



From the Rector's study

May, the month of Mary, saw pilgrims from St

Nicolas, joined by Fr Andrew the former Rector, and some friends from our Cathedral community arrive at England's Nazareth, The Holy House of Our Lady of Walsingham. This is a special place and the veil between this world and the eternal is thinner as was confirmed by those who visited for the first time. We were fed well, the rooms are beautiful and the opportunity to spend time in the Shrine Church, the Holy House and the Parish Church of St Mary meant that we were centred on the 'Yes' of Blessed Mary to

God's fiat. At our Eucharist before we left our own church I reflected in the sermon on the difference between the 'overshadowing of Mary by the Holy Spirit'. This can sound as if God was over-powering and somewhat controlling of Mary, but on closer examination of the text, perhaps we might think of this as Mary under the shadow of the Most High - under the protection, under the care and shelter of God. This is less of a submission to an Almighty God and more of the acceptance of the offer of the protection of God - protection under his wing (Psalm 91), in his shadow during the heat of the day (Psalm 17). Mary's 'Yes' to God was not a submission or a giving over of self, but rather the protection of the very self God had created and chosen. It was with warm hearts that we noticed the same message in the homily delivered at the Saturday evening service - and so God was speaking clearly it seems! Mary's free will to offer herself to His service is, then, the pattern for us all - we willingly give of ourselves to a God not who demands or controls, but who offers us the space to be truly ourselves. What a vocation to demonstrate to the rest of the world - the first of the Apostles. In this ministry, Mary is our example, our guide and all that she does points to her Son, Jesus. We are called to be God bearers with Mary and to point to Christ in the world. How have you done that this year? What do you do that can be seen to point to Christ? In the way in which you queue at the supermarket to the approach you take to those whom you find hard to like? In the way you will vote in the General Election? We are not called to be Mary, but we are called to follow her example in allowing God to enable our growth and by our dance with him, get caught up into the God we cannot see. I commend joining the Walsingham Cell if you have not already, here at St Nicolas. And I warmly commend Walsingham to you as a place of pilgrimage. Fr Alistair led us through Stations of the Cross and in the Veneration of the True Cross and it was good to see him sitting in Choir for Benediction. Many of you will know that Fr Alistair's devotion to Our Lady led him to found the Rosary club at his theological college and which even now continues to thrive. Our Lady's example and her prayers do indeed produce rich fruit!

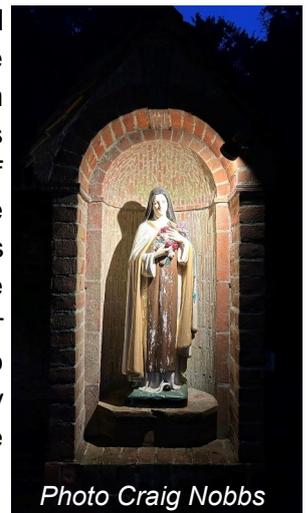


Photo Craig Nobbs

I would very much like to have St Nicolas visit the Holy House twice a year from next year and so there is double the opportunity to visit if you have not done so yet.

Icons I am grateful to Jana for all of her hard work and vision to ensure that we are able to host the beautiful Icons on Ammunition boxes. Do make a point of coming to visit this important exhibit which was previously at our Cathedral.



Ordinations We are now in the time of the year when Deacons and Priests are made and Ordained. This year we look forward to welcoming Fr Alistair as a priest following his ordination to the sacred priesthood on Saturday 29 June and his first Mass the following Sunday 7th July.

On Sunday 30 June we look forward to the ordination of Clare at the Cathedral. Clare has been on extended placement with us and so Fr Ali and I will be there to support her on her big day! Mass will be offered at 830 but there will be no 10 Eucharist that day.

Organ We look forward to welcoming our new Digital organ before too long. The Archdeacon gave permission for the Faculty and this will serve the church on an appropriate scale in a way that the organ in the St George's Chapel wouldn't quite cope!

Fr Neil



June services

| | | |
|---------------|---|--------------------------|
| Sa 1 | Messy Church 9:30 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel; | |
| Su 2 | TRINITY I 8:30 Mass P:NCR, Pr: AM, 10:00 Mass P: NCR, Pr: AM | |
| Tu 4 | 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel | <i>Beer and Banter</i> |
| We 5 | 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel 12:00 Angelus and Mass | |
| Th 6 | 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel | |
| Fr 7 | 9:30 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel 11 Mass St George's Chapel P:NCR, Pr: Linda Sharpin | |
| Su 9 | Joint Service 8:30 Mass, 10:30 Flag Service: at GURC | |
| Tu 11 | 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel | |
| We12 | 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel 7:30pm Church Wardens' service | |
| Th 13 | 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel; | 7:30pm Walsingham Cell |
| Fr 14 | 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel 11:00 Mass | |
| Su 16 | TRINITY III 8:30 Mass NCR 10:00 Mass NCR 6:30pm Choral Evensong Haslemere Parish Church Choir | |
| Tu 18 | 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel 7-9pm Icons Launch event | |
| W 19 | 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel | |
| Th 20 | 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel | |
| Fr 21 | 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel 11:00 Mass; | 12:00 Bramley Prep visit |
| Su 23 | TRINITY IV 8:30 Mass NCR, 10:00 Mass NCR | |
| Tu 25 | 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel | Curate retreat this week |
| We 26 | 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel | |
| Th 27 | 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel | |
| Fr 28 | 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel 11:00 Mass 12:00 Lunch and Icon writing talk | |
| Sat 29 | Ordination of Priests at Guildford Cathedral | |
| Sun 30 | 8:30 Mass NCR 10:30 Ordination of Deacons at Guildford Cathedral | |





July services

Tu 2 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel
 We 3 9:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel
 12 Angelus and Mass
 Th 4 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel
 Fr 5 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel
 Sat 6 Summer Fayre

Su 7

TRINITY VI

8:30 Mass NCR
 10 Mass P: AM, Pr: DG

Curate's first Mass

Tu 9 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel
 We10 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel
 Th 11 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel
 Fr 12 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel
 11:00 Mass NCR
 Sat 13 Family Camp

FGB School
 Chapter lunch
 Xsts College Year 7

Su 14

TRINITY VII

8:30 Mass NCR, 10:00 Mass NCR
 Tu 16 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel
 We17 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel
 Th 18 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel
 Fr 19 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel
 11:00 Mass

AM @ St Mary's Worpleston
 PCC MAP Report
 School rehearsal in church

Su 21

TRINITY VIII

8:30 Mass AM, 10:00 Mass NCR

Tu 23 School Service
 We24 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel
 Th 25 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel
 Fr 26 10:00 Morning Prayer, The Lady Chapel
 11:00 Mass AM, Crew

Party at Rectory

Su 28

TRINITY VIII

8:30 Mass AM, 10:00 Mass AM

Mo 29 Holiday Club
 Tu 30 Holiday Club
 We 31 Holiday Club

Deanery Synod 7 for 730 @ Shalford



Children and Families

It feels strange to say I have been here a year now! It's flown by in a blur and I feel like I'm still quite new! As I reflect on the past year, one of my favourite activities has been **Cafe Play**, our baby and toddler group on Wednesday mornings. This is an unusual choice for me as I have always enjoyed working with school aged children the most, but Cafe Play is such a welcoming and friendly environment it's hard not to love it! A lovely community of parents and carers with their babies and toddlers has grown out of this and I very often see many of them 2, 3 or even 4 times a week between GURC and St Nics. If you have children under 4 it's a great place to hang out and enjoy the company of lovely, supportive adults and for children to play with lots of toys, relax during story and snack time and join in with our singing session at the end. *You don't have to have children to attend this group, we would love volunteers to come and join us, perhaps help set up, read a story, chat to our families or serve coffee and get to know everyone to really help them feel a part of the St Nics community. You don't have to come every week. If this is something you would like to do, please get in touch with me to find out more.*

I also really love going into **St Nicolas school**. This term I am visiting every Tuesday and teaching the children the Lord's prayer, with Makaton actions, I'm hoping they will all know it off by heart by the end of term!

This year we started **Toastie Tuesdays**, (last Tuesday of the month 5-6.30pm) which has been much loved by children in school years 3-6. This is an opportunity for children to relax and enjoy being in church. From my previous church role, I learnt there are a lot of teenagers who won't set foot in a church, even for a non-faith based youth group. So I'm hoping our children will grow up to realise the church is a welcoming home, where there is no pressure and you can have fun here and feel safe. We play lots of fun games, including hide and seek and sardines throughout the church, it's a beautiful sight to see the children having so much fun! Or there are more sedate board games and drawing or colouring. We also have our wonderful tuck shop, with delicious toasties and treats.

Don't forget we also have our **Junior Church on Sunday mornings**, (Term-time) this is very relaxed and we have some lovely conversations as we get to know the children.

Partnership with Guildford URC update At St Nics we work together with our friends up at Guildford URC (GURC), mostly for shared children's work. All our children's activities are open to anyone, and children from both churches are welcome to attend activities at either church. This way, between the 2 churches, we have managed to cover all ages! For **under 5s** and their parents/carers we have **Cafe Play** at St Nics (Wednesdays 10-11:30, term-time) and **Little GURCKins** (Mondays, 10-11.30am) and **Little Fishes** at GURC. For families with **children under 8** we have **Messy Mondays** at GURC. For families with **children 11 and under** we have **Messy Church**, which swaps venue between the 2 churches. For

school years 3-6 we have **Toastie Tuesdays** at St Nics. For **school years 7-13** we have **Pizzas@8** at GURC. We are very excited to invite **children aged 5-11** to join us for our summer **Holiday Club on the mornings from 29th July - 2nd August**. Holiday Club is my favourite event of the year and I look forward to all the fun and games and crafts! This year's theme is gaming, but we won't have a games console in sight as we reenact the children's favourite computer games in a life-size way! Booking is essential and places are limited and filling up fast, so please book early to avoid



Toastie Tuesday Colouring and drawing by Hanne



Cafe Play at St Nicolas Parish Centre Hall



disappointment. Registration forms can be picked up in either church, or you can email me for a copy.

You may be interested in learning more about **Cafe Church**. This is a relaxed, contemporary and informal service, once a month for all ages at 4pm, followed by a meal. Perhaps you know people who are new to church and would appreciate a less formal style of worship or do you enjoy a more contemporary style of worship sometimes, or maybe you struggle to make Sunday mornings due to children's sporting activities, why not come along and check out Cafe Church at GURC to see what it's all about. Everyone is welcome. Cafe Church is on the 4th Sunday of the month, see flyer for dates.

1st June is the last Messy Church before the summer, this will be at St Nics and we will be celebrating Pentecost.

At GURC we are supporting **Christian Aid with the Big Brekkie on Saturday 15th June, 9-11am**. We would love for you to come and join us, there will be children's crafts and face painting and lots of yummy food! Please drop me an email if you would like to join us so that we know how many to cater for. I hope to see you at either church soon.

Nicky Geraghty, Mission Enabler,
missionenabler@saintnics.com

**£15
for the
week**

**Guildford URC
and
St Nicolas Church**

HOLIDAY CLUB

THE NEXT LEVEL

**29th July - 2nd August
9:30am - Midday**
at
**Guildford United Reformed Church
83 Portsmouth Road**
For children aged 5-11
**Faith based fun including
Crafts - Games - Stories - Songs
as we bring computer games to
life!**

For more information or to book your place please email familiesworker@guildfordurc.org.uk or visit www.guildfordurc.org.uk

Guildford United Reformed Church or www.saintnics.com **ST NICOLAS GUILDFORD**

Remaining dates for Messy Church

June 1st - Pentecost at **St Nicolas**

September 7th - Back to School at **GURC**

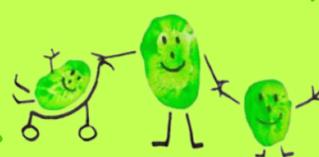
October 5th - Harvest at **GURC**

November 2nd - Light Party at **St Nicolas**

December 7th - Christmas Party at **GURC**



Guildford United Reformed Church



Little GURCKINS

Baby and toddler group

at Guildford United Reformed Church

EVERY MONDAY MORNING (INCLUDING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS)

10am to 11:30am
£1 per family
familiesworker@guildfordurc.org.uk

Guildford United Reformed Church in partnership with **ST NICOLAS GUILDFORD**

MESSY MONDAYS

at Guildford United Reformed Church,
83 Portsmouth Road, GU2 4BS

Mondays during term-time
3:30-4:30pm

Faith-based fun for children aged 7 and under with stories, music and craft



Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at this group

For more information contact Nicky on familiesworker@guildfordurc.org.uk
www.guildfordurc.org.uk www.saintnics.com



Helen Gregory,
interim Head
Teacher

From the St Nics (school) Team

We said a sad farewell to **Mrs. Garner** yesterday after 6 years at St. Nics'. We look forward to welcoming **Mrs. Marie Vodden** who will be joining us as a TA in Reception after half term.

Big thank you to **Chloe** who carried out some lovely improvements to the Beech play area on the weekend. Next she will be tackling the garden area and we look forward to enabling the children to access this area soon.

Vacancy The School-based Immunisation Team are currently recruiting for some additional administrative support from September to December, during our busy Flu season. Would you like some extra income while contributing to our community? Join our team for a 14-week mission as a Flu Immunisation Administrator (£23,575 per annum pro rata). We are looking for enthusiastic individuals to work within our school-based immunisation team, based at locations across the South- West of Surrey, to support with the delivery of the school based 2024 flu vaccination programme. Closing date for 16th May. Job Advert (jobs.nhs.uk)



Shall we go?
Philip Hooper

GLASTONBURY PILGRIMAGE 2024
SATURDAY 13TH JULY

One hundred years ago next month a group of Christians in the west country were inspired to start an annual pilgrimage to the ruins of Glastonbury Abbey in Somerset. In its heyday, before Henry VIII destroyed the monasteries, it had been one of the richest and most important in the South West. The ruins now form a park in the town with the remains of the nave and chancel of the abbey church forming the centre piece.

The pilgrimage day starts with a sung High Mass at a temporary altar in the chancel of the abbey church. Lunchtime follows with various activities taking place in the park. The day then finishes with a procession through the streets of the town and back into the abbey grounds for benediction at the altar.

The pilgrimage used to be held on the nearest Saturday to the feast of St Peter and St Paul to whom the abbey was dedicated. It had, however, to be moved to the second Saturday in July when it became difficult for bishops to attend due to the ordination of priests on that day.



This year the centenary is being celebrated by having Rowan Williams the former archbishop of Canterbury to preach at the High Mass. It would be really good for us to mark by having a lot of us there. Food and drink will be available in the abbey grounds and of course in the town. I have always enjoyed the day and do hope to see you there this year.



*Photos Fr Alistair
and Craig Nobbs*



Walsingham 2024





Judas forgiven

Sally Lowe

In the heart of Dorset is a most unusual church. St. Nicholas, Moreton, is probably the only church in the world where the windows are entirely of engraved glass, completed by Sir Laurence Whistler (1912-2000) over nearly 40 years. The designs include butterflies, birds, rabbits, wild flowers, candles, stars, planets and local scenes, and the interior of the church is wonderfully light. One window, given by a young widow, commemorates her husband who died in his Spitfire in a dogfight over France: the window shows a pilot's view of their home, of Salisbury Cathedral near his training base, and on the tangled wreckage of his plane, the dates of their short marriage, 1939-40.

For me, the most significant window is only visible from outside. It's also backed by a solid wall, which makes it dark and difficult to photograph.

The Forgiveness Window (1993) depicts Judas Iscariot hanging, with the thirty pieces of silver falling from his hand and turning to flowers on the ground. Judas "as if in wonder" turns his face up to the light, at the very instant of his suicide, finding forgiveness "just in time, or out of time", as Whistler wrote. Initially the parish refused to have the window installed, considering it too controversial. It took a further 20 years for the PCC to vote unanimously in its favour and it now stands as a symbol of reconciliation in the parish as well as in the wider context intended by the artist.

The church is open every day and well worth a visit.

A Note on Gospel Love

John Hutchinson



It's a common cliché at this point in discussing the language of the Gospels to point out that Koiné Greek had an array of terms that can be translated into English as 'love'. Normally this isn't really a problem; 'love' after all is a flexible word in English and the context can be used to work out what sense is meant. However, occasionally subtleties can be missed by an English-only reading.

Father Neil highlighted one of these points in a recent sermon on John 21:15-17. In the English version, it appears as if Jesus asks Peter the same question three times; 'Do you love Me?'. However, in fact each of the three questions is in fact different. The first is a comparative question, 'do you love me more than these [others]?', but on the face of it the other two questions are identical. Why the repetition?

The answer lies in the Greek. In the first two questions (John 21:15-16) Jesus asks Peter '*agapās me*'; i.e. 'do you have *agape* for me?'. *Agapē* refers to the kind of love between God and man. It's a reciprocal relationship, but also somewhat distancing. However, in the third question (John 21:17), Jesus instead asks '*phileis me*'; i.e. 'Do you have *philia* for me?' This is a different kind of love, particularly in terms of the relationship implied. For one it's the root that gives us terms in English such as 'philosophy' (love of wisdom), 'anglophile' (lover of the English), etc.. But it also is a kind of love that is more brotherly, more equal in social relationship than *agapē*, and indeed the related noun *philos* can mean both 'beloved, dear' and also 'friend'. Hence Jesus has shifted the terms of the discussion; he has come down from the level of God and dwells among us as our equal.

Here's an extra wrinkle to this story, however. Jesus asks Peter a different question each time, but Peter's response each time uses the same terminology; '*oidas hoti philō se*' 'You know that I love You'. Note that even when Jesus is asking about *agapē*, Peter seems almost over-eager to say 'I love You more than that, Lord'. No wonder he would feel hurt when Jesus asks him 'do you really love me?'; one can imagine him thinking 'why are You asking me this? I've been trying to tell You this the entire time!'



THE FORGIVENESS WINDOW
Designed by Laurence Whistler



The word iconography comes from the Greek words for “image” and “writing”. The practice of “image-writing” is quite different from Western art. Originating within the liturgical and philosophical setting of Byzantine culture and life, icons aim to express the spiritual and idealistic vision of Orthodoxy. Their aim

An icon is much more than merely a visual teaching aid or picture: it has about it a sacramental quality



An explanation by Sister Esther, an iconographer from Turvey Abbey in Bedfordshire, a community of Benedictine nuns.

includes conscious awareness of the spiritualisation or “deification” of matter: the pledge of an already redeemed creation and the coming victory over a fallen one; the expression of the future unity of the whole of creation; and a visible manifestation of humankind’s spiritual power to redeem creation through beauty and art. The presentation of such beauty awakens vital forces of life.



Archangel Michael, painted by Sr Esther

An icon is much more than merely a visual teaching aid or picture: it has about it a sacramental quality. Within Orthodoxy, icons are venerated (but not worshipped) just as the Bible is held in honour and revered. The Council of Constantinople in AD 860 stated, ‘that which the book tells us in words, the icon announces to us by colour and makes present to us’. And St John Damascene affirmed that ‘icons are theology not only in words but in images’.

A contemporary author, Henri Nouwen (in *Behold the Beauty of the Lord: praying with icons*, Ave Maria Press, 1987), has written:

“Icons are painted to lead us into the inner room of prayer and bring us close to the heart of God. Every time I entrust myself to these images, move beyond my curious questions about their origin, history and artistic value and let them speak to me in their own language, they draw me into closer communion with the God of love”.

This information comes from the websites of Turvey Abbey and the British Association of Iconographers with Sister Esther’s permission. Sr Esther is an experienced iconographer who leads icon painting workshops and retreats every year. There will be a non-residential course on painting icons 15-20 October at Turvey Abbey (apply esther.turvey@btinternet.com) and another one at the local C of E Church (apply Cindy Woods cindywoods8849@gmail.com).

Ukrainian Icons Raising Funds for Medical Aid

St Nicolas is hosting the exhibition **Icons on Ammunition Boxes from 16.6. - 7.7.** It will open from **10:30am –2:30pm, Monday to Saturday, except Saturday 22.6. and morning of Saturday 6.7** when the church is needed for other events. The icons are painted on fragments of ammunition boxes retrieved by medics from the defence lines and, in the artists’ words, “represent a triumph of life over death.” They come to us from Guildford Cathedral where they were shown over Easter. Previously they were exhibited in London and Oxford; King Charles and Oxford University Church each have one in their collection. All icons are for sale for between £2000—£8000 but small donations for the medical cause are also very gratefully accepted. Refreshments are available during the exhibition.

The congregation and our Parish Centre users are welcome to attend the exhibition **Launch on Tuesday 18.6 from 7-9pm. David Greenwood and Gillian Lloyd have prepared a programme of spiritual music to round off the evening.**

Iconographer Verena Watson will come to St Nicolas on **Friday 28 June at 1:30pm**, to give a talk about **“The process of writing or painting an icon, from inception to design and technique with, throughout, the symbolism and spirituality.** This is a free event open to all, but any donations will be very welcome.



Cathedral travels

David Greenwood continues to report from Wales.

Eglwys Gaderiol Aberhonddu, Brecon Cathedral.

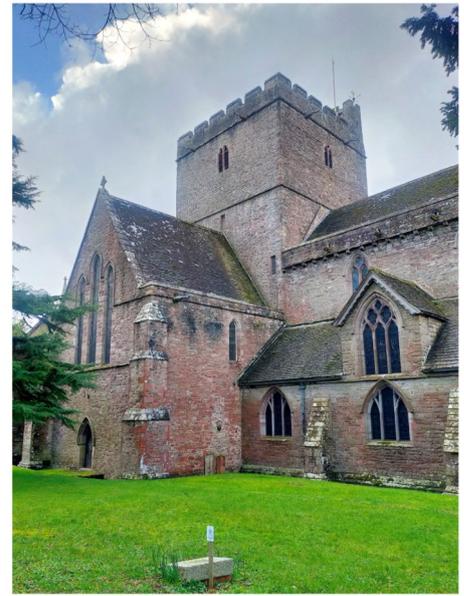
For over 900 years the Church of St. John the Evangelist has stood on a wooded hill overlooking the market town of Brecon. In 1923, formerly the church of a medieval Benedictine priory and also Brecon Parish Church, it became the Cathedral of the new diocese of Swansea and Brecon.

It was originally a Norman Benedictine foundation, from which a splendid font survives. Another fascinating survival is the cresset stone, which provided light for the monks reciting the offices during the hours of darkness.

The font is the oldest object in the building, from around 1100



The extraordinary Cresset Stone, designed to hold candles for the medieval monks reciting the offices at night



View from the north-west



A beautiful sylvan setting



The sanctuary, chancel, tower and transepts date from c 1201 and the nave and aisles were rebuilt about a hundred years later. Two chapels were added at the end of the fourteenth century.

And there, apart from some sympathetic Victorian restoration, the medieval building stands among trees, surrounded by much of the original priory complex. It is a noble building in a beautiful setting, wooded and tranquil, very Welsh.

The stone reredos at the High Altar is the work of WD.Caroe (1934)



We asked children what heaven was like...

I think it will be like a hotel. You have your room with your family and you can visit other people's rooms. They have loads of rooms you can visit which have loads of things you can do! Everybody would have a different experience depending on how good they were in life, but everyone would get in. Like some people's key wouldn't let them in their room because they weren't a good person. The only rule is you can't be mean and you have to help people who need help. And you can eat whatever you want! **Oriana**



Walsingham, photo by Craig Nobbs



Vicky Lamb

It was with great sadness that I heard about Vicky's illness, then death in April this year. I am sure the thoughts of all who knew her are with her husband Ray and their whole family.

Prior to the Covid lockdowns, Vicky was an active member of this church; a Street Angel, Chalice Assistant, Lent Soup maker, she helped Ray organise the regular Christian Mystics study days and weekly Meditation groups, and took Sacrament to one of the Care Homes in our Parish.

On a personal note, Vicky was a much loved friend of many years in whose spiritual footsteps I seemed to follow. She was responsible for my coming to St Nicolas and was Godmother at my Baptism.

*Rest In Peace
With love, Jana Phillips*



Journeying to Walsingham

We are on our journey along Walsingham Way
In the lovely heat of a summer's day.
The blue of the sky and the birds flying high
We are in sight of the Shrine ever drawing nigh.
The weekend is always so full of joy and love
You are so close to the Heavenly Dove.
Walsingham is like heaven on Earth
Thanking God for our dear Lord's birth
Our Lady's Shrine is a wonderful place
When we die we shall see Jesus's Glorious face.

Glastbury Abbey

The day is far spent, night is drawing nigh,
Birds were still flying in the sky, up high,
Owls were hunting in the field around.
Rosie was happy to be in Glastbury Abbey on the ground.
To end the day, the loveliest of days,
Glastbury Abbey stands in glory of all she surveys.
Our Pilgrimage is over for another year,
I leave the Abbey with a little tear.
The journey of life is a Pilgrimage on Earth;
The last in death, the first in birth.
To be in Heaven with our Dear Lord is our goal
Who long gone by, rode a donkey foal.
Glastonbury Abbey will stand forever
Love goes on to end never.

Liz Hooper

MEANS OF TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT

"Railway Locomotive kills local MP"

by **Philip Hooper**

This might well have been the headline in a Liverpool or Manchester newspaper in the summer of 1831. John Huskingson, formerly a minister in Lord Canning's reformist Tory government, had been attending the trials at Rainhill where the engines for the railway were being built from Liverpool to Manchester. He had been standing beside the track and saw Robert Stephenson's engine "Rocket" approach but assumed that he had time to move clear. Sadly he didn't, and he suffered fatal injuries. In attempting to save his life Stephenson took Huskingson aboard the Rocket and drove at the amazing speed of 20mph!

The coming of canals changed the nature of transport years before. Their ability to efficiently carry large quantities was a major factor in the start of the industrial revolution in the 18th century. They were also sometimes used for passenger transport. When the P&O Steam Navigation Company won the contract to carry mail out to India in 1842, they had to establish an overland route across Egypt to the Red Sea. The passengers were conveyed by horse-drawn barge from Alexandria to Cairo from whence they were taken by horse-drawn coaches to Suez. The mail was carried direct from Alexandria to Suez by camel caravan, some 3,000 beasts being needed for each shipload. The mind boggles at the thought of such a number of camels at each quayside but at least the dock workers would have grown excellent roses!



Image from the website of Science and Industry Museum, Manchester

Stephenson's Rocket won the trials and he became a leading figure in the railway boom of the next two decades. A keen rival, although I gather they were friends, was Isambard Kingdom Brunel who was appointed in 1835 as the engineer for the railway to be built from Bristol to London. The board wanted to call it the London and Bristol Railway but he was inspired to suggest it be the Great Western Railway with the foresight that it would reach the south western tips of England and Wales and indeed be the stepping stone for a steamship route to America. In pursuit of the latter, a separate company the Great Western Steamship Company was established and he designed and supervised the construction of their first ship, the paddle steamer "Great Western". This was followed in 1843 with the "Great Britain," in which Brunel challenged existing ideas by it being larger than any other ship of the time, built of iron and driven by a screw propeller. This system was almost unknown at the time but subsequently completely succeeded the far less efficient paddles.

Unfortunately after a year or so's service, the "Great Britain" ran aground off the northern coast of Ireland. Brunel himself supervised the salvage operations and its strong iron hull withstood the sea's battering. Sadly, the company's finances weren't so sound and it went out of business with both ships being sold.

Thereafter the "Great Britain" enjoyed a long career mainly transporting emigrants to Australia. Ultimately she suffered the shame of having her engines removed to become a sailing ship. In this guise, she encountered a severe storm off the notorious Cape Horn and was so badly damaged she had to limp to Port Stanley in the Falklands. There, she was found to be beyond economic repair and was sold for use as a storage hulk. In 1933 she was found to no longer be safe for that and was beached in a remote cove near the port.



Image from ssgreatbritain.org

Over the following decades the strength of its iron hull was shown by its remaining intact despite the impact of numerous southern winters. In 1970 a group of enthusiasts set about bringing her back to Bristol and, with the support



of the philanthropist Jack Hayward, were able to charter an ocean-going tug and a large floating pontoon to do this. After some basic repairs the "Great Britain" was refloated and moved over the now submerged pontoon. Once this was done the pontoon was refloated, lifting the ship out of the sea and safe for the long voyage back.

Ships were then still being built in Bristol with a vessel designed to take supplies to oil rigs being completed at the same time. She set off on her maiden voyage to the oil fields off Brazil as the "Great Britain" sailed from Port Stanley. The two ships passed in mid Atlantic and the supply vessel sent the "Great Britain" this message:-

"From Bristol's newest to Bristol's oldest let's keep everything shipshape and Bristol fashion"

On reaching the Bristol Channel the two vessels went into the South Wales port of Barry where the ocean going tug was replaced by two local harbour tugs which towed the pontoon across the channel to Avonmouth. It was on this stage that I saw her on that June morning from my bedroom in our home in Clevedon which had a marvellous view of the channel. She made an inspiring sight with her hull standing out on the pontoon. On reaching Avonmouth, the pontoon was again submerged so the "Great Britain" could be floated off it. Then, when the tide was right, she was towed up the Avon to the city docks where she was manoeuvred into the dry-dock of the shipyard where she had been built almost 130 years before.

My law degree exams prevented my witnessing this final stage of her voyage but I did visit her soon after she was opened to the public and thereby saw her in the very early stage of her restoration. In the subsequent 50 years the shipyard has disappeared but the "Great Britain" is still there, now restored to her original condition, and one of Bristol's top tourist attractions.



St Nicolas Summer Fayre Needs You!

To make this a great & happy event please do:

Help to publicise take a poster and put up, take flyers to give to your friends, share on social media

Help to set up & clear up before and afterwards, see church wardens now to offer

Help to man a stall see the church wardens now about what's needed

Donate bottles, prizes for the children's tombola (sweets, chocolate, small toys), good quality bric-a-brac, books & plants

Bake cakes, make jams & chutneys boxes will be out soon!

Bring sunny weather!




ST NICOLAS GUILDFORD

SUMMER FAYRE

Saturday 6th July
2 - 4pm

STALLS * GAMES * TOMBOLAS
AFTERNOON TEAS * PIMMS * ICE CREAMS

St Nicolas' Church
Bury Street, GU2 4AW
FREE ENTRANCE!

www.saintnics.com



The River Wey Navigation

by **Hilary Fletcher** with grateful thanks to the late Peter Fletcher



Sir Richard Weston of the Sutton Place Estate near Guildford, was the instigator of the construction of the “Wey Navigation” between 1651 and 1653,

making it one of the earliest man-made navigations in Britain. This was created at a time of great political turmoil in the country, and turmoil for the Catholic Weston family, it is amazing that it got built at all!

The meanderings of a river can make it almost useless as a practical means of transport, compounded by changes of depth and level. At the time, however, the river Wey was seen as a way to provide a highway to London for the good of the Guildford merchants. (Think of the state of the roads at this time.)

Sir Richard had an interest in agriculture and farming, and spent part of his early life in the Netherlands and Belgium. There, he had seen how sections of canal could bypass difficult sections of river. There he also observed the “pound lock system” being developed, thus creating a part-river, part-canal “navigation,” and so a viable means of travel for the transportation of goods. This is what the River Wey Navigation remains, although now for pleasure boating.

Sir Richard returned to England wanting to copy the system he had seen being developed successfully on the Continent, and apply it to the river Wey, which ran through his estate. He saw the possibilities of creating a “navigation” to Guildford. In 1635 he was appointed as one of the Royal Commissioners to look into the feasibility of this project. However, being a member of a Catholic family during the English Civil War, his property was seized and he had to take himself into exile. At the end of the Civil War he returned and, with help, introduced a bill to Parliament in 1650, to authorise construction of the “Wey Navigation”. With permission granted, Sir Richard began work in 1651 with great energy, using timber from his own estate, and also from the King’s estates of Oatland and Richmond.

Less than a year later Sir Richard died, before seeing his work completed, but his efforts had already seen 10 of the 14 miles to Guildford made navigable. After his death the work was continued by his son, who oversaw the construction of the “River Wey Navigation” to its successful conclusion. There were about 9 miles of canal linking sections of river. There were 12 locks, including two sets of flood gates at Walsham

Portrait of Sir Richard Weston, attributed to Cornelius de Neve, c.1630, Wikipedia



and Worsfold. The locks had sloping turf sides with timber framework. There were 4 new weirs, 12 bridges and wharves, especially the main wharf at Guildford. The cost was £16,000* an enormous sum for those days! Barges were built for this new trade route initially to carry 30 tons of cargo and were, of course, horse drawn. Woollen cloth and oak for shipbuilding were carried downstream and out onto the river Thames at Weybridge. On the return journey, grain was brought back to the many mills along the river Wey. After the Fire of London, a great deal of timber was carried to help with the reconstructions of the capital.

It was not until 1760 that work began to make the 4 miles of river to Godalming an extension of the navigation. There were another 1 1/2 miles of canal, 4 locks and 2 wharves built. In 1763 the “Godalming Navigation” opened, 110 years after the initial navigation to Guildford. The whole river Wey and Godalming Navigation” was (and is) 19 miles and 6 furlongs in length. Now, there was direct access, via the Thames at Weybridge, to and

from London 's docks. Tolls for the carriage of barge-loads of heavy goods made the enterprise very profitable. The coming of the railway posed a threat to the canal trade and inevitably some business was lost. However, the Edwards family, who for generations lived at Dapdune Wharf and built barges, created larger boats with greater capacity. In 1900 they developed barges which could transport 80-90 tons and were pulled by two horses. This meant that for bulk transportations of large amounts of cargo it was still more economical to travel by water. Latterly, engines were fitted in the barges and this trade, although becoming more limited, continued until 1969 when the last of the Stevens' barges brought 80 tons from Tilbury to Coxes Mill at Weybridge, with Peter Fletcher who was a Master Craftsman in heavy marine, agricultural and industrial joinery as "guest crew".



**£16,000 could be worth £3,080,000 today according to a "simple Purchasing Power Calculator" by multiplying by the percentage point RPI on measuringworth.com. This may not be the most accurate way of measuring a construction project as purchasing power, materials and labour costs have risen at different rates.*

***1 furlong = 660 feet or approx. 201 metres, Wikipedia.
19 miles and 6 furlongs = 19m and 6/8 of a mile*

*A Milepost with Furlongs,
Wikipedia*



On the river Wey Navigation

The Bright Spark, a 50ft long Narrowboat which **Julia and Roy Wake** owned for over 15 years, moored at Farncombe Boat House. Julia made both the "Cratch cover" at the front and the Stern cover.



Julia knitting a curtain for the bathroom window for "in the heads"



The Marmite Party

Julia and Roy with friends, re-enacting the advertisement at The Boat Festival.





... other means of travel



Sustainability in action

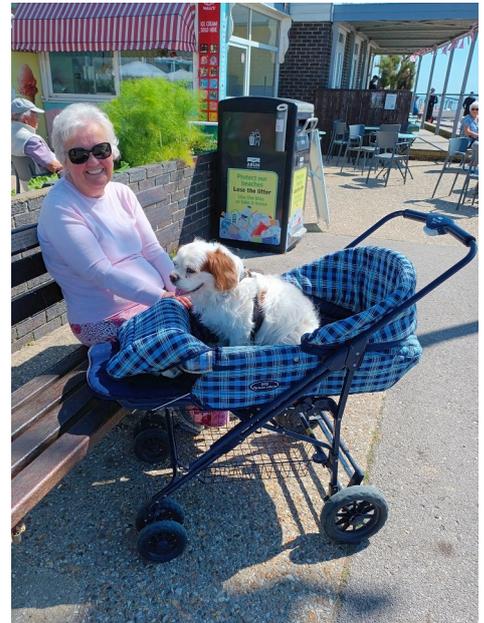
Finn rides everywhere, including Café Play, on his wooden bike. 3 other children have used it before him and it is still going strong.



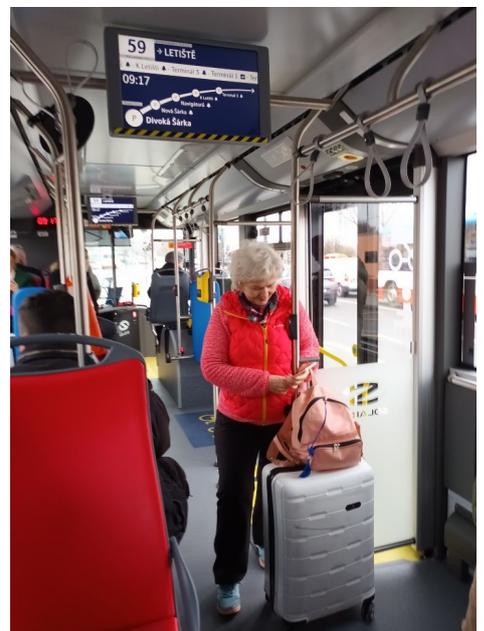
Dizzying view from cable car on Lantau Island Hong Kong **Chris Goodwin**

Circa 1984 – I was sales administrator at Bell & Colvill, the Lotus dealers in West Horsley. At opposite ends of the performance and economy spectra, the 140 mph Lotuses and the 140 mpg Honda!
Sally Lowe

Spotted on the Sussex coast. Photo taken with the permission of both driver and passenger!



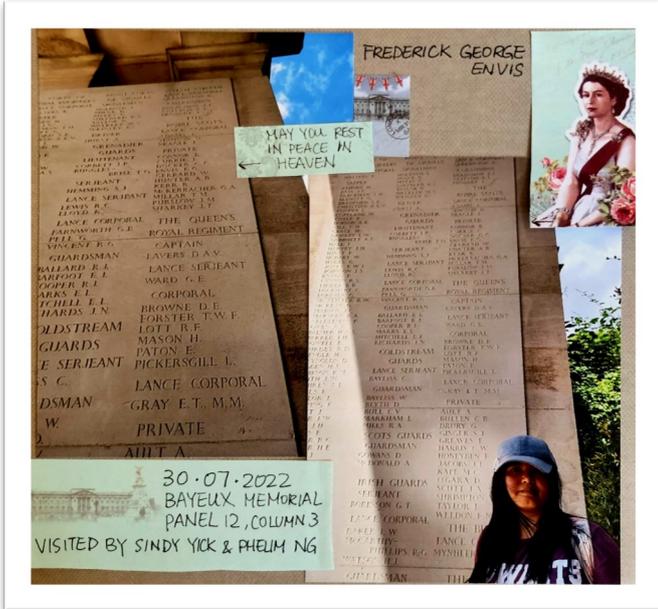
New trolleybuses run between Prague's Metro and the airport. They are fitted with an electric battery to manage the parts without overhead cables.





**D-Day
Remembered**

by **Carol Wild**



My uncle, Frederick George Envis, died on the Normandy beaches on D-Day. His body was never found but he is remembered on the memorial in Bayeux and

also at St Mary's in Bramshott, where he lived. My neighbour Sindy visited Bayeux, found and photographed my uncle's name engraved on the memorial plaque and made this board for me.



View from Pewley Downs. One April afternoon, I sat on a seat there, the weather was good and it made it very enjoyable time.

Rory Fenner



A little boy handed the editor a Lego brick at Cafe Play; it turns out that his mum Stefajia Vektere is an artist. This is her painting Melting Ice, Ilulissat Icefjord. For more information, see <https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/InspiredByStefanie?ref=seller-platform-mcnay>



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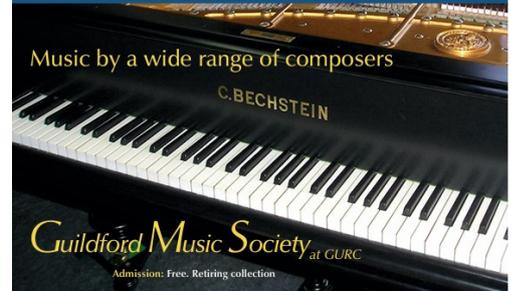
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by gifted young players
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Upcoming Concert
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Luha Tunnicliffe: viola/violin
Hannah Watson Emmrich: piano
Boulanger, Bach, Ades, Montgomery,
Villa-Lobos, Janáček, Dvorák,
Trad. arr. Tunnicliffe & Bartok

Venue:
Guildford United Reformed Church
83 Portsmouth Road, GU2 4BS
Free parking



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LIZ SIMCOCK



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Tickets £18 GuildfordFringeFestival.com



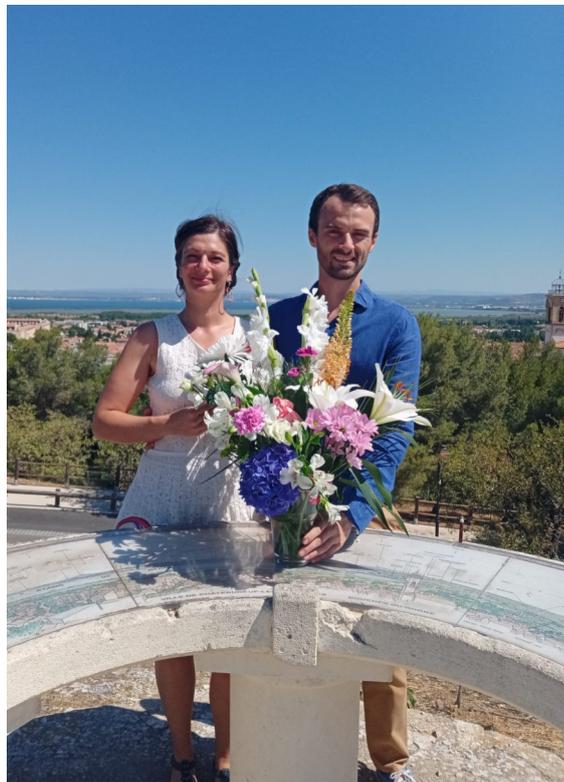
Grace shares the Gale-Beckett family news



Miles Gale with Granny Grace.

Rory Gale married Elsa Larue de Tournemine on 8 July 2022 at Chateauneuf les Martigues.

Miles was born on 21 October 2023 at 03:22, weighing 3.250 kilos. He will have dual nationality and be bi-lingual. Rory speaks to him in English and Elsa in French. His name is Miles Gale Larue de Tournemine and at present he is the only grandson.



Fred Hutley celebrated a very special birthday on the 1st June



John Ainslie, formerly a member of the congregation here at St Nicolas, is now an ordained minister. He sends this message: "I have recently been appointed Priest in Charge of the Parish of St Michael and All Angels, Maidstone, in the Diocese of Canterbury."

Phone numbers and email are unchanged; I have his address if anyone would like it.

Patrick Andrew



Shirley explains David's Old Testament reading to young Anna, a prospective Bible study group member.

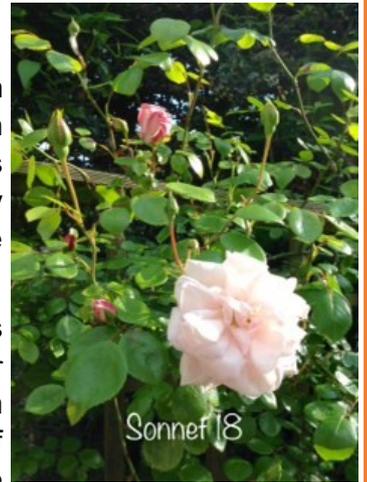


Sides people, please do check the Service book colour with Cath prior to Sunday, so that you may co-ordinate your dress accordingly.



What does Tuesday Group do on a Tuesday morning? Well, we enjoy each other's company, practice respectful speaking and listening, support each other when needed, and build up friendships which also exist in our lives outside the Group. These things take place in a framework of varied weekly activities and events, the programme being based on suggestions made by the members of TG.

The Summer Term began with games of dominoes, set out on individual tables for four or so players. The domino sets included those intended primarily for children, and one of them (consisting of matching objects depicted from different angles) was a particular challenge; it was a relief to discover some of the pieces were missing. The Shakespeare "Miscellany" required a little homework, but revealed some interesting memories, facts and points of view. An outside speaker is always a popular choice, and David Greenwood's talk on "The Story of the Symphony - Haydn to Brahms" was well received. (This was the first of a series of three related talks; if this is the kind of topic you enjoy, please look out for announcements about the talks which will follow.) One week Jana led the Group in considering those bright moments in life when we glimpse something above mundane, everyday considerations, and everyone joined in with the session "It puts me in mind of ...", contributing their experiences on given subjects. The half term closed with the topic "Kites", which proved a fruitful source of inspiration for an "individual contributions" session - as well as birds, and many happy memories of kites as toys, there were insights into customs in Hong Kong and Lebanon, heraldry, how to make a paper puzzle from a kite shape, aircraft, music and literature, and housing for the disabled.



The programme for the half term starting in June :

- 4th June** - Badges;
- 11th June** - Memories of Timothy White's;
- 18th June** - Guest speaker on "Jenner and his defeat of smallpox";
- 25th June** - Carpet bowls;
- 2nd July** - Craftwork for the Summer Fayre;
- 9th July** - Bingo (the TG way);
- 16th July** - In-house speaker on "The Summer Night Sky";
- 23rd July** - a Summer Medley, with individual contributions on all things to do with the season.

Tuesday Group then closes for the summer holidays, **resuming on 3rd September.**

What do YOU do on a Tuesday morning? Text **Cathy Goodwin**, photos **Chris Goodwin**



The Good Grief Club **Helen Trussler**

This is a new Bereavement group and a chance for those people navigating loss and grief to come together and feel less alone. It's a relaxed, friendly and very supportive group that welcomes the bereaved at whatever stage of their grieving process, we drink coffee, eat cake, have a laugh but also talk about our grief openly and with no judgement, safe in the knowledge that we all know how each other is feeling. We meet monthly at the Cosy Club in Guildford. It has been a great success so far and the **26th June at 2.00pm is our next meet up.** Men, please note, it is open to you too!

The Cosy Club at Tunsgate, Guildford





Cath's Baking

I love to bake and Scout camps now expect home-made cakes. There are an increasing number of diets that need to be catered for, including gluten-free. I have tried quite a few recipes and this has been the most successful. To make it easier to cut up at camp, I often make it in a traybake tin and don't put the icing on it. It gets devoured either way!

Gluten-Free Chocolate Cake

150ml vegetable oil
175g plain gluten-free flour
1 tsp Xanthum gum
50g cocoa powder
1 Tbsp baking powder (check it's gluten-free)
1/2 tsp bicarbonate of soda
75g dark brown soft sugar
75g caster sugar
2 Tbsp golden syrup
2 eggs
100g Greek yogurt
100ml milk
2 Tbsp instant coffee, dissolved in 4 Tbsp hot water

For the Icing:

300g icing sugar
25g cocoa powder
150g soft salted butter
3 Tbsp milk
65g dark chocolate, melted



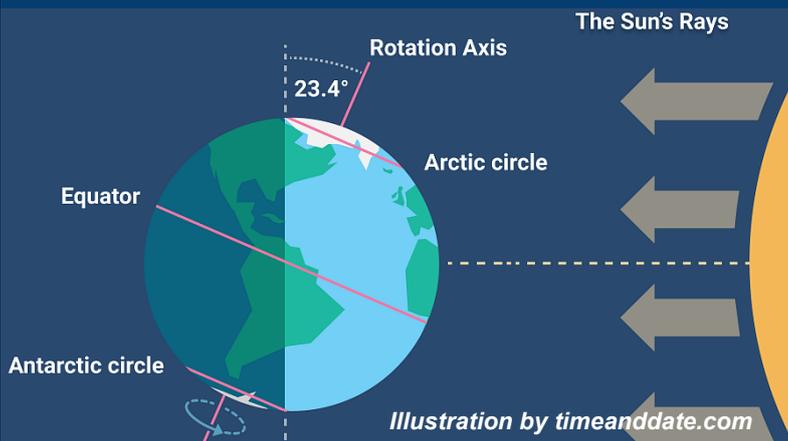
Heat the oven to 180C/160C fan/Gas 4. Oil and line 2x 18cm sandwich tins with baking paper. Mix together the dry ingredients with a large pinch of salt in a large bowl. Whisk the wet ingredients together in a jug. Gradually whisk the wet into the dry until the mixture is smooth.

Pour into the tins and bake for 30-35 minutes until risen and firm to the touch. Cool for 10 minutes then turn out onto a cooling rack.

To make the icing, beat the icing sugar, cocoa powder, butter and milk together for 5 minutes until smooth and fluffy. Gradually pour in the melted chocolate while beating. Sandwich the cakes together with half the icing and put the rest on the top. (and the sides if you want, but I always find it's too fiddly!)

The night sky in June and July

Rory Fenner



June The **Sun** moves from Taurus into Gemini on 21 June. It is now the Summer Solstice and the longest day of the year. **Mercury** offers a very poor evening apparition after Superior Conjunction on the 14 June. **Venus** passes through Superior Conjunction, meaning it is on the far side of the Sun, on the 4 June. **Mars** is a morning object but plagued by strong twilight. **Jupiter** is now a morning object but too close to the Sun for observation. **Saturn** is getting better in the morning sky in

Aquarius, achieving a reasonable altitude by sunrise at the end of June. **Uranus** is an morning object too close to the Sun to be seen. **Neptune** is a low-lying object, better placed by the end of the month. It is Occulted (*hidden*) by the **Moon** in late morning of 28 June.

July The **Sun** moves from Gemini into Cancer on 23 July. **Mercury** is still poorly placed in the evening sky. **Venus** reappears in the evening sky, lying low in the twilight. **Mars** is improving in the pre-dawn sky to being well placed at magnitude +1. **Jupiter** is getting better in the morning, by the end of July it is high in the sky in Taurus. **Saturn's** visibility is really improving in the mornings, by the end of July it culminates at 30deg. **Uranus** is a pre-dawn binocular object close to **Mars**. The pair are under a degree apart, low in the Eastern sky at mid-month. **Neptune** is a morning object in Pisces, visible by a small telescope.



Do you feel lonely – sometimes or all the time?

Is loneliness different to being alone?

Can you be lonely even in a relationship, or in a crowd?

What are some causes and symptoms of loneliness?

Are there ways we can deal with loneliness in ourselves and others?

We will try to address these questions during the morning.

The session will be free of charge, but a voluntary donation is invited for SILVERLINE, a 24/7 telephone helpline service offering friendship, conversation and support to those who are over 55 years old, and especially those experiencing feelings loneliness or isolation.

Life Issues Series

At Godalming Baptist church

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Led by Rev Peter Jackson

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Coffee available from 9.30

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by Friday 14th June



Are you passionate about children's wellbeing and mental health? Would you like to make a difference in the life of a child here in Guildford, helping to build their self-esteem and resilience?

Our 'School Transition Project' needs your help in supporting 10-11 year olds who are struggling with the transition from Primary to Secondary School.

Can you spare two hours a week to be a coach to a child?

If you are interested please contact Harriet Dewey for more information.

harrietdewey@matrixtrust.com

07458 099912

www.matrixtrust.com

We have an exciting project at Matrix, working with children and schools in your area, and would love to involve your congregation.

We are seeing a national increase in the number of children struggling with mental health issues, particularly since the COVID19 pandemic, with the lockdowns and resulting school closures affecting children more than any other group. At Matrix we see this particularly in the rise in the number of children who are referred to us in our schools' work for help in areas such as anxiety, low self esteem and more serious mental health issues.

Recent national research in 2022 indicated that the decline in young people's wellbeing and mental health over the adolescent period, perhaps unsurprisingly, was linked to the transition to secondary school at age 11, highlighting the need for targeted support that safeguards children against mental health decline during the transition from Primary to Secondary School.

We are passionate about finding ways to help more children, and help them before their needs advance and become unmanageable. We want to help them at an earlier stage, to develop the skills they need as they grow up to build confidence, resilience and self esteem. Our 'School Transition Project' supports children one-to-one with the change from Primary to Secondary School, giving

those that are vulnerable and at greater risk of struggling with the transition an opportunity to transition well, and decrease the likelihood of early Secondary School drop-out or mental health struggles later in life.

We need volunteers from churches in Guildford who are happy to give two hours a week of their time to mentor or 'coach' a child in school for a year.

Coaches will be provided with training and all the materials they need to run their sessions which will include having fun, as well as some more serious stuff! Coaches will also be given on-going support and supervision from Matrix.

We would love to have some new volunteers from your church help us reach more children in your local area. *Harriet Dewey, Primary Schools Lead*

 Phyllis Tuckwell®
Hospice Care

Become a Home Support Volunteer

Local hospice care charity **Phyllis Tuckwell** is looking for more volunteers to join its Home Support team. The volunteers are each paired with one of Phyllis Tuckwell's patients, and can visit them at home once a week for up to three hours. They may take them out shopping or to medical appointments, go for a walk or drive together, perhaps to a local garden centre or café, or simply sit and have a chat with them over a cup of tea.

Phyllis Tuckwell provides supportive end of life care for patients and families in West Surrey and North-East Hampshire, who are living with an advanced or terminal illness, such as cancer. Being seriously ill can cause anxiety and stress, and can be lonely too, so these volunteers can make a real difference to a patient's life, providing practical and emotional support and companionship at a difficult time. Their help also means that the patient's carer is able to have a few hours to themselves, knowing that their loved one is safe and being looked after.

"Our Home Support volunteers make such a big difference to the lives of our patients," said Julia Morpeth, Voluntary Services Manager at Phyllis Tuckwell. "Just a few hours of their time, providing a listening ear or support to get out of the house, really helps to boost patients' confidence and wellbeing. We provide our volunteers with both induction and ongoing training and guidance to help them understand their role, develop their skills and really feel that they are making a difference."

Phyllis Tuckwell's next **training sessions for new Home Support volunteers** will take place on **Wednesday 3rd, Thursday 4th and Saturday 6th July**. If you enjoy the company of others and like the idea of making a real difference to someone's life, perhaps this could be the thing for you?

To sign up or find out more, please call **01252 729400**, email voluntary.services@pth.org.uk or visit www.pth.org.uk/get-in-touch-volunteering where you can fill in an online form.



Phyllis Tuckwell's Home Support volunteers visit patients at home



Supporting people who are blind,
vision impaired, Deaf, deafblind and
hard of hearing for over 100 years

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SMS: 07860 026 269 | Skype: sensory.services
FaceTime: dutysw@sensoryservices.org.uk | f t i
www.sightforsurrey.org.uk | Registered Charity No: 1121949



Sensory Services by Sight for Surrey supports over 8,000 people across the county and much of what we do as a charity relies upon the dedicated work of volunteers to reduce social isolation within the community and to ensure that we are helping as many people as possible. Our incredible band of volunteers have a variety of roles including: phone befriending, home visiting, helping in homes with technical issues, driving individuals to appointments, volunteering at events, or volunteering their skills and time in any way that will help the people we support.

www.sightforsurrey.org.uk

We are now looking for more volunteers. If this is something you would enjoy, please contact <https://sightforsurrey.org.uk/get-involved/volunteering/>



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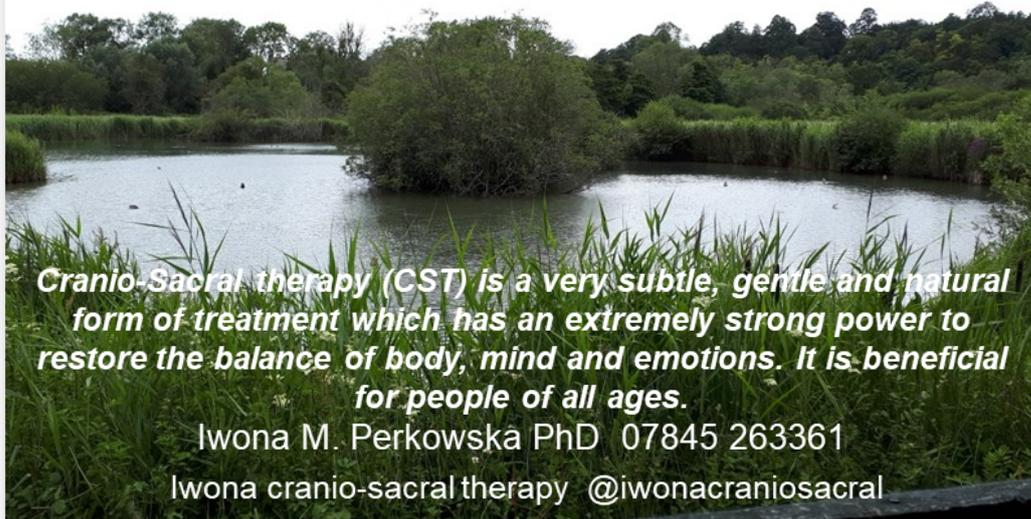
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*From personal experience, this helps with bad backs, necks, shoulders, muscle injuries, tiredness and stress. **Jana***

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Editors Fr Neil Roberts

& Jana Phillips



Please email or telephone your material to Jana

janagp@btinternet.com, m.07970 934325 or give to Fr Neil or Jana at church.

The next copy deadline will be Sunday 17 August. The Newsletter will cover September and October 2024.



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