

August
2026

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Bullseye



God has not abandoned us, and He has not abandoned His creation

News from the Parish of Hornchurch
St Andrew's, St George's, St Matthew's and Messy Church

This summer has been a wake-up call. One week, the heat presses down so fiercely it feels like the air itself is holding its breath. The next, sudden storms roar in, flooding streets and fields, disrupting lives in an instant. Forecasts that once sounded extraordinary—“record-breaking heat,” “once-in-a-century storms”—are now becoming part of our everyday vocabulary.

These changes are not random. They are the visible signs of a planet under pressure. For decades, scientists have warned that the way we burn fuel, clear forests, and consume resources is heating the earth. Now, creation itself is speaking—in the rising seas, in the parched soil, in the skies above our own homes. The message is clear: we cannot keep living as if the earth is limitless.

But here's the good news: God has not abandoned us, and He has not abandoned His creation. From the very beginning, He called the world “good” and entrusted it to our care. That calling has not changed. In fact, it has never been more urgent. God is present in the neighbour who checks on the elderly during a heatwave, in the volunteers who plant trees to restore life, in the churches that open their doors as cool shelters. He is at work in every act of compassion, every choice to protect, every voice that speaks up for the vulnerable.

This is our moment to rise. We are not powerless. Every decision—from the way we travel, to the food we eat, to the energy we use - can be an act of worship and stewardship. We can choose to live more simply, to waste less, to support clean energy, to

plant and protect, to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves. These are not just environmental actions; they are acts of faith, rooted in love for God and neighbour.

Yes, the challenges are great. But so is the hope we carry. The same God who calms storms can stir hearts to action. The same Spirit who hovered over the waters at creation is moving still, inspiring courage, creativity, and compassion in His people.

So let us be the generation that answers the call. Let us be the hands that heal, the voices that speak truth, the hearts that refuse to give up. The change we need begins with us—today, here, now. And with God's help, we can be part of restoring the beauty and balance of His creation.

Maybe we could all reflect on Psalm 8 during the month of August.

Revd Julian Patching
Associate Priest



What's on

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

Weekly meetings

Mon.	10.00am to 11.30 am 2.30 and 7.00 pm 8.30 pm	Tadpoles St Andrew's large hall, for children and their adults Time Out 2nd Monday of month meeting is 7pm North Street hall and 4th Monday meeting 2.30pm St Andrew's. Escape (1st & 3rd) St Andrew's small hall
Tues.	~ ~	~ ~
Wed.	9.30-11.00 am 10.00 -12 noon	0-2 Playgroup St Andrew's large hall. Toys, songs and craft, refreshments. All enquiries to Parish Office 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
 Can you please note these details should you need to contact them.



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

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Readers on-line who wish to complete the sudoku puzzle on Page 4 or the crossword puzzle on Page 7 will need to print those pages; the PDF format is not interactive.

Bullseye programme Contents to the Editor 2026

September Bullseye Sunday 2nd August
 October Bullseye Sunday 6th September

Uploading

September Bullseye 26th August
 October Bullseye Wed. 23th September

The Bullseye for September will be in the churches and online by Sunday 30th August 2026

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) 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 and 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.

Services for August

The pattern of Sunday morning services is set out on page 14 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 2nd August 9th Sunday after Trinity

8.30am Holy Communion at St Andrew's

10.15am Holy Communion at St Andrew's (also livestreamed)

6.30 no service

Sunday 9th August 10th Sunday after Trinity

8.30am - Common Worship Holy Communion at St Andrew's

10.15am - Morning Worship at St Andrew's (also livestreamed)

10.15am - Holy Communion at St George's

6.30pm - No service

Sunday 16th,

8.30am - BCP Holy Communion at St Andrew's

10.15am - 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 - No service at St Matthew's

6.30pm - No service

Sunday 23rd

8.30am - Common Worship Holy Communion at St Andrew's

10.15am - Morning Worship at St Andrew's (also livestreamed)

10.15am - Holy Communion at St George's

6.30pm No service

Sunday 30th

8.30am - Holy Communion at St Andrew's

10.15am - Holy Communion at St Andrew's

10.15am - Morning Worship at St George's

6.30 - TBC



Church opening for private prayer and reflection

St Andrew's church is open for private prayer and reflection three days a week.

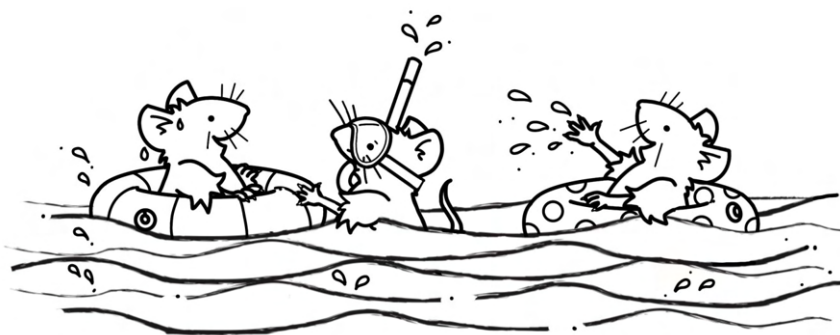
These days are Thursday mornings from 11 am (ie immediately after mid-week Holy Communion at 10am) until 1pm, and on Mondays and Tuesdays from 10am until 12 noon, unless the church is needed for a funeral or other service.

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.

St Andrew's will not be open on Mondays during August



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/>

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VIA THE PARISH
OFFICE:
01708 441571

Guide, Brownie and Rainbow News

Florence made her promise at
2nd Hornchurch (St Andrews) Rainbows



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 years. Please contact **Mao@8thhornchurch.org.uk**

Sue: Beaver Leader, 8th Hornchurch.

article.bullseye@parishofhornchurch.co.uk

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

Girlguiding trip to India

Amber, (below left) who is a member of our Ranger Unit here in St Andrews, and a part of the church since she was a Rainbow, has been selected by Girlguiding Anglia to attend an International trip to India in 2027. This is an incredible opportunity for her and a great achievement. During the trip she will visit the Girlguiding World Centre in Sangam, and meet guides from all over the world.

Amber is currently organising and hosting all sorts of different events to raise the £3000 needed to cover the cost of this adventure. She held a cake sale after the church parade service in July, and thanks to the generosity of our congregation, she raised £135. Thank you to everyone who bought cakes and supported her.

On the Monday afterwards, around 90 Brownies from the 5 packs in our district, joined together for an evening of games and disco dancing in the hall at St Andrews. The girls had so much fun and the atmosphere was amazing!

Amber ran the event with help from the other Rangers and leaders. A small entrance fee was charged, and this, plus the proceeds from the tuck shop, raised just over £600! A big thank you to all the Brownies who attended, and to their parents, who braced the chaos in the car park to ensure their daughters could attend and make this a superb evening. Thank you also to all the unit leaders for promoting the disco, for coming to the event and for supporting Amber with her fundraising. Such a fantastic night!!

Kim Kemp,
Guide and Brownie leader.

**Easy
Sudoku**
solution on
Page 12

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

Charity of the Month for July and August 2026 S.M.I.L.E London and Essex



This local charity provides vital support to families facing poverty, homelessness, and hardship. Each year they assist thousands of families and over 26 family hostels across London and Essex, offering

practical aid and a compassionate helping hand. The mission is simple: to break the cycle of poverty and create a community where no one is left behind.

There are many aspects to this charity;

- A clothing bank service where clothes are free to families, adults and children. All items have been donated and the referred clients are given a voucher to use in the charity shop so they can pick their own style.
- A school uniform shop—a place where children can get their current school uniform without parents having to worry about the cost. Children can then look no different from their classmates.
- Community Pantry— No one should choose between paying bills and eating. The community pantry offers families access to affordable, nutritious food in a dignified, self service setting. Local farmers and producers donate items so at certain times of the year a fresh food box can also be offered.
- Gift boxes— these are donated shoe boxes filled with small gifts, toys, wearable items, books, etc so everyone can have a gift at Christmas time.

Like all charities they are run mainly by volunteers and the services they provide do incur some costs. Therefore any donations received are very much appreciated. To donate go to their website smilelondonessex.com and click on 'Donation'. Alternatively, you can give your donation to the Parish Office (clearly marked as Charity of the Month S.M.I.L.E) and we will collate the donations and give it all to the charity at the end of the two months which is named above. If you have any charities to suggest, please email or leave a note for me at the parish office

Arlene Trump

Bell Ringers Autumn Coach Outing to Oxford

Saturday 5th September 2026

Coach leaves St Andrew's at 7.50am
returning by 9.00pm

We will spend the day in Oxford on foot,
ringing at the following colleges:

10:00 - 11:00 Magdalen College (10)
11:15 - 12:00 Lincoln College (8)
LUNCH (Own Arrangements)
14:00 - 14:45 St Giles (8)
15:15 - 16:15 New College (10)
16:30 - 17:30 Christ Church Cathedral (12)
17:45 - 18:45 DINNER: The Plough Inn

Cost of £40 includes coach
and evening dinner
Please contact

Clive Stephenson 07896 342010
for more details.

Non Ringers are especially welcome to come
and spend the day with us in Oxford.
Meal choices for the evening meal will be
provided on request.

Ordinary - but challenging

In the church year, we are now well into that long season - it seems to go on forever - variously called 'Trinity' or 'Ordinary time'. Each of those labels tells us something about the approximately six months between Pentecost and Advent Sunday. 'Trinity' reminds us that with Pentecost, God has made Himself known to us in all His fullness (or at least as much as we can bear) as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. 'Ordinary time' tells us that this is the season where, now armed with the insights and power of the Holy Spirit, we can revisit the life of Jesus with new eyes, new heart, see new things in the faith, see new opportunities to serve God.

This is the time when those words of Jesus (John 15:15) 'I have made known to you *everything* I have learned from the Father' come into play. It may seem a long season, it may feel like the drudgery of 'Keep on keeping on' without the excitement of Christmas, Easter and Pentecost to lift our spirits, but it is ordinary time charged with the knowledge that we have *everything* we need in the resources of God. The love of the Father, the words and works of the Son, the power of the Spirit will energise us as we 'keep on keeping on' through this long season.

This long season up to the end of November is a reminder that working out our love for God in our community is probably more about perspiration than inspiration. Few are called to be heroes of the faith, but all are called to faithfulness, and somehow or other, with the transforming power of the Spirit, we are all able to keep on keeping on, doing little things with great love.

Here's a lovely prayer which captures some of the mindset of the Trinity season/Ordinary time; it may help you 'keep on keeping on' through the months ahead;

*Let not our soul be busy inns that have not room for Thee and Thine,
but quiet homes of prayer and praise where Thou mayest find fit
company;*

*where the needful cares of life are wisely ordered and put away,
and wide sweet space is kept for thee.*

Amen to that. Ordinary - but challenging!



..Rodney, I've been meaning to have a word
with you about your carbon footprint!



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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 how to baffle the church committee . . .

From: The Rectory,
 St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

I was delighted to hear that you have been made chairman of the Missionary Sub-committee; it should help you to hone your skills in appearing to encourage committee members to contribute while ensuring that they only say the things you want to hear. It is a skill that needs not a little practice; democracy only works if all the important decisions have been made beforehand. However, do remember that sub-committees are only formed in order either to kill an idea stone dead, or to give the chairman of the main committee some time to decide what he wants, since he isn't sure how to handle the issue at that moment. I formed a sub-committee in 1999 to discuss Miss Fothergill's suggestion of creating a 'water feature' on the Rector's Glebe land, as a way of celebrating the Millennium. More than 25 years later, we are still actively discussing the idea.

I noted at the time that no one wanted the thing on their *own* land. It's significant that whenever people suggest some imposing edifice, they always think it will be most appropriate either in the Rector's garden, or in some public place, well out of sight of their own homes.

While the Water Feature Group has been working away tirelessly, and endless masons and architects have been approached, a suitable design has yet to be presented. It looks as if a suggestion will eventually be considered by my hundredth successor as we enter the third Millennium. That is the customary rate of progress for St James the Least, which I find entirely satisfactory.

The procedure for decision-making is always the same: after enormous effort, the sub-committee will produce a carefully worded report, which will be circulated round all members of the church council. At the next meeting, they will be thanked profusely for all their hard work, and the matter will be discussed at great length. It will then be proposed that the final decision will be taken at the next meeting, after everyone has had time to consider the matter more thoroughly.

Come the next meeting, the item will somehow fail to appear on the agenda, and when it is raised in Any Other Business, it will be pointed out that it is now far too late in the evening to tackle such an important issue. From then on, you can be assured, it will sink without trace.

Always remember the golden rule: a church committee meeting consists of a body of people waiting to go home.



Your loving uncle,
Eustace

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Flag Days for 2026

(Union Jack unless otherwise stated)

Tue Sep 8th: Accession of HM The King

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

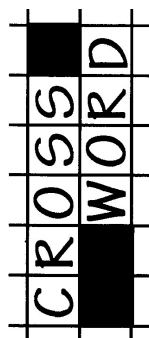
Sun Nov 8th - Wed Nov 11th: Remembrance Sunday
 through to Armistice Day

Sat Nov 14th: Birthday of HM The King

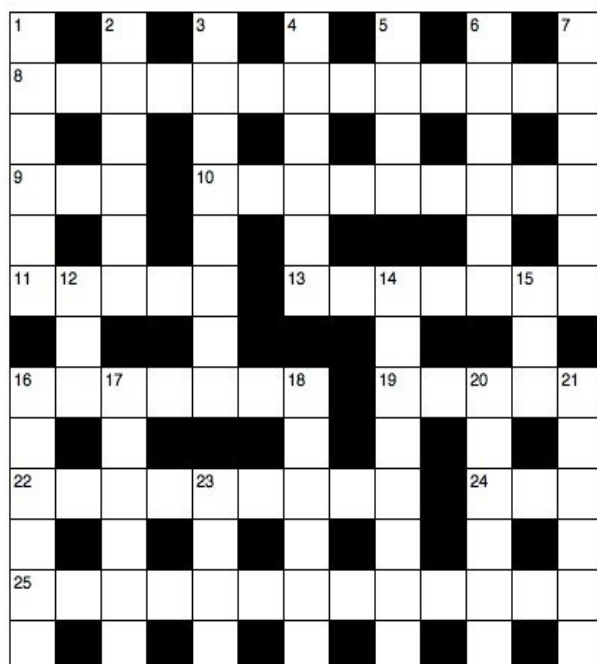
Mon Nov 30th: St Andrew's Day (St Andrew's flag)

Fri Dec 25th: Christmas Day





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Across

- 8 One of the titles given to the Messiah in Isaiah's prediction (Isaiah 9:6) (6,2,5)
- 9 International Nepal Fellowship (1,1,1)
- 10 Single (1Corinthians 7:27)(9)
- 11 Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn's seminal book about Soviet prison camps, The — Archipelago (5)
- 13 Treachery (2 Kings 11:14)(7)
- 16 Of India (anag.) (2,3,2)
- 19 'God has put us apostles on display at the end of the procession, like men condemned to die in the —' (1 Corinthians 4:9) (5)
- 22 Follower of a theological system characterized by a strong belief in predestination (9)
- 24 'Put these old rags and worn-out clothes under your arms to— the ropes' (Jeremiah 38:12) (3)
- 25 They brought together all the elders of the Israelites in Egypt (Exodus 4:29) (5,3,5)

Down

- 1 The season when kings 'go off to war' (2 Samuel 11:1) (6)
- 2 Simon Peter's response to Jesus by the Sea of Galilee: 'Go away from me, Lord; I am a — man' (Luke 5:8) (6)
- 3 Beaten with whips (1 Kings 12:11) (8)
- 4 'You shall not — adultery' (Exodus 20:14) (6)
- 5 Encourage (Hebrews 10:24) (4)
- 6 Service of morning prayer in the Church of England (6)
- 7 'Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and — him in your heart by faith with thanksgiving' (4,2)
- 12 Run (anag.) (3)
- 14 Member of 17th-century party that denied the right of autonomy to the Church (8)
- 15 'We will triumph with our tongues; we—our lips' (Psalm 12:4) (3)
- 16 Earnings (1 Corinthians 16:2) (6)
- 17 'I rejoice greatly in the Lord that—you have renewed your concern for me' (Philippians 4:10) (2,4)
- 18 How Paul described Philemon (Philemon 1) (6)
- 20 Multiple territories under the rule of a single state (Daniel 11:4)(6)
- 21 'You have been unfaithful; you have married foreign women,—to Israel's guilt' (Ezra 10:10) (6)
- 23 This month (abbrev.)(4)

21, Adding. 23, Inst.
15, Own. 16, Income. 17, At last. 18, Friend. 20, Empire.
5, Spur. 6, Matins. 7, Feed on. 12, Urn. 14, Erastian.
Down: 1, Spring. 2, Sinful. 3, Scourged. 4, Commit.
22, Calvinist. 24, Pad. 25, Moses and Aaron.
11, Gulag. 13, Treason. 16, In aid of. 19, Arena.
Across: 8, Prince of Peace. 9, INF. 10, Unmarried.



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'Strong Christian presence in elite football' - new research

75 per cent of professional football clubs across England and Wales have Christian players in their first-team squads. That is according to a recent study commissioned by Christians in Sport. The study, supported by Eido Research, also revealed the extent of Christian activities taking place within elite football: 75 per cent of clubs within the top six tiers of men's football include Christian players. 40 per cent of clubs regularly host events such as Bible studies and prayer meetings. From a 90 per cent response to the study from Premier League clubs, half reported regular Christian gatherings. More than a third of these activities are player-led. The research was based on feedback from 134 clubs (164 clubs were contacted). Dr Graham Daniels, general director of Christians in Sport and a former footballer at Cambridge United, said: "Christianity is not disappearing from professional football; it is far more present than most people realise." Christians in Sport, whose vision is 'reaching the world of sport for Christ', celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.





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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.

Daytime paint and sip Thursday 30 July 2026 10am to 12 noon

the perfect way to unwind, socialize, and explore your artistic side. Our instructor, Dani, from Paint Circle, 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, advance booking essential. £30.

Ingrebourne Wilder Holiday Club 5+ Tuesday 4 and 11 August 2026 9am to 3pm Child ticket: £46.00 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

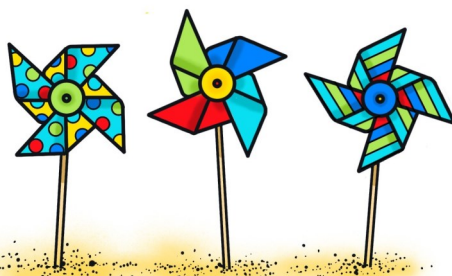
Beeswax Henna Candle Painting Workshop Sunday 9 August 11:00am - 12:00pm £13 per person. Discover simple decorative techniques that can easily be recreated at home. All materials are provided, Advance booking is essential. Please note this event is for adults only and one candle per person.

Ingrebourne Birds of Prey Flight & Talk Show Saturday 22 August 2026 Arrive from 16.30. Barleylands Farm Park bring their informative and fun show to Ingrebourne. This is a 2 hour talk with a 15-minute Q and A / tea break in the middle. The first half of the talk will be showcasing the animals, getting them close to visitors, and the second half is more 'action' related with birds flying over the top of people's heads. £10.90 adults and children. Advance booking essential

Ingrebourne Home Education Group. Now at Grange Farm Chigwell. Contact Grange Farm via learnrod@essexwt.org.uk

Contact telephone number: 01708 520364
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ingrebourne@essexwt.org.uk




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Fourteen Christians beheaded as Islamic State operations expand in D. R. Congo

Fourteen Christians were beheaded in two separate attacks in north-eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) as the Islamist insurgency expands its scope. Islamic State Central Africa Province (ISCAP) claimed the killing of six believers on 3 June, followed by another eight on 24 June. Both massacres took place in the village of Mungbere, Watsa Territory, Haut-Uélé Province. It appears to be the first time that ISCAP fighters have targeted Christians in Haut-Uélé. Security experts have assessed that the ISCAP expansion into Haut-Uélé has been driven by counter-terrorism operations in the terrorist group's strongholds further south. In addition, the shift may be an attempt by ISCAP fighters to move away from the Ebola-affected

provinces of Ituri and North Kivu. No confirmed cases of Ebola have yet been reported in Haut-Uélé, while 1,020 of the 1,118 cases confirmed across north-eastern DRC have been reported in Ituri. In early June, ISCAP fighters burned down 80 "houses of Christians" in separate attacks elsewhere in Haut-Uélé.

Death toll rises

ISCAP is still maintaining some operations further south. In attacks on 11 June and 13 June in Beni Territory, North Kivu, 11 Christians were shot and killed. Another believer was beheaded in Mayangose, Ituri, on 20 June. ISCAP has now claimed the killing of around 1,155 Christians in north-eastern DRC since its

Cont. on P 11

3rd Hornchurch Girls' Brigade Company News Update

This term has been a very busy and eventful one for the Company.

We enjoyed a fantastic camp at Thriftwood Scout Camp, where the girls took part in a wide range of exciting activities, including Water Roller, rafting, problem-solving challenges, the Cave Bus, paintballing, rope making, climbing, and the campfire. The camp was based around our Sports Badge, and before attending, the girls explored the principles of teamwork, helping others, equality, and working towards their goals. It was wonderful to see these values put into practice throughout the weekend. We are delighted to announce that three of our girls have been awarded the Jack Petchey Achievement Award. Another member has also received her Brigadier Brooch, one of the highest awards in the Girls' Brigade. We are incredibly proud of all their hard work and dedication.

We have also been making good use of our Jack Petchey Award funding. The first instalment was spent on a craft evening, where the girls enjoyed making bags and other creative projects. We are looking forward to using future funding for a theatre trip and a visit to Laser Quest in the autumn.

On 10th July, we held our Parents' and Awards Evening, a special occasion where we celebrated the achievements of our girls and presented badges and certificates. We were delighted that Rev. Ken joined us to present the awards and lead us in a time of prayer. The evening concluded with an opportunity to socialise together over tea and cake.

We would like to thank everyone for their continued support throughout the term, and we wish all our girls and their families a happy and restful summer break.



Captain Karen and Emma



Floodlighting of St Andrew's Church, Hornchurch

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

In Memory of my beloved husband **Peter Raymond** for our wedding Anniversary on 24th August ~ **Anne Degiorgio**;

In Loving Memory of my dear husband **Robert** on his birthday 28th August ~ **Mrs Jillian Atkins**;
Always in our hearts **Reginald Popkin and Susie Popkin** ~ **Marion Popkin and Linda Hill**.

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

Where was Abenhatch?

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>.

The Abenhatch family were prominent in Havering during the Middle Ages, from Thomas of Abbenhache around 1200 to Walter of Habenhathe who sold up around 1321. The name had many spellings but was evidently pronounced with a short A.

Where was Abenhatch? A hatch was a gate controlling cattle, usually entering a forest. Local examples include Pilgrims Hatch and Kelvedon Hatch near Brentwood and Aldborough Hatch at Ilford.

Surnames often indicated place of origin. Thomas of Dagenham was active locally from 1285 to 1306. His farm, near Harold Hill, became Dagnam Park. Bedfords Park in north Romford and Dovers roundabout in South Hornchurch recall incomers from distant towns. But there was no town or village called Abenhatch.

Surnames were not hereditary: Richard of Havering was the son of Richard of the Elms (Nelmes in Emerson Park). The Abenhatch surname continued through several generations, suggesting it referred to somewhere local.

A document of 1355 reported that Gidea Hall had once belonged to John of Abenache. The Gidea Hall estate was one of the largest in Havering. It extended from Raphael Park to Gallows Corner. Its northern boundary (roughly) followed the modern A12 Eastern Avenue.

Nicholas Redynges bought Walter's estate around 1321. He promised to maintain a cattle-proof hedge

separating his land from Risebridge Farm (now a golf course) and "the King's wood called Horoldswode" – common land west of Straight Road, enclosed in 1814. This confirms that that Redynges had purchased the Gidea Hall estate.

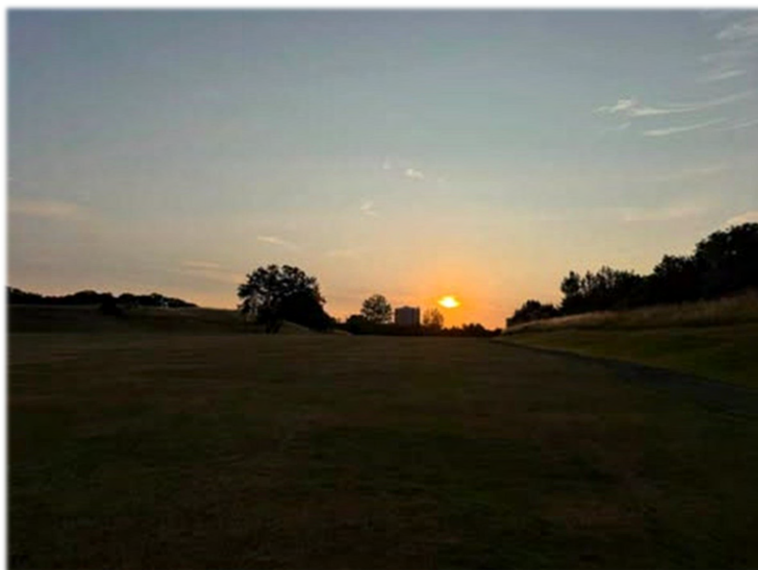
Gidea Hall stood just east of Raphael Park. It was demolished in 1930. The name Gidea Hall is a mystery. It's first mentioned in 1251 as the home of Simon of "Gidiehulle" – probably an alias for Simon of Abenhatch. Giddy Hall seems to have been a nickname. With so much land, the Abenhatch family was wealthy. Simon, who died in 1307, owned extensive property in London.

The Abenhatch house would have been a big one. Sometime in the Middle Ages, people began to build two-storey houses. Those surviving from the fifteenth century usually have an overhanging upper floor, convenient for throwing out slops in the days before bathrooms. You can see this in the Church House, dating

from around 1480, next to St Edward's in Romford Market, or at Upminster Hall. Perhaps the Abenhatch hall was the first double-decker building Havering peasants had seen. Maybe they joked that the monster mansion would topple over – the Giddy Hall.

By 1777, an alternative spelling, Gidea Hall, masked the original joke name. Whatever its origins, Gidea Hall was so prominent that it blotted out Abenhatch as a place, especially after the family bearing that surname vanished from Havering after 1321. Abenhatch wasn't written down until about 1200, so its meaning isn't obvious. Comparison with similar names suggests it recalled a Saxon owner. Abberton near Colchester, recorded earlier, was named after a woman called Eadburg. Saxon names went out of fashion after the 1066 Norman Conquest. By 1200 they were forgotten. Maybe one of Havering's Saxon pioneers, Eadburg or Eadbert or Eadbald, once owned a gate entering the forest. We'll never know.

But, 700 years ago, Abenhatch was almost certainly the name for Gidea Park north of the A118 Main Road.



Prof Ged Martin

Left: Risebridge Golf course, photograph with permission from Risebridge Golf Centre www.risebridgegolf.com

At Messy Church

We Learn about God ♦ Welcome all the Family ♦ Activities & Crafts ♦ Eat Food ♦ Hear Bible Stories

Wednesday 19th August Summer 3.30 - 5 pm outside St Andrew's Church. Journeys and Labyrinths. All ages welcome.

Friday 30th October Light Party 4.30 - 6.30 pm North Street Hall Hornchurch

Sunday 6th December Advent 3.30 pm - 5 pm St Andrew's Church Halls



All ages are welcome. Please wear weather-appropriate clothing and footwear for the outdoor sessions

Book via Eventbrite. Take a look at our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/messychurchinhornchurch> Or www.parishofhornchurch.co.uk

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 Holy Spirit and You

They that wait upon The Lord, shall renew their strength! Isaiah 40 v 31. God doesn't usually tell us how He's going to answer our Prayers or even when He actually will do it, but He does promise that those who wait on Him receive One thing:- Strength for every task and difficult situations. The word Wait in Hebrew scriptures is coupled with Rope? Rope starts with a single thread, and as other threads are added, the Rope is formed and the strength in the twisting of multiple threads forms the Rope and add to its strength. So each time we Pray we're adding strength to our request. In scriptural terms it's referred to as 'Waiting on The Lord!' Often when we Pray we feel like we're hanging on a thread. That's because we don't know how God will answer Prayer! As experience always brings result but not always instantly. Waiting on God is not always passive but essentially active. It's as if God sees our need and works out a solution for us. He's able to work out the actual solution with a clear focus. The Bible says, "Thou wilt keep him in Perfect Peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee!" Isaiah 26 v 3:- whether it's sitting Prayerfully in 'His Presence' or actively carrying out His Will, we have actual assurance that our strength will be renewed! If you're at the end of your tether now, remember this truth. It's the Promise of God, that He will give courage strengthen Your heart. Wait on the Lord, He'll surprise you Psalm 62 v 5.

BELL RINGING RECRUITMENT EVENT AT ST ANDREW'S

Sunday 20th September: 11.30am – 2.00pm
Get A Behind-The-Scenes Look At Bell Ringing In Hornchurch

Live Demonstrations: Meet our band and watch how a massive set of church bells is controlled. Step Inside History: Explore a traditional ringing chamber, view historic peal boards, and discover the fascinating stories and centuries of history behind our church's bells.

Meet the Band: Chat with everyday people from your community who share a passion for this extraordinary, living art form. You don't need to be musical, mathematically minded, or physically strong to learn. Bell ringing relies entirely on technique, timing and rhythm.

Our special recruitment event in collaboration with Heritage Open Days is the perfect, pressure-free opportunity to step inside the ringing chamber, ask questions and find out how we pass this historic skill from generation to generation.

CONTACT: Clive Stephenson 07896 342010 for more information or just turn up.

Mark London



Clive Stephenson

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**

Time Prayer

Father,

We are all so busy. We rush here and there, trying to meet deadlines, trying to fit more and more into our already full days. So often we seem to run out of energy and time. Sometimes we wonder what it's all about.

Help us, Lord to recognise that we have time. You have given us every day of our lives. Help us to choose wisely how we use our life time. Help us to spend time with You first; to learn Your ways; to encounter the living Jesus in the Bible and in prayer. And everything else will fall into place. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

News from DR Congo Cont. from P 8

campaign of jihadi violence escalated in December 2024.

Its fighters will typically demand that communities convert to Islam, accept dhimmi status as subjugated (supposedly protected people), or face death.

In classical Islam, Christians and Jews (regarded as "people of the book") have the option of becoming dhimmi and living under Islamic rule.

Accepting such a status involves following many humiliating rules and regulations, including paying the jizya tax.

Instability caused by ISCAP and other armed groups (such as the M23 Movement) is severely hampering emergency response efforts following confirmation of the Ebola outbreak on 15 May.

There have so far been 291 confirmed deaths from Ebola in north-eastern DRC.

How you can pray

Ask the Lord to prevent the spread of Islamist violence in north-eastern D. R. Congo. Pray that the terrorists who threaten the lives and the faith of His people will be defeated. Pray too for efforts to respond to Ebola, currently hampered by armed conflict and instability. Ask that our brothers and sisters will remain strong in Christ despite their suffering.

Source Barnabas Aid
www.barnabasaid.org

Daphne Kitching

Do you want to advertise in this magazine?

Then contact Arlene the Advertising Manager by email to **advert.bullseye@parishofhornchurch.co.uk** for further details

Time Out

On Monday 8th June 17 members met in North Street Hall for a plant and book swap. All the plants were snapped up and a large number of books. Some members made recommendations for good reads.

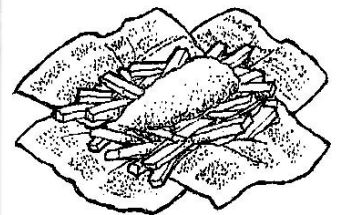
There were 18 members present for our meeting on Monday 22nd when we welcomed Rev Jane Wyndham to speak about her life and work. She works as a hairdresser in Hornchurch but has another life outside as a Minister in the Baptist Church and supports children and families in Kenya, very inspiring. We had a collection during the meeting and the group made a donation, the total given to Jane was £105 to help with her work in Kenya.

Photo right
Our AGM was held on Monday 13th July in North Street Hall at 7pm with a fish and chip supper. Photo below.
There are no meetings in August. We resume again in September, look out for information and dates.

Please contact Val on 07527 325996 if you need information about the group.

Many thanks,

Jeanette



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

Sudoku solution from P4

Hornchurch Library

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

Contact the librarians on 01708 434903 or
libraryevents@haverling.gov.uk

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

Little Fishes Craft and Gift Fair

our 22nd event

Saturday 17th October

11am to 3pm at the North Street Hall Hornchurch

A variety of stalls selling Crafts and Gifts

Refreshments and light lunches

Admission free

Contact us at **littlefishes2007@yahoo.co.uk**



New Windmill Hall
ST. MARY'S LANE, UPMINSTER, RM14 2QH

Community Café

Every Friday
11am – 3pm



A warm welcome space

Optional activities to support your health and wellbeing

Come alone or bring a friend

Join the jigsaw table— get artsy with some crafts— read a book or write your own—play our baby grand piano and have a sing-a-long!

Refreshments and snacks at affordable prices*

Come for lunch —all proceeds will help to sustain our community café for the future

Let's build something great, together!

For more details email newwindmill@hotmail.co.uk or call 01708 220242

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

THE BRIDGE



Meets in the Large North Street Hall every
Wednesday morning 10am—12pm

A social group for anyone
recently bereaved or on their own who is
looking for company and conversation.

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

Calling all give
it a go-ers

Do you have a skill, talent or hobby that
could make for an engaging evening for
young people aged 6-14 years?



8th Hornchurch are looking for individuals to
support the excellent work of our current
volunteers by offering to run an exciting session
for Beavers, Cubs or Scouts, 1-2 times a year.

Whether it's something adventurous, creative, hands-on or
part of your day job we would love to hear from you.

For further information please email
administrator@8thhornchurch.org.uk



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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

June 2026

Baptisms

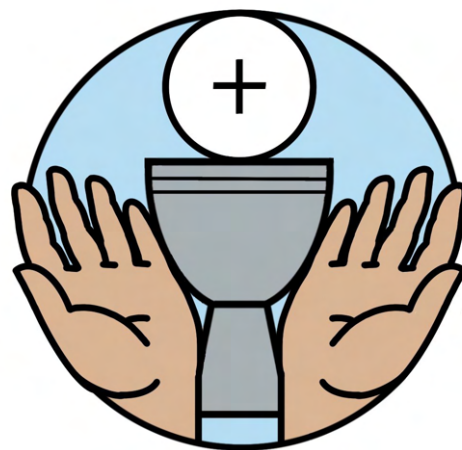
June 28th Lennie Alfred Tiago Sillett

Marriages

None

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

June 1st Brett Bibby 54
5th Terrene Pegg 84
12th Winston McCall 80
28th Gary Ayres 74
29th Robert Bolton 73



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

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

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
Jacquie Humphreys 01708 441571

BULLSEYE

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