



HOBNOB

On-line



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
7TH MARCH

The parish magazine for
St. Peter and St. Paul. Horndon-on-the-Hill
St. Giles and All Saints. Orsett
St. Mary-the-Virgin. Bulphan

March 2025

SERVICES – March 2025

	HORNDON	ORSETT	BULPHAN
Saturday 1 st March	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments	4pm Forest Church	
Sunday 2nd March <i>Sunday before Lent</i>			10am All Together Holy Communion Service
Monday 3 rd			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 4 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Wednesday 5 th		7.30pm Ash Wednesday Service	
Thursday 6 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 7 th		9-11.30am Oasis Café Edward Bear 9.30-11am at Orsett Churches Centre	
	11am World Day of Prayer service at the Zion Chapel in Bulphan		
Saturday 8 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 9th March <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>	8.45am BCP Holy Communion Service 10am Family Service		
Monday 10 th			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 11 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments	2pm Holy Communion Service, at the Whitecroft	
Thursday 13 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 14 th		9-11.30am Oasis Café Edward Bear 9.30-11am at Orsett Churches Centre	
Saturday 15 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 16th March <i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i>		8.45am CW Holy Communion Service 10am Holy Communion Service	
	4pm Refresh Service		
Monday 17 th			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 18 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 20 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 21 st		9-11.30am Oasis Café Edward Bear 9.30-11am at Orsett Churches Centre	
Saturday 22 nd	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 23rd March <i>3rd Sunday of Lent</i>			8.45am CW Holy Communion Service 10am Family Service
Monday 24 th			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 25 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 27 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 28 th		9-11.30am Oasis Café Edward Bear 9.30-11am at Orsett Churches Centre	
Saturday 29 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 30th March <i>4th Sunday of Lent</i>	10am Service TBC 4pm Service TBC		
Monday 31 st			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 1 st April	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 3 rd			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 4 th		9-11.30am Oasis Café Edward Bear 9.30-11am at Orsett Churches Centre	

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

Rector's Reflection

In January, the PCC met for the second of two 'Away Days' to continue to pray about and discuss how we might further develop the welcome and inclusivity we offer as a church.

We thought about what we already do well and which areas we could improve upon, and we made a list of short-term and long-term objectives. Some were concerning how we relate to one another, especially those who are new, or unfamiliar with church, some concerning practical things we can do to make worship more accessible to all and some concerning the use of our buildings

In order to fulfil these objectives requires the gifts of a team of people. It requires all of us. Together, we are the body of Christ, called to work together in unity. The apostle Paul, in his letter to the Ephesians 4: 11-12 tells us

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

And in Romans 12: 4-8, we are told,

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Underpinning all of this is a love of God, a love which we are called to share with one another.

I am sure that many of you heard the news a few weeks ago, when Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde, of the Washington Episcopal Church, in the name of the love of God, asked Donald Trump to have mercy on the underprivileged.

When Bishop Mariann was interviewed and asked why she did it, she said that she wanted to present a vision of what unity can look like and acknowledge our common humanity. And I believe that is the Jesus we are called to worship and represent. A God of love who welcomes all.

Bishop Mariann had some negative feedback. And working to present the love of God, whatever gifts we have isn't always easy. But I believe it is what we are called to do.

To know the suffering caused by division,

To see our sin

And to hope beyond all hope.

Please be assured that you are very welcome in all of our churches, but if there is anything you feel we can do to make you feel more comfortable, please do let me know.

Take care and God bless,

Sue



THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

23rd February

Bear River John Nelder-Pierce

(O)

23rd February

Jonathan Ashiru

(O)

Funerals

18th February

Mary Rawlings (86)

(H)



Wedding Enquiries

If you would like to enquire about booking a wedding at:
Horndon, Orsett or Bulphan churches,
please contact: Revd Sue Mann: 01375 891254
rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk



Baptism Enquiries

To arrange a baptism you will need to attend a Baptism Preparation Meeting, where we will discuss the meaning of Baptism, the responsibilities of parents and Godparents, go through the Baptism service and give you the opportunity to ask questions. At the end of the meeting we can check the diary and you will be able to book your Baptism.

Forthcoming Baptism Preparation Dates:

- Sat 8th March** - 12 noon at Horndon Church
- Mon 7th April** - 7.30pm at Orsett Church
- Sat 10th May** - 12 noon at Horndon Church
- Mon 9th June** - 7.30pm at Orsett Church
- Sat 12th July** - 12 noon at Horndon Church
- Mon 11th August** - 7.30pm at Orsett Church
- Sat 13th September** - 12 noon at Horndon Church
- Mon 13th October** - 7.30pm at Orsett Church
- Sat 8th November** - 12 noon at Horndon Church
- Monday 8th December** - 7.30pm at Orsett Church

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



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Cross off the days as we go through Lent to the rising of Jesus

14	13	12	WALK THE LENTEN PATH...				
15 	 Lent	11	2 nd Sunday of Lent	10	9 	8	
16	Prayer, Fasting & Almsgiving						7
		34	33 	32	31	6	
3 rd Sunday of Lent					30	5	
17	Palm Sunday 				29	4	
18	35				5 th Sunday of Lent	1 st Sunday of Lent	
19	36				28	4	
20	37				27 	3 	
21 	38 Holy Thursday 	39 Good Friday 	40 Holy Saturday		26	2	
22	4 th Sunday of Lent	23	24	25	 Lent	1  ASH WEDNESDAY	

ORSETT CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT



Here we are in March and as you read this we are approaching or already in Lent, which is the period of anticipation of the rising of Jesus on Easter Sunday after his crucifixion. Lent marks Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness, where he was tempted by Satan, after which he returned to Galilee to begin his ministry. However, the period of Lent actually lasts 46 days. Many consider Lent to be a time of fasting, prayer and reflection, but this is only Monday to Saturday because Sunday is regarded as a celebration of the Resurrection, therefore Sundays in Lent are not included in the fasting period.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, (this year March 5th), and depending on your beliefs finishes on Maundy Thursday or Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday. The day before Ash Wednesday, is known as Fat Tuesday, Mardi Gras, Shrove Tuesday and Pancake Day among other things. Traditionally this was a time of feasting and celebrations, as all the rich, fatty foods; meat, eggs, milk, lard and cheese, not allowed during Lent were eaten, in anticipation of several weeks of a restricted diet. Many now mark this by eating pancakes.

Also during Lent we mark Mothering Sunday which this year falls on March 30th. Mothering Sunday coincides with Laetare Sunday, also called Mid-Lent Sunday or Refreshment Sunday, a day of respite from fasting halfway through Lent. This was a day when people visited the church where they were baptised and for some a chance to catch up with their families. For many in the days of people being in service, this was one of the few holidays they were given. In modern times we celebrate motherhood in the form of Mother's Day.

Again this year across the parish we will be providing Lent lunches, where, for a donation, people are invited to partake in a basic meal, which for many in the world would be more than their main meal. All the dates and venues for these are on our church notice boards and donations this year are going to Tear Fund.

After a recent power cut our tower clock at Orsett stopped working, after some head scratching by Len from Public Clocks, it is now working again.

On Easter Monday, 21st April, between 2pm and 5pm, the parish will be holding Easter Antics at Bulphan Village Hall with a number of activities for the family and a visit from the Easter Bunny. We do hope you will be able to join us.

God Bless
Christine and David Mortimer



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Bulphan Churchwarden's Report

The machinery of church life continues to tick along at St Marys, Bulphan, as we depart from the Christmas festivities and move onward towards Lent.

We mark the beginning of Lent with our Ash Wednesday service which, this year, is at Orsett Church on Wednesday 5th March at 7.30pm. Bulphan School will be holding their Ash Wednesday Service earlier on in the day when the children and staff will have the opportunity to receive the sign of the cross on their forehead or wrist.

I visited my son in Sheepy Magna, Leicestershire recently and called in at the local Church, All Saints. The Church has been reordered internally, so that it has a new underfloor heating system with flexible seating, new sound system etc, but still retains the salient features of the old church. I attended a Tuesday morning 'Tea and Chat' and was welcomed by a group of people, all working hard just like the people in our churches. In the same way, within approximately 12,500 parishes within England, people are working hard up and down the country. As well as all the lay volunteers, there are around 13,000 paid clergy plus many ex-clergy and volunteer ordained ministers who are all doing their best to spread the good news of the Gospel. There are many people doing great works and spreading the good news, many just by example.

You may have read some negative press regarding safeguarding in The Church of England recently. This was one of the main items discussed at the Church of England's General Synod in February and there are many people working hard to ensure that best practice is followed. I would like to reassure you that we are fortunate within our parish in having Janet McCheyne as our safeguarding officer who with our Rector Sue ensures that everyone has the correct qualifications. Safeguarding is very important, and we must continue to show vigilance and be aware.

Finally, two people are stepping down from the PCC at our annual church meeting, after many years of loyal service; one from Bulphan and one from Horndon, so we are praying for two new people to step forward and join the PCC.

Frank Woollard



HORNDON ON THE HILL CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT

It's March already, the year is really starting to run away with us....

This year's **World Day of Prayer** is being hosted by our friends at the Zion Mission in Bulphan. Entitled, 'I Made you Wonderful', it is based on Psalm 139: 1-18. and has been prepared by Christian women from the Cook Islands. As this event is held on a weekday, I have never been able to attend...until now, as I am booking a day off ! Today I joined the Planning Committee which was bursting full with ideas and enthusiasm. It was made even more warming as, around the table sat friends from most of the churches from our area; The Methodist church, Zion Mission and C of E, all working (and singing) as one. There will be flowers, traditional food and songs chosen by the ladies from the Cook Islands. It's going to be a colourful, happy, warm ecumenical celebration. Why don't you come along at 11am on Friday 7th March. Many thanks to Jane Barry for chairing, organising and supplying the tea and biscuits.

The very next day, Saturday 8th March we will be holding the **Parish Quiz Evening** to raise general funds in the Village Hall Horndon. If you would like to attend but think you can't because you haven't a full team don't despair, there is always room for another seat round a table and we do have some tickets left. Please contact David Mortimer for details.

The following Saturday (15th), the church will be hosting a special event for the Woolmarket Music Society. The fabulous **London Gallery Quire** will be serenading us with some of the songs from their immense repertoire but, there's also a twist. The event includes an afternoon tea. It starts at 4pm and tickets cost £7.50. Interested? Please speak to either Sonia or Felicity.

Our **Spring Book Fair** is being held on Saturday 22nd March from 10am – 12pm in the church. Robin informs me that he now has a very large library of books with something for everyone. So, if it's recipe, gardening or poetry, romance, crime or biography that you're looking for then, Robin will have the book for you. Furthermore, there's Bacon rolls, cakes, tea and coffee as well as a raffle.

And finally (phew, what a busy month!) Our first Lent Lunch will be held at 1pm in the Woolmarket on Saturday 29th March. This simple lunch will consist of vegetarian soup, a roll and piece of fruit plus tea, coffee or juice. We ask that you donate what you would usually pay for lunch. We also will be raffling a Fair Trade hamper. This year we are raising money for Tear Fund, www.tearfund.org. There will be a further two lunches, each held in one of the villages.

God bless

Bev

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cakes(including gluten free),
crisps and biscuits
free Wi-Fi**

Thursdays & Fridays from 1.30 - 4.30pm
Local councillors Barry and Dave visit
regularly. A social worker visits on the
2nd & 4th Friday of the month from 2-4pm
for adult care and support drop-in sessions.
Regular visits from the Community Police.



**'Forget-Me-Not'
Coffee morning
In Horndon Woolmarket
from 10.00 am - 12.00 pm**

*We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for anyone
who would like a cuppa and a chat. Everyone is welcomed!*

Bring & Buy and Raffle

*All proceeds go to the Havens Hospices in Essex.
Havens Hospices provide specialist care and support for people of
all ages, and their families, who are living with incurable conditions*

**For further details contact
Beverley on 01375 671 474**



The Games Café

at

**Horndon on the Hill Village Hall
EVERY FRIDAY EVENING
7.30pm to 9.30pm**

We have 2 **Short Mat Bowls** carpets
so up to 12 people in teams of
2 or 3 can play together.

No previous experience
needed.



We are all **'have a go'** amateurs
who **welcome** and **encourage** all **new-comers**.

£5 per week. **Just drop-in.**
No need to book.

**Come alone or
with friend or partner.**



We **play cards** and **board games**:
SkyJo, Sequence, Dobble, Trominoes,
Bananagrams and many others.
Guest games always welcome!

Please text or call Allison for more information 07773539345

Please note: There is a £10 joining fee payable on your third visit, to cover set up costs,
replacement games and low attendance weeks. Thank you.

The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan

Tuesday 15th April
at Orsett Church
*7.30pm Taizé Service with prayers for
healing*

Maundy Thursday - 17th April
at Horndon Church
*7.30pm Holy Communion Service
with Foot Washing*

Good Friday - 18th April
at Bulphan Church
*10am Stations of the Cross
2pm Walk of Witness
followed by Hot Cross Buns*

Easter Sunday - 20th April
at Horndon Church
*10am All Together
Holy Communion Service*



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



The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (A WOMEN LED, GLOBAL, ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT)

Our sisters in The Cook Islands are sending us blessings with the service they have prepared for World Day of Prayer 2025.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 120 countries. It begins in Samoa and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world - through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later.

The theme is 'I made you wonderful'

FRIDAY 7th MARCH 2025
11am at the Zion Church, Bulphan
A service for everyone followed by a light lunch
All Welcome

*More information can be found on the World Day of Prayer website
<https://www.wwdp.org.uk/2025-theme-and-country-cook-islands/>*

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



HORNDON-ON-THE-HILL METHODIST CHURCH

4, High Road, Horndon-on-the-Hill

<https://www.southessexmethodist.org.uk>

Minister: Reverend Fiona Smith

Senior Steward: [Mr Graham Hodgson](mailto:graham.hodgson122@btinternet.com)

graham.hodgson122@btinternet.com

Services March 2024 Sunday 10:30am Worship

2 nd March	Local Arrangement	
9 th March	Mrs Suzanne Stubbs	
16 th March	Mr Steve Burton	
23 rd March	Mrs Anna Williams	
30 th March	Revd Fiona Smith	Holy Communion Mothering Sunday

Coffee mornings and lunch

All are welcome to our Community Cuppa and Chat in the Methodist Church Hall. We meet every Thursday between 10:00 – 12:00 noon for the coffee morning with drinks, [savouries](#) and biscuits and continue for a soup and a roll between 12:00 noon - 13:00.

Monthly Email Reflections

You can receive a Monthly Bible Reflection written by Maureen McPherson by sending her your email. (mail@south-fields.com) Hard copies can be handed out if you don't have email.



Zion Hall Mission, Bulphan Interdenominational Church Road, Bulphan

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



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

World Day of Prayer Friday 7th March

This year we are very pleased to be hosting the World Day of Prayer. The Ecumenical service this year has been prepared by Christian Women from the Cook Islands. The service starts at 11:00 and will be followed by refreshments.

The Sunday services for March are as follows:

March 2 nd	6:30 pm	Rev Pholani Ncube
March 9 th	6:30 pm	David Raj
March 16 th	6:30 pm	Peter Crosby
March 23 rd	6:30 pm	Rev Max Blake
March 30 th	6:30 pm	Lee Woodward

If you live locally and would like to come along to a service but need transport, or for any other information on our Church or our services please contact the Secretary: Ian Blackburn on 01375 891522, 07880 235140 or at zionhallmission@outlook.com



PRAYER DIARY

Some thoughts to include in your daily prayers

March 1st	For those living on Welling Road, Orsett
March 2nd	For those living on Oxford Road, Horndon
March 3rd	For those living on Orsett Road, Orsett
March 4th	For our medical practioners
March 5th	For those living on Fen Lane, Orsett
March 6th	For those living on Brentwood Road, Bulphan
March 7th	For the World Day of Prayer
March 8th	For those living on Medbree Court, Orsett
March 9th	For those living on Pump Street, Horndon
March 10th	For those living on Fordham's Row, Orsett
March 11th	For those living on Herga Hyll Orsett
March 12th	For those living on Lower Dunton Road, Bulphan
March 13th	For those living on Parkers Farm Road, Orsett
March 14th	For the lonely and childless
March 15th	For peace in the world
March 16th	For those living on Conway Road, Orsett
March 17th	For those living on Fen Lane, Bulphan
March 18th	For those living on Bonham Drive, Orsett
March 19th	For our schools in Orsett Horndon and Bulphan
March 20th	For our neighbours
March 21st	For our own prayer lives
March 22nd	For those living on Heath Road, Orsett Heath
March 23rd	For those living on Rowley Road, Orsett
March 24th	For those living on Wingfield Drive, Orsett
March 25th	For those living on The Parkway, Orsett
March 26th	For those living on Hillcrest Road, Horndon
March 27th	For those in hospital
March 28th	For our Methodist and Congregational brothers & sisters
March 29th	For the recently bereaved
March 30th	For all mothers on Mothering Sunday
March 31st	For members of our congregations who live in Chadwell St Mary

“Thank you, Lord, for our mothers. We remember today their loving care, and their ceaseless love for us.

May we show them by our gifts, our words and our actions that we love them and care about them too.

Father, we thank you for the family of the Church. May they know your blessing and strength as they care for others”.

Mothering Sunday prayer by Mary Batchelor



THE PARISH OF HORNDON, ORSETT AND BULPHAN

www.hobnob.org.uk Facebook: @HOBNOBchurches

RECTOR	Reverend Sue Mann	email: rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk	01375 891 254
PTO*	Reverend Max Blake	email: max@hobnob.org.uk	07716 969 772

*(permission to officiate)

PARISH CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Churchwardens	Alastair Macrae, Beverley Macrae, Christine Mortimer, David Mortimer, Sonia Ward, Frank Woollard.
Treasurer	Lynn Bennett
Secretary	Beverley Macrae
Parish Administrator	Lynda Robertson.
Deanery Synod Representatives	Karen Collier, Alastair Macrae, Janet Wilkins, Frank Woollard
Lay Representatives	Jane Barry, Sandra Billinger, Felicity Tarbard, Samantha Pankhurst, Ron Porter

CHURCH OFFICERS AND CONTACT DETAILS

St Peter & St Paul Horndon-on-the-Hill

Churchwardens	Sonia Ward	01375 674212
	Beverley Macrae	01375 673 327
Deputy Churchwarden	Felicity Tarbard	01375 677581
Sacristans	Jane Barry. Judy Rood. Beverley Macrae	

St Giles & All Saints Orsett

Churchwardens	Christine Mortimer	01375 641 485
	David Mortimer	01375 641 485
Sacristan	Janet Wilkins	
Vergers	Jo Metcalf	
	Libby Seggons	
Mothers' Union contact	Lucy Bubb	07970 728 673
Edward Bear Toddler Group	Karen Collier	01375 370 441
Tower Captain	Judith Church	01375 891 556
Oasis Café	Sandra Billinger	01375 891 040
Churches' Centre Bookings	Gary Jones	bookings@orsettchurches.co.uk

St Mary-the-Virgin Bulphan

Churchwardens	Frank Woollard	01375 891 034
	Alastair Macrae	01375 673 327
Verger	Ron Porter	01375 891 697
Parish Room Bookings	Traudi Porter	01375 891 697

Parish Administrator

Lynda Robertson: l.robertson@hobnob.org.uk	07974 803 471
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Parish Baptism Co-ordinator

Christine Mortimer: c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk	01375 641 485
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Musicians

Jane Barry	07552 199 697
Janet McCheyne	07752 836 902

To arrange Weddings, please contact Rev. Sue Mann on 01375 891 254 or email: rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk

THE HOLY LAND PART 2

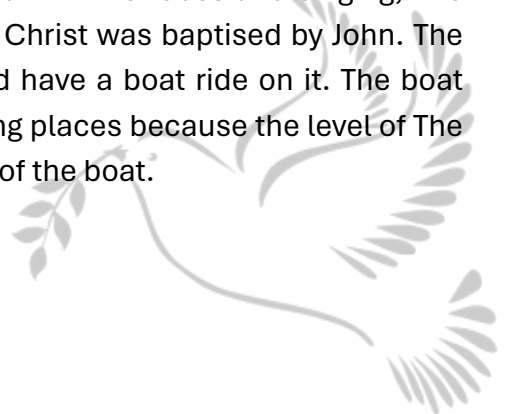
The good news is that a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas is underway after 15 months of war. The ceasefire was announced on 15th January and began 4 days later. We can only hope and pray that the ceasefire holds and that all the hostages are released, there is an increase in humanitarian aid for Gaza, Israel withdraws its troops and that somehow Gaza can be rebuilt.

The intention of writing about The Holy Land is to make the reader aware of the geography and some of the history. As Christians we follow Christ and this is the land in which Christ lived and preached, it's a real place and exists to this day. I would challenge you to mark on a map where Jerusalem, the Sea of Galilee and the River Jordan are.

Jerusalem, one of the oldest cities in the world, over 5000 years old, is considered Holy to the three Abrahamic religions, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. The elevation of The Old City is approximately 760 metres and its 60 kilometres east of The Mediterranean Sea. Its history is vast, and it's been destroyed at least twice, and has been besieged, captured, recaptured and attacked many times. In 1538 the city walls were rebuilt for the last time around Jerusalem under Suleiman the Magnificent of The Ottoman Empire. Today these walls define The Old City which since The 19th Century has been divided into quarters, The Armenian, Christian, Jewish and Muslim . The City is further divided into The Western side accepted as part of Israel, and the Eastern side, (which includes The Old City), mainly populated by Palestinians who seek it for their capital. This area was captured by Israel in 1967. The intention was and still is that Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem would comprise the Palestinian State in any two-state solution. It is obviously a flash point and any changes from this will be met with a great deal of opposition by The Palestinians. Gaza is 25 miles long, all with coastline to The Mediterranean Sea which could be a tourist paradise, and just as an aside they have found gas offshore.

The River Jordan flows through The Sea of Galilee into The Dead Sea. It's a major destination for Christian pilgrims. I visited the river and The Sea of Galilee, and it is much smaller than it was when Christ was there. The river is approached by pilgrims from both sides, Israel and Jordan, it's about a metre deep and not that wide you can easily walk or swim across it. There are many pilgrims many dressed in white robes and singing, it is very symbolic to be baptised in the same river where Christ was baptised by John. The Sea of Galilee is still a vast area of water, and we did have a boat ride on it. The boat owners stated that they would be changing the mooring places because the level of The Sea had dropped making it difficult to get into and out of the boat.

Frank Woollard



The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan

2025 LENT LUNCHES

**Lent lunches will be provided on the following
dates and venues, the lunch starts
at 12 noon last serving at 1.45pm**

**Saturday 29th March
The Woolmarket, Horndon on the Hill**

**Saturday 5th April
Parish Room, Bulphan Church**

**Saturday 12th April
Orsett Churches Centre**



**The menu will be a hearty soup (vegetarian), a chunk
of French stick loaf, fruit and a (Fairtrade) hot drink.**

**Those attending are encouraged to donate what they would
have spent on a lunch.**

**At the lunch we will be selling raffle tickets for a
hamper of Fairtrade goods.**

***All monies raised will be donated to the
Bishop of Chelmsford's Lent Appeal***

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



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Very friendly atmosphere
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Meetings are in Bulphan Village Hall every
Tuesday from 1.45 - 4.15pm and
Fridays from 7.00 - 9.00pm
New members are welcome and no experience is necessary
as friendly advice and tuition can be given
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At 8.00pm on the last Tuesday
each month except in December.

New members welcome
Enquiries to the Secretary
Sec.hothrbl@hotmail.com





Mothers' UNION

Chelmsford Diocese Mothers' Union (CDMU):

We had a great time at the Members Day, on Wednesday 12th February at St Clements, Leigh on Sea. We spent time in worship together and then moved around six prayer stations, each focused on a different aspect of Mothers' Union. It was a great opportunity for fellowship and to learn about the campaigns that we are supporting. We were also absolutely delighted that our new Worldwide President, Kathleen Snow, and our new royal patron, HRH Duchess of Edinburgh came to Chelmsford at the end of February. Kathleen's commissioning service will be at St Martin's-in-the-Field, London, on Mon 24 March. Please keep her in your prayers.

Lady Day – 25th March 2025



I wonder how many are aware that Mothers' Union's observance of Lady Day is actually part of our constitution? In fact, Lady Day - the Feast of the Annunciation - has been a significant day for Mothers' Union since 1897. The updating of our Mothers' Union Constitution, making it fit for 21st century purpose, says that the Feast of the

Annunciation may be observed annually as a special day of prayer and thanksgiving for Mothers' Union. Want to know more? <https://www.mothersunion.org/news/why-lady-day-important-mothers-union>

Mothering Sunday – A Gift of Peace



Mothering Sunday this year is on 30th March and can be an emotional day for many people all around the world. Some think of our mothers with love and prayer. Some of us have painful memories. Some remember those who have been like a mother to us. Now is the perfect time to come together to celebrate and uplift mothers worldwide.

By giving an ethical Gift of Peace today, you can give families worldwide the chance to swap discord and tension to an atmosphere of support and positivity. In the Solomon Islands, Positive Parenting has been transforming family life, breaking cycles of child neglect, and replacing them with mutual respect and love. Order by 21 March: <https://mueshop.org/collections/make-a-mothers-day-2025>

Midday Prayers

Did you know that every day at 12 noon Mothers' Union members across the world stop and pray. If you would like to join in and be with others, even though you may be sitting alone at home, why not join Mothers' Union Midday Prayers on Facebook? Here's the link: <https://www.facebook.com/MothersUnion> and you can find the liturgy that we use on the Mothers' Union website here: <https://www.mothersunion.org/what-we-do/faith-and-prayer/midday-prayers-wave-prayer>. This month, Lucy will be leading our online prayers on 8 March.

Prayer Diary 2025: March



The theme for March in our 2025 Prayer Diary is 'The Power of Love Through Christ': March is in many ways, a month for women as we mark International Women's Day and Mothering Sunday. Women once were deemed the weaker sex; yet so often they have an abundance of power and strength inherent in their very beings. Simply because of love! Women are also tender, gentle, nurturing, but in one of the world's great dichotomies, they are also strong, tenacious and courageous. Whenever the moment arises, women are at the forefront of calling to protect the innocent, defend the helpless and to stand resolute against injustice.

Monthly Prayer: *Father, we thank you that through the sacrificial love of Christ we have been shown the transcending and transforming power of love. Thank you for the unending grace and redemption found in his sacrifice. Thank you for his selfless sacrifice, which exemplifies the depth of your love for us. May we reflect his love in all we do. Help us to be people showing love for others through inclusion, forgiveness, compassion, and social justice. In your holy name we pray. Amen. (based on 1 John 4:7-12)*

Creative Prayer: Many keep a daily diary, or a prayer journal. Why not join them for March? Instead of recording all that happens, make a particular note of your new experiences and ways in which you can see the power of love through Christ. Write down the things you have done, seen or heard, new situations, new possibilities, and use them as part of your prayers and explore them to see where they might lead you. Draw what you are seeing and feeling to accompany your journal of new experiences as you deepen your relationship with Christ.

Lucy Bubb, Mothers' Union contact.



THE PARISH OF
HORNDON, ORSETT AND BULPHAN

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2PM - 5PM

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- RAFFLE
- CAKES AND REFRESHMENTS



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Ecology & Social Justice Action Group

Controlling Creepy Crawlies

I was reading about Guy Singh-Watson's visit to the Oxford *Real Farming* Conference <https://wickedleeks.riverford.co.uk/opinion/news-from-the-farm-two-days-of-rebellious-human-empowerment/> where Pesticide Action Network (PAN) "described the spread of integrated pest management (IPM) on cotton farms, as an alternative to the massive use of chemicals on what has been called "the world's dirtiest crop".

In particular, "food sprays" are being used, made from brewers' waste or maize. When sprayed on cotton, they mimic the fluids released by pest insects, thereby attracting predatory insects. If combined with careful monitoring, interplanting crops such as lucerne to attract and support further natural predators, and occasional use of locally made pesticides such as neem (a tree oil), this approach can be as effective as chemicals – while protecting the environment and hugely reducing pesticide poisoning among farmers. Plus, financial returns to farmers who use IPM are 30 per cent higher than to those using chemical sprays. "

Pesticide Action Network UK is a UK charity focused solely on tackling the problems caused by pesticides and promoting safe and sustainable alternatives in agriculture, urban areas, homes and gardens. They campaign to reduce the impacts of harmful pesticides to both human health and the environment.

Dirty Dozen

PAN-UK also produce a Dirty Dozen list which reveals the produce most likely to contain cocktails of multiple pesticides (i.e. residues of more than one pesticide). 2023 is the most recent year for which data is available. Topping the list is soft citrus, which includes satsumas, tangerines and clementines.

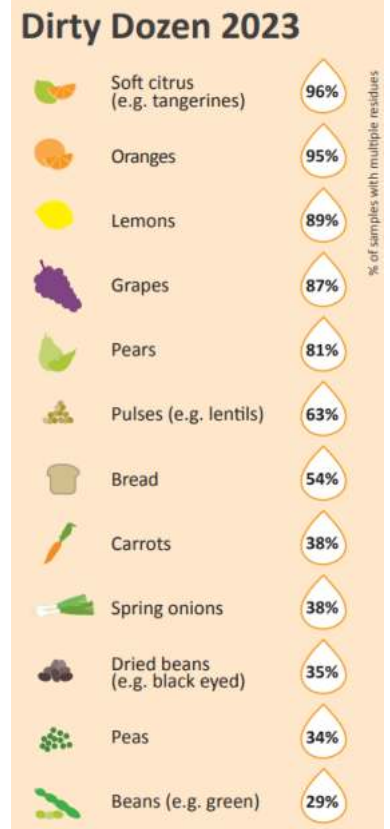
If you don't fancy consuming pesticides, consider buying **organic** produce. Whilst some organic foods are pricey, some are only a little more expensive. Alternatively, grow your own produce in your garden, in a vegetable patch, in tubs, pots or grow bags, or at a (shared?) allotment.

Encourage Creepy Crawlies

Gardeners are urged to do their bit to reduce the use of chemicals, by having plants that deter pests or support their predators, as well as opting for repellent sprays that contain natural ingredients. www.pan-uk.org has lots of information and tips.

Philip Mann

Ecology & Social Justice Action Group



Starter Drum Kit – GONE !!

We are pleased that a new home has been found for the drums at St Margaret's Church for their music group.

Victory Rags

Romans 8:28 says:-

"Every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good"

Very early on Sunday morning Peter and John were given the news: "Jesus' body is missing!" Instantly the two disciples hurried to the sepulchre, John outrunning Peter and arriving first. What he saw so stunned him he froze at the entrance.

What did he see? "Strips of linen cloth." He saw "the cloth that had been around Jesus' head ... folded up and laid in a different place from the strips of linen." He saw "cloth lying" (John 20:5-7).

The original Greek provides helpful insight here. John employs a term that means "rolled up, still in their folds." These burial wraps had not been ripped off and thrown down. They were still in their original state! The linens were undisturbed. The grave clothes were still rolled and folded.

How could this be?

If friends had removed the body, would they not have taken the clothes with it? If foes had taken the body, would they not have done the same? If not, for some reason friends or foes had unwrapped the body, would they have been so careful as to dispose of the clothing in such an orderly fashion? Of course not! But if neither friend or foe took the body, who did?

This was John's question, and this question, led to John's discovery. "He saw and believed" (John 20:8).

Through the rags of death, John saw the power of life. Odd, don't you think, that God would use something as sad as a burial wrap to change a life.

But God is given to such practices:

In his hand, empty wine jugs at a wedding become a symbol of power.

A crude manger in Bethlehem is his symbol of devotion.

And a tool of death is a symbol of his love.

Do you know that love?

By **Gerald Toop**

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janetmcc101@gmail.com

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FAMOUS PERSON IN MARCH

CAROLINE LUCRETIA HERSCHEL

March 16th 1750 – January 9th 1845

Caroline Lucretia Herschel was a German born British astronomer who was a pioneer in the field and is considered the first professional female astronomer. She made important contributions to the work of her brother Sir William Herschel, executing many of the calculations connected with his studies. On her own, she detected by telescope three nebulae in 1783, and in 1786 she became the first woman to discover a comet; over the next 11 years she spotted seven other comets.



Caroline contracted typhus at the age of 10, and the disease stunted her growth; she grew only 4 feet 3 inches (1.3 metres) tall. Her mother opposed her education, and Caroline instead helped in the management of the household. In 1772 her brother William took her to Bath, England, where he had established himself as a teacher of music. There Caroline trained and performed successfully as a singer. In addition, William tutored her in mathematics. The siblings gave their last public musical performance in 1782, when her brother accepted the private office of court astronomer to George III; the previous year William had discovered the planet Uranus.

While still keeping house for her brother, Caroline aided in his research. In addition to grinding and polishing mirrors, she began executing the laborious calculations that were connected with his observations. As her interest grew, she swept the heavens with a small Newtonian reflector and made her own observations and astronomical discoveries. In 1787 the king gave her an annual pension of £50 in her capacity as her brother's assistant, and she thus became the world's first professional female astronomer. The following year she discovered a periodic comet that was later named 35P/Herschel-Rigollet. In 1798 Caroline presented to the Royal Society an index to John Flamsteed's observations, together with a catalogue of 560 stars omitted from the *British Catalogue* and a list of the errata in that publication.

She returned to Hannover after William's death in 1822 and soon completed the cataloguing of 2,500 nebulae and many star clusters. In 1828, when she was 77, the Astronomical Society awarded her its gold medal for an unpublished revision and reorganization of their work. She lived some 20 years longer and continued to receive the respect and admiration of both scientists and the general public.



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Kay-Anne: 07899 745020 for Corringham
Dawn: 01375 461885 for Blackshots
Email: ask-waders@hotmail.com

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Bulphan WI



Each month we open our meeting by singing the hymn Jerusalem. It is not unusual for our guest speaker to join in with the members, as was the case in February when we were joined by Karen Lawrie. Members exercised their whole bodies as Karen had us singing 'Build me up Buttercup' and moving along to the music. A good way to keep warm on a chilly evening.

After some much needed refreshments, we were given information about the upcoming Essex County Annual Meeting at the University of Essex. With speakers including Adam Frost, the horticulturalist, and Lucy Lewis, an ex-army bomb disposal expert; it should be an excellent event.

Next month we have a wreath-making demonstration and an update on a national resolution involving access to NHS dentistry in Essex. Visitors are most welcome.

Lesley Crisp



WOOLMARKET MUSIC FEBRUARY 13TH

We were very lucky to be entertained by professional pianist David Silkoff at our February meeting. He played a range of music, including Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata, 2 Chopin Nocturnes, Schumann's Arabesque and Grieg's Wedding at Troldhaugen. David studied at the Royal College of Music and also at the Royal Academy. He has played at Snape Maltings, where one of the attendees, Benjamin Britten, called his performance 'electrifying'.

Next Month we have a change of venue and a change of time.

On Saturday March 15th In St Peter & St Pauls Church at 4.00 pm.

The London Gallery Quire will be singing for us and this will include an afternoon tea. All for the price of £7.50.

Everyone is welcome to our Woolmarket Music performances but this one is something special and is a good way to spend a Thursday afternoon. Do let us Sonia or Felicity know if you'll be able to come along so that we don't run out of sandwiches and cakes!!



in St Peter & St Paul's Church

Saturday March 15th at 4.pm

with afternoon tea

£7.50 or free to members and under 18s



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London
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