<sup>rd</sup> SEPTEMBER**



**7.00PM**



**ANTICO LOUNGE  
ALTON  
ALTON HIGH STREET**

*Your friendly host is Paul*

Look out for Paul  
in his **orange** T shirt!



♥ No booking. No pressure. Just good company. *Come as you are.* ♥

# Broadlands

Equine Therapy & RDA



## TOUR OF **NICKY HENDERSON'S** *racing yard*



**DATE:**

Tuesday 8th September 2026



**TIME:**

10.00 a.m.



**PLACE:**

Seven Barrows, Lambourn



Tea/coffee and  
cake provided



**TOUR OF THE YARD**

AND A CHANCE TO SEE  
THE HORSES IN TRAINING



**TICKET PRICE: £40**

AVAILABLE AT  
[broadlandsgroupprda.org.uk/events](http://broadlandsgroupprda.org.uk/events)



ALL PROCEEDS TO

## BROADLANDS

RIDING FOR THE DISABLED

Charity No: 1170398

MERYL  
STREEP

ANNE  
HATHAWAY

EMILY  
BLUNT

STANLEY  
TUCCI



THE  
DEVIL  
WEARS  
PRADA

Friday 11 September | 7:30pm

Screen by the Green

[beechvillage.org.uk](http://beechvillage.org.uk)

community cinema with heart and soul



# BENTWORTH FILM NIGHT

will be screening

## ROSE OF NEVADA

on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September

at the Jubilee Hall, Bentworth.



Doors open at 7pm for drinks, with film showing at 7.30pm.  
Tickets £5 on the door.

Ice Creams in the Interval

This is a social event open to all local villagers,  
please feel free to bring friends along too.

*Small Notes and change for entrance, drinks and ice cream, very much appreciated!*

Future Dates and Films to be announced

EMPOWERING  
LIVES  
THROUGH  
HORSES



**Broadlands**

Equine Therapy & RDA

EST. 1955



# "A SHIFTED SENSE OF NORMAL"

*The personal reflections of  
a prison governor, by Suzy Dymond-White*



**THU 17 SEPT**



**WIVELROD BARN**

**COST  
£15**



**TIME:** 18:30 – 20:00



**PLACE:**

Wivelrod Barns, Wivelrod Barns,  
Wivelrod Rd, Wivelrod,  
Alton GU34 4AS, UK

Her personal reflections give an insight into the daily life of our country's prisons and the characters that live and work behind the bars of these often unseen and unheard institutions.



**THERAPY**

Improving physical,  
emotional and  
social well-being



**RIDING**

Building confidence,  
skills and  
independence



**COMMUNITY**

A welcoming  
environment for all  
our participants



**SUPPORT**

Volunteers and  
donors help us  
change lives

**Every step forward begins with support.**

**JOIN US IN MAKING A DIFFERENCE TODAY.**



**BROADLANDS**  
Lower Paice Lane, Medstead,  
Alton GU34 5PX



**01420 375767**



**broadlandsgroupprda.org.uk**



**Broadlands Equine Therapy**



**@broadlandsequestriancentre**



**Free  
drop-in  
event**



# **EAST HAMPSHIRE VETERANS FESTIVAL**

If you, or a family member, has served in the armed forces and looking for help, advice or support on anything, this is for you!

**Saturday 19 September 2026**

**10am-3pm**

**Petersfield Festival Hall**

**GU31 4EA**

Explore a range of information from the armed forces community, including national organisations, charities and local groups.

Providing support, advice, discussion, networking and friendship.

A place to chat and a safe space for private conversations.

Light entertainment and refreshments.





## FREE REPAIRS



One item per person please • Donations welcome – we can only operate with the kind support of our users.

**3rd Saturday of every month at Alton Assembly Rooms 10.30am-12.30pm**

16th May, 20th Jun, 18th Jul, 19th Sep, 17th Oct, 21st Nov.

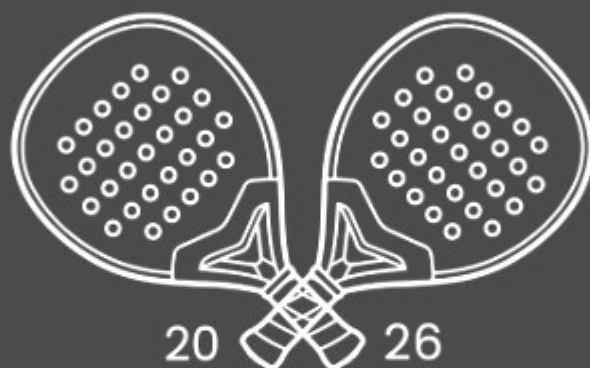


Visit: [altonclimatenetwork.org.uk](http://altonclimatenetwork.org.uk)  
email: [altonrepaircafe21@gmail.com](mailto:altonrepaircafe21@gmail.com)

Raising funds for:



## Treloar's Charity



## Padel Championships

Wednesday 30 September

Advantage Padel, Kingsley

**Broadlands**  
Equine Therapy & RDA

CHARITY NO. 1170398



## **'Singing with Dan'**

**BACK DUE TO POPULAR DEMAND**

**DAN COOPER, OUR OWN LOCAL GARETH MALONE, BELIEVES THAT WE CAN ALL SING! DAN WILL CHOOSE TWO SONGS FOR US TO ENJOY. YOU WILL BE AMAZED JUST WHAT AN INCREDIBLE SOUND THE GROUP WILL MAKE!**

**YOU DON'T NEED TO HAVE SUNG BEFORE  
OR BE ABLE TO READ MUSIC**

**WEDS 30TH SEPTEMBER 6.15 P.M. - 8.30 P.M.**

**BENTWORTH COMMUNITY HUB, BENTWORTH CHURCH, GU34 1HL  
NEWLY REFURBISHED & THE PERFECT PLACE TO SING!**

**TICKETS £20 TO INCLUDE; BUBBLES ON ARRIVAL  
COFFEE & CAKE IN THE INTERVAL**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION & TICKETS:  
[WWW.BROADLANDSGROUPRDA.ORG.UK/EVENTS](http://WWW.BROADLANDSGROUPRDA.ORG.UK/EVENTS)**

# The Dummer Fair

Featuring over 90 stalls,  
from crafts, food, clothing, gifts and much more!

## Wednesday 7 October

5:00pm - 9:00pm

inc. complimentary wine

Advanced ticket: £8

On the day ticket: £10

## Thursday 8 October

9:30am - 3:30pm

Advanced ticket: £5

On the day ticket: £7



BOOK TICKETS

The Dummer Cricket Centre, RG25 2AR

[www.dummerfair.org.uk](http://www.dummerfair.org.uk)

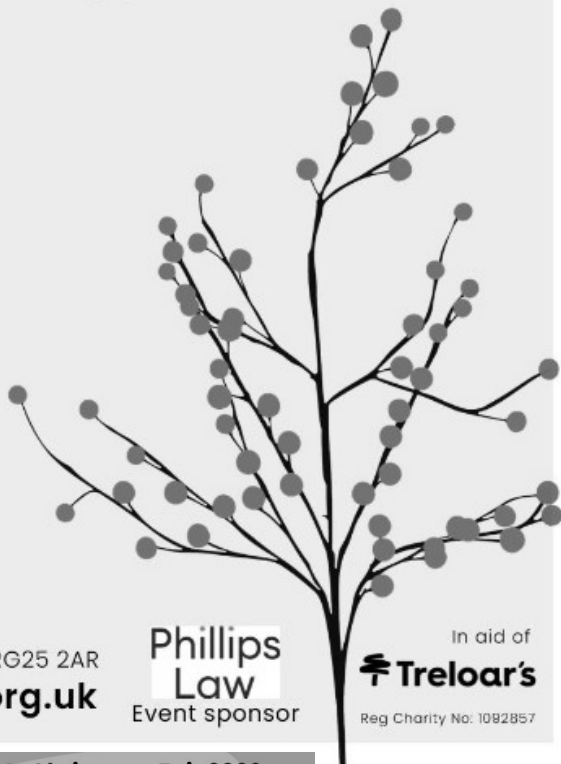
Phillips  
Law

Event sponsor

In aid of

 **Treloar's**

Reg Charity No: 1082857



## Treloar's Christmas Fair 2026

Friday 11 December 2026



 **Treloar's**

Registered with  
 FUNDRAISING  
REGULATOR

The 2026 Cardiac Health  
Annual Lecture Guest Speaker

# SHAUN WALLACE

The Dark Destroyer  
from ITV's The Chase

Wed 7 October - 19:00

Alton Maltings - £30



50  
YEARS



Registered charity No. 1013238

[www.cardiachealth.org.uk](http://www.cardiachealth.org.uk)

The Basingstoke & Alton Cardiac Rehabilitation Charity Ltd.

## Discovering ACAN Drop-In

Care about where you live and want your neighbourhood, local environment and nature to thrive? Come along to our ACAN open event to discover rewarding volunteer opportunities and take positive community action.

**Everyone is welcome – Saturday 10th October. 12 noon – 3.00pm, at 16 Market Square, Alton.**

Whatever your skills, interests or spare time, there's a role to suit you.

To find out more, get involved and receive our newsletter, visit:

[Join In – Alton Climate Action Network](#)

## Join our Network ACAN Groups and Projects



ACAN's Social Justice Project:  
GUMBI – Saving Lives in Malawi



# Alton Choral Society

## *Sing With Us!*

**ACS is a friendly choir welcoming singers of all abilities and voice types.**

We perform regularly and raise much needed funds for local charities

Singing in a choir is also proven to improve health & wellbeing

We perform a broad range of music from Bach, Fauré, Gilbert & Sullivan to Popular Musicals

Rehearsals take place on Wednesday evenings from 7.45pm in The Salvation Army Hall in The Market Square Alton

**For more information please contact us:**

Email: [welcome@altonchoral.org.uk](mailto:welcome@altonchoral.org.uk)

Visit our website: [www.altonchoral.org.uk](http://www.altonchoral.org.uk)

Call: 07715 771489

# RIDE+STRIDES

It - March 7 (see March 2023)

for the heritage of churches

SATURDAY  
**12 SEPT.**  
2026

Over 400 churches & chapels in Hampshire & the Isle of Wight will be open.



**join us**

- Have a family fun day out and discover the beautiful churches and chapels on your doorstep, by taking part in a sponsored cycle or walk.
- Enjoy a warm welcome along the way!
- Help to preserve our churches for future generations.

Sponsor forms and more information are available from:

**Ellie**

**office@resurrectionbenefice.org**

**07453 590569**

or contact the County Coordinator Team  
at **rideandstride@hihct.org.uk**



find out more at

**www.hihct.org.uk**

HAMPSHIRE & THE ISLANDS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST  
Registered Charity No. 1181370



St Andrew's Church, Medstead presents

# MUSIC FOR A LATE SUMMER EVENING

TICKETS  
£12.50 -  
including  
wine & buffet

Proceeds to  
Gumbi Solar Irrigation Project  
& St Andrew's Church

**SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER - 6pm**

St Andrew's Church, Medstead, GU34 5LX

Tickets : [seblackshaw@gmail.com](mailto:seblackshaw@gmail.com) / 07715 771489



The Parish of  
Medstead and  
Four Marks

# Harvest & Harmony

SUNDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

12.30PM

at OLD PARK FARM BEECH GU34 4AP

Traditional Harvest 2 course Lunch and Pudding. £5.00

Please sign up by email or call Sarah to confirm attendance  
[office@resurrectionbenefice.org](mailto:office@resurrectionbenefice.org) 07453 590569

A Benefice & Gap Event



## MEN'S BREAKFAST

Every last Saturday of the month, we meet for a delicious Full English Breakfast at the White Hart Pub in Holybourne. The breakfast costs just £10.

We enjoy each others company and listen to a different speaker each month.

If you have not attended the breakfast for a while, or have never attended we would love to see you. Please contact Tim Codling at

[tim.codling@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tim.codling@hotmail.co.uk) or

01420 80388





Grief is hard.  
Death can impact  
all of life.

The Bereavement  
*Journey*  
a place to talk

7 Sessions of films  
and discussion  
**for *anyone* bereaved *anytime***

Topics include:

- Attachment, separation and loss
- The pain and responses of grief
- Anger and guilt
- Coping with others' reactions
- Delayed and suppressed grief
- Adjusting to change
- Moving forward healthily
- Faith questions – a Christian perspective (optional)

To find out more visit:  
**[thebereavementjourney.org](http://thebereavementjourney.org)**

Running soon:

**Fridays 10am - 12 noon  
2nd Oct – 13th Nov,  
Alton Maltings Centre.**

Suggested voluntary contribution  
£30 (for the whole course).  
To book your place, or to find out  
more about it, email  
[bereavement@potr-alton.co.uk](mailto:bereavement@potr-alton.co.uk)  
or phone 07514280362

# THERE'S A SEAT *FOR YOU*

*Explore the Christian faith at Alpha.*

Meet new people, watch a short video,  
and talk openly about life's big questions  
in a friendly space, without pressure.

**Date** :- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2026

**Time** :- 7pm start with a free hot meal

**Location** :- All Saints Church Hall,  
Queen's Road, Alton, GU34 1HU

**Contact** :- [altonplusalpha@gmail.com](mailto:altonplusalpha@gmail.com)



# THE BENEFICE OF THE RESURRECTION



*Is our Benefice growing and thriving?*

*Come and help shape its future!*

## Shaping our Vision day

**SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2026**

**JUBILEE HALL, BENTWORTH**

Join our new Rector, Revd Tim Gomm,  
as we come together to listen, pray and  
share our hopes and ideas for the future  
of our Benefice.

Coffee from 9.30am

Programme: 10.00am–3.30pm

Morning-only option available until 12.30pm

Bring your own lunch.

Refreshments and cream tea provided.

No charge.

### BOOK YOUR PLACE

Please let Ellie or Abbie know whether you are  
coming for the full day or morning only.



**07453 590569**



**[office@resurrectionbenefice.org](mailto:office@resurrectionbenefice.org)**

# SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

## BENTWORTH LASHAM MEDSTEAD SHALDEN

### 6th SEPTEMBER—THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY Proper 18 G

|                       |  |           |           |           |
|-----------------------|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Holy Communion (CW)   |  | 10.00a.m. |           |           |
| Parish Communion (CW) |  |           |           | 10.00a.m. |
| Holy Communion (CW)   |  |           | 11.00a.m. |           |

### 13th SEPTEMBER—THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY Proper 19 G

|                     |           |  |          |  |
|---------------------|-----------|--|----------|--|
| Holy Communion (CW) |           |  | 8.00a.m. |  |
| Holy Communion (CW) | 10.00a.m. |  |          |  |

### 20th SEPTEMBER—THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY Proper 20 G

|                       |  |           |           |          |
|-----------------------|--|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Holy Communion (CW)   |  | 11.00a.m. |           |          |
| Parish Communion (CW) |  |           | 11.00a.m. |          |
| Evensong              |  |           |           | 6.00p.m. |

### 27th SEPTEMBER—THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY P 21 G

|                           |           |  |            |  |
|---------------------------|-----------|--|------------|--|
| Holy Communion (CW)       | 10.00a.m. |  | 11.00 a.m. |  |
| Cafe Church (in the hall) |           |  |            |  |

All services may be subject to change.

## Parish of The Resurrection Services for September 2026

### 6th September

|                                              |             |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 8am BPC Communion                            | St Lawrence |
| 9.30am Family Service                        | St Lawrence |
| 10.30am POTR Altogether<br>Communion Service | St Lawrence |

### 13th September

|                          |             |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 9.15am Communion Service | St Peter's  |
| 9.30am Morning Worship   | Holy Rood   |
| 10.30am Communion        | St Lawrence |
| 3pm Afternoon Worship    | All Saints  |
| 6pm Evening Prayer       | St Lawrence |

### 20th September

|                                                          |             |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 9.30am Communion Service                                 | Holy Rood   |
| 10.30am Communion Service                                | All Saints  |
| 10.30am Family Morning Worship<br>with Baptism           | St Lawrence |
| 3.30pm Civic Service Choral Evensong<br>with Mayor Tansy | St Lawrence |

### 27th September

|                           |               |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| 9.15am Communion Service  | St Peter's    |
| 10.30am Communion Service | St Lawrence   |
| 4pm Family Worship        | Parish Centre |
| 6pm Evening Worship       | St Lawrence   |

Every Wednesday 10am Holy Communion All Saints