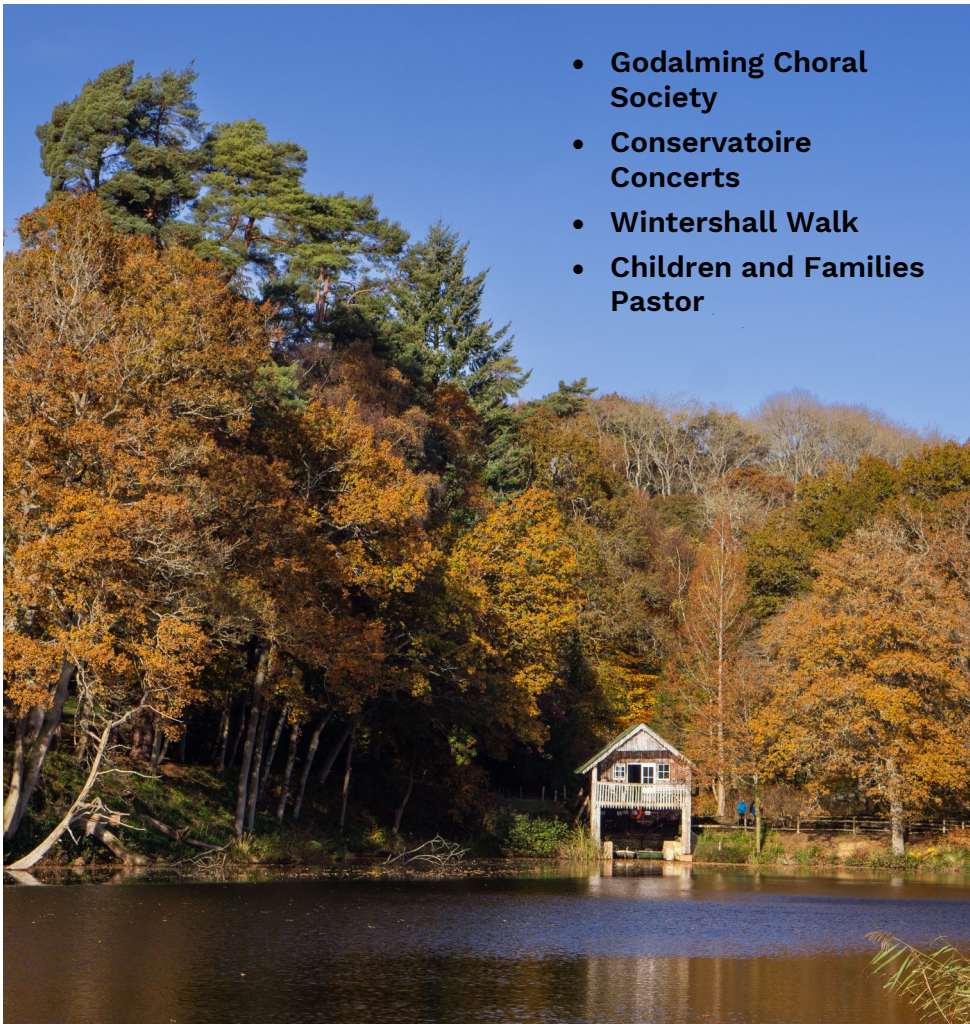


The Bridge

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2023



- Godalming Choral Society
- Conservatoire Concerts
- Wintershall Walk
- Children and Families Pastor

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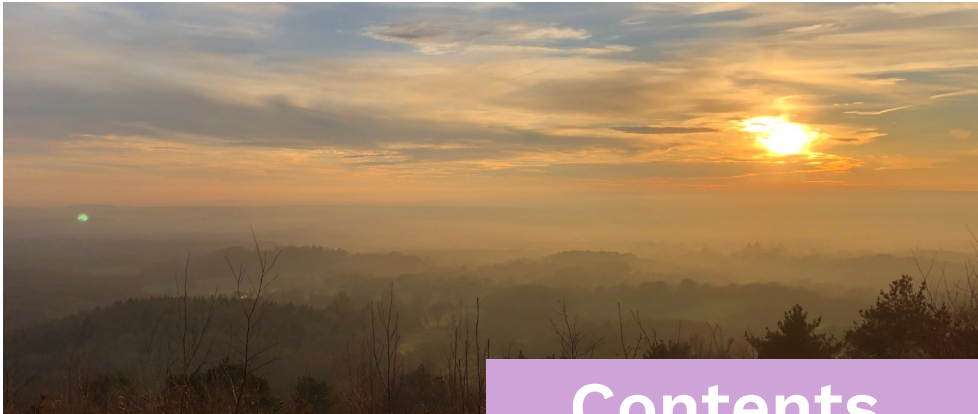
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Sixth Form Open Evening: Monday 25 September 6.00pm - 8.00pm
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FROM THE EDITOR

As we move into Autumn and start the new school year, we reflect on the richness and depth of the musical scene locally with articles on the Godalming Choral Society and Conservatoire Concerts. We also have news from some local schools and a local walk for you to enjoy.

Thanks as always for your support and feedback.

David Brockman

Copy date for next edition is October 18th

editor.atthebridge@gmail.com



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Front cover: Winkworth Arboretum boathouse in Autumn by David Brockman

This Page (top): Autumn mist in Surrey hills by David Brockman

A Singing Resolution

I last sang in a choral group when the fabulous Lisa Olsworth -Peter, as Music Worship Pastor, ran

the singing and baby group *Sing it Out* at The Old Rectory in pre-Covid times. It reminded me just how good singing is for the soul but in the wake of Covid, I haven't really done any singing since and it's been over 10 years since I've done any kind of performing, hence the New Year's Resolution.

Originally established in 1856, Godalming Choral Society is recognised as one of the most active and progressive choral societies in West Surrey, performing major and well-loved choral works, aiming to perform lesser known and even new works on occasion too. I'd known of GCS for a while and just hadn't got around to joining but in April, I finally made it to a rehearsal enlisting two friends, also keen to start singing again, to come as well. A fellow Mum at the Junior School (already with the choir) introduced us to Sam Hayes, outgoing Musical Director, we were given copies of Verdi's *Requiem* and warmly welcomed by our fellow sopranos as we nervously took our seats at the front.

Verdi's *Requiem* has long been my Mum's favourite piece to sing and those with the musical know-how understand what a huge body of music it really is, often being cited as one of the most dramatic and operatic pieces of its type ever composed. So, after a quick vocal warm up, it was a baptism of fire into the '*Dies Irae*' section, arguably the most recognisable piece (and possibly the most challenging too!). Not having sung choral music for so long, to be honest, I mostly hummed my way through that first



rehearsal, as I tried to juggle reading the Latin, singing the right notes at the right time and watching the conductor!

At the interval, Sam checked in to see how we were doing and more members came to introduce themselves so that by the end of the rehearsal, we had met a cross-section of the choir and felt thoroughly welcomed, even if slightly daunted by the challenge ahead, though obviously excited too.

As the saying goes 'fake it 'til you make it', and as the weeks of rehearsing have gone by, my confidence has grown in the notes I'm singing and it's been truly joyous at more recent rehearsals, hearing all the parts come together as our conductor fine tunes us, ready for our performance on 23rd September. The complexity of the music is so moving and I've been listening lots to various recordings at home over the summer to familiarise myself more with the entire piece - for those who like music trivia (and for any *Take That* fans out there), I was delighted to discover, upon listening to a BBC Proms recording from 2011, that the trumpet fanfare from within *Dies Irae* features at the beginning of *Take That's* 1995 number 1 hit 'Never Forget'!

Elton John was recently quoted as saying that "being in a choir is one of the most life-affirming things you can do" and I couldn't agree more. Needless to say, I'm really looking forward this performance at Grange Park Opera's Theatre in the Woods at West Horsley Place; it's sure to be a grand occasion to remember as we've also joined forces with the Epworth

Choir and the Horsley & Oxshott Choral Societies.

This Autumn also marks the beginning of an exciting new era for Godalming Choral Society with Paul Jeanes beginning his tenure as Musical Director. Paul studied at Trinity College of Music and the Royal College of Music, bringing over 25 years' experience in choral and orchestral directing with him.

If you like singing and might be interested in joining a choir, do come along to a rehearsal. We rehearse on Tuesday evenings (7.30-9.45pm) at the Wilfred Noyce Centre in Godalming.

To buy tickets for Verdi's *Requiem* on Saturday 23rd September (4.30pm) at Theatre in the Woods, West Horsley Place, KT24 6AN, go to thelittleboxoffice.com/gcs

Gemma Taylor



Godalming Choral Society, Epworth Choir & the Horsley and Oxshott Choral Societies

VERDI REQUIEM

Saturday 23 September 2023 at 4:30PM

Conductor : Sam Hayes



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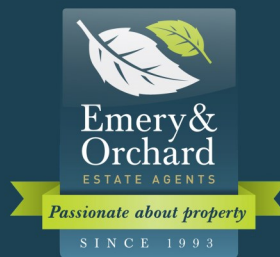
Pet Day at Busbridge Junior School

Summer Term is always hectic but also great fun. We once again took the whole school to the beach for our now eagerly anticipated Beach Day. Other events included a range of sporting events, Y6 production, Summer Concert and Pet day. Here are some pictures from our ever-popular Pet Day:



Can you spot Jess with her Guinea pig, Petal; Mabel with her cat called Fred; Eddie with our school pet, Milo; Eloise with her Guinea pig, Toffee; and Jemima with her duck, Janet. In the afternoon of Pet Day we had a Dog Show with over 40 dogs and owners parading around the school field. They were so well behaved!

Richard Catchpole (Head teacher)



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Walk with The Bridge: Thorncombe Street, Winkworth and Wintershall

A walk through fields and woods with fine views of Wintershall and Thorncombe Street valley.

**Length 5.4 miles;
ascent 211m**

1. Park in Thorncombe Street - there are a few spaces by the small village hall on the road towards Bramley. Walk south and turn right onto Alldens Lane.
2. After 100m turn left onto the signposted footpath.
3. Turn left onto driveway down to the road and turn right along the road.
4. After about 100m take the footpath labelled permissive footpath - this goes parallel to the road.
5. Rejoin the road for about 50m and then turn right on the public footpath into Winkworth Arboretum. Continue to follow the public footpath through Winkworth Arboretum - right at the boathouse and then left up through Badger Bowl (no need to be a member if you keep to the path!)
6. Turn left out of the car park onto the public footpath by the fence.
7. At the road turn right onto the road for 150m and then turn left off the road onto the bridleway (tarmac).
8. After 330m turn left on the bridleway



- (Tarmac) following signs to High Winkworth etc. Bear right after 100m and proceed downhill.
9. Cross the road onto the bridleway going slightly uphill. At T junction turn left on the bridleway. Follow this as it goes uphill with fine views to your right to the hills above Hascombe.
 10. Follow the bridleway downhill (ignoring turn to the right) until you meet the road. Turn right on road and the after 50 metres take the footpath to your left. *One of the horse head sculptures can be seen as to your left as you continue on this footpath.* Continue through a

gate into the Wintershall estate. *Look out for various buildings etc. which are used in the annual Wintershall production of the Life of Christ. - e.g. the tomb of Lazarus.*

11. Cross a track to go uphill still following the footpath signs. As you continue across a field there are houses on the right. Bear left onto a drive continuing to follow footpath and Greensand Way signs. Pass through several gates.

12. At Gatestreet Farm (after pigsties on right) turn left on tarmac road. Continue to follow the Greensand Way signs.

13. After 500m, take footpath on left uphill between 2 fences. Follow the footpath into and through the wood.

14. After the wood continue on the flat and

then follow the path downhill back to your starting point in Thorncombe Street.

Text and photos by David Brockman



News from St Edmunds

Before the summer holidays, Year 1 enjoyed a morning at Pizza Express, learning about the origin of the pizza,



the ingredients and how to make them. They learnt that the red tomatoes, white mozzarella and green oregano represent the Italian flag! The staff were great with our 30 little chef's and made them laugh. We had a memorable time and the children didn't even mind the walk back up the hill, knowing they were getting their pizza at the end of day!

This year's Year 6 production was

Peter Pan. It was a great performance, with wonderful singing, acting and costume changes. Captain Hook being chased by the crocodile was a firm favourite with the younger children! Everyone puts in so much thought and time into school performances to make them enjoyable, not only for the audience, but also the children taking part and much as we enjoyed it, it was



also sad to think of Year 6 leaving St Edmunds. Enjoy your new adventures Year 7 and we hope you settle into your new schools quickly.

Lorna Sherwin

TUES
31ST
OCT

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ALTERNATIVE
FOR HALLOWEEN

Light
party!

4-11
YR OLDS

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DETAILS &
SIGN UP



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Emily Mueller, alumna 2021,
Brown University,
Environmental Sciences

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Busbridge Parish Register

Thanksgivings

16th July – Arthur Gregory Brown

Baptisms

30th July – Freya Joan Watson
and ArrDee Riley Davis Ashby

Funerals

6th July – Michael Buchanan
Jackson



News from the Old Godhelmian Association.

The Old Godhelmian Association, which is the alumni group of Godalming County Grammar School, is delighted to announce the publication of *Godalming County Grammar School - The School on the Hill* - a 274 page history of the Institution from its foundation in 1930 to its evolution into a Sixth Form College in 1978.

Comedian, actor and writer, **Ben Elton**, a pupil at the School in the 70s, and **Louis De Bernières**, author of the best-selling novel, *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*, have contributed to the Book.

The book's wide subject matter with history, anecdotes, photos and illustrations is of interest not only to past pupils of the School and present students of the College, but also to the general public. Fascinating personal stories and memories have been included and the chapters draw on information in newspapers, School magazines and documents in history archives and museums. A chapter on the years of the Second World War details the journey of more than 400 pupils from Sir Walter St John's Grammar School, Battersea – the *Sinjuns* – who were billeted in various places around Godalming and shared school facilities with

GCGS and Charterhouse School. Rod Weale has written a piece about the GCGS alumni who were killed in the Second World War.

The book (ISBN: 978-1-3999-4732-9) will be available from September 2023, price £20.00 plus

postage and packing £5.00. The book is a complement to the website of the Old Godhelmian Association: <https://www.theoga.org>

The Biennial Reunion of the Old Godhelmian Association will take place on 14th October 2023 at Godalming College, Tuesley Lane, Godalming GU7 1RS from 11.00 to 4.00.

If you are interested in purchasing the book or attending the Reunion, please contact the OGA at oldgodhelmianassociation@gmail.com





Godalming Children's Choir For School Years 3 – 6

Do you enjoy singing and would like to sing with others who do? Keen young vocalists have a great opportunity to learn singing in harmony with professional leaders Sam, Oli and Martina, and Godalming Choral Society volunteers.

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email gcc@godalmingchoral.org.uk



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Interview with Marcus Hockley - the new Children and Families Pastor at Busbridge Church

Marcus has just started working at Busbridge church. David Brockman met him for a coffee in the Yew Tree café to get to know him and found out more about how he sees his role.

David: Welcome —what is your role at Busbridge?

Marcus: I am the new Children and Families pastor with a focus on the 4-11 age group. My role is to help children and families grow in their Christian faith, and to help recruit and resource volunteers to work with this age group. I will also be going into local schools to take assemblies.

David: What were you doing before you came to Busbridge?

Marcus: I was in a similar role in a church in Kent for about 6 years. Before that I worked at a church in Battersea.

David: Tell us about your family.

Marcus: I have been married to Annoushka for 10 years. We have 2 children - Caleb (6) and Zoe (4).

David: How did you end up in children and families work?

Marcus: I studied French to University and was thinking of going into teaching. I enjoyed working with children but decided that teaching was not for me. I worked in a church as an intern and felt called to work with children and families. I hope to do further study and professional development in children, youth and families work.

David: When not working, how do you like to relax?

Marcus: I like to be outside - walking or cycling. I like to explore new places with the family and enjoy cooking and skateboarding. I also love music and play the drums and guitar (look out for



me doing this in church!). I have enjoyed watching Lord of the Rings and the Star Wars films and watch Masterchef with my wife.

David: What are your first impressions of Busbridge?

Marcus: I have received a great welcome from the team at church and love their enthusiasm for what God is doing here. I have appreciated the quiet and beauty of the countryside.

David: What is your vision for your role at Busbridge?

Marcus: I would love to see children and families encourage and equipped to know and encounter Jesus in their everyday lives.

If you would like to be involved in work with 4-11 year olds at church or have ideas or questions then please get in touch.

Marcus can be contacted at
Marcus.hockley@bhcgodalming.org

David Brockman

From the Archives - Brighton Road and Busbridge Church in 1928



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Leek, Taleggio and Gnocchi Gratin by Elizabeth Silver



This is a perfect supper dish, quick, comforting and very tasty!

INGREDIENTS

25g butter
2 large leeks, trimmed and thickly sliced
2 cloves garlic, crushed
1-2tbsps of coarsely chopped fresh sage leaves
250ml single cream
150g Taleggio cheese cut into chunks
250g gnocchi
1/2 tsp grated nutmeg
4 heaped tbsps grated Parmesan cheese
Salt and coarsely ground black pepper
2 tbsps pine kernels

1. Preheat oven to 200° C (180° C in fan oven) /Gas Mark 6.
2. In an ovenproof skillet* over a medium heat melt the butter and add the leeks. Stirring occasionally sauté the leeks until softened but not browned.
3. Add the crushed garlic and chopped sage and stir for 1-2 minutes.
4. Remove from the heat and pour in the cream and add the Taleggio chunks and gnocchi.
5. Add the grated nutmeg and half the grated Parmesan cheese, season to taste and gently stir to combine all ingredients.
6. Sprinkle over the pine kernels and remaining Parmesan cheese and place in the oven.
7. Bake for 25-30 minutes until bubbling and golden brown.

**if you don't have an oven proof skillet then you can use a frying pan and transfer the ingredients at point 5 to a greased oven proof dish just before the final sprinkle of pine kernels and Parmesan cheese and bake in the oven.*

Elizabeth Silver



elizabethsilverfood

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The Peace Bell

The chimes of the clock at Ladywell Convent are a familiar sound to those living in the Tuesley Lane area of Busbridge. But, for those living closer to the infant school, junior school, and Busbridge Church (not to mention the Yew Tree Café) another bell can be heard. It is the bell of Busbridge Church, rung every day at about 5 o'clock. Have you heard it? And have you wondered who rings it and why?

Towards the end of 2014, when the forces of Islamic State were on the point of overrunning both Syria and Iraq, and making headway in several West African countries, an idea came to Dr Chris Jagger. He decided to state a case for peace in these areas, with a particular focus against the supplying of deadly weapons to countries where they might be used against defenceless people (his pictures of devastation in Yemen come to mind). His aim was to pray for all leaders of terrorist organizations, marking this aim by ringing the Busbridge Church bell five times every day at 5 p.m.

With the blessing of our Rector Simon Taylor the bell-ringing continued throughout the pandemic, and continues still. However, Chris and Maggie's departure for the Isle of Wight has left a hole in the team. We cannot continue on a regular basis without more people, particularly in the winter time when it is dark around the church at 5 p.m. I ask one simple question: would you like to continue to



hear the bell at 5 p.m. every day, as a reminder to pray for peace? Would you like to become one of the people who rings the bell and prays in the church at that time? If so, please contact the church office on 01483 421267 or church.office@bhcgodalming.org

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SPECIAL DATES

SUNDAY 8TH OCT - HARVEST AT MORNING SERVICES

TUESDAY 31ST OCT - LIGHT PARTY - BACK FOR 2023!

A BRIGHT ALTERNATIVE FOR 4-11S ON HALLOWEEN.

CHECK WEB SITE FOR DETAILS AND TO SIGN UP.

PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON THE NOTICES WHICH CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB SITE:

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WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!



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CHILDREN'S GROUPS FOR 0-11S:

Crèche, Tiny tigers, Ark & Explorers take place in the Old Rectory and Busbridge Village Hall during the Contemporary Service. Check the web site or ask a Welcomer when you arrive at church!

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5 NOV JACK PHILIPS MEMORIAL
GU7 1ES /// BLAZE.OUTFIT.SWEPT

A word from Rev. Simon Taylor

I've had a 3 month sabbatical, during which I walked part of the South West Coastal Path. Walking is a great way to see things from a different perspective. One of the joys of walking was that I had no destination to reach at a set time.

The people I encountered on my walk were unique and great to talk to. Each person had a different story about why they were there. No-one judged anyone, even if some people were well equipped and others looked like they had little idea of what was ahead!

In the differences, there was something in common. Almost everyone I met was following a common path. Of course, some wandered a bit to the left or right but wandering too far often led towards a ledge. It reminded me of the Life of Brian where everyone chimes in unison "we are all individuals!" Each walker was individually looking for a path and all of us eventually ended up followed the one laid down over centuries because that was clearly the way to go. Sometimes, the old ways are the best, but we fail to see what they offer because we desire a new path.

I once helped with a course for those who wanted to know whether Christianity had anything to offer them (Alpha – do consider it). An older person joined the course and towards the end he expressed surprise about two things. The first was that he wasn't being told what he had to think but invited to discuss what the Christian walk looks like. He'd assumed it would be irrelevant, but he'd found the opposite. His second surprise was that he'd come to explore this way so late in life. He'd tried all sorts of things, including the corporate ladder and various spiritualities. He'd been successful on so many life-levels, but he expressed regret that he'd come to



church last rather than first. I explained that this is common. People often arrive at the Christian path last because they've exhausted all the others.

There was one point on my walk when I became aware that there was a physical walk going on, and something spiritual. I was praying as I walked. As I prayed I noticed something. One place was full of the friendliest people imaginable. As I walked somewhere else, very few people acknowledged me. One place was the epitome of kindness but the other place was distant and seemingly cold. How could two places, so close to one another, have a different sense to them?

Perhaps places have a spirituality as well as physical features? I am sure that we've all experienced this, though we may not have seen it as Christian or spiritual. There are welcoming homes and unwelcoming homes. People who attract and people who repel. There are good acts and there are acts of evil which seemingly come from nowhere. There are places where God is sensed as present, and this is what Godalming Minster is about as our eyes are opened, like that older man, to the possibility that there is an ancient way of Christ that can be explored. It is about seeing that "Surely, the Lord is in this place, and I was unaware of it". (Genesis 28:16)

My invitation to you is to enjoy your walk in life, take a moment to pray to God, and become a person of goodness and welcome.

Rev. Simon Taylor

Things to get involved with this spring at

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Advertisement Feature

Retirement living in Godalming, Surrey

Birchgrove, the award-winning retirement living specialist are creating a new retirement development – Pepperpot House at Godalming, Surrey.

This one-acre estate, formerly the home of Mole Country Stores, is being transformed to provide 52 modern, light and spacious apartments for those in later life. The Grade II listed Cowshed will be exquisitely restored into two one-bedroom apartments safeguarding its architectural and historical interest. Pepperpot House and Stable Cottages will offer a choice of modern, elegant one and two-bedroom self-contained apartments finished to its trademark high standards. The extensive communal facilities will include a club room, restaurant, bar and wellness suite – shared spaces where people can meet and be part of what will become a friendly community.

The elevation of Pepperpot House has been carefully designed, and at its highest point, you'll discover a roof terrace that truly embraces the views over Godalming to the Surrey Hills. A wonderful place to relax and socialise.

Downsizing can offer a fresh start in later life – and the benefits may astound you. However, moving from a large family home to something easier to manage, triggers some powerful emotions and raises a good many questions. The practical side of our brain tells us the earlier we do it, the better we are – physically, socially, and financially. Yet, understandably, it's not a task anyone undertakes lightly.

Birchgrove retirement apartments are offered solely for rent on an assured tenancy basis. This provides security of tenure but without the hassle of home ownership.

The UK is fast becoming a rental market – especially for retirees. Renting in retirement is becoming more and more popular because it offers all the benefits of independent living without any of the stress of owning a house.

The inclusive rent offered by Birchgrove makes it easier to manage your finances and covers all the large-ticket expenses like energy costs – electricity, heating and water – and many of the rising incidental costs that go along with owning your own home e.g. housekeeping, buildings insurance, security, broadband, window cleaning and many more.

There are no lengthy contracts or confusing small print. Nor service charges or exit fees. You simply pay the inclusive rent and a one-off joining fee.

To find out more about Pepperpot House you can get in touch with the team on 020 3929 5599 or visit www.birchgrove.life You'll find them at Hamptons Estate Agents on the High Street, Godalming. Or, if you prefer, they'd be just as happy to visit you at your own home.



A Night Of Elegance - Opera Takes Centre Stage at Conservatoire Concerts

The grandeur of the west-end vibes typically associated with esteemed institutions like the English National Opera (ENO) and The Royal Opera House (RHO) found their way to Godalming. The transformation was nothing short of remarkable, as the enchanting world of opera graced the small community on a memorable evening, elevating its cultural scene to new heights, kicking off in June with the outstanding Opera Festival season. On Saturday the 1st of July, 2023, the Godalming Baptist Church became the venue for a night of shared excellence – the inaugural Opera Festival 2023 Gala Concert, hosted by the esteemed Conservatoire Concerts. With Suzanne Cacciottolo at the helm as the Artistic Director and concert organiser, the evening exuded an air of sophistication and elegance that set the stage for an unforgettable experience.

The journey commenced with Act 1: Arias and Songs, featuring performances by the gifted members of the British Opera Academy. A remarkable cast of young artists had converged from around the globe, hailing from diverse places such as

Chicago, Las Vegas, Manchester, and even as far as Australia. Their collective talents cast a gaze on the audience, leaving them astonished by the sheer brilliance and quality of their vocal renditions.

The very presence of Conservatoire Concerts in the heart of the community is indeed a privilege. For aficionados of classical music, opera, and finely-tuned concerts, this is a treasure trove of enriching experiences. The stage becomes a canvas on which some of the most talented musicians showcase their skills, often at the inception of their professional musical journey and burgeoning careers. It is a testament to their prowess that their performances carry an air of seasoned professionalism, defying any trace of their status as newcomers to the industry.

One particularly appealing aspect of Conservatoire Concerts is their commitment to accessibility. While the concerts are offered free of charge, it is prudent to make advance reservations – see the official website, conservatoireconcerts.org.uk, to secure a spot and ensure a




seamless concert experience with booked seating. As the curtain fell on the Opera Festival 2023 Gala Concert, attendees were left with an overwhelming sense of privilege to have witnessed such an exceptional event within their own community. The international talent, world-class performances, and an ambience that resonated with the grandeur of renowned opera houses transformed Godalming into a haven

for cultural connoisseurs. The success of the Opera Festival 2023 Gala Concert proves that even the smallest of towns can become the epicentre of artistic brilliance. Suzanne and her team bring a high class of talent and as a passionate lover of the Opera myself, how wonderful it is to have Conservatoire Concerts so close to home!

Emilia Guerra

After a short summer break, Conservatoire Concerts are back on Saturday 16th September, with an exciting start to the season. The Rising Stars Concert this year features two young and incredibly talented musicians, violinist Korney Sheldunov and cellist Hugo Svedberg. They will be performing solo pieces, duos and a Clara Schumann trio with their pianist Miho Kawashima.

Conservatoire
Concerts 

So do join us on the 16th of September at Godalming Baptist Church, 7.00pm for a very enjoyable musical evening.

Booking on www.conservatoireconcerts.org.uk. Admission free with a retiring collection towards musicians' fees and expenses.

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Coming up for Prime Time in September and October...



Saturday 23rd September—Walk & Pub Lunch

Dig out your binoculars and walking boots—Prime Time is going out exploring on foot again! Our regular Walk Leader Chris will guide us on a two and three-quarter mile circular walk through Sidney Wood near Alfold on the Surrey / Sussex border. This attractive route explores mixed woodland as well as a stretch of the old Wey and Arun Canal, built during the Napoleonic Wars and now reclaimed by nature with some stretches undergoing restoration. The walk will be followed by lunch at the nearby pub The Onslow Arms in Loxwood. Walk commences at 10am with lunch booked for 12.30pm.

Saturday 7th October sees the return of our popular **Marvellous Movie Matinees** which will take place on a monthly basis throughout the autumn, winter and early spring. As always, the venue is Busbridge Church with the film commencing at 2.30pm. Complementary tea, biscuits and popcorn are available at every screening and we always pause for an interval to allow for refills and chat!



First up for the 2023-24 season is the heart-warming true story of Maurice Flitcroft, who entered the 1976 Open despite never playing a round of golf before. The extraordinary story of an ordinary man, this is an uplifting and moving comedy drama about pursuing your dreams and shooting for the stars, no matter what hand you're dealt.

Thursday 19th October—Come and get a 'souper' read at our **Soup & Roll Lunch and Book Swap** event. Bring a book to swap with a friend whilst

enjoying a light lunch of homemade soup. Venue: Busbridge Church Time: 12.15 for 12.30pm

Regular **Coffee Drop -In** sessions take place in the **Yew Tree Café**



every Monday morning between 10.30 and 11.30am. No need to book ahead for these sessions, just come along and enjoy the chat and good company. A member of the Prime Time Team will always be there to welcome you.

For further details regarding Prime Time or to book onto any Prime Time event, please contact the Prime Time Team via the Church Office on 01483 421267 or email: primetime@bhcgodalming.org



MONTHLY
Hearing Aid Clinics
are back!

Fridays 2-4pm

8th September, 13th October & 10th November in the Old Rectory, Busbridge Church. Free adjustment, service and replacement batteries. Open to all! Users of NHS-issued hearing aids can now collect replacement batteries from the Yew Tree Café at any time when the café is open. This is an extension of the existing Hearing Aid Clinics run by BHC as part of the Diocesan Hear Here! project.

The new Hearing Aid Clinic at Godalming Library is on the 3rd Monday morning of every month between 10:30 and 12:30.

BUSBRIDGE EVENING WI

Our monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Busbridge Village Hall at 8 p.m. We have various activities - Book club, garden club, coach trips any many more. New members are warmly welcomed. Contact Ann Heward 01483 420360



Tuesday 12th September "French Landscape Gardens", a talk by Pamela Holt RHS trained judge who has been a horticulturist all her life.

Tuesday 10th October "So Far So Good", a talk given by Malcolm Wells MBE talking about his work at Canine Partners, as a medical assistant in the first Gulf War and receiving his MBE at Buckingham Palace.

Saturday 21st October Busbridge Village Hall from 2.30-4.00pm

Join Busbridge W.I. for a delicious afternoon tea with homemade cakes whilst we raise funds for the Guildford Parkinson's Society. Second hand books and Jigsaws on sale £7.50 per person.

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On Thursday 3rd August we enjoyed an interesting private guided tour of **'Royal Guildford'**. Our Town Guide was very knowledgeable, and he entertained us with fascinating facts about the royal inhabitants of Guildford Castle and related historical events in the local area. Afterwards we went for an enjoyable cuppa and slice of cake at the lovely zero-waste **Solar Sisters** café at the top of North Street.

Nexus
linking church & community

For our event on **Thursday 7th September**, we're delighted to welcome **Dr Nick Palmer** to come and talk to us about **'Farm Animal Welfare = Environmentally Friendly Food'**.

Compassion in World Farming is the largest farm animal welfare charity in the world and is based in Godalming!! **Nick Palmer is Head of the UK arm**, which has 400,000 supporters. Previously Labour MP for Broxtowe, he is currently on the Waverley Council executive, with responsibility for housing strategy.



Compassion works to improve conditions for farm animals, opposes industrial factory farms with caged systems, and works to promote a more environmentally friendly food system. This is a very topical and important subject, and it will be fascinating to hear about it direct from the person in charge of the charity in the UK. Do come along and bring a friend so we can spread the message!

On **5th October**, **Caroline Luard**, a volunteer **Mentor** at **HMP Send Prison for Women**, will come and share with us some aspects of life in Send Prison. She and **Lesley Mason MBE, Send Prison Chaplain**, have a passion for the work that they do there with the prisoners. This includes the important Nazareth Way, the **Making Connections Project – Send Prison**, which provides discretionary grants to prisoners being discharged to help them survive in their first few days outside until benefits become available. Nazareth Way was our Nexus Charity in 2015. It will be enlightening to get some insight into life at this Prison which is focussed on preparing women for the world after prison.

These two presentations will be held in **Busbridge Old Rectory**, starting at **8.00pm**. We'll begin with drinks and nibbles to give us a chance to mingle and meet new people after our summer break. We'll then hand over to our speakers for their presentations.

All Welcome - including men! We look forward to seeing you!

Refreshments to start. 2023 Annual subscription £20; Guests £5 contribution towards speaker costs.

Our 2023 charity is: **Milford Hospital League of Friends**

For more information, please contact:

janetmharvey@btinternet.com or katekaye2@btinternet.com

Nexus – building a network of friendship and support between church and community



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New soft play for Godalming!



A new mobile soft play, Bears Little play is launching at Busbridge Village Hall, Godalming. Suitable for children from 6 months, sessions are held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Not only will it be a fantastic place for keeping dinky ones busy, it will be a great place to meet other parents and carers.

During the winter the sessions will be inside, but when the weather is warmer they will also make use of the secure outside space in the garden. Activities will include an inflatable play zone, ball pits, soft play equipment, rides on and lots of toys including role play, transport and a baby box.

There is also a café with snacks, refreshments and children's picnic boxes. You can either book your space or turn up, for the latest info find them on Facebook and Instagram @bearslittleplay. Parties will be available soon! If you have any queries, please contact Jaye on bearslittleplay@gmail.com or 07871722290

FARNCOMBE MORNING TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD meet in St John's church room, St John's Church, Farncombe GU7 3EH on the second Wednesday morning of each month.

The next meeting will be on June 14th from 10.00 – 12.00. The talk is entitled 'Shooting Stars'. For the following meeting on July 12th the talk will be 'Cycling Around the World'.

You are very welcome to attend as a visitor (small charge). We are a friendly group - just turn up and you will be made very welcome or for further details phone Shirley on 01483 418102.



Life issue events to be held at Godalming Baptist church

(see also <https://www.godalmingbaptistchurch.org.uk/events>)

Anxiety, Fear & Panic - It all makes perfect sense. Led by Martin Brunet (GP at Binscombe Medical Centre)

Saturday 23rd September 10 am – 12.30 pm (Coffee available from 9.30 am) at Godalming Baptist Church, Queen Street, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1BA.

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Inner Wheel has its roots in Rotary and its aims are Friendship with Service.

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Godalming MUSEUM

The family friendly exhibition on the theme of **Under the Sea** continues until **Saturday 23rd September**. Come along to explore the displays and join in the children's activities!

Milford Artists' Autumn Exhibition takes place from **Tuesday 28th September to Saturday 14th October**. This exhibition showcases their unique and colourful artworks inspired by subjects both locally and abroad. They meet on Tuesday evenings from September to May at Milford Village Hall and new members are always welcome.

Gill Denyer is a local textile artist who will exhibit her skilful work from **17th October to November 4th**. She works in both hand stitch and free hand machine embroidery, using mainly vintage and recycled fabric and materials, with creations usually inspired by the natural world. In this exhibition she has explored her Welsh heritage, her love of gardening and informative years growing up in Godalming.



Surrey Guild of Craftsmen members are selected professional craftsmen and designer-makers of contemporary and traditional applied arts. A rotating display of works by members of the guild will be on display throughout the year, and are available to purchase.

Godalming Museum Coffee Club meets from **11am to 1pm on the 3rd Monday of each month**. Would you like to connect with other people in Godalming to share memories, have interesting conversations, and build new friendships in our relaxed and friendly group? Everyone is welcome, just come along.

Godalming Museum Fundraising Quiz is on Friday 29th September, 7pm at the Wilfred Noyce Centre. Tickets £5 per person. Calling all quizzers, whether you are a know-it-all or a know-nothing we will make sure you have a good night. You are welcome to bring your own food. Drinks can be purchased from our bar. Teams should be a maximum of 6 members. Book your place by contacting on 01483 426510 or email

museum.volunteers@godalming-tc.gov.uk All money raised will go towards supporting the museum.

Godalming Museum opening times have changed to Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 4pm. Please check the website www.godalmingmuseum.org.uk or ring 01483 426510 in opening hours for further details.

We ask you to please make sure that those people who are the focus in photos have given their consent to be included in our publication and on our website; in the case of minors we ask that this is parental consent. "The Bridge" would like to thank advertisers for their support, but to make clear to readers that it does not offer any endorsement of the goods or services advertised. Views expressed in the articles are not necessarily those of the Editor or Busbridge Church. The Editorial Team reserve the right to edit any articles submitted for consideration for publication.

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**Copy Date for next edition:
Wed 18th October**

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Rectory Gardens, Godalming GU7 1XB.

Rector: Rev Simon Taylor 421267

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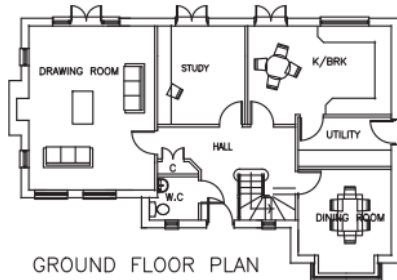
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