

December 2020–March 2021

Bourne

PARISH MAGAZINE

Christmas
Edition



ST THOMAS'
CHURCH

ST MARTIN'S
CHURCH

BRAMBLETON
HALL

Advent and Christmas

29TH NOVEMBER

6pm @ St Thomas'

Advent Candlelit Service

A service of seasonal readings and music by candlelight, moving from darkness to light.



filled with beautiful music sung by the girls and adults of St Thomas's Choir, led by Director of Music Rob Lewis.

DECEMBER 14TH,

15TH & 16TH

3.30pm @ St Martin's

Church, Bourne Green

Christmas Eve

@ 3pm and 4pm

New at St Martin's this Christmas!

Family Christmas Storytime Service:

Explore Christmas '*On Angel Wings*' through the eyes of Michael Morpurgo.



CHRISTMAS EVE

24TH DECEMBER

4pm and 6pm

@ St Thomas'

Crib Service

A traditional children's carol service with the Blessing of the Crib. This service is about 30 mins long.



24TH DECEMBER

9pm @ St Martin's

First Communion of Christmas

Celebrating the Nativity of Jesus Christ our Saviour, held in the beautiful surroundings of St Martin's Church on the Bourne Green.



20TH DECEMBER

4pm @ St Thomas'

Christmas Lessons and Carols

A shorter service of lesson and carols telling the Christmas Story. It will be sung by the the choir of boys and adults, led by Director of Music Rob Lewis.



CHRISTMAS DAY

24 DECEMBER

11.15pm @St Thomas'

Midnight Mass

Traditional Holy Communion Service with carols and Christmas music. This late night service starts on Christmas Eve and ends just after midnight.



20TH DECEMBER

6pm @ St Thomas'

Nine Lessons and Carols

A traditional service of nine lessons and carols



Services

Our services from St Thomas' will be live-streamed and available via our website: www.thebourne.org.uk.

25TH DECEMBER
8am @ St Thomas'
Christmas Day
Holy Communion

Come and join us for a said Holy Communion Service for Christmas Day.



25TH DECEMBER
10am @ St Thomas'
Christmas Day
Family Eucharist

Festive service with traditional Christmas carols sung by the St Thomas's Choir, led by Director of Music Rob Lewis.



Christmas Day
10.30am @ St Martins'
A family said service
for Christmas Day



IN ADDITION **– TWO VIRTUAL SERVICES**

6TH DECEMBER
4pm @ St Thomas'
Virtual Christingle

A joyful celebration that brings families and communities together to share the light of Jesus and spread a message of hope. This will be available via Zoom. Please book a place on the parish website www.thebourne.org.uk and a link will be sent to you.



13TH DECEMBER
4pm
Virtual Gather@4

Join us online for an informal service celebrating the Christmas season. Ideal for families with young children. Please book a place on the parish website www.thebourne.org.uk and a link will be sent to you.



Booking instructions

To book your tickets for these services go to the Parish website where there will be a link to enable booking. This is a simple procedure. Booking opens on November 16th. All services are subject to change because of government regulations.

From The Registers

JANUARY 2020	Rest in Peace: Beryl Hemmings
APRIL 2020	Rest in Peace: Joan Allan, Mary Hird, Brendon Levens
MAY 2020	Rest in Peace: Maurice Atkins, James Banks, Beryl Jory, Alan Stafford-Brookes
JUNE 2020	Marriage: Benjamin Palmer and Kathryn Ratcliffe Rest in Peace: Ann Cutler
AUGUST 2020	Rest in Peace: Benjamin Kench, Valerie Mayhew, Joan Moriarty
SEPTEMBER 2020	Baptism: Maisie Monks Marriage: Alex Parratt and Emily Marshall Rest in Peace: Pamela Horner, Mary Trusler, Anthony Wiseman
OCTOBER 2020	Rest in Peace: Joy Evans, Alistair Jaffray, Dennis Platt
NOVEMBER 2020	Rest in Peace: Revd Arthur Brown, Ian Hallcup, Elizabeth Halsall, Valerie Leggett, Joan Wilde

Bourne Parish Regular Church Services

At the time of writing in late October it is impossible to predict what the pattern of services in the new year will be. Please consult the parish website for updates. At present:

- St Thomas' Church:** 8am • Holy Communion (*said*)
10.30am • Parish Eucharist (*music but no congregational singing*)
- St Martin's Church:** 10.30am • Act of Worship
- Brambleton Hall:** Act of Worship
- Junior Church:** Meets on the second Sunday of the month at St Thomas'

Little Lord Carol

- 1 When hands hang limp, and days seem long;
When courage fails – to make us strong
You come, Little Lord of Strength,
Jesus, you come.
- 2 When minds are dark and hearts are sad;
When tears fall fast – to make us glad
You come, Little Lord of Joy,
Jesus, you come.
- 3 When thoughts are glum and widows cry
When peace talks fail – to lift us high
You come, Little Lord of Hope
Jesus, you come.
- 4 When simple childlike hearts believe;
When men keep faith, although they grieve,
You come, Little Lord of Peace,
Jesus, you come.
- 5 When shepherds watch and angels sing,
When stars shine out and carols ring,
You come, Little Lord of Wonder,
Jesus, you come.
- 6 When Time is ripe to claim your own
And bring us all before your throne
You'll come, Mighty Lord of Glory,
Jesus, You'll come!

This beautiful carol was written in Uganda by Sheelagh Warren during the years of Idi Amin's tyranny, to encourage and console frightened schoolchildren. Our own youngsters are facing much lesser but not dissimilar challenges in this year of pestilence.

Letter from the Vicar

Dear Friends,

Christmas has many descriptions in popular culture. From people saying things like, *"It's family time"* to people claiming that Christians *'stole the festival from pagans'* and it's all about the winter solstice really. Certainly with the winter solstice on the 21st, it might be argued that, with the primitive methods available many years ago, the 25th might be the first day people could actually measure that the days really were getting longer. However with Covid hanging over us, we are already living in dark days. The last six months have seen a world turned upside down by the global pandemic of Covid 19 and people talk of a new normal as if things will never be the same again.

Nobody would have predicted the closure of all church services earlier this year. In many ways it was a truly dark time in our life as a church. Many of us still feel the suffering of not being able to meet people normally. To touch another human being, to hug someone. To be able to go and see a friend and talk or pray or spend time together was taken away from us. Even now, we live in a strange world where face coverings are the norm. It's dehumanising and affected us more deeply than some people realise.

Christians use the term *'fellowship'* to describe our enjoyment of each others' company as we gather together to worship or to socialise. Fellowship has taken on a new depth of value for many of us and when people talk about Christmas being a family time, I suggest

it's the fellowship we yearn to enjoy that they are referring to. As I write this, many of us are looking forward and hoping that we will be able to celebrate Christmas somehow both as a church and with our families.

Yet in the midst of our angst, we should remember that the reason we gather together is to celebrate the birth of a small helpless child, homeless and far from his family's normal life. Jesus was born into a different world from ours. Slavery was an everyday fact, the order of their society had been overturned by an invading army of occupation and strange rules and rituals were considered essential. Their normal was alien to ours. Then when Jesus came into the world another 'normal' was introduced and itself manifested in Emmanuel – *'God with us.'*

Whatever occurs over the next months, and no matter how we end up celebrating Christmas, I hope that we take a moment to remember that God's love, revealed in and through the Christ-child and Jesus' whole life, is the rock-solid foundation on which we can rely. When all around us Covid 19 disturbs our old normalities, Christmas reminds us that God stepped into the world and from that beginning in Bethlehem went on to bring us the hope of the resurrection and true life for all. Be thankful for what we have and be aware of those who are poor and lonely, for Christ came for them as well.

John Morris





Margaret and Geoff Hooker's Diamond Wedding Anniversary



Ahmadiyya Tea Party



Music Quiz

Parish News Christmas 2020

Hilary Newman

I have to ask you all to cast your minds back a long way and would like to start by bringing to mind all those people across our country and the whole world who have suffered during the Covid 19 pandemic, and to thank God for being with us, here in the Bourne. Jan and I would also like to thank everybody involved in the production and distribution of this magazine. You will notice that this edition has a different format being on line and that some regular features are missing. For example, there is no Events page. We hope, however that you will find plenty to interest you in Revd John Morris's message and in the variety of articles.

The churches in the Bourne were closed for about twelve weeks and are now open for private worship and for services, albeit with smaller numbers due to the necessity for social distancing. During this time, the church has still been there for the whole parish and further afield, with a help line and efficient system in place for checking up on everybody's well-being. The beautifully presented e-newsletter helps to keep people in touch. It is available on Friday, and includes articles, reflections, prayers and poems, as well as the parish on line church service on Sunday morning. The on-line services have proved extremely popular. Thanks are due to everyone involved in keeping things running in these unusual times. Music news is reported on page 12.

Most of you had your Easter to August magazine delivered just before the lockdown. Unfortunately, as the lockdown

happened in the middle of our delivery week, some of you will not have received your copy and we apologise for that. Everything happened quickly and suddenly, including church doors being locked by order of the Archbishop of Canterbury. We do have some news to catch up with.

On 6th February, Margaret and Geoff Hooker, who have supported this parish unstintingly throughout their married life, celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary. Bishop Christopher Herbert officiated at a short service of thanks and a blessing for their marriage in the Lady Chapel at **St Thomas'** Church. Their family joined them for all the celebrations.

Following a parish visit to the Ahmadiyya Muslim community in January, on 29th February, a group of Muslim ladies was welcomed to afternoon tea at St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church. See page 34.

On 7th March, eighty-eight people, ranging in age from 8 to over 80, gathered in the **St Thomas'** Rooms for a quiz to raise money for choir funds and the *Step by Step* charity. Questions ranged through choral, pop, film and *Disney* and a raucous and thoroughly enjoyable time was had. Delicious food appeared during the evening, which concluded with a raffle. Many thanks to Vanessa, Catherine, Kath and all their team for a great occasion which raised approximately £1200.

On the following day, Sunday, 8th March, Bishop Andrew, the Bishop of Guildford, visited the parish to a full **St Thomas'** Church, which

included the congregations of **St Martin's** and **Brambleton** who also came to welcome him. Excellent music was provided by the men's and boys' choirs and a happy atmosphere prevailed.

Because Pat Lambert's big birthday could not be celebrated in the usual way, her daughter, Dr Mary Small, arranged a tea-party and concert for her in the garden in August when restrictions were easier. Pat was not too taken aback when a few old friends dropped in but was astonished when a part of St. Thomas' Choir, including granddaughter Annie, suddenly filed into the back garden and, despite the rain, burst into song as a thank-you to Pat (and David) for their years of service to the church. The occasion was much enjoyed by everyone there.

On Sunday, 27th September, Harvest Festival was celebrated across the Benefice. At **St Thomas'** people brought gifts of food which were gathered up as contributions to the Food Bank. The sermon took the form of a dramatized conversation between congregation member Jacqui Sellars and the Curate, Sandy Clarke, highlighting the need to work with nature as we produce food to feed the population of the World. Assistant Curate, Elaine Collins led the Harvest Festival Service at **Brambleton** which the Brambleton Congregation felt was really special "*as (in Sue Hoare's words) she is leaving and will be greatly missed.*" The **St Martin's** service went well and, as always, the church looked amazing.

At **St Martin's**, they have a congregation averaging about eighteen worshippers at the 10.30 service.

They stopped the Coffee Mornings when the weather got chilly and they could no longer meet in the church grounds. They now meet each Wednesday morning on *Zoom* which works well. £150 has been collected for the Farnham Food Bank and £400 for Macmillan Cancer Support. Sally May speaks for everyone when she says: "*We are all mourning Val Leggett and praying for David.*" Many people will have encountered David Leggett's kindness as a funeral director and will grieve for his sad loss of Val whilst seriously ill himself.

Other news from **Brambleton** is that the Church Service has resumed on Sunday mornings and the general consensus is that "*it's lovely to be back*". Boxing Club is up and running again on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings and Saturday morning, with Sarah Carrington in charge as Shane has a leg injury as a result of falling in a pot hole whilst running. It wasn't his fault. He was being polite and stepped sideways, moving out of the way of some pedestrians coming towards him. We hope you are soon on the mend, Shane. Thanks are due to Shane, who before injuring his leg, painted the whole of the Brambleton stage area. Slimming World is also back at **Brambleton**, run by Sam who would love to see you if you have a few lockdown pounds to lose. Folks at Brambleton are looking forward to having afternoon tea again but, as they acknowledge, that may be a long time coming. But they do have it in mind.

Congratulations, love and best wishes to our Curate at the Bourne Parish, Sandy Clarke, whose ordination to the priesthood took place at her previous church,



Music Quiz



Sandy Clarke's Ordination, with Bishop Andrew Watson



Pat Lambert's 90th Birthday



Sandy's Ordination

St Bartholomew's, in Haslemere on Saturday, 10th October. This was a happy choice of church for Sandy as it is where she was serving when she started her journey to the priesthood and the service was more intimate and emotional in this smaller setting. The Bishop of Guildford, Right Reverend Andrew Watson, conducted the Ordination. Sandy celebrated her first Eucharist at **St Thomas'** on Sunday, 11th October at the 10am service. She was radiant and lovely and has said that she enjoyed wearing her chasuble and stole for the first time. Rev Mary Bowden, who took the sermon, was the incumbent at St Bartholomew's at the same time that Sandy was there. She retired three months before Sandy came to the Bourne. There was a large socially distanced congregation of 108 people overflowing into the choir stalls, around the font and under the organ loft, and an

overflowing of love for Sandy.

On Saturday, 17th October, at 5pm and 6.15pm, the church wardens of **St Thomas'** were delighted to be hosting for the Diocese two Licensed Lay Minister (LLM) Licensing services. The Bishop of Guildford officiated. One of the candidates was our own Jane Quicke from the Bourne Parish who organises *gather@4*. We wish Jane happiness and fulfilment in her forthcoming ministry.

In the Autumn, our Curate, Sandy and one of our Licensed Lay Ministers, Jane Quicke, started to run an online Alpha Course which has been successful and extremely popular. People have appreciated the materials provided by the course and the opportunity to discuss their Christian Faith. The course continues.

*Love to you all
and a Happy Christmas.*

Christmas and Money Matters

An Appeal from the Vicar

One of the remarkable statistics for our parish is the number of people who come through the doors of our churches at Christmas.

Between Christmas Eve and Christmas Day last year we had over 1,700 people in our churches. This is in addition to the packed churches for Carol Service. We are always grateful for the generosity of people who give to help pay for the work we do in the parish and beyond, but we have a real worry this year. Because of Covid 19 restrictions, we are only permitted to have about a quarter the number of people in church as would normally be allowed.

Clearly this might hit our finances hard, but the work still goes on and the bills still need to be paid. If you already give, can you prayerfully think about your giving? If you don't normally donate, can you prayerfully think about becoming a regular giver? If you can't manage to book a seat in church, all our services will be live streamed so you can watch and listen at home but please remember that you can still contribute.

The simplest way to make a one-off donation or become a regular giver is to click on this link: **<https://thebourneparish.churchsuite.com/donate/>**
Thank you. Revd John Morris Vicar.

Thank You!

Many people have contributed to keeping the Church in The Bourne going since the last edition of this magazine in March, virtually during lockdown and within restrictions since June. It is impossible to mention all names but here are some who have been outstanding. Apologies if we've missed you out.

Pastoral Care

Church Call, a system of pastoral care over the phone, 1500 calls so far, organised by Sandy Clarke and Peter Neukom and carried out by Geraldine Moloney, Jane Quicke, Yvonne, Janet, and Susan. Still operating.

Buddy system, providing social telephone calls for people in isolation during lockdown, organised by Michele England and team.

Helpline, providing practical help. Organised by Peter Neukom and Nigel Cuthbert and operated by Nigel and Mo Cuthbert, Liz Lane, Nigel and Jill Lewis, Peter Neukom, Janet Stephen, Andrew and Angela Tuck. Shopping and other helpful tasks carried out by many volunteers.

Enabling Worship

Conducting services, Revds. John Morris, Sandy Clarke, Liz Lane, Elaine Collins, David Adams and Andrew Tuck, supported by Bishop Chris Herbert, Revds. Neil Fairlamb, Clive Richardson and Patrick O'Ferrall and our LLMs, Geraldine Moloney, Jane Quicke, Brian White and Frances Garland.

Music, The rules of furlough meant that our paid musicians, Robert Lewis and Julian Cooper, were forbidden to play any part during lockdown. With splendid foresight

Robert used the last choir-practice in March to record much of the music which the choir would have sung during Holy Week and Easter and these recordings formed part of the broadcast services over that time, bringing much comfort to stunned and often lonely people. Great thanks



are due to **Gordon Tyerman** for master-minding this and later the televised services until we could begin to meet in person in July, as well as the live-streaming since then. Also to those, led by Sandy

Clarke, who persuaded members of the congregation to read, intercede and join a small virtual choir. The contributions of numerous children and young people were balm to the many older viewers separated from their grandchildren. Particular thanks are due to our organ scholar,

Andrew Harrap whose cheerful grin and excellent organ and piano-playing throughout have done much to keep spirits up.



Maintaining morale

In addition to everyone mentioned above and at random:

Michele and the flower-arrangers; Richenda and Ian Wallace and the Tuesday coffee team; those who manage the church's contribution to Farnham Foodbank and the hygiene bank; Vanessa Horne, Janet Windeatt and the communications team, particularly for the e-newsletters which now have a big circulation.

Above all to our stipendiary clergy, John and Sandy, and our churchwardens, Peter and Michele, who have underpinned it all. And Caz Callum, who keeps the office going.



Revd Elaine Collins

Elaine is leaving us to take up a new post in Haslemere. She talked to Sue Leach about her past and future.

Elaine was born in Farnborough – Kent, not Hampshire – where her father ran a little shop called *The Chocolate Box*. Her parents had met in the RAF in the 1940s. Moving through several suburbs of London, the family eventually settled in Rugby where an idea was planted in Elaine's teenage mind when she heard (directed at another girl) "*You'd make a good woman priest*" and thought "*Why not me?*" This idea lay dormant for years. After all there were no women priests in the 60s...

Dance and teaching

Elaine's love of dance began when she was very young and it was to study Dance and RE as specialisms that Elaine trained to be a teacher at (as it then was) Worcester College of Education. RE – which Elaine describes as "*the study of beliefs and how they impact on life*" – was to be her main subject in her teaching career. Dance remained her much loved hobby. Elaine has taken part in Sir Matthew Bourne's dance for the over 55s at the Maltings and is committed to *Dance into Worship*, a group whose choreographed movement enhances church services. Elaine never saw her role in school as an evangelist but stresses the importance for young people to learn and debate about ethics and life's challenges. Part of her curriculum, assisted by a youth worker, was to communicate to her learners the right ideas on smoking, alcohol, drugs, sex and related subjects. She moved from Fullbrook school in West Byfleet to Connaught in Aldershot

where she taught from 1994 to 2013, fitting in postgraduate study to her busy schedule.

Ordination

In 1990 Elaine married Eddie (now almost 93) who was Deputy Head at the school. She has four step children and is even a step great grandmother! It was the Rector of All Saints Church, Headley, who suggested Elaine enter the ministry and she began to train from 2009. Saint Thomas-on-The Bourne was her "*training*" church, at first under Jonathan Still and later David Adams, to whom she expresses heartfelt gratitude for many profound debates as well as practical tips! The diocese decided Elaine should continue at St T's with Karen. Elaine is self supporting (unpaid). Her role as the *public face* of the parish was crucial during the 12+ months of Interregnum until the appointment of John Morris. With typical modesty Elaine says she was just "*part of a team*". That year was exhausting, she says, but "I learned a lot and found my own way as a priest." Elaine feels it is time for a new challenge as she moves to the benefice of Haslemere with Grayswood and she will be re-licenced there in December. I asked Elaine if, among all the highlights of her time at St T's, there was a special moment: it was, she said, serving during the Interregnum on her own at Midnight Mass and singing quietly but happily with the choir as it left the church! There is no doubt of the gratitude, respect and fondness Elaine has inspired and she will be enormously missed.

Winter Birds

Val Lewis considers our winter visitors

By the end of November almost all our summer visitors have departed, leaving only a few which may attempt to over-winter here in sheltered spots. Numbers of winter visitors, especially Redwings and Fieldfares, begin arriving from Europe from November and will probably continue flying in until early February. If there are easterly winds the birds will have an assisted crossing of the North Sea.

Redwings, cousins of our resident **Thrushes**, migrate in flocks, often overnight, and you may hear their distinctive thin, high-pitched *tseep* calls in the darkness overhead. They are nomadic in their habits, and will usually stay in one place for just a few days, feasting on berries or fruit, before moving on elsewhere. They resemble our Song Thrushes, but are slightly burlier, and have distinctive orange-red patches on their flanks and underwings, and quite prominent light 'eyebrow' stripes. You may well see them in your garden.

Fieldfares are also members of the Thrush family, and they, too, migrate in flocks overnight. Their calls are a harsh *chack-chack-chack*. They are larger than Thrushes and Redwings, and impressively handsome, with blue-grey heads, and chestnut backs. Their breasts and flanks are more heavily spotted than their relatives. They also feed on berries and fruit, and tend to move about over open land, so you may see them in local fields.

Starlings arrive in their thousands from Russia and the Baltic States, and you may see flocks of them foraging in farmland, on refuse tips, and occasionally in gardens. These flocks gather together at dusk and form enormous

night-time roosts. They form spectacular flight patterns (called murmurations) as they swirl about, before settling for the night in trees, bushes, reed-beds, on urban buildings or even on seaside piers (in Brighton, for example).



Waxwings are sometimes seen in November, arriving in small flocks along the east coast. They may move inland over a few weeks, and could turn up almost anywhere. The numbers which migrate here fluctuate. In some years we have a sizeable influx of these pretty birds, usually because there is a shortage of the berries they like in their native Scandinavia. They appear in station car-parks, supermarket car-parks, parks and gardens, especially where there are plentiful supplies of rowan and cotoneaster berries. Waxwings are about the size of Starlings, with pink-brown plumage, black eye-masks and bibs, and little swept-back crests. They have yellow and white patterns on their wings, and yellow tips to their tails. They also have shiny red and yellow tips to their wing feathers which look like sealing wax – hence their name. They are strikingly glamorous, and a pleasure to see.

Our resident Blackbirds, Robins and Chaffinches are also joined for the winter months by their European relatives, so you may notice an increase in their numbers locally. Later, we may see Bramblings, Siskins and Redpolls, too.

Keep looking upwards – you may have a pleasant surprise.

Music returns to The Bourne Parish

Covid-19 struck a crippling blow to the Bourne Parish's projected Year of Music 2020 when the church doors were locked on March 23rd and entry forbidden even to the Vicar. However Rob Lewis, the Director of Music, and Gordon Tyerman used the final choir practice to record anthems and hymns to use in the online services up to Easter and beyond, which was much appreciated. Once live services could be resumed on July 19th, live music also returned in small, safe steps. Initially solo singers accompanied the 10 o'clock Communion service, followed in September by adult quartets and a small adult four-part chamber choir. Meanwhile weekly choir practice resumed for the boys' and girls' choirs in September. From the second half of October the treble lines were singing in services again. Many familiar faces have left to go to university or college or because of broken voices and we thank them all for their years of service. Several new young people have made their first appearance in both boys' and girls' choirs but more recruits are still needed. Please see the poster opposite.

New Project

A new project for the choir youngsters, fronted by Cai Thomas as treble soloist and supported by ClassicFM, is to record a Christmas single in aid of *Robbie's Rehab*, a charity launched by a Farnham family to help children with brain cancer, in memory of their son Robbie who was a pupil at Edgeborough School. The song will be a new setting of *Wherever you are*, first performed by the Military Wives' Choir when their men were in Afghanistan. Considering how many people are likely to be separated from their families this Christmas, it sounds like a good choice of song. The single will be released on December 4th. Cai's CD *Seren* is still available



on Amazon and would make an excellent Christmas present.

Concerts

A triumph during lockdown was the VEDay concert, a wonderful recorded concert of old favourites and new accompanied by appropriate visuals. *There'll Be Bluebirds*, for example was set to footage of Spitfires swooping during the Battle of Britain. In September four former head-choristers from the girls' choir, Anna, April, Beth and Izzy, formed a quartet to give accomplished performances of solos, duets and part-songs by Schubert, Mendelssohn, Schumann and Brahms, a feast of romantic lieder. Andrew Harrap, the organ scholar ably accompanied them. To complement the girls' songs, two young singers from the men's choir, Alex and Mixtli played piano music by Schubert and Rachmaninov and Alex, a counter-tenor, performed Purcell's *Evening Hymn*. A few days later a trio of Bourne residents, Richard Lane, Muriel Phillips and Kate Mill, gave a delightful recital of violin, piano and French horn music by Franck, Elgar, Beethoven, Svendsen and Brahms. Both concerts were much enjoyed by audiences which were as large as they are allowed to be nowadays.

Christmas

It is intended that the choirs will make their usual contribution to the Remembrance, Advent and Christmas services but the announcement of the new lockdown from November 5th makes the future even more uncertain.

Come and hit the right notes – join St Thomas' Choir!

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- ▶ Make professional recordings
- ▶ Earn pocket money
- ▶ Make friends
- ▶ World tours



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07973 852189 or choir@thebourne.org.uk
Facebook St Thomas Choir | www.thebourne.org.uk



Looking Back in Lockdown



Barbara Padmore considers the importance of correspondence in wartime and now.

None of us could have predicted the invisible enemy which arrived on our shores in March. However, we were blessed with glorious spring sunshine and plenty of time to reflect, connect and tackle some of the many outstanding jobs we needed to carry out. My parents' War Diaries had been sitting forever, tied up in neat bundles, in an old beautiful hat box and it was always my intention to read them one day and here was a golden opportunity to do so.

My parents wrote lengthily to each other in pencil in small notebooks throughout the War describing the minutia of their experiences from morning until night, never missing a single solitary day. They were able to forward them monthly and fortunately they have survived intact and are a fascinating glimpse into the socio-demographics of that era.

My father at the age of thirty enrolled in the Merchant Navy in 1939 and was a Morse code operator in the ship's wireless room whilst enduring many lengthy voyages to India, Africa and the Far East. He wrote of his boredom, the heat, exhaustion, cockroaches, torpedoes, submarines, death with burial at sea as well as his fascinating observation of local natives and their customs. In the first three years of the War he only returned to see Mummy twice and was never home for Christmas in the entire six years. As a child I

remember him being quite Edwardian but his letters display tenderness, love, longing and the utmost trust in God to bring him safely home.

Mummy's news was domestic describing hardships, shortages, trying to make ends meet and the weariness of endless waiting. My sister Julie was just one when War broke out and Mummy had to take in a paying lodger to help with finances. She washed, cooked, dug the garden for vegetables, bottled fruit, carried coal up on her back, walked great distances and listened to the wireless whilst knitting every evening. Frequently she ran to the Air Raid Shelter as bombs were falling overhead. She writes of creating a game to try and persuade Julie to put on her frightening ugly gas mask because of the enemy and I thought what a strange paradox that some eighty years later, here we are now having to wear a mask to protect us against a very different sort of worldwide enemy.

Obviously the greater part of our correspondence is now electronic and is sitting somewhere in *'the cloud'*. Perhaps it is time to refill our fountain pens and continue to handwrite to our loved ones, so that in future years they may be able to re-read and cherish heartfelt letters as I have been privileged to do.

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of the Christmas Market at St Thomas'

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Take up the challenge and
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Call Rosemary: 01252
726704 or Kath: 01252
711323

Thank you so much for supporting the St Thomas' Christmas Cracker.
For enquiries, please call Mo on 01252 719650

What we read in Lockdown

Hilary Newman talks about the books she took down from her shelf.

At the beginning of lockdown, when we all had to decide what we were going to do with the extra time, my husband, Keith, and I looked at our book case and realised that we hadn't read most of our books, acquired no doubt in moments of enthusiasm. I never got through one huge tome, *The Life of Stalin*, bought at a book signing, at Hammicks, now Waterstones. There are many other examples on our shelves. Obviously, we didn't take that one down for another look but maybe should have done. No! What we chose to read (aloud) was an old favourite and classic children's book, *Wind in the Willows*, by Kenneth Graham. And it should not have been chosen, having been read and re-read and in my possession since I was nine years of age. I remember my father coming home with it one winter evening. As a child, I didn't realise what a strange book it is, with its characters that are humanised animals. I know that lots of books are like this but in *Wind in the Willows* it is the size of the characters that is weird. The toad is as big as an adult woman. He dresses up as a washer woman in the washer woman's clothes. That is quite grotesque. The rat and the mole must be on the same scale, as large as people, and yet they live in a hole in the river bank. Yet, for all that, *Wind in the Willows* is a charming, and serious book with depth, very funny in places with a satisfying ending when good conquers evil in the form of weasels, and Toad becomes a well-rounded character to



the relief of his friends. I enjoyed reading it again especially the chapter called "*The Piper at the Gates of Dawn*," which I never understood as a child... It's funny but when a book is read aloud nothing is missed out. The style of the writing is discussed. Every word or phrase is noted.

Our next choice was completely different: *The Time Machine* by H. G. Wells. I didn't enjoy this one. It was on our shelf because I had heard it reviewed on Radio 4 and thought the ideas sounded interesting. It's about a time traveller who travels forward in time to a far off and dystopian future. The educated elite do less and less and the working classes do more and more through the centuries. At the time central to the story, the elite, The Eloi are passing their time in empty leisure not realising that the workers, The Morlocks, now living under ground, as well as keeping them in silk, are farming them to eat. The time traveller befriends an Eloi, little Weena. The low point was when she was captured by The Morlocks for food. I wasn't interested in the characters at all, apart from Weena. I still think that the ideas explored in the book are interesting but I didn't enjoy it and was glad to finish it and move on to the next read which also proved disappointing (to

me), *The Snows of Kilimanjaro*, a short story by Ernest Hemingway. This was followed by *The Country Girls*, a novel by Edna O'Brian, describing life in Ireland in the 1960s, which I loved. Then it was the turn of *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens.

I hate to admit it but I had not read *Oliver Twist*. I thought it a wonderful book, a long book, with characters such as poor little Oliver, Mr Bumble, the beadle, Fagin, the criminal and the Artful Dodger, the pick pocket, that came vividly to life in all their variety. There were descriptions that packed a punch, of the homes of the wealthy to the hovels of the poor, and the cold and desolate work house where life was short, the poor were always cold and hungry and thin but had to be grateful. I really cared about the characters, especially Nancy. The way she was treated by Bill Sykes and her devotion to him, has a contemporary ring, especially in today's troubled times when domestic abuse appears to be on the rise. Why do some things never change? When we had finished this book, we watched the musical, *Oliver*. It is quite different. The story is simplified and the characters less extreme. It is almost light-hearted in comparison, but excellent for all that, a different art form. After this one, something completely different: *A Town Like Alice* by Nevil Shute.

When I was at college my main subject was history, which included a module called *The Victorian age from novels*. We acquired an understanding of the social history of that time by reading the works of Charlotte and Emily Bronte, Mrs Gaskell, Benjamin Disraeli, Charlotte Yonge and Charles Dickens, amongst others. These books written at the time, told it like it was, unlike some history written down decades or centuries later.

A Town Like Alice is widely criticised for its casual racism and sexism. But that's what British and Australian society was like in the 1950s. Nevil Shute told it like it was. This is part of the background to, in my opinion, one of the great fictional love stories of the twentieth century. This is a tale of love and war, set in the Malayan jungle, the streets of London and the Australian outback. The strong female central character, Jean Paget, is all the more remarkable for being the creation of a man. Joe Harman, a soldier and cattle rancher, an ordinary guy, is far from ordinary, for he is extraordinarily brave, determined and constant. I found this book very moving and, because I was reading it aloud, often found myself having to stop a second or two to compose myself before continuing. My last book is set in the jungles of Africa, during the First World War.

The African Queen by C.S. Forester is a good read, the story of Allnut, a disreputable Cockney, and Rose, an English spinster missionary, who wend their way down a river in Central Africa in a rickety, rust bucket steam launch named the African Queen, and are gradually joined together in a mission of retaliation against the Germans. Fighting white water, mosquitos and bullets, the two find love before the ending of the book in which they destroy the German vessel and which contains one of the best written love scenes conveyed in fewest words that I have read. But in the words of CS Forester: "*Whether or not they lived happily ever after is not easily decided.*"

So that's what we read, but after our magazine meeting where the group were discussing Robert Harris (a few moments' diversion), I feel I should catch up on some contemporary fiction... Hilary Mantel, Robert Harris...?

Ann's Life For CMS

(Church Missionary Society)

Ann Elizabeth Cutler 30 April 1934-13 May 2020

Sheelagh Warren profiles the life of her friend and colleague in the mission-field.

On 12 June 2020, a service in Namirembe Cathedral, Kampala, organised and led by Old Girls of Gayaza High School, all in masks but wearing bright colours, was held in the presence of the Bishop to celebrate the 40 years Ann had spent as PE and Bible teacher, many of them as lay chaplain, and as teacher of A level Divinity, between 1961 and 2001.

The adopted niece of Miss Dorothy Cutler, Ann spent a happy childhood in her care in the years just before and during WW2. She attended Sittingbourne Girls' Grammar School, where her aunt was Headmistress, from primary till she left after A level; she proved a talented member of every sports team, as well as playing for some county teams, and finally became school games captain, so winning a place at Chelsea College of Physical Education. She qualified as a teacher in 1955.

At the age of 18 Ann attended a youth camp at Lee Abbey, and it was there that she discovered that God was love, and not someone to be obeyed out of fear. Singing what became her favourite hymn, *And can it be*, Ann realised it was true for her that *my chains fell off, my heart was free* and she did from then on *Go forth and follow Christ*, first

teaching at Northgate School in Ipswich and briefly at a Comprehensive school in Beckenham before training at Foxbury. She arrived as a CMS missionary at Gayaza, the oldest school for girls in Uganda, in February 1961, remaining there till 2001 after 35 years with CMS and 5 more as a volunteer. She was then one of two deputy heads, supporting the first Ugandan headmistress.

Games and Divinity at Gayaza

Netball, Scottish dancing and swimming were already taught, but it was in Ann's time that PE became a serious part of the curriculum for all classes from Senior One entry to Sixth form. Her philosophy was not to train elite teams but to ensure that every girl could find some form of sport to enjoy, and in this she was successful – nearly all the tributes to her refer to "Early Mo", the half hour at 6.30am which was spent dancing barefoot on the grass to her tape recorder, with one of her devoted dogs, Heidi or Mischief, lying watching them. Some girls did go on to prove talented players of tennis, athletics or table tennis, but her greatest joy was that so few resisted the fact that PE was compulsory! For Ann discipline and punctuality were essential, and it was as class teacher of one of the first year streams that Ann became known as the source of wisdom and information about the school's

expectations and standards. Those in SIC valued their privilege, and passed on what they were taught to their fellow students in Senior One and later to their own children. Later on she was to teach Bible or Divinity to the O and A level classes. This she could do confidently because she never stopped studying the Bible herself, and was the one to hold sixth form Bible studies and encourage school leavers for a life beyond school. Ann then hosted the staff study when the departure of nearly all expatriates, following Idi Amin's expulsion of foreigners in 1972, meant the school was to be staffed increasingly by young Ugandan women and men, with just 3 CMS missionaries and one Associate CMS left. Ann became lay chaplain of the school, to her great joy, until finally an ordained Ugandan was appointed as Chaplain. Ann enjoyed encouraging the younger Christians on the staff to lead services.

Mentor and Friend

Aside from her teaching and role in the chapel, Ann was a practical and resourceful friend to her colleagues. A good seamstress, she made not only dresses for friends but costumes for plays of all kinds whether Shakespeare set books or the first year Nativity play in the chapel, and knitted endless garments for staff babies. She was part of the choir invited by CMS to tour the UK in 1983, supporting the choir mistress, Janice Hobday, in helping the girls to manage British hospitality as well as joining in the singing in English and Ugandan languages. As more of the staff were married and had families growing up, she supported and befriended them in many ways, never forgetting a birthday



and becoming godmother to several of their children. The Amin years were often dangerous, and sometimes hostile to Europeans, and together with senior colleagues Janice, Sheelagh and Madge, Ann shared many tricky situations, before we were gradually accepted more readily as friends and neighbours, as the shortages and restrictions were ours too. As a result she was welcome to return as a volunteer for her final years and well looked after as the only Muzungu (white face). This time cemented her friendships with her fellow teachers.

Finally returning to UK in 2001, she joined forces with her former colleague Sheelagh, and played a full part in the local church, leading small services both there and in care homes. She enjoyed training her dogs, first Scallywag, who had begun life with her in Uganda, and then Fidget, who outlived her. She found that exercising a dog was a great way to get talking to people here; but above all she kept faith with her Ugandan colleagues, writing endless letters and never ceasing to pray for them. When increasing immobility and arthritis made being in a Care Home necessary, a number of Old Girls visited her and continued to enjoy her ministry, as did her other friends, who because of Lockdown could hold only a very small celebration of a life dedicated to the glory of God.

1940s Childhood

Ann Williams tells Jenny Grant about Life in the 1940s in and around Rowledge.

I was born in Rosemary Lane, Rowledge in the year before World War II broke out. My parents had met and married in the late 1930s. My father trained as a butcher after leaving school, before going to work as a footman at Waverley Abbey House. In later years he frequently regaled us with stories of how much food was ordered, prepared and eaten at the House – very “*Downton Abbey*”! He and my mother, who was also in service, having put on their best clothes would meet on their day off to go walking; these Sunday afternoon promenades would lead to romance and marriage. Life at Waverley House would though come to an abrupt end when my father was called up early into the army because of his butchering skills – an army marches on its stomach as the saying goes.

Wartime

When my father was away in the army, life was difficult for my mother as it was for all wives left at home. They had to be strong, but she and I were lucky because our next door neighbour was in similar circumstances and also had a child of my age for me to play with; this meant there was a lot of mutual support. At the junction of Echo Barn Lane, School Hill and Shortheath Road, there used to be an air-raid siren erected



high on a metal frame. When it went off the sound would echo right across the valley to Frensham. Whilst there were few bombs dropped locally, although one house on Firgrove Hill did lose its roof, the planes would fly overhead nearby on their way to drop bombs on London. It was always a relief when the “*all clear*” siren sounded and we knew the potential danger had passed until the next time. As children, we were used to having black-out curtains at our windows by night, and always having to carry a “*Mickey Mouse*” gas mask with us when we went out. I remember the siren going off on my way to Rowledge School one day – I jumped into a ditch, not that that would have given me much protection!

Rowledge in the 1940s was a very different place from what it is now, lovely though it still is. It had 2 butchers, 2 grocers, 2 shoe menders, a baker, a post office, a sweet shop/cafe (my favourite!) and a High Street clothing shop which sold everything from Wellington boots to ladies' knickers.

When the war was over and we could once again sleep peacefully in our beds, we could look forward to the more normal things in life. Father was home again and we were able to look forward to some enjoyment at Christmas. This would start with carol singing, firstly to get pocket money for ourselves, and then go a second time to the houses of the gentry when we would be invited into the hall of one big house in Boundstone and given mince pies and a drink. Not having had much during the war, I remember being really excited at finding a pair of Wellington boots in my Christmas pillow case; traditionally the pillow case was hung at the end of the bed whilst our Christmas stocking would hang over the fireplace in the front room. The stocking was always one of father's long, grey socks and had an orange and an apple in the

toe. There would be a Christmas tree in the corner of the front room with homemade decorations and wax candles which could only be lit when we were in the room. We made paper chains to hang up – I imagine many of us remember doing that! Another tradition was watching father plucking the fatted cockerel, and I would watch in awe as he pulled out the gory bits. Christmas lunch was always chicken, a luxury at the time, with vegetables from the garden and homemade stuffing and Mum's homemade pudding which would of course include sixpenny pieces which had to be kept for the following year. Both my parents would enjoy sipping potent homemade wine, frequently parsnip, with the neighbours. Boxing Day we would usually go to my grandparents for a tea of salad with hardboiled eggs and vinegar on top – it seemed yummy at the time! Charades would be played with my cousins who were also visiting and all this took place in the front room, usually the only time of year it was used. These were simple times and I have so many memories, but the abiding memory will always be of my mother kneeling by my bed and saying the Lord's Prayer with me.

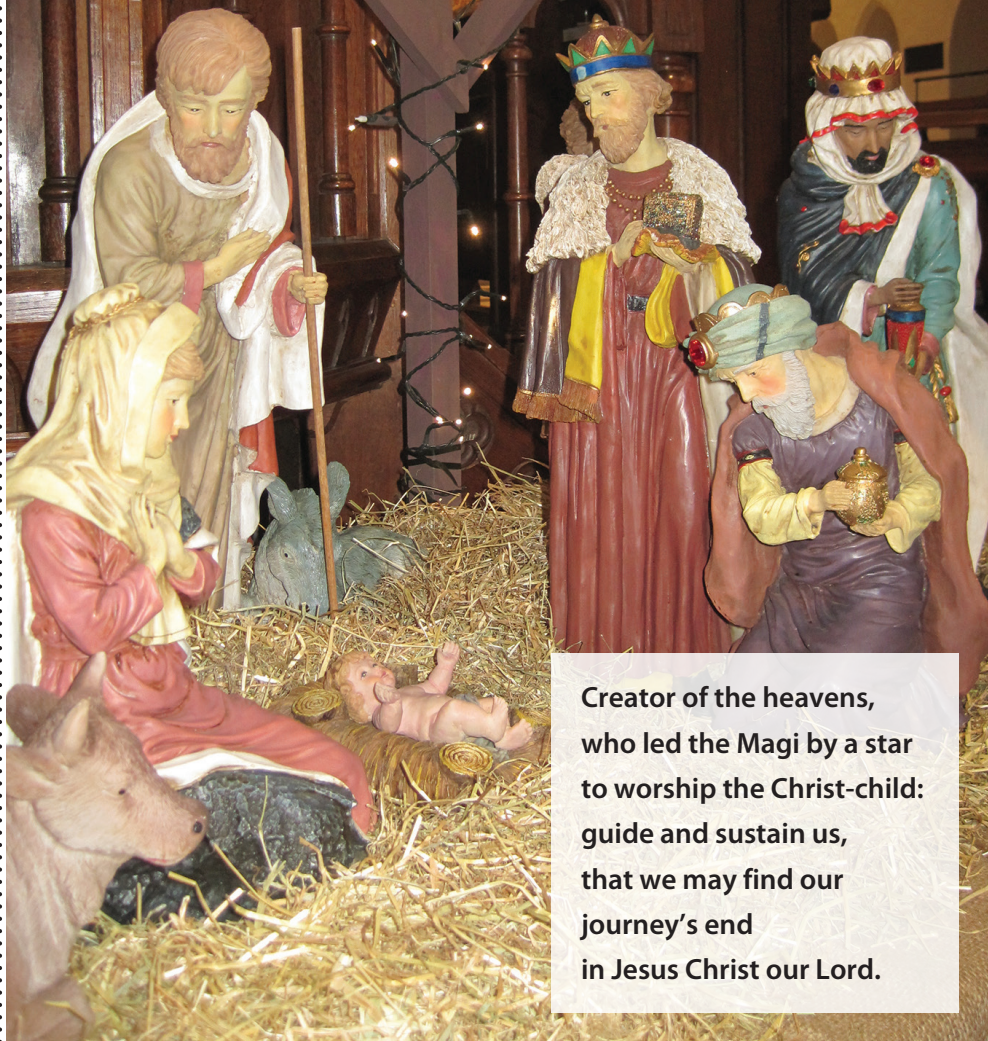
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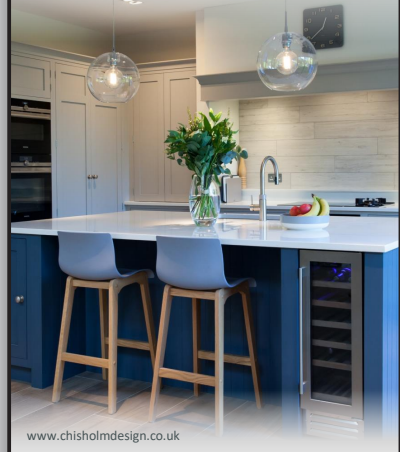
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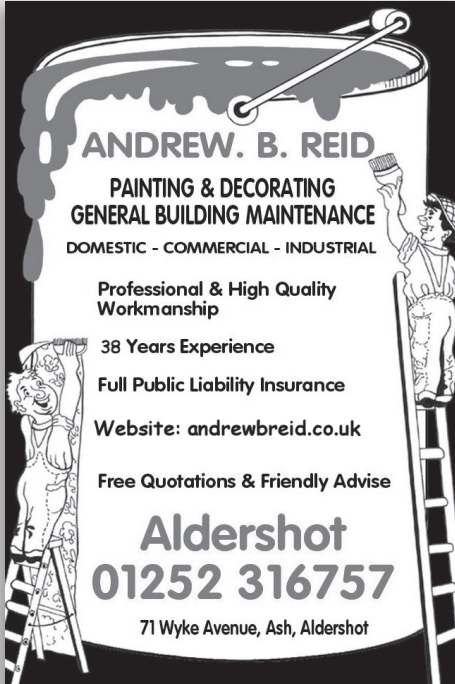
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The Bourne and Tilford Parishes and The Ahmadiyya Muslim Women's Association Exchange Visits

On a frosty January morning 65 women from the Bourne and Tilford parishes made their way to the Ahmadiyya Muslim community at Tilford. Our curate, the Revd. Sandy Clarke, had become friendly with the leading light of their Women's Association, Samina Bhatti, hence the eagerly-accepted invitation to morning coffee – and wonderful samosas. The warmth of our welcome was overwhelming and of course such generous hospitality had to be reciprocated.

At the end of February over 40 Muslim ladies came to afternoon tea at St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church, bringing also some delightful small children. Because the hall is only insured for 80 people, some of the home team had to be turned away, but a packed hall sat down to a feast of cucumber sandwiches, clotted cream scones and cupcakes. We went traditional because we couldn't compete with the samosas. Before this the visitors had been shown round the church in small groups and afterwards the Ahmadiyya ladies gave a demonstration of how to wear a *hijab*. They had brought extra scarves for the Christians to have a go. The way these ladies tie their scarves, they can fit round the face, usually, or a layer can be moved up to cover the mouth and nose. For all of us this could be a practical way to

cover the face in the present crisis. It was obvious that to the visitors wearing the *hijab* was simply a badge of their

Muslim identity, not a sign of subjection. This is difficult to understand for the oldest generation of Christian ladies, who as young women defied St Paul's injunction to wear hats in church, but the gales of laughter coming from the tables showed, as Samina said, that the thing which had been a cause of separation was bringing us together. We all hope that these contacts will continue, perhaps in smaller groups, so that we can learn from each other.

The outbreak of Covid 19 inevitably made this difficult, so technology was called to the rescue. On August 7th a virtual women's interfaith meeting was hosted by the Tilford branch of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Women's Association. Fifty guests attended to listen to women speakers from various faith communities, Christian, Jewish, Buddhist and Muslim. The speakers gave outlines of their faiths and how they expressed it. On Thursday 15th October a second meeting was held to discuss green issues and one will be held later to discuss gender issues.



Who's Who in The Bourne?

The Bourne Parish

Bourne Coffee Morning Tues	
St Thomas', Richenda Wallace	726090
Bourne Coffee Morning Weds	
St Martin's, Sally May	792565
Bourne 2 Stitch - Yvonne Bryant	713671
Brambleton Sunday Lunch Club - Sue Hoare	723380
Guildford Cathedral	01483 547860

Activities for Children

Beavers - Liz Croucher	gsl@5thfarnham.org.uk
Bourne Blades Football club	www.pitchero.com/clubs/bourneblades/
Cubs - Liz Croucher	gsl@5thfarnham.org.uk
Explorers - Ian Wilkins	ian.wilkins@nielsen.com
Farnham Youth Choir	717173
Guides & Brownies	www.girlguiding.org.uk
Scouts - Liz Croucher	gsl@5thfarnham.org.uk

Magazine Team

Magazine Editor	magazine@thebourne.org.uk
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Nursery Schools

Lollipop Tree Nursery, Brambleton Hall	07952 914790
Starfish Children's Day Nursery, Morley Road	820333
The Bourne Nursery Sch., Burnt Hill Road	07786 515866
Woodland Nursery Sch., St Martin's Hall	07786 515866

Schools

Abbey School	725059
Highfield South Farnham School	721079
Ridgeway School	724562
South Farnham School (Infants)	716398
South Farnham School (Juniors)	716155
St Peter's C. of E. School	714115
Waverley Abbey C. of E. School	782321
Weydon School	725052
Farnham College	716988

Social/Sports/Activity Groups

Atomic Boxing Club	07470 604346
Bourne Bowls Club	716683 (evening only)
Bourne Conservation Group	info@bourneconservation.org.uk
Bourne Club	716144
Bourne Cricket Club	http://thebourne.play-cricket.com
Bourne Cricket Colts	www.bournecricketcolts.net

Bourne Green Newsletter	awm@cityorg.co.uk
Bourne Green Tennis Club	724804
Bourne Players	secretary@bourneplayers.com
Bourne Residents' Association	bourne residents@hotmail.co.uk
Bourne Show	www.thebourneshow.com
Bourne Women's Institute - Sarah Steele	07818 015219
Brambleton Bingo - Barry Parker	07919 377184
Encore Theatre Arts Farnham	07767 835864
Farnham & Bourne Choral Society	01252 790422
	or secretary@farnhamchoral.org.uk
Farnham Hub	856970
Farnham Maltings	745444
Farnham Ramblers	725899
Farnham Runners	07929 202967
Great Austins Area Preservation Group	
- Mo Cuthbert	719650
Love Yoga	07735 296420
Hart Male Voice Choir	726979
Pilates For Fitness	07887 727647
St Martin's Hall	07799 808521
Tai Chi class, St Martin's Hall - tbc	tbc
The Arts Society, Farnham Evening	01420 520441
The Arts Society, Farnham	07973 801733
Vox Chamber Choir	714008
Waverley Singers - Secretary	01420 83962

Welfare

Abbeyfield	712021 or 715921
Anchorstone Nursing Home	727378
Brightwells Gostrey Centre	725330
Red Cross Mobility Aids	0300 456 1914
Bourne British Legion	716683
Care Farnham	716655
Citizens' Advice	0844 848 7969
Farnham & Alton Talking Newspapers	719266
Farnham Assist	717710
Farnham Dene Medical Practice	730100
Farnham Town Council	712667
Grace House	726406
Helping People with Sight Loss (Williams Club)	725685 (Bob) or 713671 (Yvonne)
Home Start Waverley	737453
Meals on Wheels	727280
Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice	729400
Police (Surrey)	101
Waverley Borough Council	01483 523333
Woodlarks Camp site	716279
Woodlarks Centre	714041

Our Parish Support Team



Peter Neukom,
Churchwarden
01252 711717



Michèle England,
Churchwarden
01252 721004



Caz Cullum,
Parish Administrator



Jen Leggett,
Parish Office
Assistant

Our Ministry Team

Revd. John Morris, Vicar	713929
Revd. Sandy Clarke, Associate Curate	715505
Revd. Liz Lane, Associate Minister	725933
Revd David Adams, Retired Priest	726888
Revd. Canon Andrew Tuck, Retired Priest	716119
Deirdre Leggett, Retired Lay Minister	715505
Geraldine Molony, Licensed Lay Minister	710815

Pastoral Assistants

Yvonne Bryant	713671
Janet Stephen	714575
Susan Barnes	891810

Parish Treasurer

Michael Cock	725794
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Planned Giving & Donations

Tim Devis	715435
Liz Witham	721087

Parochial Church Council

Nigel Lewis	716371
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Bible Reading Fellowship

Val Barton	710721
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Bible Study Groups

Revd. Elaine Collins	01428 714385
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Director of Music

Robert Lewis	715505
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Organist St. Thomas'

Julian Cooper	643362
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Safeguarding Officer

Ruth Moore	07557 784681
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Children & Young People

Youth Minister, Jordan Amadi-Myers	715505
St Thomas' Junior Church, Jacqui Sellers	717646
Babes and Tots	715505

Electoral Roll

Bourne Parish, Deirdre Leggett	715505
St Martin's, David Leggett	725089

Flowers

St Thomas', Michèle England	721004
St Martin's, Rita Batchelor	792899

Transport to St Thomas'

Hazel Rimmer	715462
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