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PARISH CHURCHES

80th Anniversary of VE Day 8th May



Church Magazine May 2025



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May 2025

Vicar's letter . . .



Dear Friends,

On 8th May 2025, we will mark the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE Day), when the nation will unite to remember the end of the Second World War in Europe. It was a day of relief, thanksgiving, and pent-up joy. There was singing, dancing and some high jinks in the fountains of London's Trafalgar Square!

In a rare interview with the BBC in 1985, Queen Elizabeth said: "When the excitement of the floodlights being switched on got through to us, my sister and I realised that we couldn't see what the crowds were enjoying so we asked my parents if we could go out and see for ourselves." And, as we now know, they did, enjoying the celebration for themselves.

We will be remembering these events at our services on 11th May. Of course, coming so soon after Easter, the poignancy and meaning of sacrifice will be particularly emotional for us. God gave the life of Jesus Christ to secure for us a relationship of love and compassion with himself, and each other. He must surely weep when regarding how the world has been, and remains, in such turmoil.

Winston Churchill is quoted as saying: "Success is not final; failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts." That courage to continue needs a focus or an aim which is worthy of the sacrifice. I think again, therefore, of the change in life perspective wrought by Christ's sacrifice, and the call from Jesus to follow two guiding principles – 'to love God with all your heart' and 'to love your neighbour as yourself'.

In having faith in God and a Christ-like view of the world, there is opportunity for real change and cause for celebration. Let us all have the courage to sing in thanksgiving to the God who saves us; and for those who follow Christ's example in laying down their life for the sake of others.

With love,

David

May Diary

for St John's Church, Wonersh

Thurs 1	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)		
Sun 4	10am	3 rd SUNDAY OF EASTER All-Age Worship		
Tues 6	9.30am	Morning Prayer		
Thurs 8	10.30am	Morning Worship		
Sun 11	8am 10am	4 th SUNDAY OF EASTER Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Worship		
Tues 13	9.30am	Morning Prayer		
Thurs 15	10.30am	Holy Communion (CW)		
Sun 18	10am	5 th SUNDAY OF EASTER Holy Communion		
Tues 20	9.30am	Morning Prayer		
Thurs 22	10.30am	Discovery Service		
Sun 25	8am 10am	6 th SUNDAY OF EASTER Holy Communion (CW) Morning Worship, followed by <u>APCM</u>		
Tues 27	9.30am	Morning Prayer		
Thurs 29	10.30am	ASCENSION DAY Holy Communion (CW)		
June				
Sun 1	10am	SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY All-Age Worship		
Tues 3	9.30am	Morning Prayer		
Thurs 5	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)		
•••••••				
CW = Common Worship (2000) BCP = Book of Common Prayer (Traditional 1662)				





Thursday services take place in the church and are followed by coffee and a chat in the Selwyn Room.

Transport is provided for those needing it, and many say that this quiet and reflective service is the highlight of their week.

Everyone is welcome!

Connect Groups

We want to encourage each other to grow in faith. Our small groups offer a place where we can learn and develop in an informal environment.

Groups of around 10-12 people meet on a regular basis (usually weekly) in local homes to study the Bible, pray, get to know each other and develop deeper friendships. Most groups meet in the evening, but there are some during the day.

If you are interested in joining a group or would like to find out more, then please contact **David Peters** (vicar@wonershchurch.org.uk / 07521 090179).

Church Office

The Church Office (in The Vicarage) is open as follows:

Monday 9 am - 2 pm Tuesday - Thursday 9 am - 1 pm Friday 9 am - 2 pm

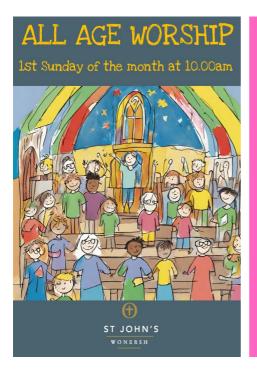
The office number is **01483 890266** (if outside office hours you may leave a message), or email **office@wonershchurch.org.uk**.

Copy Deadline for June 2025

Please submit articles for the June issue by <u>Tuesday 6th May</u>.

E-mail address for copy is <u>magazine@wonershchurch.org.uk</u>.

For advertising, please contact John Gosden (<u>JohnGosden@aol.com</u> or tel.502076).

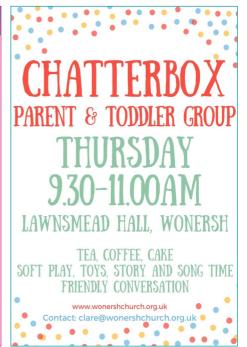




Bible Stories Crafts & Activities Games Songs & Prayer Friendship

Come & Join us at The Vicarage, St John's Church, Wonersh Sundays, 10-11.15am





Children and Families Update

Our children and families are a real source of joy to our church congregation, and we've loved welcoming more new faces this last term. On Sundays we now have an active crèche space for our youngest members (aged 0-3), while Kids Church for ages 3-10 meets at the Vicarage for stories, crafts, games, friendship and fun.



Over the Mother's Day weekend we filled the Vicarage with Mother's Day craft, and it was a hive of bustling activity as parents, particularly dads, helped their children create 'surprises' for their mums.

At the time of writing we're getting ready for Easter, and the church is filled with beautifully designed wooden crosses from all the children at WSG Primary. They're displayed hanging from tree branches around the place and really are stunning, with each and every one unique to the child who made it.

Please know that you're welcome to pop along to Sunday church any time you like - a warm welcome awaits you.

With love, *Clare*

Charity Plant Sale Sunday 18th May, 11.30am

A sale of plants will be held outside St John's Church in Wonersh, in aid of **Emzini charity**. For sale will be hardy and tender salvias, a wide variety of herbaceous perennials, vegetables, succulents and carnivorous plants.



Emzini, which means "home" in Xhosa, is a small charity based in the Knysna township in the Western Cape. It is run by Ella Mahlulo and Penny Mainwaring who manage the Lukhanyiso Safe House for homeless families and children, providing a refuge when they are in danger (often due to alcohol and drug misuse by their parents). They provide 16 children in their care with full-time education at local schools, plus housing, food, clothes and transport. Their goal is to educate the children to a level where they can move on to choose a career, train, receive a diploma, find employment and become independent.



For further information please contact Martin Keech: martin@wonershchurch.org.uk



North Guildford Food Bank

We had hoped, now that summer is almost here, that the Food Bank would be in less demand; but, following the government's announcement of impending welfare cuts, we are expecting an



increase in referrals. Thank you for your support as we endeavour to fulfil this need. Our requests, this month, are for:

> **Tinned Meat** Pasta / Curry Sauces Washing-up Liquid

Biscuits Fruit Squash

In addition, we always need strong carrier bags / bags for life.

Donated items can be left in the foyer of St John's church, or in the crate on Rosie Couzens' doorstep (10 Little Orchard Way, Shalford, GU4 8JY).

If you would rather make a financial donation, please refer to our website: northguildfordfoodbank.co.uk (if you are a taxpayer, Gift Aid can be claimed by the Food Bank on personal donations).

Church Walking Group

A number of the Church Walking Group recently enjoyed a walk around Puttenham, followed by lunch at the Good Intent pub.

The next walk will be on Thursday 19th June. Further details available from Catherine Keech (catherine@keechonline.com).



Phyllis Tuckwell 🔀

Walk for the Wards at Sunset Saturday 21st June, 5pm/7pm Hampton Estate, near Seale, GU10 1JH

Take part in Phyllis Tuckwell's Walk for the Wards at Sunset to remember loved ones, and raise money to help fund the vital palliative and end-of-life care that it provides. The walk will be held later in the day than in previous years, so that participants finish the walk as the sun sets over the beautiful Surrey countryside.

Early bird registration is £15 for adults / £12 for children (aged 14 and under).

Sign up now at www.pth.org.uk/walk-for-the-wards -





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Meet Amelia Taylor

Alistair and I moved to Blackheath, next door to the church, 25 years ago, expecting our stay to be brief. Three children, three dogs, six puppies, one horse and three building projects later, we are still here.

Our international careers took us around the world, so settling in Blackheath felt like coming home. They say it takes a village to raise a child, and our children have thrived in this close-knit, friendly environment. Surrounded by beautiful heathland, we've also been

blessed with a community where everyone knows each other. We have three godparents on our doorstep, offering love, laughter, and unwavering support.

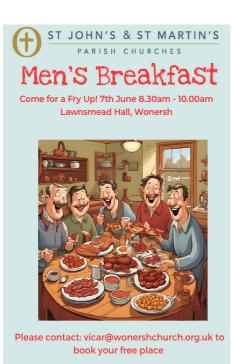
Twenty-three years ago, I made a career change that aligned more with family. I left behind the long hours of fashion and sport PR for the fulfilling world of self-employed tennis coaching. Raised in a tennis-loving family, I played from the moment I could walk and continued to play every day as a Junior. While the corporate world had its perks, nothing compares to the satisfaction I get from teaching. Even on the coldest mornings, I wake up excited to see both adults and children enjoying the sport. I love sharing in the joy of hitting balls and watching them grow.

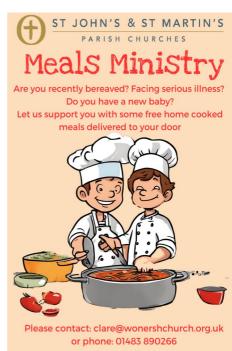
As a female coach, I've witnessed the struggles of retaining girls in sport. So when I was asked to mentor an initiative launched by the LTA and Prime Video aimed at inspiring young girls to take up and continue playing tennis, I jumped at the chance. To celebrate the success of the scheme, I met my tennis hero, Roger Federer, at his red-carpet documentary screening. He was just as charming in person as he is on the court!

The church family in Blackheath and Wonersh has become central to our lives. My Christian faith began as a child, singing Bible songs with my siblings at Hambledon church. Even through some teenage missteps, my faith provided solace during my years at boarding school. My time in the chapel choir stands out as one of my fondest memories. The music was challenging, yet it enveloped me in a sense of belonging.

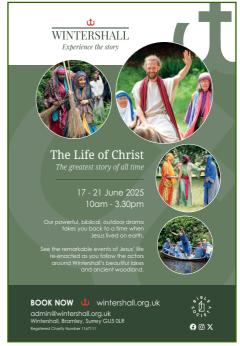
Singing with the worship team at St. John's has been equally enriching. The fellowship and common love for music have been incredibly encouraging. On one of my first Sundays there were a couple of illnesses, and I was left holding the microphone on my own. The sheer panic on my face must have been evident, because David and Marion Peters stepped in to sing alongside me. That moment of love, fellowship, and selfless community spirit is what Blackheath and Wonersh have come to represent to me - family, support, and a shared sense of belonging.

Looking back, I realise how much this village, this community, has shaped our family. It's a place where we've celebrated milestones, weathered challenges, and grown together, side by side with neighbours who have become friends, mentors, and family. As I reflect on this quarter-century, I feel nothing but gratitude - for the people, the place, and the countless blessings we've received.









Blackheath Focus May 2025



Services at St Martin's

Sunday 4th May Sung Holy Communion 10am

followed by ADCM

Sunday 11th May Services in Wonersh 8am / 10am

Sunday 18th May Choral Evensong 6pm

Sunday 25th May 'Be Still with God' 6pm

Sunday 1st June Sung Holy Communion 10am

Taizé Service - 22nd June

Taizé is a village in France, close to the WWII line of demarcation. Brother Roger, a priest who during illness had heard a call to set up a community, started housing refugees (many of whom were Jews) in his smallholding. After the war, it developed a ministry specifically to orphaned children.

The Taizé Community today comprises around 80 brothers from different church backgrounds - Catholic, Anglican, Protestant - and from nearly 30 countries. By its very existence, it is a 'parable of community': a tangible sign of reconciliation between divided Christians and separated peoples. They often worship through repeated chants, periods of silence and prayer. Repetition helps draw us in to a space of worship, the presence of God.

So please come and experience the Taizé style of worship for yourself at St Martin's on **22**nd **June** - the service will last about 50-60 minutes.

Blackheath Care Team

The Blackheath Care Team has a pool of volunteers for residents in Blackheath who need a lift to hospital appointments, or dentist or surgery appointments; the volunteers can also collect prescriptions, etc.

If you need assistance,

please contact Penny Kirkwood on **07973 836987** (phone or text), or otherwise Alex Jones on **07810 486521**.

We are happy to help!





Happy Birthday, Billie!

Billie's **100th birthday** is on Friday 30th May.

A tea party is being planned to celebrate at Blackheath Cricket Club at 4pm-ish on Saturday 31st May.



Please let Jan Cope know if you would like to come: jancope@hotmail.co.uk / 01483 893385

Offers of sandwiches or cakes would be most welcome.

The cricket club bar will be open.

Support Monastic Life with a Limited Edition Abbey Print

The Roman Catholic Benedictine monks of St Augustine's Abbey, Chilworth, are offering limited edition prints of their historic Grade II listed Abbey Church, as part of a fundraising initiative to support the future of monastic life. Each 12" x 10" print, meticulously drawn by local Guildford artist Ian Copp, captures the north side of the Abbey, and once Friary, a special place of worship since 1892.



Priced at £50 plus postage and packing, proceeds will aid in recruiting new monks and preserving the Abbey for future generations. Orders may be placed online at **chilworthbenedictines.com**, or arranged for in-person collection by contacting the Abbey directly on **01483 899360** or using the **contact form** on our website.

Village News

Wonersh & District Garden Club

Undaunted by the not-ideal winter growing conditions, our members entered a colourful display of beautiful daffodils, narcissi and blossoms at the Spring Show. The clever arrangements on the theme "your favourite book" were stunning.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 7th May at 7.15 pm in the Memorial Hall when Timothy Walker, botanist and gardener, will be speaking on 'How to be a 21st Century Gardener'. Timothy read Botany at University College Oxford. After graduating, he worked for two years as a trainee at the University of Oxford



Botanic Garden and then took a National Certificate in Horticulture at Askham Bryan College, York. This was followed by a one-year traineeship at the Savill Garden Windsor, and 15 months as a diploma student at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Since 1986 Timothy has been giving lectures to gardening clubs and horticultural societies. In 1995 he was awarded a Master of Horticulture by the Royal Horticultural Society of London.

For more information, please contact Hilary Goodridge: tel. **01483 535108** or email **hilarygoodridge@ymail.com**.



Barnett Fields and Healy's Wood 'Official' Opening Friday 16th May, 10.45 for 11am

The Parish Council is delighted to invite residents to the 'official' opening of Barnett Fields and Healy's Wood. Meet at 10.45am near the picnic area in the upper field. Please BYO nibbles and thermos/drinks.

Many of you will be aware of the tree works undertaken in the woods by the Barnett Fields Group (BFG), a subset of the Wonersh Environmental Advisory Group (WEAG). These are both resident volunteer groups, some of whom have chainsaw accreditation, who have started thinning and coppicing the plantation and creating paths and glades through the woods. It will take years to complete but is already looking great! Please be careful when you access the woods and keep to the newly created paths.

We have also received generous donations for various gates which will continue to be installed over the next few months.

Lastly, please note that all dogs should be kept under control during the bird nesting season from March to August. Thank you to nearly all dog owners who are collecting their dog's mess, but sadly a small minority are not.

Wonersh History Society Tuesday 20th May, 7.30pm Wonersh Memorial Hall



In 1837, when Queen Victoria came to the throne, Guildford was still a relatively small town. However, throughout her reign it expanded and changed rapidly: the streets were paved; the railway came; Charlotteville was developed; a local newspaper was established; the Castle Gardens were opened; Dennis Brothers was set up. In her talk to Wonersh History Society, Gillian Moulton will provide a glimpse into "Victorian Guildford". This will be preceded by the Society's AGM (normally a short affair).

Guests are welcome for a fee of £3. Find out more about the Society, including how to join, at www.wonershhistory.co.uk.



Wonersh United Reformed Church

Minister: Revd Graham Hoslett (tel: 07425 569807) Facebook - Wonersh United Reformed Church

May 2025 - News

Hello from Wonersh URC.

We are very much looking forward to Film Club on Wednesday 7th May, when we will be showing the 2013 Michael Caine film 'Mr Morgan's Last Love'. We also have a Christian Aid Service on 11th May, prepared by me, and a Pentecost Taizé on Wednesday 21st May.

Tea@3 continues every Thursday afternoon at 3pm with Chat, Tea, Coffee and Cake. All are welcome.

God bless! Revd Graham Hoslett

DATES	DETAILS	
Sunday, 4 th May	10.30am: Karen Smith	
Wednesday, 7 th May	7pm: Film Club - 'Mr Morgan's Last Love'	
Sunday, 11 th May	10.30am: Christian Aid Service, prepared by Revd Graham Hoslett	
Sunday, 18 th May	10.30am: Livestreamed Service	
Wednesday, 21 st May	7pm: Taizé Service - Revd Graham Hoslett	
Sunday, 25 th May	10.30am: Livestreamed Service	

Wonersh Cricket Club (WCC)

Signs of spring are everywhere we look, and soon the familiar sound of leather on willow will fill the air. While all has been quiet on the common, WCC has been busy preparing for the new season with winter nets at Broadwater school.



WCC sits firmly in the middle of the village and with this comes the opportunity to be a central part of village life. The club recently took part in a 'friendly' darts competition at Wonersh social club. While perhaps there won't be any world champions, it was a great night and an opportunity for different parts of the village to meet and socialise. It is crucial that all the village's clubs and societies try to support each other where possible. WCC now has a social membership, costing £10, which provides much needed revenue and hopefully encourages support at matches from the village. As always, we would love extra volunteers to help with teas, serving at the bar, playing or supporting from the boundary.

We have a big focus on developing younger players and our teams are really seeing the benefit. We still have some spaces on our junior programme.

As you read this, we hope that our season will have started (weather permitting!). Friendlies started on 20th April, and our league fixtures will get underway on Saturday 3rd May. June will see the return of our home midweek cup fixtures which take place on Wednesday 4th, Wednesday 18th and Tuesday 24th June. These games are played using the '100-ball' format, which provides some very exciting cricket.

If you would like any information, or you are able to volunteer, then please contact us at **secretary@wonershcc.co.uk**.

TWO TO TE TENTS HE FLAT I TENT

Don't miss the Wonersh Traditional Fair in 2025! Sunday 6th July at 12:30pm

Food and Drink Live Music Fun Dog Show Tea and Cakes Children's Activities Commercial Stalls Traditional Games Village Organisations

U3A Wonersh & District

Your local U3A, covering Blackheath, Bramley, Chilworth, Shalford, Shamley Green and Wonersh



What's on in May 2025 - join us for these activities

Thurs 1	Mah Jong: Bramley Library Room		
	Latin: Godalming		
Fri 2	French: Godalming		
Mon 5	May Bank Holiday		
Tues 6	Tai Chi (2 groups): Lawnsmead Hall		
	Exploring Churches: St James', Shere		
	Big Band Music: Shalford Club Room		
Wed 7	Table Tennis: Bramley Village Hall		
Thurs 8	Line Dancing: Shalford Upper Hall		
	Latin: Godalming		
Mon 12	Pilates: Lawnsmead Hall, Wonersh		
	Book Club: Selwyn Room, Parish Church		
Tues 13	Tai Chi (2 groups): Lawnsmead Hall		
Wed 14	Table Tennis: Bramley Village Hall		
	Pub Lunch: Red Lion, Shamley Green		
Thurs 15	Long Walk: meet Elstead Moat CP		
	Latin: Godalming		

Pottery: Farley Green

Memory Lan

Fri 16	French: Godalming
Mon 19	Pilates: Lawnsmead Hall, Wonersh
Tues 20	Tai Chi (2 groups): Lawnsmead Hall
Wed 21	Table Tennis: Bramley Village Hall
Thurs 22	Line Dancing: Shalford Upper Hall
	Latin: Godalming
Fri 23	Art: Bramley Village Hall
Mon 26	Spring Bank Holiday
Tues 27	(No Tai Chi)
Wed 28	Coach Outing: Scotney Castle, Kent
	Table Tennis: Bramley Village Hall
Thurs 29	Pottery: Farley Green
In to a	- F

Join us for some very interesting talks, visits and activities. Newcomers are welcome.

For further details, please phone Cilla or Alex on 01483 892348, or visit

https://u3asites.org.uk/wonersh

Memory Lane

Memory Lane is following on from the talk given to Carer Guests last month by Dr Susan Tresman from NHS Heartlands Surrey. As the Independent Lead, she will link the help needed by the Carer Partners with those GPs and Executives responsible for them and their partners experiencing dementia.

Following the Easter break, on 19th May Dr Jill Rasmussen, the National Authority on Alzheimer's for Parliament and the General Practice Association, will be making a return visit to Memory Lane where she has kindly been presenting a series of talks to everyone including the Memory Lane Team. Visitors who would appreciate more information and guidance on the Alzheimer Disease will be made most welcome.



Meetings are usually on the 1st and 3rd Monday each month; but due to Bank Holidays at this time the 19th will be the only meeting in May. Then in June we will meet on Mondays 2nd and 23rd June, before returning to normal again in July onwards.

For details of meetings or information on Memory Lane, please telephone Memory Lane on 01483 274398 or email mamwild@aol.com.



LAWNSMEAD HALL

A Victorian building, extensively restored, with well-appointed and comfortable facilities.

Located in the centre of Wonersh, looking out over the cricket green.

To book either the Main Hall or the smaller Turner Room, contact the Parish Administrator on **01483 890266**. or

email office@wonershchurch.org.uk







Surrey, GU7 1AG

FΜ

Manager Needed for the Villages Wednesday Club

We are looking for a new manager to run the Villages Wednesday Club day centre (fourvillages.co.uk) at Blunden Court in Bramley. The Club provides a day out each week for elderly people living in the local community who are a bit lonely and isolated, or to give their carers a day off.

The role involves working with the deputy manager and a team of volunteers to provide a warm, friendly and caring environment. It includes organising the activities, maintaining the records and carrying out the associated administrative functions. It also necessitates close contact with the members, their families and health professionals; and may suit someone who has nursing or care experience, or has worked with elderly people.

Whilst the role is voluntary (not salaried) a nominal amount is paid, as a retainer, each quarter.

For more information, please contact **Sue Searle** on **07771 558541** or email **manager@fourvillages.co.uk**.



Please visit www.stcatherines.info for more details.



INFORMAL CONCERT

Tuesday 6th May at 7pm

Lower Atrium - no need to pre-book tickets.



BABY CATS | MUSIC AND DANCE Friday 9th May | For 2-4 yrs Let us stimulate your child's senses with Music and Dance! 9.30 - 10.30am | St Cats Prep Gym



BABY CATS | LET'S GET CREATIVE Friday 23rd May | For 2-4 yrs

Join us for an arts and crafts session to stimulate your child's creative mind. Be prepared to get messy!

9.30 - 10.30am | St Cats Prep Gym

There is no charge for Baby Cats events, but please book your place on tinyurl.com/mputauka.

Open Garden

Friday 9th - Sunday 11th May, 10am - 6pm Pentire, Snowdenham Lane, Bramley, GU5 0AT

Mary Hainline (maryhainline.com) is again opening her idyllic Walled Victorian Garden and is looking forward to welcoming you. Admission is free!

Art and **Gifts** available to buy, plus **tea**, **cakes** and **raffle**; with all donations going to the West Surrey Branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

For further information contact Mary Hainline - email maryhainline@gmail.com or call 01483 898626.



National Croquet Open Day Sunday 18th May, 1.30 - 4.30pm Guildford & Godalming Croquet Club, GU7 3DH

Tempted by the sunshine outside? Want to get out there and learn new skills? Want a game you can play for just an hour, or all afternoon/evening, any day of the week, all year round?

The game of croquet requires a mixture of skill and tactics, and can be played by anyone aged from 8 to 80. Try it for yourself at our FREE open day - just turn up. All equipment provided, and coaching too. Come along in a pair of flat-soled shoes and we will soon get you having fun playing this easy-to-learn game.



For more details, see guildfordandgodalmingcroquetclub.co.uk.

Seniors Easter Celebration



A great big 'thank you' to all who put together such a wonderful day to celebrate Easter. From coffee, to quiz or craft, then lunch and finally a film of Amsterdam - a joy from beginning to end, enjoyed by so many. Our service was full of colour, and decorating the cross was very special.

Love and big hugs, Rosina (Henham)

THIS IS HOSPICE

This is Hospice Care

Hospices offer palliative and end-of-life care at the most difficult of times, but are facing serious financial pressures. Gifts in Wills are a vital part of their income, and five local hospices have joined a national campaign to raise awareness of the role these donations play in funding their care. Phyllis Tuckwell, Princess Alice Hospice, Shooting Star Children's Hospices, St Catherine's Hospice and Woking & Sam Beare Hospice and Wellbeing Care each has information on its website about how to leave a gift in your Will.

ActionFraud

Holiday Fraud

service, has launched a holiday fraud campaign, urging people who are looking to snap up their next holiday deals to look out for suspiciously enticing offers online, including on social media, and do their research before booking their getaways. Victims lost a total of over £11 million to holiday fraud last year.

What can you do to protect yourself?

- Check the travel company is legitimate: use consumer websites or reviews
 from people or organisations that you trust. Look for the ABTA, ABTOT or
 ATOL logos on the company's website if unsure, verify membership on the
 relevant website.
- Use a credit card to pay, if you have one. Many of these protect online purchases as part of the Consumer Credit Act.
- Only provide required details at checkout. When making your payment only fill in the mandatory details (often marked with an asterisk) such as your address. And unless you think you'll become a regular customer, don't create an account for the company.
- Watch out for suspicious links. Whether it's in an email or social media post, be wary of promotions for unbelievably good holiday offers. Report any suspicious emails by forwarding to report@phishing.gov.uk.

Stop! Think Fraud - visit stopthinkfraud.campaign.gov.uk.

A Terrible Tragedy

One hundred and seventy years ago (April/May 1855), a tragedy befell a Wonersh family.

The Revd Elihu Edmund Body had come to Wonersh as vicar at St John's Church three years previously with his wife Sarah and two young children. They were living at The Vicarage in Wonersh Street (the predecessor to what is now called The Old Vicarage).

On 8th April 1855, their two-year-old daughter Alice died. On 11th April, Elihu's wife gave birth to a baby girl they named Emma. Tragically, baby Emma died just five days later on 16th April. As if that were not tragedy enough, Elihu's 27-year-old wife Sarah, died on 1st May. The Revd Body had lost his wife and two infant children in the space of just a little over three weeks.



The story handed down was that suspicion fell on the drainage at the Vicarage as the possible cause of the three deaths. Cholera and typhoid would have been constant threats in the mid C19th. Whether or not that was true, it is at least a coincidence that within the next year the existing Vicarage was pulled down and a new one built (this is the building we know today as the Old Vicarage).

Above is an image taken from a painting of the original building, dated 1845.

With the aid of modern technology, and improved access, we have obtained copies of the three death certificates which show the causes of death as being Whooping Cough (2-year-old Alice), Convulsions (5-day-old Emma) and Consumption or TB (27-year-old Sarah).

The Revd Body was remarried in 1882 to Maria Wells, and remained as vicar in Wonersh until 1892. He was instrumental in the opening of Lawnsmead School in 1890 and Christ Church, Shamley Green. He died at St. Leonards-on-Sea in 1899, but was laid to rest at Shamley Green. There is a memorial stone to his first wife at St John's Wonersh, and a brass plaque to Elihu Body, both at the west end of the north wall of the nave. His second wife Maria commissioned a stained-glass window on the south wall of the nave at St John's Church.

Wonersh History Society



Coffee Concert Thursday 8th May, 11.15am Guildford Cathedral, GU2 7UP

This month's coffee concert will feature University of Surrey Music Students. Refreshments will be available before the concert from 10.30am. Free to attend, although there is the opportunity to donate if you choose to.

For further details about the concert series, visit guildford-cathedral.org.

VICAR: Rev'd David Peters

CHURCH OFFICE (for all other church contacts) 07521 090179

01483 890266

vicar@wonershchurch.org.uk office@wonershchurch.org.uk

Village Contact Points

Wonersh & Shamley Green CE Primary School

892345

Headteacher: Mr Tim Cheesman

Emergency 999 or 112

Police:

Safer Neighbourhood Team

Inspector Rob Brian (ID 3048)

Sergeant Phil Bayman (ID 40264)

PC Gavin Greenaway (ID 40221)

PCSO Felicity Lock (ID 14267)

Non-emergency 101

waverlev@surrev.police.uk

Rob.Brian@surrev.police.uk

Phil.Bayman@surrey.police.uk

Gavin.Greenaway@surrey.police.uk Felicity.Lock@surrey.police.uk

Waverley Borough Councillor: Michael Goodridge MBE

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890266

michael.goodridge@waverley.gov.uk

Lawnsmead Hall: Church Office

Memorial Hall: Hilary Solt

WonCares (Monday to Friday)

07931 516910

894004

Wonersh Connections www.wonershconnections.org

1st Wonersh Scout Group



Group Scout Leader: Robin Beeson 07766 641777

email: 1stwonershgsl@gmail.com

Wonersh Parish Council

BLACKHEATH • SHAMLEY GREEN • WONERSH

www.wonershparish.org





Please telephone any of us if you have a local issue you would like to discuss.

The Parish Office, located at Wonersh Sports Pavilion, is open by appointment - call the Parish Clerk (Lisa Davison) on 892601 or email clerk@wonershparish.org.

Email and telephone messages are monitored Monday to Thursday.

Your councillors:

Anthony Shutes (Cl	hair) 890831
Max Gibbs	07766 994005
Chris Howard	894437
Ben Knight	07966 269182
Stephen Lavender	07966 533951
Rob Merriman	07711 654699
Kat Parkinson	07773 441164
Kevin Sloan	898472
George Sobek	07354 809130



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