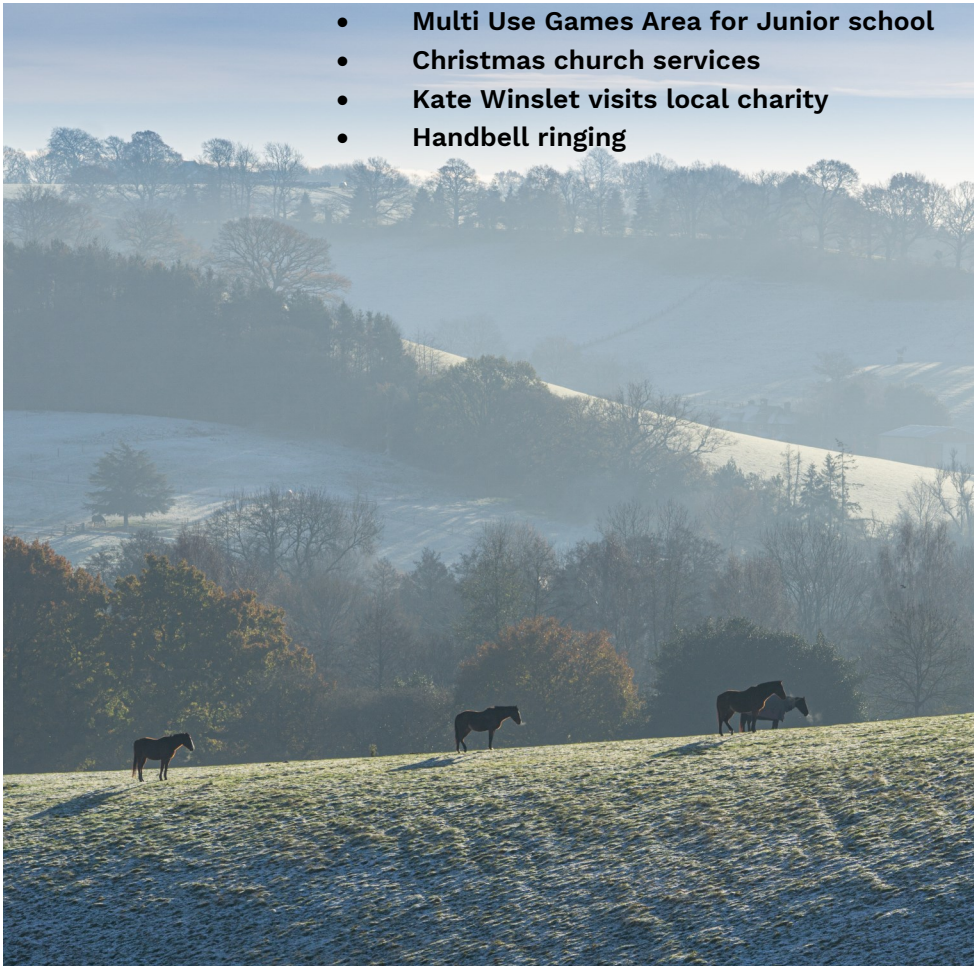


The Bridge

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2023

- Multi Use Games Area for Junior school
- Christmas church services
- Kate Winslet visits local charity
- Handbell ringing



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FROM THE EDITOR

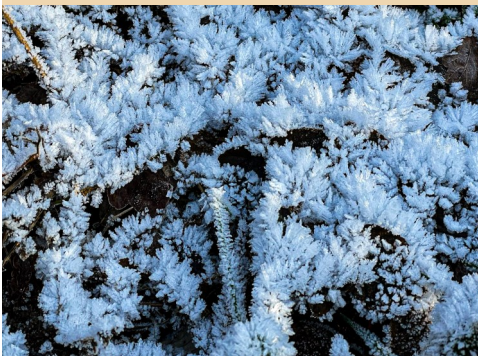
As we are a bi-monthly magazine, the current edition takes us up to Christmas with information about upcoming events: school fairs, concerts and Christmas church services at Busbridge and joint services across the new Godalming Minster. There will be more information about the new Godalming Minster in the next edition of The Bridge.

There is also an article about the new Multi Use Games Area at Busbridge Junior School. This is the result of many years of fundraising and will be a great asset to the community as well as future generations of school children in Busbridge.

David Brockman

Copy date for next edition is December 18th

editor.atthebridge@gmail.com



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Front cover: Frosty morning near Thorncombe Street by David Brockman

This Page (top): Snow on the Azalea path at Winkworth by David Brockman

New Multi Use Games Area opens at Busbridge Junior School

This Autumn saw the launch of the new MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) facility at Busbridge Junior School. The 30 x 20 metre fully-fenced pitch (with goal recesses at either end) has a needlepunch synthetic surface that is suitable for a variety of sports. On Tuesday 26th September, the Mayor of Godalming, Cllr Adam Duce, attended to officially launch the new sports facility with staff, Governors, parents and representatives from Godalming Town Council also present at the ceremony (*see picture opposite*).

Richard Catchpole, Headteacher, said 'We are so enjoying our brand new BJS MUGA. It's only been in use since the start of this term but already it has proved to be a massive hit with children, staff and sports club leaders. It has provided us with exactly what we wanted: a safe, reliable, contained area in which the children can enjoy being active and develop their sports skills. When the wet and wintery

weather arrives, we will appreciate it even more. Huge, huge thanks to all who invested time, money and expertise into realising the dream. An amazing team effort. Champion!'

The project, which began in 2021, cost over £160,000 with Godalming Town Council providing a grant of £125,000, as part of the Community Infrastructure Levy fund, with further funds of more than £37,000 being raised by the PTA, Friends of Busbridge Junior School.

Excitingly, this new facility is now available for hire by the wider local community. Available on weekdays (4.30-9pm) and at weekends (9am-5pm), prices start at £20 per hour. For bookings please email Mrs Kirsty Morris, School Business Manager, at finance@busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk or call the school on 01483 417302.

Gemma Taylor





The Mayor and headteacher (Richard Catchpole), with school staff, governors and other council representatives celebrate the opening of the Games Area

The FRIENDS OF BUSBRIDGE JUNIOR SCHOOL invite you to our

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Saturday 2nd December
Busbridge C of E Junior School
12 - 2pm

Outdoor Christmas 'market' style event in the main playground

Proudly supported by



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Performance at Fleecy Frolics 2023 // Photo by Mick Day



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Choir Leader and Founder
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Emily Bollon.

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Emily

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Godalming College

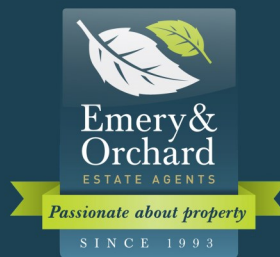
Are you looking for flexible employment opportunities locally? Godalming College, rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted, is looking to expand its team of Invigilators. This is an ideal opportunity for a local person to supplement their income, whilst working within a team of friendly, intelligent and dedicated Invigilators. You should be well organised with strong attention to detail, and have a desire to work with young people to ensure the smooth running of the exams in accordance with JCQ regulations.

The main exam season is in May / June, with other exams conducted throughout the year (November, January, February). Your availability will be checked prior to exam seasons, but you should be available during the May / June A-Levels, and ideally have some availability at other times of the year. Training will be provided and you will be asked to attend occasional briefings throughout the year (paid).

As part of the College's Safer Recruitment practices an application form must be completed; we are unable to accept CVs only. Full details plus application form can be downloaded from our website: www.godalming.ac.uk. Should you have any questions, please contact Caroline Glennon via the main switchboard on 01483 423526 for an informal chat about the role.

We would encourage early applications to allow for training and other pre-employment checks.

Godalming College is committed to the equality of opportunity and to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. We expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



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Tintinnabulation

Never heard of this? I'm not surprised, nor had I. It's nothing to do with a small French cartoon character and his little dog Snowy! I only came across this word when I joined the Lammas Handbell Ringers a few years ago. It means the art of handbell ringing, as opposed to campanology which refers to tower bells. The two are very different. "Getting to know the ropes" may be a nautical term but is also appropriate for tower bell ringing as well as being used metaphorically for learning any new skill.

Tower bells, rather obviously, remain in place, and campanologists travel to various churches to ring "changes" (because the order in which you pull your particular rope does change, so you have to remember which bell you follow as the pattern proceeds). The church kneeler below from Lenham, Kent, illustrates change ringing. In contrast, tintinabulists have to carry all their equipment to the venue where they are playing. We need sturdy collapsible tables on which to set out our gear, on top of which we lay thick foam cushions to protect the very valuable bells, overlain by colourful drapes if we are performing in a concert at a handbell get-together with other groups in the S.E. Region or even at a

national rally under the auspices of the HRGB (Handbell Ringers of Great Britain) or for a WI group or care home etc. The photo shows me at Ramster Gardens Christmas fair. In front of each position we set up "risers" i.e. music stands to prop up the music folders at a suitable angle. Each player may have four bells to cover the naturals, sharps and flats of the various keys. For example, I usually ring the F, F#, G and G# above middle C.

Some arrangements require the



use of “chimes” which are metal tubes, square in cross-section, with clappers attached which make a more reverberant sound than bells. Sometimes we are required to strike the bells with “mallets” which are like drumsticks with large globular ends and give a crisp, staccato sound. We say – only *half-jokingly* – that setting up the equipment is our weekly work-out as some of the gear, like a box of bells or chimes, is very heavy.

We play arrangements of various types of music, from classical tunes by famous composers such as Beethoven, Handel and Strauss to folk tunes such as the Skye Boat Song and All Through the Night and traditional oriental tunes, and from hymn tunes to pop songs. So the music is very varied and can be set for 2, 3 or 5 octaves. The music is written out on the well-known treble and bass clefs with notation the same as for choral singing or orchestral music, the difference being that we are kept on our toes by having to follow carefully and only ringing our particular bell(s) or chimes(s) at exactly the right moment. There are additional signs to watch out for, such as • or + indicating use of mallet or a filled-in little v sign meaning “martellato” i.e. strike the bell into the cushion to give a “stopped” sound, or “sh” or a wiggly line to indicate shaking



the bell to and fro to give a trill sound. So handbell ringing gives one a mental as well as physical work-out: very good for those of us who want their ageing brains to keep functioning well!

The Lammas Ringers are composed of up to a dozen friendly people and we rehearse on Thursday evenings between 6 and 8 pm at St Peter and Paul Church Octagon. We'd be delighted if anyone would like to join us. For more information see <https://parishofgodalming.org.uk/lammas-handbell-ringers/>

Chris Payne

News from Busbridge Infant School

A new start to the new school year and everyone has settled in well. We hope that the children who left us to start in Year 3 are also enjoying their new schools and are settling in too!

The Autumn term is always exciting and full of adventures and possibilities with new friends. However, as the weather changes, with conkers and golden leaves falling, we remember that it's also Harvest time. Recently, children in Years 1 and 2 celebrated **Harvest** with their families by singing



songs, sharing poems and listening to a short service from Marcus, the Children and Families pastor at Busbridge Church.

The children of Busbridge Infant School always show themselves at their very best on these occasions and the school's value of Respect was clearly shown towards People, Places and Possessions. Children donated a variety of gifts for others to enjoy and it really was a special time to say 'Thank You' for everything that we have.

Looking ahead at the rest of the term, we are very excited about the **new building project** which is fast approaching completion. The school will benefit from a new main front reception office, a meeting room, another office and 2 very large classrooms and an outside learning area too! The children who are currently in Year 2 will be the first to move into their new classes to

finish the rest of the school year in style! It goes without saying that this has been one of the biggest benefits from joining South Farnham Educational Trust who have made this dream a reality. I would like to say a personal 'Thank You' to everybody in the neighbourhood and local community for their patience and understanding during this project because it has been very much appreciated. See below for how it is looking at the moment!

Can you help?

Following the resignation of our caretaker, we are looking for somebody else to take on the role.

In summary, the hours are (7.30am till 3.30pm week days with an early finish of 3.15pm on Fridays). There are 26 days holiday plus bank holidays and a starting salary of £28,146. If this is of interest to you, then we would love to hear from you, so please contact the school's main office on 01483 417898 for more details or alternatively go to www.eteach.com

We would love to hear from you!

Darren Heatley, Headteacher



News from St Edmunds Infant School

We had a great week with Year 6 at Georgeham, in North Devon. It is a beautiful place; wide expanses of near deserted sandy beaches for surfing and games. The children had a wonderful time, they rose to the challenging adventurous activities with enthusiasm and resilience. The experienced canoeing, surfing, rock-pooling, orienteering, climbing, abseiling, fencing, archery and lots of team games. The food was amazing, I can't believe how much some children can eat! The staff at St George's House are brilliant, they knew every child's name within minutes of



our arrival and looked after everyone with real care and attention. We are so pleased that we found this place for our Year 6 trip as it is ideal for us. The children have been full of their adventures this week, tired but proud of themselves.



The St Edmund's PSA **Christmas Fair** is on Saturday December 2nd - 10am to 1pm.



Elizabeth Higgins - Headteacher

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Busbridge Parish Register

Baptisms

17th September – Hugo David Wells

1st October – Thomas Henry Jonkergouw

Funerals

3rd October – Chloe Dunn

17th October – John Postill at Guildford Crematorium

Thanksgiving

21st October – John Postill

Burial of ashes

22nd September – Vivienne de Pemberton





g
GODALMING
CHORAL
SOCIETY

SELECTED MOVEMENTS FROM

BACH CHRISTMAS ORATORIO

AND OTHER FESTIVE MUSIC

Saturday 16 December 2023
at 7:30PM

St John's Church, Farncombe
Musical Director : Paul Jeanes

Tickets £18 (Free for under 18s)

Available from Record Corner, Pound Lane,
Godalming (CASH ONLY), online at
www.godalmingchoral.org.uk,
box office 07941 506 172 or at the door



Llanaway Homes

(Registered Charity No: 225983)

Llanaway Homes is a small Almshouse Charity which owns a semi-detached property at 11 and 13 Meadow in Godalming. There are currently five Trustees one of whom currently acts as the Clerk. The Board are looking for new Trustees and for a new Clerk.

Criteria

Applicants should preferably be from the Godalming or Farncombe areas. Applicants to be Trustees do not require prior Charity Board experience but successful applicants should be able to work to effectively as part of a small team. Applications from those with a background in law, finance, housing, social care and community work are particularly welcome.

The Board meets twice a year and makes a visit to the properties once a year. Trustee roles are voluntary and unremunerated.

The Clerk looks after any day-to-day matters that may arise and are the concern of the Charity as Landlord for the properties. He or she is the prime contact with the Charity Commission and keeps the Charity Commission records updated for changes in Trustees and annual finance results. Applicants to be the Clerk should have good administrative, financial and IT skills. Strong interpersonal skills are essential.

The Clerk is not employed by the Charity but in recognition of the work undertaken the Charity may make a gift (Honorarium) to the Clerk. The level of this Honorarium was most recently £1,000. The Clerk is reimbursed for all expenditure necessary to perform the role.

The Clerk is usually also one of the Trustees but that is not a requirement.

More details of the charity and the roles are available from Ian Coult, the clerk at ic0@btinternet.com or on 07771 920302, to whom any applications (CV plus covering letter) should be sent.

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Kate Winslet visits Green Hub teen garden in Milford

The Green Hub project in Milford was featured in the July / August 2022 edition of The Bridge

Green Hub first connected with Kate Winslet last December, after watching her powerful 'I Am Ruth' drama about a mother coping with her teenage daughter's mental health breakdown. She and the programme went on to win two BAFTA awards.

Critically, it was filmed on location in Godalming and the synergy with the work that Green Hub is doing with teenagers and parents was potent. The team just knew they needed to connect with her and so asked everyone on their contact list if they could help them to make contact ... less than three days after it was broadcast, Kate got in touch.

Kate's filming commitments made a visit earlier in the year impossible but, on Thursday 7th September, she drove up to see the Milford garden to meet with co-founders Tone Tellefsen Hughes and Vanessa Lanham-Day.

Commenting on how the meet up went, Vanessa said, "Kate is very connected with nature and loves to grow things at home; she especially enjoyed walking around the garden and spotting our various tomato, squash and courgette species! Kate is a



delightful and authentic woman and is very engaged in the discussion about the teenage



mental health crisis - we were definitely pushing against an open door."

The three discussed a number of future projects, as well as her being happy to share many of her key connections with the Green Hub.

Kate Winslet commented; "By supporting Green Hub, I sincerely hope I can help to elevate their profile and raise further awareness of this deeply important issue."

As Tone explained; "What we learned in our time together is that Kate understands that she has the power to make people pay attention. Her programme - I Am Ruth - focussed on telephone and social media addiction; however, the journey for teens and parents alike is little different whichever anxiety is in play. Like us, she is committed to helping people understand the options available to help teens in crisis, via both traditional and alternative approaches."

Vanessa Lanham-Day
<https://greenhub.org.uk>



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Spicy Butternut Squash Soup

by Elizabeth Silver



Warming, spicy and nutritious, this soup is perfect comfort food for these shorter, chilly Autumnal days and is equally good made with Pumpkin!

INGREDIENTS

2 tbsps olive oil
1 large onion, peeled and diced
2 large carrots, peeled and sliced
2 sticks celery, sliced
1 large Butternut Squash, peeled, cut into large dice with seeds removed and retained
4 cloves garlic, peeled and crushed
1 tsp turmeric
2 tsps ground cumin
1-2 tsps dried chilli flakes
1 tsp dried mixed herbs
1 large potato, peeled and cut into chunks
300ml coconut milk
Vegetable stock to top up
Salt and pepper to season

1. In a large saucepan heat the olive oil and add the onion, carrot and celery and sauté to soften without browning.

2. Add the diced Butternut squash flesh and sauté for 3-4 minutes until softened. Stir in the crushed garlic.

3. Stir in the spices and dried herbs and cook for 1-2 minutes. Add the potato chunks.

4. Pour in the coconut milk and top up to 3/4 full with vegetable stock stirring gently.

5. Bring to the boil and gently simmer until the vegetables are cooked and softened.

6. Puree until smooth with a hand blender or in a liquidiser. Adjust consistency according to preference with extra vegetable stock and add seasoning to taste. Bring back to a simmer to heat through.

To roast the Butternut squash seeds to give a lovely crunchy garnish for the soup, remove all stringy fibres from the seeds, rinse with water and pat dry. Place on a baking tray and drizzle over olive oil. Add salt flakes and freshly ground black pepper and toss the seeds in the oil to fully coat. Cook at 180oC for about 5 minutes or until golden brown and roasted in appearance.

When the hot soup is served in bowls, sprinkle with the roasted seeds and an extra drizzle of olive oil or chilli oil and garnish with sprigs of fresh parsley and freshly ground black pepper.

Elizabeth Silver
elizabethsilverfood



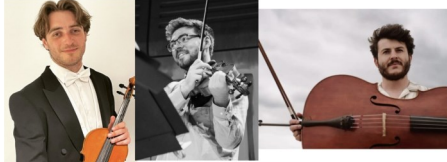


Conservatoire Concerts (TBS) CIO
Chamber Music Festival



25th November and 2nd December, 2023 - 7.00pm
Godalming Baptist Church

Wyss Trio



Sebastian Wyss (violin), Mabon Llŷr Rhyd (viola), Harry Broom (cello)

Waldstein Ensemble

- Greta Papa (violin)
- Edward Keenan (viola)
- Miguel Ángel Villeda Cerón (cello)
- Valentina Ciardelli (double bass)
- Christos Fountos (piano)



Conservatoire Concerts

Invite you to
A Family Christmas Eve
Celebration

At Godalming Baptist Church
on

Sunday 24th December, 10.00pm

Join us as we herald
Christmas with music,
singing and some
readings.



Programme includes well known carols and
Corelli Christmas Concerto
performed by local musicians.
Festive refreshments will be served
afterwards

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A word from Rev. Patrick Samuels

In this November / December edition we include information about our Christmas services and the season of Advent which precedes it. In our services during Advent we will be lighting Advent candles and decorating houses and other buildings with Advent wreaths.

The Advent wreath is a beautiful symbol of the eternity of Christ and his presence in our lives. As a symbol, however, apart from being lit on each of the Sundays of Advent, the deeper meaning held within each of those candles is often lost or unacknowledged. This is a pity because there is a richness in the wreath which offers a real opportunity for reflecting in a prayerful way this beautiful season of preparation for Christmas.

The Advent Wreath - Its design comes from the customs of the pre-Christian Germanic and Scandinavian cultures, where candles and greenery were used as symbols of light and life during the dark and cold winter. Over time each candle was given a name and linked to a particular part of the Advent story. The evergreen symbolises renewal and the circular shape the completeness of God.

Candle 1. the first one represents God's people and is considered as the Candle of **Hope**.

Candle 2. the second one represents The Old Testament Prophets and is considered as the Candle of **Peace**.

Candle 3. the third one represents John the Baptist and is considered as



the Candle of **Love**.

Candle 4. fourth one represents Mary the Mother of Jesus and is considered as the Candle of **Joy**.

Candle 5. the fifth one represents the birth of Jesus Christ. Jesus is seen as '**The Light of the World**'.

Isaiah reminds us that, we are waiting for the coming of the Messiah, wonderful counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Therefore, focusing on the Candle of Peace, let the focus of our prayers in the new Year be for Peace in our World, Peace in our lives and Peace in our hearts. Amen!

Rev. Patrick Samuels



Busbridge Church Services

5, 19 & 26 NOV, 10 DEC

9.30

CONTEMPORARY

BAND LED WORSHIP + CHILDREN'S GROUPS
REPLACED BY MUDDY CHURCH ALL AGE ON 1ST SUNDAYS
HOLY COMMUNION 3RD SUNDAYS

10.35-11.15 Coffee together

5, 19 & 26 NOV, 3 & 10 DEC

11.15

CLASSIC

COMMON WORSHIP WITH HYMNS
HOLY COMMUNION 1ST SUNDAYS

12 & 26 NOV

18:00

EVENING

EXTENDED TIME FOR WORSHIP & PRAYER
HOLY COMMUNION 4TH SUNDAYS



You can watch these services live and on demand on YouTube [QBHCGodalmingonline](#).



12 NOV

10.45

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE



Meet in Jack Phillips Memorial Park

What3Words location: [///blaze.outfit.swept](https://blaze.outfit.swept)

MEET AT 9:20 FOR 9:30 START

3 DEC 2022

MUDDY ADVENT

Come to the next Muddy Church, when ALL ages come outdoor to worship together!

FOC parking available in Crown Court car park.

SPECIAL DATES:

12 NOV REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY | 3 DEC MUDDY ADVENT & CLASSIC ADVENT TAIZÉ

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

WWW.BHCGODALMING.ORG/NOTICES

OR CONTACT VIC.HICKS@BHCGODALMING.ORG TO SUSCRIBE TO EMAIL.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!



Follow BHC Godalming



Christmas with the new GODALMING MINSTER

This year, Christmas with church will be bigger and brighter than ever as you can celebrate at Busbridge Church, and other places in the new parish of Godalming Minster.

Join the Song

For Christmas 2023, the Church of England is encouraging everyone to "Join the Song", singing carols to unite communities and draw us closer to God.

The First Nowell



Look out for Godalming Minster's version of the carol "The First Nowell" from early December, featuring choirs from Busbridge Infants, Busbridge Juniors, Hambleton Nursery, St Dominic's, St Mark's, the MBM Contemporary Gospel Choir, members of the local Ukrainian community and others!

The full version will be shown at Godalming Minster services from 10 Dec.



Christmas Giving

In recent years, your church has delivered some 50 hampers to share love and Christmas treats with families in need. This year Christmas hampers will be given out via the Godalming Minster Foodbank based at St Mark's Franklyn Road.

To donate items, or get involved with hamper packing or deliveries see www.godalmingminster.org for the gift list and dates.

See www.godalmingminster.org for more details, SIGN UP and a full list of events and services

Christmas



Events & services at Busbridge Church, Brighton Road (unless otherwise shown with a /)

**3rd Dec
Advent
Sunday**

9.30am Muddy Advent / The Phillips Memorial Park
11.15am Advent Reflections Service
6pm Campfire Carols / Old Rectory Gardens - s'mores & more!

**10th Dec
Christingle**

4pm Christingle Service - please sign up online

**17th Dec
Carol
Services**

10am Family Carol Service
Traditional Evening Carol Services at Godalming Minster:
6.30pm 9 Lessons & Carols / St Peter & Paul's, Church Street
7pm Carols by Candlelight / Hambledon Church, Church Lane
& 7pm Carol Service / St Mark's, Franklyn Rd

**Christmas
cheers**

Tue 19th 7pm Howling Carols / The Pavilion Holloway Hill Rec
Wed 20th 7.30pm Carols at the Pub / Merry Harriers

**24th Dec
Christmas
Eve**

10am Sunday Morning service with classic carols
**4pm & 5.30pm Christmas Eve Celebrations /
St Peter & St Paul's, Church Street - please sign up online**
11pm Midnight Communion

**25th Dec
Christmas
Day**

10am Christmas Day Family Service

**New Year's
Eve**

Sun 31st 10am Minster-eve service / Hambledon Church, Church Lane (No services at Busbridge)



Not looking forward to Christmas?
Godalming Minster has a team of pastoral assistants trained to listen
and support those for whom Christmas is a tougher time.
Email: pastoral@bhcgodalming.org

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busbridge&hambledonchurch

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2.30-4PM

LAST TUESDAYS
OF THE MONTH:
28/11/23 THEN 30/1/24

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and cake.



e: pastoral@bhcgodalming.org

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The one-acre estate is being transformed to provide 52 modern, light and spacious one- and two-bedroom assisted living apartments. You've Pepperpot House, with its wonderful roof terrace embracing the views over Godalming to the Surrey Hills; just the ticket for relaxing and socialising. Stable Cottages will offer three ground-floor modern apartments and the Grade II listed Cowshed, is being exquisitely restored into two one-bedroom apartments conserving all of its architectural character and history.

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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.



Mechanics for Africa

Mechanics for Africa is a Christian technical college in the Zambian city of Ndola. It trains young people from some of Zambia's poorest communities in automotive engineering, equipping them with a trade and essential life skills. It was set up in 2002 by members of

Milford Baptist Church with support from friends at **Busbridge church**.

In April our deputy chair of the trustees Susie Mooney visited the college for graduation; these are her reflections:

Graduation day was full of excitement and a realisation of what had been achieved. I lost track of the number of times students told me that, 'MfA has transformed my life' and the family members who took this further in expressing how the impact of the transformation extended to the wider family. The expression of deep appreciation for our generous sponsors was heartfelt.

Visiting some of the student's homes and families was both a privilege and a challenge, seeing living conditions we just don't see in the UK. I realised how important the basic facilities MfA offers our students are, like freely available running water and showers. The distance some of our students walk to the college - taking up to two hours - demonstrated the necessity of the college's provision of a nutritious, filling



lunch time meal. For many of our students this is their only meal of the day.

Visiting students on work placement was a joy; to witness the impact that regular, paid employment brings, and to see them as the living embodiment of our aspiration to equip students with 'Skills for Life'.

My visit showed me that MfA is so much more than a successful technical college, it equips our students to learn key life skills, values, and respect for themselves and others. Throughout their two years with us they mature, grow in strength of character and explore the Christian faith. As the graduates said themselves, they leave transformed people.

Our latest news is that in 2024 Mechanics for Africa plans to open a new Computer Centre. Thanks to a generous supporter we have “broken ground” and builders are working hard to complete the development of two new classrooms in time for the start of the new academic year. In order to prepare and settle our internal works

and fit out, we are running a “Buy a Brick” campaign. For more information on how to give or to keep up to date with news on this truly thrilling work, please visit our website

www.mechanicsforafrica.com .

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Coming up for Prime Time in November and December...



The **Marvellous Movie Matinees** at Busbridge Church return on **Saturday 4th November** and **Saturday 16th December**. Our November offering hit cinema screens earlier this year and follows the story of a chap named Harold (played by Jim Broadbent) who goes on a long, impromptu walk; whilst in December we'll be showing the second big-screen outing of the fictional Crawley family. Doors open at 2pm for a 2.30 start. Complementary tea, biscuits and popcorn are available at every screening and we always pause for an interval to allow for refills and chat! Please check the BHC website nearer the time for clues as to the title of the movie being shown or telephone the Church Office so that we can tell you!



Monday 13th November—Tea & Talk: Commonwealth War Graves in Busbridge - 2.30pm—Busbridge Church

Busbridge churchyard has a handful of war graves that are officially recognised and maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Join us for this Tea & Talk when Simon Taylor, our Rector and keen amateur wartime historian, will introduce us to casualties of war at rest in our churchyard. Once the presentation is complete, there will be plenty of opportunity to chat to your friends about what you've heard while enjoying the customary Prime Time Tea & Cake!



Monday 11th December—our annual Afternoon Carol Service; a comforting seasonal celebration featuring familiar carols, the Nativity story and some thought-provoking poetry. There will also be a special performance by children from Busbridge Junior School who will sing a medley of their favourite Christmas songs. The afternoon is rounded off with mulled wine and mince pies and plenty of time to chat and wish your friends the tidings of the season. **Busbridge Church—2.30pm.**



MONTHLY
Hearing Aid Clinics
are back!

Fridays 2-4pm

10th November, 8th December & 12th January 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.

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 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

BUSBRIDGE EVENING WI

Our monthly meetings are held on 2nd Tuesday of each month at Busbridge Village Hall at 8.PM. We have various activities held

during the month, Book Club, Craft Group, Garden Club, Coach Trips and many more. New members are warmly welcomed. Contact Ann Heward 01483 420360

Tuesday 14th November AGM with a talk given by Jenny Nockolds
On Ethiopia Amazing History, Beautiful Land.

Tuesday 12th December - A
Christmas Celebration.



Christmas vouchers available from **LOVESDOGS**

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The advertisement is decorated with Christmas-themed illustrations including a reindeer, a dog in a Santa hat, a small dog, and a dog on a blue mat. It also features holly leaves and snowflakes.

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On 5th October, we learnt a lot about life at HMP Send Prison for Women from a fascinating talk by prison volunteers Caroline and Penny. This included the **Making Connections Project** which provides discretionary grants to help prisoners through the first few days after their release. The project is funded by Nazareth Way, one of Busbridge and Hambledon Church mission partners, and also our Nexus Charity in 2015.



For our **2nd November event**, **Helen Sturney** has kindly offered to share with us her experiences of a cruise to see the Northern Lights in Norway. This included expeditions in rigid inflatable boats and visiting the most northerly point in Norway's Arctic Circle. For us, this will be a photographic adventure, including incredible pictures of the Ice Cathedral and other Norwegian wonders.

Come and enjoy this presentation: **Norwegian Expedition in Photos**, in the warmth and comfort of our familiar Minster Room venue in **Busbridge Old Rectory!** It will start at **8.00pm** with drinks and nibbles to give us a chance to mingle and meet new people.

All are welcome – including men! We look forward to seeing you!

With Christmas cards and decorations already in the shops, it'll soon be time for our **Christmas Charity Quiz!** This will take place on **Saturday 2nd December**, so please put the date in your diary!

It will be held in **Busbridge Church**, following a very successful quiz there last year. Our quizmaster team, **Alan Betts** and **Dudley Hilton**, are working well putting together stimulating questions and graphics. We'll be having a quality quiche supper, and more details will be available soon. The Quiz is open to all and is sure to be a fun evening.

And a 'heads up' for our January event: **Philip Friend**, a Mary Berry 'Best Home Cook' finalist and Maths teacher at St Catherine's, will be coming to demonstrate how to cook warming Tasty Light Bites for us. This will be on **Thursday 4th January** in **Busbridge Old Rectory**. Something to look forward to for the beginning of our 2024 programme of events.

All are welcome – including men! We look forward to seeing you!

Refreshments to start.

2023 Annual subscription £20

Guests £5 contribution towards speaker costs

All Welcome!

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janetmharvey@btinternet.com or katekaye2@btinternet.com

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Events to be held at Godalming Baptist church

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

Friday 17th November 7.00pm -David Rose returns to Godalming Baptist Church to lead an illustrated Talk on **Royalty In Surrey**-captivating photos of visits made by Royalty over many decades! To book a place-cost £5 Please Contact Sally Pollard-01483-428646 or e-mail: pollard3@hotmail.co.uk

Thursday 23rd November-Outing to **Winchester Christmas Market** (one of the best in Europe!) or visit the numerous shops, museums or the majestic cathedral. Contact Sally as above.



Friday December 1st-Advent Evening
6.30pm for 7.00pm start-watch a demonstration of making an advent wreath and hear about the history, cultural and religious significance behind it. Contact Maureen Jones- 01483-424515 or e-mail maureen.jones30@gmail.com to book a place.

Friday 15th December 10.00am for 10.30am -**Christmas Table Centre Workshop.** Come and learn from an experienced floristry tutor how to make your own Christmas table centre. To book a place, cost £25 please contact Clarissa harris-07957 569732 or e-mail: clarissaharris27@gmail.com

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 **November 8th** 10.00 – 12.00. The talk is entitled '**Alternative Therapies**'.

On **December 13th** we will be having our **Christmas Party**. 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 Dot Pullen on 01483 422753.

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Ladies who lunch (and a bit more). Did you know that Godalming Inner Wheel Club meets monthly at the West Surrey Golf Club for lunch and a speaker?

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

Social events combine with fund raising to help both the local community and beyond.

Visitors are very welcome – please contact Janet Baker on 01483 429113 for more details.

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Godalming MUSEUM

Surrey Guild of Craftsmen members are selected professional craftsmen and designer-makers of contemporary and traditional applied arts. A new display of works by members of the guild is on display and 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.

The Museum will be open every day between **Saturday 18th November to Wednesday 22nd November**, for a **Christmas Craft market**. Do come along to find the perfect gift or special treat from local artists, crafters, and makers.

Following this, during normal opening hours there will be new selection of **Charity Christmas cards, wreaths, garlands, decorations and unique gifts** including a special 2024 calendar for sale.

On Saturday 25th November, as part of the town Christmas Fair, Father Christmas will be in the Museum garden (entrance from the carpark at the rear) and there will also be face painting for children. The Museum will have a stall in the High Street selling stocking filler items, all costing less than £4,

A lecture at the Octagon, Godalming Parish Church will take place on **Wednesday 29th November at 7.30 for 8pm**. Andy Jeffery, the town clerk, will talk on **Memento Mori - Burials in Godalming, the facts, the myths and the superstitions**. Tickets are £5 available from Godalming Museum or on the door on the night.

Godalming Museum normal opening times are 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 13th December**

Write to us:
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Rector: Rev Simon Taylor 421267

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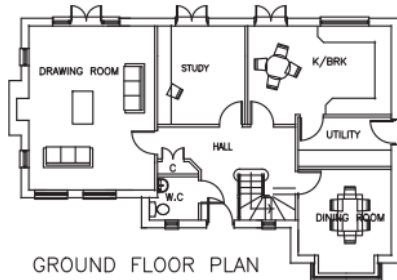
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