

April  
2026

# Bullseye

Take a copy for a friend or print or email a copy of the Internet edition to them



## Hope in the Midst of Heaviness

As we approach Easter this year we are in a world of turmoil.

Obviously, there is always turmoil somewhere across the globe and, so often, it bypasses our world but this year we are directly impacted

by events in – what we call – the Middle East.

There is a heaviness to life with actual events and the fear or anticipation of it getting worse.

Of course, and as Ecclesiastes (1.9) reminds us: *there is nothing new under the sun*. We have seen this before in human history and we do not learn the necessary lessons to be able to avoid falling into the same traps.

The glorious flip side of there being “nothing new under the sun” is that God is there for us – always has been and always will be. God knows our failings, both individually and corporately as humanity, and stays with us, walking alongside us and, often, carrying us.

The love of God for us is personal and global and we see its expression most at Easter in Christ’s death for us and his resurrection to defeat death, sin, fear and all that robs us of the fulness of life lived in the Peace of God.

As we prepare to celebrate this again at Easter may we also recognise that we do not journey alone in our heaviness. The disciples went ahead of us; I dare say that they shared a heaviness as they saw their Lord hauled away from them in the Garden. A heaviness compounded by their guilt at fleeing the scene to protect themselves. A heaviness not lifted until the realisation of the Messiah’s resurrection. We will all get things wrong in life but God continues to love us and invites us into a living, loving relationship.

And an essential part of that relationship is to pray. Bishop Guli, in her presidential address to Diocesan Synod on 21 March, spoke of the troubles of the world but reminded us that in all that we witness, all that we cry over, all that we may be able to rejoice in, we are called to pray:

*Prayer works. Whether spoken or silent, coherent or confused, prayer is a*

*mystery that beckons us to go deeper. It changes hearts and minds and it propels us towards action. We do not know the ways of God nor understand God’s timings. But we do believe that in the fulness of time all creation will be gathered into the heart of God. There will be a new heaven and a new earth; every tear will be wiped away; death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more. Until then, let us continue to be the Church and let us hold before God the suffering of the world.*

And we have much to pray for – intimate and personal, to global – which I hope includes: the Passion Play and the Walk of Witness, our parish alongside our partnership with Holy Cross and All Saints, the diocese, Archbishop Sarah newly enthroned, our own hopes for now and the future and, of course, the world in all its heaviness.

Bishop Guli shared this wisdom: *Several people have asked me how to pray. I wish there was an easy answer. I find myself coming before God with a cry of anguish which cannot find words, with a longing that cannot find expression. So the only wisdom I can offer is to keep on coming before God, praying for peace, justice and reconciliation; for wisdom, compassion and moderation in the hearts of the rulers; for strength, hope and healing in the lives of those who suffer.*

In Christ we have hope and I look forward to our celebrations and rejoicing soon, when we shall once more cry out “Christ is risen; He is risen indeed! Alleluia!”

**Rev'd Ken Wylie**  
Vicar



# What's on

Events for this column: please send them to the editor  
 article.bullseye@parishofhornchurch.co.uk  
 or "M" pigeon hole

## Parish Mission Statement

**What is our purpose?  
 We strive to:**

**Love God**

Jesus said - "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength"  
 Mark 12.30 NIV

"Worship in spirit and in truth"  
 John 4.24 NIV

**Grow in Faith and Understanding**

St Paul said - "Grow up in Christ until you reach the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ"  
 Ephesians 4.13 & 15 NIV

**Bring others to knowledge of and faith in Jesus Christ**

Jesus said - "Make all nations My disciples" Matthew 28.19 NIV

**Serve the community**

Jesus said - "Love your neighbour as yourself" Mark 12.31 NIV

**Weekly meetings**

- Mon.** 10.00am to 11.30 am **Tadpoles** St Andrew's large hall, for children and their adults  
 2.30 and 7.00 pm **Time Out** 2nd Monday of month meeting is 7pm North Street hall and 4th Monday meeting 2.30pm St Andrew's.  
 8.30 pm **Escape** (1st & 3rd) St Andrew's small hall
- Tues.** ~ ~ ~ ~
- Wed.** 9.30-11.00 am **0-2 Playgroup** St Andrew's large hall. Toys, songs and craft, refreshments. All enquiries to Parish Office  
 10.00 -12 noon **The Bridge** Large hall North Street
- Thur.** 1.30 pm **Little Fishes** St Andrew's large hall. Toys, stories and craft, refreshments, all welcome
- Fri.** 7-9pm **St Andrew's Choir practice.** St Andrew's church

**Uniformed organisations** meet on various nights of the week. Please contact their representatives for times (see back page for telephone numbers)

**For All Parish Giving Scheme Donors**

The Parish Giving Scheme is at 76 Kingsholm Road, Gloucester GL1 3BD. Telephone will be 0333 002 1260 and the email address [info@parishgiving.org.uk](mailto:info@parishgiving.org.uk)  
 Can you please note these details should you need to contact them.



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**Bullseye programme Contents to the Editor 2026**

May Bullseye Sunday 5th April  
 June Bullseye Sunday 3rd May

**Uploading**

May Bullseye 29th April  
 June Bullseye Wed. 27th May

**The Bullseye for May will be in the churches and online by Sunday 3rd May 2026**

**BF Mulley & Son**

Incorporating Horace Fry



Chapel of Rest | Home Arrangements | Distance No Object

World-Wide Repatriation | Ample Client Parking | Memorials

Family Owned Funeral Home | 24 Hour Funeral Service

Readers on-line who wish to complete the sudoku puzzle on Page 7 or the crossword puzzle on Page 9 will need to print those pages; the PDF format is not interactive.

**Useful Telephone Numbers**

We now have access to all our buildings but there are still other ways to access church. Search elsewhere on the website ([www.parishofhornchurch.co.uk](http://www.parishofhornchurch.co.uk)) for links to our services as well as regular updates on our various Facebook pages – the parish and Messy Church. Additionally visit [www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org) and [www.chelmsford.anglican.org](http://www.chelmsford.anglican.org) for further inspiration and resources to aid your worship and faith. Or simply call 0800 804 8044 a free national Church of England number to bring services and prayers to those not online. Please pass this number on to those you know may be in this position.

**Pastoral care / Prayer requests**

There is a dedicated phone number for prayer and pastoral care requests: **0789 55 12480**  
 Please use this number if you would like the Pastoral Care team to contact you. It can also be used to request prayer by our Healing Prayer team who would be delighted to pray for you. Leave a voicemail or text message and someone will contact you within a couple of days.



254 St. Mary's Lane,  
 Upminster RM14 3DH  
 Tel. 01708 220330

28 High Street,  
 Hornchurch RM12 4UN  
 Tel. 01708 442145

Email:-  
[Upminster@bfmulleyson.com](mailto:Upminster@bfmulleyson.com)

Email:-  
[Hornchurch@bfmulleyson.com](mailto:Hornchurch@bfmulleyson.com)

[www.bfmulleyson.com](http://www.bfmulleyson.com)



**Services for Easter and April**

The pattern of Sunday morning services is set out on page 16 and below. Holy Communion continues at St Andrew's at **10am every Thursday**, and livestream Morning Prayer on Facebook at 9am Monday to Friday except Bank Holidays.

Holy Communion is available in both forms, bread and wine, and it is a personal decision whether to take both. Gluten-free wafers and alcohol-free wine continue to be permissible and are available.

**Sunday 29th Palm Sunday**

- 8.30am - Common Worship Holy Communion at St Andrew's
- 10.15am - Holy Communion (also livestreamed)
- 10.15am - Morning Worship at St George's
- 6.30pm - Healing Prayer at St Andrew's.

**Thursday 2nd April Maundy Thursday**

- 10am Holy Communion at St Andrew's
- 8pm Holy Communion at St Andrew's

**3rd April Good Friday**

- 10am Walk of Witness departs from War Memorial
- 10.45am Service on the Queen's Theatre Green
- 11.15am - 12.45pm Easter Trail on the Queen's Theatre Green
- 12 - 3pm Reflections at the foot of the cross at St Andrew's

**Holy Saturday 4th April**

- 11.15am - 12.45pm Easter Trail on the Queen's Theatre Green

**Sunday 5th April Easter Day**

- 6am Dawn Service at St Andrew's
- 8.30am Holy Communion at St Andrew's
- 10.15am Holy Communion at St Andrew's
- 10.15am Holy Communion at St George's
- 11.00 Holy Communion at St Matthew's

No evening service  
**Hornchurch Passion Play** on The Green at 7.30pm, 3rd, 4th 5th April

**Sunday 12th 2nd Sunday of Easter**

- 8.30am - Common Worship Holy Communion at St Andrew's
- 10.15am - Morning Worship at St Andrew's
- 10.15am - Holy Communion at St George's
- 6.30pm - Evening Prayer at St Andrew's.

**Sunday 19th,**

- 8.30am - BCP Holy Communion at St Andrew's
- 10.15am - Common Worship Holy Communion at St Andrew's (also livestreamed)
- 10.15am - Morning Worship at St George's
- 11.00am - Common Worship Holy Communion at St Matthew's
- 2.45 pm - The Well at St Matthew's
- 6.30pm - Reflective service at St Andrew's

**Sunday 26th**

- 8.30am - Common Worship Holy Communion at St Andrew's
- 10.15am - Parade service at (also livestreamed)
- 10.15am - Holy Communion at St George's
- 6.30pm Holy Communion at St Andrew's



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**NEXT DATES:  
 19TH APRIL AND MAY**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:  
 REYD SONIA GROOMBRIDGE OR MANDY  
 GREEN**

**VIA THE PARISH OFFICE:  
 01708 441571**

**Calling all Quiz night fans**

Join us on  
**Saturday 30th May  
 7.30pm  
 in North Street Halls**

for a joint Kenya and Escape Group fundraising evening of Quiz rounds, Raffle and Lucky Envelopes.

Tables of 6(ish) can be booked via Terry Keens (07985 095702); John Speller (07599 791420); or Alan Ruyten (07710 570042).

Participation is £6 per person.

**Guide, Brownie and Rainbow News**

**2nd Hornchurch (St Andrew's) Rainbows**

Saskia, Darcy, April, Avielle and Elsie (below) were excited to make their promise and enrol into 2nd Hornchurch (St Andrews's) Rainbows



**Guide, Rainbow and Brownie Leaders needed**

Hornchurch East District are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help at Rainbow and Brownie meetings at St Andrew's. Rainbows are girls aged between four and seven years old, and meet at 4.30pm for an hour. Brownies are girls aged between seven and ten years old and meet at 6.30pm until 8.00pm. Both groups run a varied programme, enabling the girls to learn, develop new skills and have fun. And, of course, gain badges! No experience is necessary as full training and support will be given. A DBS disclosure will be required (paid for by Girlguiding UK). If you are interested, and/or would like more information, please contact District Administrator Sandra Cox on email: [charlesandsandra@outlook.com](mailto:charlesandsandra@outlook.com)

**5th Hornchurch (St George's) Guides**

Laura, Mathilda and Emily (below) were happy to make their promise and join the 5th Hornchurch (St George's) Guides

Isla (right) is a Young Leader with the 2nd Hornchurch Rainbows and 5th Hornchurch Guides.

She has completed the following Leadership Awards : Empowering, Exploring and Discovering.

Isla is the first Young Leader in our District to complete these Awards



**Hornchurch Library**

At 44 North Street Hornchurch. Not just for books; talks, activities and more.

Contact the librarians on 01708 434903 or

[libraryevents@havering.gov.uk](mailto:libraryevents@havering.gov.uk)

or visit the Havering Libraries Facebook page or see the Council website for more information.

**Charity of the Month for  
March and April 2026  
Hopefield Animal Sanctuary**



In 1983 we had the coldest winter for 20 years and the headlines were not about the weather but the Rainham marsh ponies and cobs being abandoned by their owners. A local doctor's receptionist and her husband (Paula and Ernie Clark) decided to take action and so the Sanctuary was formed.

To start with they managed to get half an acre of land in Pitsea, with the view of nursing and then fostering out the animals. The first horse they fostered out was not well treated by his new owners and ended up back in the sanctuary, so they vowed that the animals would have a home for life.

As the size of the sanctuary grew, they had to move and went to Langdon Hills. When they grew again and needed more space, they put the word out that land was needed. Tesco's kindly offered the land in Brentwood for a peppercorn rent and this is where the sanctuary now runs. Both Paula and Eric have helped many animals over the years and were awarded MBE's. Sadly, these founders have since passed away but their legacy continues under the guidance of 5 trustees (one of whom is their son) who continue this wonderful work today.

Hopefield rescues all kinds of animals from horses, farm animals, to alpacas, reindeer, exotic animals and reptiles. They are open to the public which generates some funds but they rely on donations generously given for our community sanctuary.

If you would like to know more, please visit their website  
<https://hopefield.org.uk/>

To support this charity please donate in the following ways:

Giving a cheque to St Andrew's parish payable to 'Hornchurch PCC' clearly marked on the reverse as 'Charity of the Month Hopefield Animal Sanctuary', which we will then collect together and send as donations at the end of the month.

Give direct to the charity via their website using this link  
<https://hopefield.org.uk/donate/>

If you have any charities to suggest, please email or leave a note for me at the parish office

**Arlene Trump**

**Church opening for  
private prayer and reflection**

From September, St Andrew's church has been open for private prayer and reflection three days a week.

The church will be open on Thursday mornings from 11 am (ie immediately after mid-week Holy Communion at 10am) until 1pm, and on Mondays and Tuesdays from 10am until 12 noon, unless the church is needed for a funeral or other service.

Two volunteer stewards will be in attendance for each session.

Come, sit, light a candle, pray, reflect and find peace

Please pray in support of this venture to bring the church back into public use outside times of formal worship.

**Bell Ringers Spring Coach Outing to Kent**

**Saturday 23rd May 2026**

Visiting Farnborough (Kent), Shoreham, Eynsford, Chelsfield and Farningham

Coach leaves St Andrew's at 8.15am returning by 8.15pm

Cost of £40 includes coach and evening dinner

Lunch is own arrangements in Eynsford

Please contact **Clive Stephenson on 07896 342010** for more details.

Non-Ringers are especially welcome to come and look round 5 attractive churches and villages in the Darent Valley between Dartford and Sevenoaks

**Poor Thomas –  
between Sundays**

I'm lost and bewildered,  
All hope is now gone  
I cannot imagine  
How life can go on.

My mind's in a turmoil,  
I can't understand  
How this could have happened  
To so good a man.

I'm tortured by thoughts of  
Him hung on that tree;  
The thorns and the nails;  
In His face – agony.

It happened so quickly,  
I still can't believe  
He's dead and He's buried,  
What did that achieve?

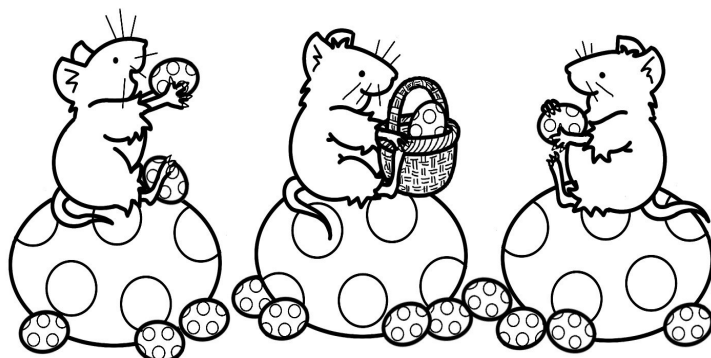
My friends are now saying  
That Jesus has risen,  
'We've seen Him and heard Him,  
He's out of death's prison!'

I'd like to believe them,  
I'm sure you would, too,  
But claims like they're making  
Just cannot be true.

Whilst no-one likes losing  
A valuable friend,  
There's no point pretending  
The end's not the end.

They *think* they have met Him,  
But senses deceive;  
Come. Show me His wounds,  
then  
Perhaps I'd believe.

**Howard Webber**



**Time Out**

There were 11 members at the meeting on Monday 9th March. We all took our glass jars to do glass painting using special pens. We were all very creative, as you can see by the photo attached.

We also had a visitor to the meeting, Graham Street, to talk about his quest to complete 4 marathons in his 40th year for 2 charities. These are the MSA Trust and the 'oneineverycorner' charity to install defibrillators in every corner of sports grounds. On March 23rd, The group welcomed PCSO Angela Fern who spoke to us about her 20+ years with the community in St Andrews ward and gave us some helpful advice on topics which included crime prevention, personal safety, scams and banking fraud for which we were very grateful.



Meetings for April are:

**Monday 13th - 7pm** in North Street Hall. 'Against the Odds' a talk by Mike Brace 'Ability that Counts'.

**Monday 27th - 2.30pm** in St Andrew's Hall. 'Slowly Does it' an introduction to Tai Chi with Kim.

For more information about the group or meetings please contact Val on 07527 325996.

**Jeanette and Val**

**Flag Days for 2026**

(Union Jack unless otherwise stated)

**Sun April 5th:** Easter Sunday

**Thur April 23rd:** St George's Day (St George's flag)

**Wed May 6th – Fri May 8th:** Coronation Day through to VE Day

**Sat Jun 13th:** Official Birthday of HM The King

**Tue Sep 8th:** Accession of HM The King

**Tue Sep 15th - Sun Sep 20th:** Battle of Britain Day through to Battle of Britain Sunday

**Sun Nov 8th – Wed Nov 11th:** Remembrance Sunday through to Armistice Day

**Sat Nov 14th:** Birthday of HM The King

**Mon Nov 30th:** St Andrew's Day (St Andrew's flag)

**Fri Dec 25th:** Christmas Day



**Havering Singers Fundraising Quiz Night**

**Saturday 16th May**

North Street Halls, North Street  
Hornchurch RM11 1QX

7pm for a 7.30 start

Bring your friends for a fun night and don't forget your drinks and nibbles

Tables of no more than 8

£7 per person



### The Holy Spirit and You

When we have Faith in Focus, it's a conscious understanding, of what our mind perceives on a matter of our mind's beliefs; That is to say, "Our mind is structured to understand what we have learned from an early age of reasoned decision making! So, Faith is substantiated not by a 'Leap in the dark' or taking someone else's word for something without proper evidence; We can see this in Hebrews 11 v 1:- "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" in contrast, The word 'substance' used in this verse is hypostasis in Greek; It speaks of the Divine essence of God" and giving a confident assurance in our heart for our human mind to deeply consider; So substance is not nothing but rather inner tangible knowing! When we hear a believer saying, I know that I know I am saved, they are referring to "Spiritual substance" for all that it means! It's an inner knowledge in the head and assurance in the heart, So Faith is an ability to believe God and assurance in our heart; And as faith increases we begin to believe God more and more. We can see Faith in every area of life, so look for faith in action As it's in studying, Football and most daily occurrences we see; It's not just confined to the Church and we all have gifts, but in A Church setting the Gift of Faith should be more evident to us; Location Location is a modern expression but "Faith" is not just understanding in the head but a resound knowing in our heart; When we receive information in our heart it stays in us forever! The second key to receiving is belief and Jesus says, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes" Mark 9 v 23 And also "Whatever things you ask for when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will receive them" Mark 11 v 24. So, Faith is evident and possible in every situation of our life too.

Mark Lendon

### Beavers Wanted

The Beaver Scout Colony meeting at the Scout Hall in Chelmsford Drive on Thursdays 6 - 7 p.m. has vacancies for children aged 6 and 7 yrs. Please contact

Mao@8thhornchurch.org.uk

Sue: Beaver Leader, 8th Hornchurch.

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5	4	7	3					
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**Easy Sudoku**  
solution on Page 14

### Easter and Passion Play Outreach

We waited expectantly to see what God would do – a beautiful sunny morning in Hornchurch as we set out to share the Good News of Easter by handing out the Easter postcards with details of the services and the flyers promoting the Passion Play.

**On the street** there were encouraging conversations. A person who had been to the Passion Play before but rarely came to church – took flyers for friends too. A member from one of the other local churches – who rarely attends but now has details of their Easter Services and a welcome.

Another who had not heard of the Passion Play before and was very interested but sadly away over Easter – said she would come next year – but I told her she would have to wait till 2030 and why.

A husband and wife who have seen the Passion Play in Trafalgar Square – so I was explaining about how ours is different in its set up and what to expect – they asked if they should come early – so I said that wasn't necessary because you move round as a crowd from one scene to the next.

#### In the hall

Praise God for the new volunteers on the team and their offer to make cakes and to be there to help in the hall.

The conversations that took place over refreshments both among church people and our visitors – again opportunities to talk more about the Easter Season and the organisations within the Parish. The lady I met in hospital a few weeks ago and have stayed in contact with – came along Saturday morning and was there at the Bridge on Wednesday – I feel sure she will be connecting more with the church.

There were strangers to Hornchurch, interested in what we do, a lady who may come to the Bridge, and someone who was interested in The Well and cast a pebble prayer into the water.

Also, a lady who doesn't like formal church structure but was interested in the Passion Play. As well as families who came to enjoy craft activities with their young children – I met a new Christian lady and found we had a connection in someone we are supporting at present.

I know a few on the streets were a bit disappointed by those who passed by – but many did that to Jesus as well – so we will keep praying for all that we spoke to that in God's time they will remember the invitation that God offers and will respond.

Revd Barbara Baker and Christine Withers





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**St James the Least of All**

*The Revd Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'...*

*If you would like a copy of our published booklet of Uncle Eustace's letters, please email us at: enquiries@parishpump.co.uk*

**On the perils of small study groups**

From: The Rectory,  
 St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

So, you are about to run an Alpha course in your parish; I am sure your bishop will be delighted. I remember him from my Oxford days. He was just starting his course as a gangly undergraduate when I was finishing my doctorate on Eusebius. I recall him as a keen rugby player who took early morning dips in the Isis, who led intense discussions on Saint Paul's theology of 'the body' over cups of cocoa in the evenings in his rooms and who spent his holidays laying paths for the National Trust in the Lake District while lodging in Youth Hostels. He's exactly the sort of person who will empathise with your ministry – hearty, enthusiastic and overflowing with compassionate intensity. We were not close friends.

We tend not to go in for those sort of things, here at St James the Least of All, preferring matters a little more relaxed and understated. If we ever do hold discussion groups (and they are a regrettable necessity during Lent), they always start with a good lunch, finishing with coffee and one of Mrs French's excellent Madeira cakes. Once we have removed from the table, those who manage to stay awake will start to tackle the chosen topic.

However, we always seem to veer off to discussing more interesting matters, such as why Colonel Chorley is never allowed to sing solos in the choir anymore, or who moved Mrs Cholmondeley's flower arrangement from the font the previous week. Apparently, she has given notice that her weekly contributions on the plate will be much reduced unless an appropriate apology is received.

These matters may not seem as important to you as deciding what the 'white stone' in Revelation 2 is all about, but let me assure you that to members of our congregation, knowing why the second verse of the National Anthem is no longer sung at our Remembrance Services is of pivotal importance.

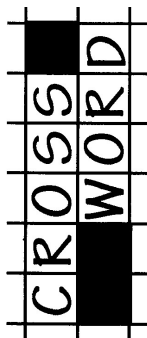
At 2.30pm we wake up those who have enjoyed an hour's slumber and totter off home, knowing we have once again done our bit for faith in the parish.

I am sure your own group will also return home after your sessions — even if a digestive biscuit and weak tea is all that has been offered — invigorated and braced to tackle the heathen in the parish.

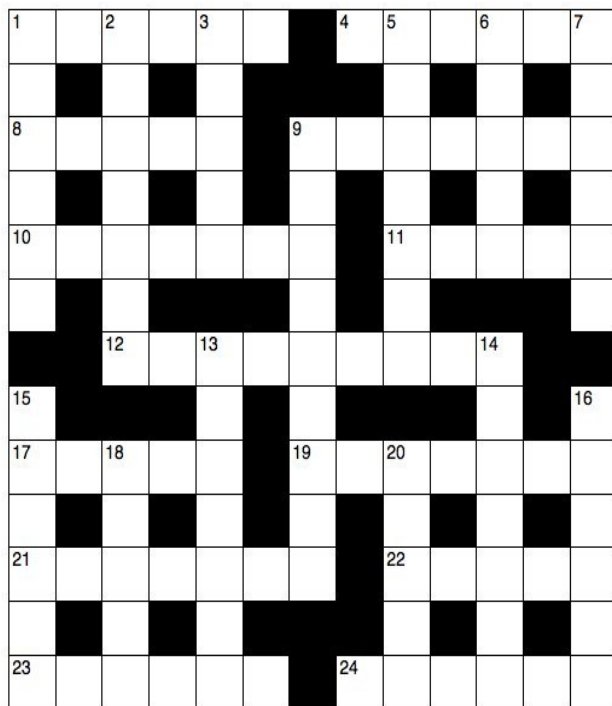
We all take our pleasures in different ways.



Your loving uncle,  
**Eustace**



Crosswords reproduced by kind permission of BRF and John Capon, originally published in Three Down, Nine Across, by John Capon (£6.99 BRF)



**Across**

- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)
- 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)
- 8 'Unless I see the nail marks — — hands, I will not believe it' (John 20:25) (2,3)
- 9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)
- 10 Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry — (7)
- 11 'Look, here is — . Why shouldn't I be baptized?' (Acts 8:36) (5)
- 12 Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)
- 17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 27:3-4) (5)
- 19 'Moses was not aware that his face was — because he had spoken with the Lord' (Exodus 34:29) (7)
- 21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man, half-horse (7)
- 22 Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)
- 23 'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the — apostles' (Acts 1:26) (6)
- 24 'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in — and you came to visit me' (Matthew 25:36) (6)

**Down**

- 1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6)
- 2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)
- 3 Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)
- 5 For example, the Crusades (4,3)
- 6 11 Across is certainly this (5)
- 7 He reps (anag.) (6)
- 9 Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)
- 13 Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all her treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)
- 14 They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine' (1 Timothy 3:8) (7)
- 15 The human mind or soul (6)
- 16 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is — ' (Graham Kendrick) (6)
- 18 'We played the flute for you, and you did not — ' (Matthew 11:17) (5)
- 20 Bared (anag.) (5)

**Across:** 1, Cosmic; 4, Thomas; 8, In his; 9, Deliah; 10, Falwell; 11, Water; 12, Recovered; 17, Sidon; 19, Radiant; 21, Centaur; 22, Broil; 23, Eleven; 24, Prison.  
**Down:** 1, Cliffs; 2, Scholar; 3, Issue; 5, Holy war; 6, Moist; 7, Sphere; 9, Deliverer; 13, Candace; 14, Deacons; 15, Psyche; 16, Stolen; 18, Dance; 20, Debar.



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**Christmas Market**

No you haven't read that wrong, this is about the Christmas Market. I am stepping back from organising this event so need someone, or better 'a team' of people, to take it on. There is another person helping me so she will be around to help, she can't do it in her own. This event raises thousands of pounds for your church each year so it creates valuable income. I'm happy to be around to advise, and on that matter, if it is to happen at all the hall needs to be booked now to save the dates needed. Please contact me on 07983 527274 if you are interested.

**Jeanette Street**

**How God works**

A grandmother was taking her young grandson for a walk in the park. The daffodils were in bloom, and it was a beautiful Spring day. Wanting to encourage her grandson's spiritual understanding of the world, she said: "Doesn't it look like an artist painted this scenery? Did you know God did all this?"

Her grandson replied: "Oh yes, and God did it left-handed, too." In astonishment, the grandmother asked what he meant. "Well, He must have done," said her grandson, "because we learned at church last week that Jesus sits on God's right hand."

**Message from St Andrew's Choir**

Young voices play a very special part in the traditional church choir sound. We will be recruiting boys and girls aged from 7 years to come and experience the choir and see if their voice has potential. Please speak to Bill after any 10.15 service at St Andrew's or drop him an email to [william.brooks861@gmail.com](mailto:william.brooks861@gmail.com)

**Hornchurch Country Park, Squadrons Approach, Hornchurch, RM12 6DF**

Ingrebourne Valley Visitor Centre Open daily 10am - 5pm:  
Café, Gift shop, Picnic facilities, Toilets, Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

Essex Wildlife Trust's Ingrebourne Valley Nature Discovery Centre is a partnership project between Essex Wildlife Trust and Havering Council. Built in Hornchurch Country Park, the centre overlooks the fantastic marshland and reedbeds of the River Ingrebourne Valley. Dogs are not permitted in the Nature Discovery Centre

**Visit the RAF Hornchurch Remembrance Collection**

A brief history of the aerodrome from 1915 to 1962. Free entry during normal opening hours.

**The Spitfire 90th Anniversary exhibition.** 7th and 8th March 10am to 4pm Admission £2.50 (adults) Featuring the life of the aviation designer of the Spitfire R.J. Mitchell

**Paint & Sip** Thursday 19 March 2026 10:00am - 12:00pm Our instructor will walk you step-by-step through creating a beautiful painting on a canvas, all while you enjoy a comforting hot drink in a bright, cheerful daytime setting. All materials provided and tea/coffee included. Adults Only. £30.

**Ingrebourne Wilder Holiday Club 5+** Tuesday 31 March 2026 and Tuesday 7 April 2026 9am to 3pm Child ticket: £37.00 Nature discovery, learning new skills, and following your interests with lots of time for free play! You can take part in everything from fire lighting to den building, natural crafts to tool use, and pond dipping to animal tracking

**Ingrebourne Family Forest Fun** Wednesday 1 April 2026 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. Join us in the woods for a morning full of fun in nature. Look for mini-beasts, dig in the mud kitchen, build a shelter, create nature crafts, and enjoy a campfire (weather permitting). £8.80 per child. Only children require a ticket to attend. Assistance dogs welcome.

**Ingrebourne Easter Experience** Thursday 2 April 2026 10:00am - 4:00pm a charming woodland stroll along our Easter Trail, filled with springtime surprises. Little ones can get creative by decorating their very own wooden Easter egg magnet to take home as a keepsake. And of course, no Easter celebration would be complete without meeting the Easter Bunny himself — who'll be waiting with a sweet chocolate treat for every child!

At the time of booking please select your appropriate 30minute arrival time window. Please note there will be a short queue to meet the Easter Bunny, tickets are only required to be purchased for every child attending the event, accompanying adults do not need a ticket to join in on the Easter fun. There is no minimum age requirement, we just request that all children must be accompanied by an appropriate adult. £10.90, required for each child attending. Accompanying adults go free.



**Ingrebourne Adventurers** Wednesday 8 April 2026 1:00pm - 3:00pm £6.67 per child. £6.67 per adult. Join us on a walk to look for wildlife that is springing into life in April. We will look for birds, flowers, and hunt for bugs, with local wildlife expert Neil to help you

**Ingrebourne Wild Evening Out** Wednesday 8 April 2026 7:00pm - 9:00pm. This event will start and take place at the Albyns Farm Car park for an evening wildlife walk around the park's lake and woodland. As daylight fades, we'll look and listen for nocturnal species and use bat detectors to discover what comes alive after sunset £10.88 per child. £10.88 per adult.

**Behind Enemy Lines** 18th April 12.00 to 5.00pm and 19th April 10.00am to 4.00pm. SOE and French Resistance of WWII. Bin conjunction with historian Kim Smith and book signing by Stuart Outred. Admission £2.50

**Ingrebourne in the Spring: Home education Session** Tuesday 21 April 2026 1:00pm - 2:30pm Together, we'll wander through our woods, meadows, and wetlands, keeping our eyes and ears open for the first signs of the new season. This session is best suited to children aged 6–12 (Key Stage 2). Children remain the responsibility of their accompanying adult and must be supervised at all times. £7.73 per child

**Ingrebourne Dream Catcher Workshop** Sunday 3 May 2026 2:00pm - 3:00pm Advance booking is essential.

Please note this event is for ages 5+ only. All children must be accompanied by an adult. £7.75 per child taking part in the activity. Contact the Visitor's Centre for information on the next block of Nature Tots sessions.

Contact number: 01708 520364

Contact e-mail: [ingrebourne@essexwt.org.uk](mailto:ingrebourne@essexwt.org.uk)



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**Escape Men's Group**

We meet on the first and third Monday at 8.30pm at St Andrew's church. For further details contact **John Speller** on 07599 791420 or by e-mail [john.speller@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:john.speller@hotmail.co.uk)

**Food Bank**

Donations are always needed, in food or cash. For a donation in money please continue to send a cheque, payable to Kingdom Storehouse Ltd, to the Harold Hill Food Bank, Unit 1, Guardian Business Centre, Faringdon Avenue, Romford, RM3 8FD, or you go online to <https://haroldhill.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>



**Faith: Don't Be Vague!**

Paul Yonggi Cho was invited to preach at a church in a coal mining district in South Korea. Afterwards, the pastor's wife asked him to help a desperate woman.

"What is your problem?"

"I have no husband, and I see no way to find one. I keep asking God, but nothing happens."

"Now tell me: what sort of husband would you like?"

"Oh, I leave that to God!"

"The problem is: you have got God confused."

"How can that be possible?"

"There are so many unmarried men in the world. Let us narrow the field. You are a believer, so you want a Christian husband?"

"Of course."

"What sort of occupation?"

"Oh, I leave that to God".

"Most men here are miners. As soon as they get home, they want their tea, and then they go to the bar to wash the dust from their throats, and forget the dangers of their work. Do you want that?"

"Not really. I am a teacher, and I would like an educated husband."

"How tall?"

"Really? Umm..a bit taller than me. At least 180cm."

"Complexion? Dark? Fair?"

"Well, for preference, pale, like me."

"Musical?"

"Oh yes! I sing in a choir"

"Very good! Now we have a picture for faith to build on. Write this list.  
Pale, tall, musical, educated Christian. Stick it on your make-up mirror, and tell God every morning you are looking forward to meeting this man. Ask for the gift of faith, so you become certain of him."

Next month, I will tell you what happened.  
May you have all joy in believing!

**Revd Peter Evans**

**A Friend of the Towler family**

Parishioners will remember Fred and Margaret Towler who worshipped here before their retirement to Billericay a few years ago. You may already know that Fred had a stroke. His friend Frank has been in touch with the parish office and asks:

"I would like to reach out to the good people of St Andrew's as I know there are people who will remember Fred and Margaret kindly. Perhaps via the noticeboard or parish magazine, I want to ask people to send best wishes or share memories that I can take to Fred so that he feels less isolated. People could WhatsApp or message me at [miller-francis@sky.com](mailto:miller-francis@sky.com) or 07956587801"

**Resurrection Prayer**

Loving Father,  
Thank You for Jesus; for His life and death, but most of all for His resurrection, which makes all things new and possible.  
Thank You for the reality that He defeated death by His work on the Cross and offers life forever with Him to all who believe in Him and receive Him into their lives as Lord and Saviour.  
Thank You for that incomprehensible but very real resurrection peace that we can know even in our darkest times by the presence of Your Holy Spirit in us.  
In joy and thankfulness, we praise and honour You this Eastertime.  
In Jesus' Name.  
Amen.

**Daphne Kitching**

**Floodlighting of St Andrew's Church, Hornchurch**

*Many thanks to all who have sponsored the floodlighting during April 2026:*

In Loving Memory of **George** a dear husband and dad - **Win Bulmer and family;**  
In loving memory of our dear parents/grandparents **Betty & Denis Carrington ~ Ian, Doug, Lois & Neil and families.**

If you are interested in being a sponsor please telephone the Parish Office on 01708 441571



### Why Did Rainham Never Become A Major Port?

Professor Ged Martin, who until 2020 wrote a column in the Romford Recorder on local history, has very kindly allowed Bullseye to reproduce some of his essays about the history of Hornchurch and Havering from his website at <https://www.gedmartin.net/martinalia-mainmenu-3> .

Why did Rainham never become a major port? In 1801, Rainham was called "the grand lodging and loading place" for the trade of a large area of south Essex. Yet its population was just 444, mostly farm workers. By contrast, London, twelve miles away, was home to a million people

In the fifteenth century, Rainham ships had sailed to Calais. Somebody scratched a carving of a two-masted vessel in the local church. Records mention watermen, in 1533 even a shipwright. In 1571, there was a mariner, although as he was the parish constable, perhaps he did not sail away very often. Why did Rainham's trade fail to grow?

There were two possible locations for a Rainham port. One was alongside the Thames. An 1848 directory reported that "the Ingerbourn rivulet receives vessels at its mouth, where it has a good quay and a ferry." There were two ferries, one across the Thames to Kent, the other upstream to London. Rainham Ferry was a lonely place, surrounded by marshes which were too squelchy to support a town. Grays, Rainham's rival downstream, had the advantage of a chalk ridge, providing firm ground beside the Thames. Rainham Ferry's principal amenity was an inn. In 1591, barmaid "Bounsinge Bess" gave birth to a child. Her surname was not recorded and the father was not

mentioned. This was not an upmarket establishment.

The other possible location was a mile up Rainham Creek at the village. In the 1720s, entrepreneur John Harle dredged the Ingrebourne to re-launch Rainham as an inland port. In 1729, he built Rainham Hall. Harle imported coal, timber and building materials – but what did Rainham export? The fifteenth century Calais trade had shipped wool from marshland sheep flocks. The area also produced hay to feed London's horses. In 1561, 22 year-old William Slane was killed after falling under the wheels of a cart carrying hay to the wharf. It was five o'clock in the morning – Rainham's working day was dictated by Thames tides.

Rainham had no real hinterland: the winding lanes of Upminster and South Hornchurch are enough to prove that nobody had ever wanted to get there urgently. Nothing came of an 1809 scheme for a canal to Romford. The waterway would have followed the River Rom down to Mardyke, and then cut across to Rainham Creek. Railways invaded Rainham's local trade. When Upminster station opened in 1885, the Abraham family at Upminster windmill became local coal merchants, obtaining their supplies by goods train. Nineteenth-century Rainham was a market gardening area. But fresh vegetables

were delivered to London markets in horse-drawn waggons. Sending them by river would have meant extra loading and unloading – and Thames barges depended on the wind, which could be unreliable (and often blew from the west anyway). South Essex was cattle country – hence the importance of Romford Market. London butchers either herded animals direct to town or – after 1839 – sent them by train.

From the 1880s, industry spread along the Thames. Cement works and chemical factories engulfed Rainham Ferry. A long jetty encouraged Southend and Margate pleasure steamers to land passengers – but a smelly fish manure plant and barges loaded with dung for the market gardens hardly encouraged tourism. Only small vessels could use Rainham Creek. Barges carried timber to the wharf by Rainham station. When that trade ended in 1949, Rainham effectively ceased to be a port.

**Prof. Ged Martin**



Maudy Thursday on April 1st - the last temptation of Eric



Rainham Riverside in the 21st Century. Concrete barges used for the D-Day landings, repurposed as sea defences during the floods of 1953.

Another retrospective reflection from the late Terence Trimmer. First published here October 2020

### The Inner Strength

We remember when Our Lord lived here on earth and spent much time speaking to the people. Man wanted to receive His blessing and the power of His healing. Often, there were some among the congregation who moved their way forward, in order to touch His garments, in the hope of being healed. They were trusting and looked upon Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God. There were others who failed to recognize Jesus in this way, either from reasons of ignorance and doubt, or because of motives of jealousy and hate. Although ready to forgive He must have suffered heartache. Jesus knew of His destiny and the bitter cup God the Father had set before his son. He also knew He would be betrayed by one close to Him, and suffer death upon the cross. Jesus the healer and comforter, in great glory, finally fulfilled God's will. The inner strength of Jesus, has surely overcome the pain, and the frailty of His life on earth when many had set themselves against Him.

Terence Trimmer

## At Messy Church

We Learn about God ♦ Welcome all the Family ♦  
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All ages are welcome. Please wear weather-appropriate clothing and footwear for the outdoor sessions

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for regular updates and further details about when and where Messy Church is meeting. We look forward to seeing you at a Messy Church session very soon.




### The Archbishop of Canterbury's Presidential Address

Read the first Presidential Address by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Sarah Mullally, at the February 2026 General Synod group of sessions.

Synod, thank you for the warmth of your welcome.

I stand here among you by no means for the first time, but for the first time as the Archbishop of Canterbury. It is a humbling privilege to be called to serve in this role. It brings with it huge weight of responsibility, at a time when people love to remind me that the church faces significant challenges.

But when the wind and the waves are rocking the boat, I am reminded that what I need to do is to focus on Christ, who calms the waters and stills the wind. With your help and with God's grace, I pray that I am able to approach this ministry with calm, consistency and compassion – as we seek to be what the Church has for so long been: a stable presence in an unstable world.

Do, please, continue to pray for me in the months and years to come, as I will always pray for you. I do not carry my new responsibilities alone. We serve God's church together, lay and ordained; uniquely reflecting God's image into one another, and remembering His prayer that we should be one in our love for God and of one another.

At my Confirmation of Election, I was deeply moved to be asked, during the Charge which was given to me, to 'help the Church love itself

more ... believing that its best days are still to come'. And I do believe that this is true. Through every challenge, our hope in Christ remains - and our confidence in the Gospel, as good news for our nation and for God's world, is not shaken.

I see God's Kingdom, the pearl of great price, revealed in countless places across the Church of England and the Anglican Communion. The Church of England is a Christian presence in every community. In parishes and chaplaincies across the country, day in and day out, faithful clergy and congregations worship God and love their neighbours. With every Eucharist that is offered, with every prayer said; with every child helped to flourish in our schools; with every family cared for in times of celebration and of sorrow; with every night shelter and food bank; with each worship service, youth group and community lunch; with every effort to work for justice, dignity and fairness in our nation and our world – with all of this and so much more, we live out our calling to share the love of God with those around us.

And across the global Anglican Communion, in its profound diversity, we see Anglicans offering that same hope to a world around them: working for peace in places of

war, caring for the sick and lifting up new generations of young people, and speaking of the hope that we find in Jesus Christ.

Because with Christ, the Church is there in all those places and with all those people, and the Kingdom is made known. I rejoice in every example I see of this – the pearl of great price - glimpsed in faithful, local, sensitive, intelligent ministry which embodies and speaks of the Kingdom.

So, what sort of Archbishop do I feel called to be? As I said when I accepted the nomination, as I respond to the Call of Christ in this new ministry, I remain rooted in my first calling: to follow Christ, to know Him – and to make Him known in the world. My Christian vocation first led me to become a nurse – then later a priest, then a bishop, and now an archbishop. The theme that has run through of all of these chapters of my life has been washing feet, and in serving and caring for others.

And so, I believe that I have been called to love and serve the Diocese of Canterbury, the Church of England, and the Anglican Communion, not through developing new programmes and initiatives, but by being a shepherd, who *Continued on P14*

**Wednesday Afternoon Music at Hornchurch Library**

**Wed 1st April at 2pm** FAVOURITE TRACKS FROM MUSICALS OLD & NEW - presented by Dawn Cunningham Clayton. Being a keen theatre goer, Dawn has selected her top tracks from a wide selection of musicals with tunes from Irvine Berlin, George & Ira Gershwin, Lionel Bart, Alan Jay Lerner and Andrew Lloyd Webber bound to feature.

**Wed 15th April** at 2pm HELPERS' CHOICE - Our regular helpers that put out the chairs, take the money, set up the equipment and serve the refreshments have selected the music for this programme and it will certainly be a something for everyone type of programme that will include Strauss, Streisand, Sinatra, Mozart, Eva Cassidy, Neil Diamond, Scott Walker, Handel and many more.

All programmes are of recorded music played on high quality audio equipment and take place in the 1st floor main meeting room (lift available), Hornchurch Library, North Street, RM11 1TB commencing at 2pm and finishing by 4pm. Admission £2 per person with interval refreshments available at nominal cost. Buses 165, 256 & 370 pass the library. For further details or to be added to our email list call Stephen Raindle 01708 470670 or email [sraindle@aol.com](mailto:sraindle@aol.com)

**THE BRIDGE**



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**Tea, coffee and cake is available for a voluntary donation.**

**Please contact St Andrew's Parish Office on 01708 441571, Jane on 07981 985973 or Jeanette on 07983 527274 for information**

Sudoku solution from P7

8	7	4	6	9	5	3	2	1
1	9	6	2	4	3	8	7	5
2	3	5	8	7	1	4	6	9
4	5	8	1	6	2	9	3	7
7	6	1	9	3	8	2	5	4
3	2	9	7	5	4	6	1	8
9	1	3	5	8	6	7	4	2
5	4	7	3	2	9	1	8	6
6	8	2	4	1	7	5	9	3

*Continued from P13* works collaboratively and in partnership, enabling others to flourish.

And I will work with you, Synod, with my fellow bishops, and with our national church bodies, striving to ensure that the Kingdom is being nurtured everywhere - in parishes, chaplaincies, cathedrals and schools, in the smallest and most fragile communities, as well as the larger and more confident expressions of church, wherever disciples seek to be salt and light.

The role of the Archbishop of Canterbury is a complex and challenging one. But at its heart is something profound and simple. Along with my fellow bishops, I am called to share the hope that we have found in Jesus Christ – and what that means for us all as individuals, and as a society. I pray that the thread running through my time as Archbishop will be that of nurturing confidence and hope, rooted not in institutions, but in God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. With our confidence in God, we can believe that indeed, the best is yet to come for the church that we love and nurture, and therefore for the world that the church is called to serve.

As Archbishop of Canterbury, I commit myself to nurturing, supporting and praying for all our parishes, chaplaincies, cathedrals and schools, where quiet faithfulness is coupled with a readiness to respond to every opportunity, however small, to embody the hope of the Gospel at the heart of a community; where people, together, become places where the Kingdom happens.

As a shepherd, I will strive to be calm, consistent and compassionate to all. I commit myself to enabling the Church to be the Church. May we continue to offer ourselves in God's service for God's world: our hope rooted in the Gospel, and our confidence rooted in God, who holds the Church and its future in love.

Please pray for me as I pray for you. Amen.

**The cattle grazing**

Smooth pastures, long, and wide to roam,  
Beneath your hoofs, rich meadowland,  
Friend God the Son to bring you home  
To fields where springs eternal stand,  
Fields where springs eternal stand.

**From poems of the Western Highlanders**

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*\*You do not need to purchase snacks or drinks in order to enjoy the community cafe*

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## Easter Sunday Holy Communion

11 AM SUNDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2026

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**SUNDAY SERVICES** in the Parish of Hornchurch

**8.30 am:** Morning Worship at St Andrew's Church  
**10.15 am:** Parish Worship at St Andrew's **4th Sunday** Parade Service  
**6.30 pm:** Evening Services at St Andrew's.  
**2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays** at St George's Parish Worship at **10.15 am**  
**3rd Sunday** only at St Matthew's **11.00 am** Holy Communion, **2.45pm** The Well, other churches as above as usual.  
**Thursdays 10.00 am** Mid-week Holy Communion at St Andrew's See **Page 3** for greater detail

**St Andrew's Church** 222 High Street RM12 6QP      **St George's Church** Kenilworth Gardens RM12 4SG      **St Matthew's Church** Chelmsford Drive RM14 2PH      **Messy Church**

**Hornchurch Parish Churches**

**February 2026**

**Baptisms**

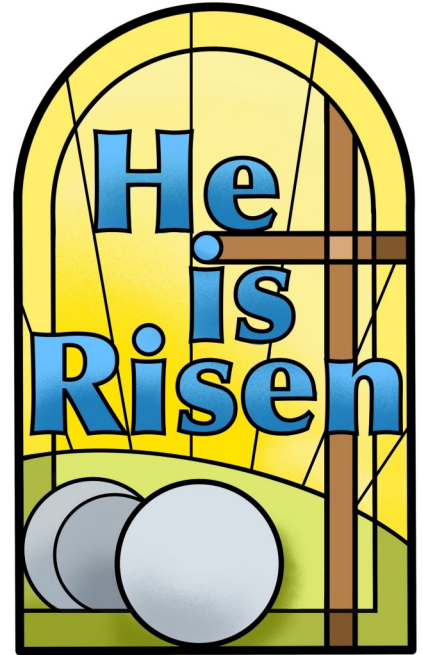
None

**Marriages**

None

**In Memoriam "I am the resurrection and the life" John 11v25**

**February 2nd** Leslie Baxter 86  
**22nd** Kenneth Hall 89



**PARISH STAFF**  
 (Days off in brackets)

**Vicar**  
 Revd Canon Ken Wylie (Friday)  
 01708 441571

**Associate Priest**  
 Revd Dr Marianne Hayward  
 01708 441571

**Readers**  
 Pat Bromhall 01708 441571  
 Carole Sherratt 01708 441571

**Authorised Local Preachers**  
 Anne Jarrett 01708 441571  
 Mark Cornish 01708 441571

**Pastoral Care Team**  
 0789 55 12480

**SAFEGUARDING TEAM**  
 by e-mail to

**Children**  
 child.safeguarding@parishofhornchurch.co.uk

**WHO'S WHO in the Parish of Hornchurch**

**PARISH OFFICE**

222 High Street, Hornchurch,  
 RM12 6QP

[www.parishofhornchurch.co.uk](http://www.parishofhornchurch.co.uk)

Office hours:  
 Monday—Thursday 10.00am - 4.00pm  
 Friday 10.00—12 noon.

General enquiries about Baptism,  
 Marriages and Hall bookings should be  
 made to St Andrew's Parish Office

Staff: Arlene Trump and  
 Nina Mortimer

Tel: 01708 441571 e-mail:

[office@parishofhornchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@parishofhornchurch.co.uk)

**UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS**

**Scouts, Cubs and Beavers:**

Andrew Rice 01277 262702

**Girls' Brigade:**

Karen Speller 01708 442848

**Guides, Brownies and Rainbows:**

Sandra Cox 07932 192535

**CHURCH WARDENS**

Jeremy Shearmur 01708 441571  
 Anne Jarrett " " "

**Choir Master** Bill Brooks  
 01708 509489

**Organist and Worship Band coordinator** Andy Losq

**PRAYER NETWORK**

Jane Harder and  
 Jacque Humphreys 01708 441571

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