

Albury Parish News

September 2022

Number 390



**Serving the local communities of Albury,
Albury Heath, Brook, Farley Green,
Little London and Newlands Corner**

Albury Churches - services and church opening

As you know, some legal restrictions have ended, but venues of all kinds need to adopt safe ways of operating. We are continuing these precautions:

- We will still sanitize hands at the door
- Facemasks are still requested, except those under 11 or medically unable
- We will maintain some social distancing by using every other pew, lessening the risk of breathing over someone in front. Ideally those in the same pew should be of on agreed group, or leave a gap of at least one metre to the next group
- We will sing! Not at top volume please, and through facemasks. Be aware of those around you too, and how they feel about it.

We have just introduced coffee after services. If you chat, please maintain distance from non-household members, or if the weather's nice, use the outside.

We hope that all 9.30 services will be both in the church and livestreamed - see www.alburychurches.org

Best wishes

Andrew Pearson, Resident Minister



Front cover: Sunflower—variety 'Titan'

From the Minister

September is the month when everything happens and nothing happens.

Everything happens because schools are back, universities are back, Parliament is sitting again, the football and rugby seasons get properly going, people are back at work if they have been restricted to school holidays for time off... and so on.

Nothing happens because the holidays you waited for so long are over, the festivals have finished, the Euros, Wimbledon, and the Commonwealth Games have finished, and so on and so on. True, there is the small matter of a change of Prime Minister, and scanning the list of September events, there is something called the Burn it Down Festival in Torquay, which disappointingly turns out to be about music.

You could sum it up by saying that in general, September is the month when routine takes over again. I say 'in general' to guard against the possibility that the new Prime Minister will announce the round-up and imprisonment of all political opponents, or something similar, but on normal patterns that's not an unreasonable thing to say.

So what is the point of September, and other times like it? Asks an adrenalin-fuelled world, whose idea of worthwhile experience has traded more and more on the amazing, a world which seems increasingly unable to communicate without getting shouty and angry about something, and which loves driving people to take sides. Even language gets more extreme in describing quite ordinary events.

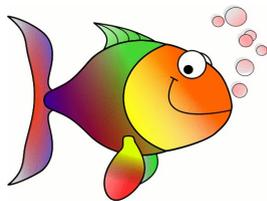
But we neglect September-times of routine graft at our peril. They are the bedrock on which we build the power to do more spectacular things. Decades of unspectacular scientific development went on before Apollo 11 went to the moon. If we miss part of the foundation out, sometimes the house collapses under stress, as Jesus remarked in his story of two builders - one who lost no time in throwing up the walls, and one who took the time and the trouble to dig down to rock before building.

I get bored with foundations. When I owned a wooden dinghy and had to varnish it, I would have loved to just slap the new varnish over the old. But it's only by stripping off loose varnish, preparing the surface, using the correct brushing style, and rubbing down between coats, that you get a durable waterproof finish and a high sheen. After a while you learn to encourage yourself with the knowledge of the results.

Times of building are part of the rhythm of life, and we can be tempted not to listen any more. Yet there was a great strength in the times when the pattern of life, and even patterns of worship, were built around times of steady growth as well as sudden achievement. Jesus' story of the two builders was about the need to build on the deepest foundations of all: his own words about the way life is meant to be lived - caring for others, especially the powerless, and loving God.

All blessings
Andrew Pearson
Resident Minister

Little Fishes



Little Fishes is back! We are meeting in the Parish Church every Friday morning in termtime at 9.30 a.m. for a story, prayer, songs, colouring and crafts.

For further details, please email pennycrandall@hotmail.com

Hark & Ride

If you would like a lift to church when services resume, then please phone 01483 202210 or 01483 203208

If you can help in this way occasionally, please contact Theresa Channer on 202210 or Penny Randall on 203208

Albury Café

Closed due to the Corona virus outbreak.



We hope to be back soon.



Tea and Chat



**at 3pm,
@ 26 Weston Fields
All welcome**



Defibrillator Information

The Parish Council have installed defibrillators at the following locations.

Albury Memorial Library

Little London (William 1V)Newlands Corner

Farley Green (Bus Shelter)

Main Door, St Peter and St Pauls, Church Lane

Cool splashings in a warm tent!

It was good to be back. The sun shone, the ground warmed, we opened up the side walls, and the Show Marquee on Albury Heath once again provided a unique and memorable venue for the churches of Albury, Shere, and Chilworth to come together for the Tent Service after a gap of two years.

We've had many different themes and approaches in the past but 'Beginnings' seemed to fit very nicely for this one, particularly with the baptisms of Lena and Summer Bowerman forming a special part of the service. In years to come they may have their work cut out to convince people they were christened in a tent!

We're very grateful to the Committees of the Produce Association and the Music Festival for letting us continue this local tradition, to everyone who provided for or helped in the service, and to the Rector Tim Heaney for 'interrupting his breakfast' to introduce the service theme!

*Andrew Pearson
Resident Minister, Albury*

Pictures: just after the christening.



Albury Produce Show Report

We held our annual (established 1861) Albury Produce Show on Saturday 16 July 2022. The show tent was full with 679 entries from 127 entrants, a bit down on previous years, but looked wonderful. Lots of lovely vegetables and flowers, cookery, photographs, paintings, handicrafts, children's entries and handicrafts. The judges commented on the number and quality of entries.

Outside the warm weather was enjoyed by the crowds who enjoyed the stalls as well as Punch and Judy, Morris dancing, music of the Accidentals and a cookery demonstration by Mandira's kitchen, amongst others. The terrier racing was as popular as ever, with a cooling spray provided by the fire engine. The teas were run by Chilworth School; the tombola and kids corner by Shere School; the produce stall and help with the show set up by Peaslake School; the bar by Albury Sports Club; and the book stall by Albury Church - our thanks to them.

Hannah Godfrey



SURREY CHURCHES RIDE AND STRIDE

Ride or Stride and raise money for St Michael's Barn Church Roof appeal. Please help us with this urgent need!

Please come and join me, I will be walking!

Ride and Stride explained

Who: Ride and Stride is a national event. In Surrey it is a fundraiser for the Surrey Churches Preservation Trust (SCPT) supporting churches who need help with repairs and or developing new facilities.

What: Sponsored visiting of churches around Surrey on foot or bike.

When: Saturday September 10th 2022

How: a. Collect a sponsorship form, see below

b. Ask people to sponsor you per church you visit.

c. Gather some friends to come along with you if you want company

d. Plan your route (suggested routes available on Ride and Stride website)

e. Have fun on the day getting to know some local churches and getting fitter at the same time

f. If riding and striding is not possible, please sponsor a rider or strider.

Contributions will be divided equally between SCPT and St Michael's.

Plus participation in Ride and Stride will also allow application for a grant from the SCPT towards costs of retiling the Barn Church roof.

Sponsorship forms available at the Parish Church, St Michael's Barn church or from Sheena Pearson (sheena.pearson@btopenworld.com)

Useful websites: www.SurreyChurchesPreservationTrust.org, www.Rideandstrideuk.org





SALV AUTUMN OPEN EVENING AND AGM

will be held

in SHERE VILLAGE HALL

at 8pm on Wednesday 26th October

Red Flags

Knowing When to Worry

admission is free

We hope to welcome friends and supporters of SALV, plus all other villagers. You are invited to enjoy a glass of wine or a soft drink for an informal talk with the doctors and Surgery staff after the meeting

(Registered Charity no 1016023)

Heritage Open Days 10th- 11th September

Heritage Open Days return this September. The Parish Church will be open on Saturday, 10th. September, from 10am to 5pm, and on Sunday, 11th., from 11am to 4pm. Do call in if you would like a better look around the Church.

This year's theme for the Open Days is English inventions and innovations that have made life easier. Albury can lay claim to a number of important developments in the field of mathematics. William Oughtred was Rector of Albury for 50 years until his death in 1660. He was a noted mathematician who devised the symbols 'x' and '::'. He invented the slide rule, which was used to make complex calculations when designing virtually everything before the development of calculators. NASA engineers used slide rules to build the rockets and plan the Apollo 11 space mission to the moon. Now slide rules have all but disappeared.

Peter Drinkwater



Zach joins in!



**September 11th
at 4.00 p.m.**

Parish Church, Church Lane, Albury GU5 9AJ

Messy Church is a short, informal service ideal for all ages. We have songs, a story, a game and craft activities inside and outside.

We will have tea with individual tea boxes provided plus a cuppa and cake for adults.

Everyone is welcome!

Please let us know if you are coming by 3rd September
email

sheena.pearson@btopenworld.com

Your garden in September

Michaelmas falls on September 29th, the end of the harvest season. Gardeners may heave a sigh of relief at the thought that everything is carefully stored away, and evenings are no longer being spent peeling, chopping, pickling, freezing, dehydrating or bottling. The autumn equinox falls on 22nd September. Days get shorter and nights longer. The gardener may look forward to evenings spent quietly in front of the fire, glass and garden catalogue in hand. Nothing could be further from the truth. There are greenhouses and cold frames to be cleaned, potting sheds tidied and lawns to be rescued. Scarify your lawn by raking out the thatch and moss that is lurking there. This is a vigorous workout for the gardener. It may be that having done this, there is little grass left. Fortunately, September is a good month for re-seeding lawns should any rain have fallen during August. Using an autumn feed on any surviving lawn may help recovery.

There may also have been casualties in the flower beds. That plant may not be as dead as it looks, or it is. If the plant was rare and expensive, you may as well dig it up now and replace it. If it is a plant that has outgrown its space, demonstrated its desire to take over and push its neighbours out of the way, then you can assume it will recover twice as big and bold as it was before even though the leaves are brown and crinkly.

It is time to divide many hardy perennials. This is easier said than done. First, you have to dig the thing up. The roots may appear to go down to Australia. Once lifted, select the most vigorous bits and separate them from the main part. First try gentle pulling, then when nothing happens, try two forks back to back, finally resort to chopping with a spade. Spend some time recovering in the potting shed, then return to the task and replant giving it a nice feed and some water. Contemplate where to put the other 15 pieces that need a home.

Main crop potatoes should be harvested before the slugs hollow them out leaving the gardener grumpy and thinking about how to decimate the world's population of gastropods. Protect green leafy vegetables with bird netting to protect them against the depredations of pigeons. Consider pigeon pie. Harvest sweetcorn when ripe if badgers have left any. Keep harvesting French and runner beans. When they are finished, cut them down leaving the roots in the soil. They are short lived perennials, and if you mulch well and the winter is mild, they may survive and give early crops next year, or they may leap into growth only to be cut down by a late frost.

Plant spring bulbs. There is nothing more cheerful than the sight of crocus and daffodils early in the year. Select your varieties and you can spread the flowering over a couple of months. You can also plant seeds of hardy annuals where they are to flower. Many plants will do this without your consent. Seedlings will grow just where they are not wanted, in your gravel paths where there is good drainage, between paving slabs where they will find a cool root run and be very reluctant to leave and in amongst your little treasures where they will do their best to oust them. If you spot them before they get too big, you can remove them. Spot them in passing on your way to some other urgent task and they will be immovable by the time you get back.

Happy gardening.

Food Banks Need Your Help More Than Ever In 2022!



Not Just Food.

Hunger in the UK isn't about food. It's lack of income and the main drivers of foodbank use are:-

- Problems with the benefits system (delays, inadequacy and deductions)
- Challenging life experiences or ill health
- Lack of informal or formal support
- Now in 2022 - soaring energy, food and general cost of living prices.

How You Can Help?

What items you can donate?

Think about food stuffs that do not require heating e.g.

Cereal

UHT Milk

Tinned Fish

Tinned Fruit

Biscuits

Tinned Beans

Long Life Fruit Juices

Other Items / Ways you can Help?

Household Cleaning Products

Sanitary Items

Nappies/Baby Wipes

Cooking Oils

Tinned Soups/Meat /Stews

Condiments / Spices

Pasta

Rice

Pasta Sauce

You can give money in an Envelope to help Guildford Food Banks to put money on users' Fuel Cards - **Just mark your envelope and give to Harry in Pratts Stores.**

DONATION POINTS IN ALBURY.

Pratts Stores in Albury Village:- contact Harry on 01483 202123 to donate £5/£10 by card, and Harry will select items for you to place in the Food Bank Collection Box.

OR purchase items from Harry to donate to the Food Bank.

OR in St Peter & St Paul's Church in Albury in the Lobby- on Saturdays 10am - 4pm or Sunday mornings, 9am - 11am.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

DIANN ARNFIELD 01483 203464.

Albury History Society

Our first meeting after the summer break is a film, a fascinating compilation by the Surrey History Centre of life in towns, villages and families between 1914 and 1953.

The meeting is in Albury Village Hall, September 20th, starting at 8 pm.

Visitors are very welcome.

Margaret Clarke

St. Michael's Barn Church, Farley Green



The Friends of St Michael's Barn Church are pleased to announce **ART IN THE BARN 2022**, an exhibition of work by local artists and craftspeople on September 10/11 and 17/18, 10-4 daily.

The building features in the National Heritage Open Days programme these weekends as well as the Surrey Churches Ride and Stride event on September 10th.

We hope you will enjoy the Exhibition in this peaceful venue located in Farley Green, Albury. Please park where indicated on the Green with a 2-minute walk to the church.

Liz Cooper, Trustee

Friends of St Michael's Barn Church

Hear Here

The Hearing Champions clinic in Shere Surgery is now up and running again.

Sessions run from **10.30 till 12.30** once a month, usually on the first or second Thursday. This is a volunteer-led service intended for those with NHS hearing aids needing minor repairs or new batteries. Remember to bring your NHS booklet!

Please note that due to covid we are no longer able to run a drop in service, so if you would like to come please call the surgery on 01483 202066 to book an appointment.

Dates for upcoming sessions are 1st September, 6th October and 3rd November.

Penny Randall

Hearing is not believing

A wise schoolteacher sent this note to all parents on the first day of school: "If you promise not to believe everything your child says happens at school, I'll promise not to believe everything he or she says happens at home."



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Wednesday to Saturday



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Friends of Albury
Old Saxon Church
*(In association with The
Churches Conservation
Trust)*

are pleased to
announce the next
performance by

THIS IS MY THEATRE



A brand new adaptation of Jane Austen's much-loved novel, packed with merriment, music and misadventure! The show is sure to be all that **'This Is My Theatre'** audiences have come to expect and love about their productions and the Albury Friends are excited to be re-engaging the community with the arts after the past few years we've all had!

At least one of the Bennet sisters must marry well in order for the family to avoid destitution upon the death of Mr Bennet and so the task of finding suitable matches begins. The sisters are very different though and matrimony is an easier option for some than others. Following Elizabeth, we discover that not all judgements quickly made are correct, in particular when the dashing Mr Darcy is involved!

'This Is My Theatre' are really excited to be continuing their summer tradition of magical, family-friendly theatre in historic places and atmospheric spaces, and certainly the Albury Old Saxon Church is the ideal venue for this. Their crafting of a new adaptation of Jane Austen's much loved novel that remains faithful to the original text will offer audiences a magical telling and bring to life a truly beautiful story of love, friendship and, of course, scandal!

This production is suitable for audiences of all ages and has live music throughout arranged by the company's Resident Composer Simon Stallard.

SATURDAY 17 SEPTEMBER, 7:00pm
BOOK TICKETS: www.thisismytheatre.com

Parish People - Bob Hughes - Part Two



On 11 June 1987, Bob was elected as Member of Parliament for Harrow West with a substantial majority. I asked about his impressions of life in Westminster.

I have a great deal of time for most Members of Parliament of all parties. For the most part, they are hardworking and, whilst I might think the views of some of them are misguided, it does not mean that they're not sincere.

- Q. Did you campaign on your own beliefs, or what you thought local people would vote for? Likewise, once elected, how did you vote on divisions? If there was a conflict, was it your beliefs or the voters' wishes?**
- A. It's a bit of each. The MP is not a delegate; he (or she) is a representative and I think voters expect their MP to use his or her judgement. When it comes to local issues it is the job of the MP to pursue them vigorously.
- Q. As a new boy in the House of Commons, did the first year come up to expectations or was it a shock?**
- A. Some things were a shock. There is not the separation that you might expect between ministers and backbenchers as you're working together all the time, as part of one very big team. There are some people who do not see it in that way, but very few. In the members' dining room there are separate tables for the different parties, but the rule is that you fill up tables depending entirely on when you arrive, so if you get there to find a table with four cabinet Ministers and a spare seat, that is where you sit. It's good system because you get to talk to the Ministers but, perhaps more important, they get to know what back benchers think. As a new MP, as I was in 1987, I immediately received lots of letters from constituents, although nowadays it would be emails. Sometimes they want the new MP to have another go at matters on which they had made no headway with the predecessor. You have no secretary and no staff. Fortunately, an old friend who worked for another MP helped me set up my office - then things got a little easier.
- Q. Does every MP have an office?**
- A. Yes, but it takes a bit of time, as there will be others with a greater claim. After a general election there are obviously changes and there will be former Ministers who are no longer part of government, who will need an office because of their seniority. There is an accommodation whip for the governing party and another for the opposition; together they sort out the pecking order. A new MP is down at the bottom of the list. Portcullis House wasn't there in my time but there was Norman Shaw, North and South, which are the old Scotland Yard buildings and other buildings close by. My office was in the Commons itself, above St Stephen's Tower and the main entrance which I shared with three other MPs. Later on, I was back in that same office, just sharing with Eric Pickles - my oldest friend.

Q. What was your first appointment?

A. The whips asked me to be Parliamentary Private Secretary (PPS) to Edward Heath. He was understandably fussy about who received that appointment as he didn't want anyone he would see as some sort of spy. I thoroughly enjoyed that job, which was really interesting. Initially I went down to Salisbury to see him. We had lunch together and he agreed to my appointment. I spoke to Douglas Hurd, who had been Heath's Political Secretary when he was Prime Minister. Hurd advised: 'Never be afraid to tell him what you think. He may look at you as if you're stupid but the next day come back and say: "I have decided"' then come out with your suggestions, so never be afraid'. It was good advice. Heath was a complicated man, but one of great talent. He managed to get the hostages out of Iraq, when Saddam Hussain was in power. He landed at Gatwick at 2 am in a Virgin Jet with Richard Branson on board. I probably broke the law by getting on board the aircraft before the customs officer, as I wanted to brief Heath on what was going to happen. Heath had really opened up China to the world, but when Tiananmen Square happened, with all its killings, Heath was for defending the Chinese establishment saying: 'Well they've got more than a billion people and can't put up with this sort of thing. What else could they do?'. He was going to say this publicly, but I persuaded him that he'd be vilified, and happily he refrained. There is an interesting biography of Heath by Philip Ziegler, which is really worth reading. He felt under criticism, having come from a working class background, the son of a carpenter, known in *Private Eye* as 'Grocer Heath'. I think that got to him in the end. Nowadays happily we are less class conscious. The fact that Keir Starmer, from a working class background, rose to be Director of Public Prosecutions and now leader of his party, is something to be celebrated. Heath had been somewhat patronised, and he found that difficult.

Q. Did Heath have any romances?

A. The only one I know of was Kay Graham, Chief Executive Officer of the Post Company, publishers of the Washington Post. Later, in the late 1970s she served as one of sixteen members of the Brandt Commission that recommended increased economic cooperation between industrialised nations and developing nations. Heath had been amongst the world leaders on that commission. She became a successful woman in a man's world. She turned down his proposal of marriage. I think that Heath decided that life is too short to waste looking for another prospective wife and moved on to other things. I'm often asked if Heath was homosexual. I honestly don't think so. He probably became asexual. He'd been turned down and wasn't going to try again. All the sneers and allegations about him after he died were an appalling posthumous witch hunt. I was interviewed by a retired policeman working for the police as part of the enquiry. I explained that I was often at his house in Salisbury for meetings with Heath and others on a Saturday or for one of his Sunday lunches, for which there would be a guest list each week. Heath liked to go to the pub beforehand but always had a police security officer with him, which made it impossible for the allegations to have any basis in fact. Why Wiltshire Police and the Met failed to understand that is a scandal.

My next appointment was as PPS to Nick Scott, who was the Minister for people with disabilities. A great man and very good at his job but, unfortunately, had a drink problem. During one late night debate, he was drunk at the dispatch box. I was sitting immediately behind him, which is where the PPS sits on these occasions ready to run messages. Clare Short who was Scott's opposite number on the opposition benches asked if he was alright. I explained that he had probably had a good dinner. Fortunately, Clare Short was of too generous a disposition to make a fuss, but I had to warn Scott the next morning that he had come very close to having to write his resignation letter, but was saved by the high regard and affection in which he was held.

Q. How does the opposition's spokesperson manage to speak to you during the course of the debate?

A. There is a simple procedure. She signalled to me and we met behind the Speaker's Chair. The PPS has to be a minister's eyes and ears, and to some extent protect him. But Scott was a great man and I had considerable respect for him.

Q. What next?

A. In 1992 when I was re-elected, I became a whip, which was a job I wanted at that stage, giving an opportunity to learn more about Parliament and the way it works than in any other job. You can tell which ministers have been whips, as they understand the workings of the House much better than the others. It was hard work. One of my jobs was to take the Maastricht Bill through the House of Commons as a whip. David Davis took the first half through, but then was appointed as a junior minister leaving me to carry the can. The bill involved several votes and a vote of confidence. When there was a referendum in Denmark, which rejected the Treaty, it gave Brexit enthusiasts in the UK an inspiration which probably led to Brexit in the end. It also contributed to my party's 1997 defeat. Divided views on the Tory benches served to beef up the opposition. So ironically the Maastricht Bill, intended to strengthen ties with Europe, contributed to the Labour government and ultimately to Brexit. It was an exhausting time. The Prime Minister's boxes containing papers that he will read at breakfast time the next morning closed at 2 am. I would sometimes deliver papers to No 10 at 1 am. Fortunately, I had the use of a government car, so I didn't have to walk everywhere.

Q. Did you get promoted to ministerial office?

A. In 1994 I became Parliamentary Secretary at the Office of Public Service and Science in the Cabinet Office with responsibility for, amongst other things, the Science Research Councils, and the Medical Research Council. I was responsible, as the Junior Minister, for big science and research. I helped negotiate the treaty to build the Large Hadron Collider (LHC). I attended negotiations in Brussels, where the French were reluctant to pay their share. My cabinet minister was David Hunt. I spent a good deal of time on research, including meetings in Brussels. I was also responsible for citizens' charters and civil service matters apart from pay, which the Treasury reserve for themselves. I worked with William Hague, when he was Disabilities Minister, on equality in the civil service. For the LHC project, as with all multi-national

big science projects, the host country is expected to pay double the usual contribution, but the French were not keen on doing so. I met with my French and German counterparts so we could both put pressure on the French. I had Treasury authorisation to agree to contribute seven billion pounds but no more. The French gave way and I was able to catch a plane at lunchtime to be home in time to collect my daughter and get her to her ballet exam. Much more important!

Q. So your Parliamentary career ended in 1997?

A. Yes. My party lost all the seats in our area: both Harrows, Brent, Margaret Thatcher's old seat of Finchley, although she was no longer the MP by that time, and famously Michael Portillo lost his seat at Enfield.

Q. Did your interest in politics continue?

A. Yes, that's why I wanted to become a County Councillor. Having moved to Guildford I became active in the local Conservative Party, and now I am thrilled to represent this fantastic part of Surrey, including Farley Green which I moved to about eight years ago..

Q. As a county councillor, are you able to help local residents?

A. Yes absolutely, there are a number of issues where I have been able to help local people achieve some changes.

Q. As an ex MP, how did you find new employment?

A. I could not go back to television as my knowledge was ten years out of date. I went to see an employment head-hunter and soon afterwards was appointed as general secretary then executive director of the optical trade body: 'The Federation of Ophthalmic and Dispensing Opticians' (FODO). In 2004 I moved on to become chief executive of the Association of Optometrists, a professional body. Now I run Sight for Surrey which is a charity.

At the trade body I became secretary of the negotiating committee which negotiated sight test and other fees as well as the scope of practice. In this I was more successful in Wales and Scotland but less so in England. Now in Wales and Scotland the optometrist is the first port of call for eye problems. They are better equipped and more experienced than GPs. When needed they refer patients to an eye hospital. In England, much of this work falls to GPs and is allowed to clog up hospital eye units. For example, if you have glaucoma in Wales or Scotland you will go to the optician for regular checks, whereas in England you must go to the hospital. Incidentally, glaucoma tends to be hereditary, which is why your optician will ask if you have any relations with the condition.

Q. Tell me something about Sight for Surrey?

A. We are a charity, which celebrated its one hundredth anniversary on 24 February this year. We support people in Surrey with a sensory loss, providing a service for people who are deaf, or visually impaired. Following the First World War, the government passed The Blind Persons Act 1920, which gave rights to blind people and duties to local authorities. The Act has since been repealed and replaced by more extensive legislation. Thirty years ago, we

started delivering the statutory responsibilities of Surrey County Council for people who are blind or vision impaired. Six years ago, they added deaf and hard of hearing services into a wider contract. Incidentally, as a County Councillor I am precluded from speaking on those subjects in the council chamber for reasons of conflict.

Q. What is the statutory work?

A. Those who lose their sight receive a certificate from a consultant ophthalmologist. They are then entitled to a detailed specialist assessment identifying the problems and what is possible for them and appropriate rehabilitation such as how to get around the house, to cook, identify objects and the colour of clothes, to have appropriate lighting and training in such areas as using a white cane effectively. Sight for Surrey provides all that. They also have some tax relief, a half price TV licence, and a freepost communication entitled 'Articles for the Blind'. Many blind people have some limited sight, even if they have to sit very close to the television.

Q. Are there similar charities in other counties?

A. Most neighbouring counties, with the exception of Kent, provide a service which is not up to our standard. Often the service provided by local authorities isn't up to scratch.

Q. How do you reconcile this fee earning service with your charitable status?

A. We are a charity and the fee paid to us by SCC, currently £1.6 billion a year, provides a huge range of services and support for more than 8,000 people in Surrey. It is benchmarked and evaluated and good value for money for the County. In addition we spend hundreds of thousands of charitable money on additional and often complementary services.

Q. Is this not a job, for a full time executive?

A. I currently have one full time job at Sight for Surrey with about 120 staff, and an almost full time job as a County Councillor. Consequently, I am at my desk by about 6 am and work through to late evening most days. So that I can spend more time on being the County Councillor, the time has come for me to leave Sight for Surrey and we are about to recruit a successor.

Q. What is the charity's relationship with SpecSavers?

A. It makes sense for us to work closely with them because they are by far the biggest opticians and the biggest providers of hearing aids in the country. We are happy to work together because we provide services that SpecSavers would not wish to undertake. That is when a patient is heading towards blindness or deafness, we can start training the patient for the difficulties they will encounter when the time comes. For example, I spoke to a 92 year old man who had become blind in his later years who said: 'I wish that I had learnt to touch type when I still had some sight'. In so many ways we can prepare people for blindness, and they gradually make use of the skills they've learnt as the need for them intensifies. We work closely with SpecSavers in Epsom, Leatherhead and Redhill. It's amazing what blind people can do. On our finance committee, with no papers in front of them, they often reel off figures and put detailed questions all from memory.

Q If I were to order hearing aids from SpecSavers in Guildford, I would have to pay for them privately, but if I lived in Sussex the cost would be paid by NHS. Why the difference?

A In some counties, of which Sussex is one, the service is subcontracted to a range of suppliers. The cost to the taxpayer is no greater when it's contracted out, and there are advantages such as more convenient locations and likely a more modern range of hearing aids. The NHS can sometimes get out of date with its technology because it grants longer contracts with equipment suppliers so after, say, a couple of years, they may no longer be state of the art technology, whereas private sector audiologists will review their buying every year.

Q What is your motivation?

A The very dedicated team I work with at Sight for Surrey motivates me. Their aim is to make life better for a large number of people. We are always looking for something better and, for example lobbied for the British Sign Language Act, which means that British Sign Language is now an official UK language. People who can't see or hear are entitled to be included and too often are not. The NHS are, frankly appalling at excluding people with sensory impairments. For people whose hearing means they can't use the phone, NHS 111 is inaccessible. Blind people who ask for letters in Braille often receive a normal letter which they can't read. Many choose to communicate by text, yet NHS England do everything they can to block its use. Putting that right is a strong motivation for me,

Q What brought about your conversion to Catholicism?

A I was married to a Roman Catholic and my four children were brought up as Catholics. I went to church with the family and eventually thought that I could become a Catholic. I did not think of myself so much as leaving the Church of England but as becoming a Catholic. I'm still in favour of women priests and bishops and think the Catholics should have them too. I now attend the church in Sutton Green. It's a small church but there's a lot of activity including raising money for charities. I'm delighted to say that we have recently been raising money for Sight for Surrey and the Surrey Deaf Children's Society. I was recently President of Guildford Catenians - a Catholic group. My charity was Torch, who work across the denominations to make church accessible. They produce large print and braille prayer books, hymn books, bibles and other resources as well as advising churches on being more inclusive.

Q Tell me about your family?

A I have four grown up daughters. My eldest, Catherine, is a chiropractor and president of the Chiropractor Association - the youngest President they've ever had. She practices in Bristol. The second daughter, Elizabeth, is mother of my two grandsons Charlie, who is three, and Connor who is three months. She worked for a church housing association, but is now at home to look after her young family. My third daughter, Victoria, is a detective in the Metropolitan Police and her husband is also a policeman. They have a daughter, Heidi who is two. My youngest daughter, Alexandra, is a junior schoolteacher.

Q. How do you go about being the County Councillor for the area?

A My division is a very varied area of seven or so villages in Tillingbourne plus Send and West Clandon. For all their distinctive differences, they have much in common. Too many motorists driving too fast through all our villages, ignoring speed limits. Too many very noisy motorbikes particularly at weekends and too many utilities digging up our roads without notice, sometimes causing chaos locally. They are all high on my agenda. None easy or quick but they need to be taken seriously - and I do.

Of course, the County Council runs very major services like education across Surrey and social care - over a million pounds spent every day, and that's just on adults. All County Councillors have to be involved in these major services. 'Good enough' is not an expression I would countenance. Also there are run off issues that have the potential to ruin an area or an individual family. Many are challenging but so worthwhile when you make changes that matter to people. That's why I really enjoy the challenge of being our County Councillor.

Richard Floyd

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Highest temperatures ever recorded

One hundred years ago, on 13th September 1922, the highest temperature ever recorded in the world was reported to be 57.7 Centigrade (136 Fahrenheit) in Al'Aziziyah in Libya.

This stood for nearly a century but was challenged at various times and eventually decertified by the World Meteorological Organisation in 2012, which believed there was a faulty reading. It was replaced by a record of 134F (56.7C), taken not in these heady days of climate crisis, but back in July 1913, at the aptly named Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley, California.

There are many other examples of temperatures near to 60C going as far back as 1909 (Cherokee, Oklahoma) and 1966 (Sonora, Mexico).

The WMO is an agency of the United Nations responsible for promoting international co-operation on atmospheric science, climatology, hydrology and geophysics.

Temperature peaks are measured in three major ways: air, ground, and through satellite observation. Of these, air measurements are used as standard because of the persistent unreliability of ground and satellite readings. Since these measurements generally are taken of necessity in extreme conditions, they are frequently challenged, and a great deal of uncertainty remains.

For comparison purposes, the hot weather in the UK in July this year peaked at 40.3C (104.5F), at Coningsby, Lincolnshire, on the 19th of that month. Many schools closed.

From the Parish Pump

Nigel Beeton writes:

"1 Samuel chapter 5 tells the story of how the victorious Philistines brought the captured Ark of the Covenant into their temples and cities, only to return it seven months later following a wave of death and disease. However, the first five verses tell of how the Ark was set up in front of the idol of Dagon in Ashdod:"

Dagon and the Ark

The Philistines went out to war
And beat the Israelites sore!
But then, for a lark
They plundered the Ark -
Not knowing what God had in store!

They took the Ark to Ashdod
And set it near Dagon, their god
The very next day
Their priests said 'no way!'
Dagon - face down in the mud!

Once they were over their fright
They stood their idol upright
They went back next morning
But there, without warning -
An exceedingly troublesome sight!

For Dagon, their god, was defeated,
De-handed, beheaded, unseated.
And loud did they wail
Those prophets of Baal -
The trial was never repeated!

By Nigel Beeton

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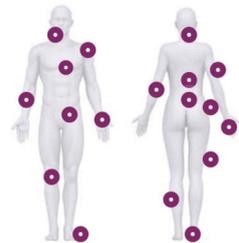
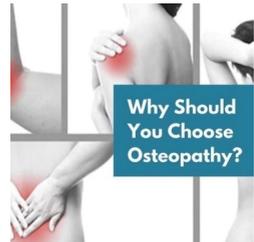
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From Shere Surgery

1. SALV Autumn Meeting 26th Oct Evening Shere Village Hall. We would like to welcome anyone who hasn't been before as this is a brilliant opportunity for us to communicate with you and find out how we can improve our services.
2. FLU VACCINES- We are expecting delivery of our vaccine supply on the week commencing 19th Sept, so flu clinics will follow shortly after. We are hoping to offer an easy digital booking system this year, which will free up phone lines for those who prefer to phone in. Further information will follow on our website, posters, Twitter & via Salv email cascade (for latter please join SALV- link on website or info at the surgery)
3. NHS 'Data Saves Lives' Data Strategy- the much-delayed switch on for digital access to medical record is apparently going live on 1st November 2022. You will have access to your medial record for all new entries from that date, but not previous information. Clearly there are benefits to holding your own digital health information, such as becoming ill when away. There is no current provision in the system to apply to those who are vulnerable, so prior to November we will manually block sharing for these patients until suitable safeguards are in place.
4. Recruitment- we are recruiting to our team and are looking for a qualified Dispensary Technician, a non-qualified Dispensary Technician (training will be provided), a part-time Bookkeeper, Receptionists & a Care Co-ordinator. Please contact via the website.
5. Doctors- we are pleased to welcome Dr Alex McEwen to the team! She is Marcus' wife and will be helping us out for a few months to provide maternity cover for Dr Bissell. We are already all getting mixed up with two Dr McEwens in the building! We also have 4 new GP trainees: Dr Ellie Balme, Dr Natalie Odedra & Dr Tom Bird (all of whom have been with us before) and Dr Amy Crossthwaite, who is brand new to General Practice. We are hoping to enthuse them to work in a rural location once they complete training.
6. Family History Cancer Project- this will hopefully be underway by the time you read this. We are so excited to be working in partnership with St George's Hospital to screen our 38-45-year-old population to assess their cancer risk. I will be sending a text to patients within this cohort inviting them to fill in a questionnaire. This will identify low risk patients, who will be sent a reassurance leaflet and their personal risk level. This group will attend normal screening as they reach screening age.
7. The rest will be offered a detailed family history assessment. This will identify moderate risk patients, who will be referred locally for enhanced screening (for example annual breast screening, instead of 3 yearly). The final group, deemed high risk, will be looked after going forward by the Genetics Dept at St George's, who will create an individual risk management plan for each patient.

8. This is a fantastic opportunity for our patient group, which is why we were keen to engage. Equally, one of the aims is to assess rates of take-up of the offer and see if they are different for different populations. We are being compared against a GP practice in Streatham, where both the population, and the methods of communication with them are very different to ours.
9. We really hope our population embrace this project. Please encourage anyone in this age cohort to complete the questionnaire. If you are in this group, have opted out of receiving texts, but would like to be involved, please contact me via AskmyGP. I hope to follow up on outcomes at the SALV Autumn Meeting and hope this encourages this age cohort to come along!

It has been really nice to talk about other issues this month, but recruitment and retention remain difficult due to the strains we are working under. We really appreciate your ongoing support and patience.

Dr Emma Watts

Listen up

While I was giving a sermon one Sunday, two teenage girls at the back giggled and disturbed people. Finally, I interrupted my sermon and announced sternly, “There are two of you here who have not heard a word I’ve said.” That quieted them down.

When the service was over, I went to greet people at the front door. Three members of the PCC shuffled by, apologised for going to sleep in church, and promising it would never happen again.




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HARRY EDWARDS

healingsanctuary

Wherever You Are, We're Here For You

What a wonderful Summer we have been having! As the evenings start to draw in, we have some interesting events for you in September.

HEALING CIRCLE

7.30pm on Thursday 1st September on Zoom Meeting ID: 355 462 8759

We welcome all those interested in healing to this special online monthly gathering with our very own healer, Teresa Leyman, where there will be opportunities for both individual and group healings.

HEALING FOR YOU

7.30pm on Sunday 11th September on Zoom Meeting ID: 355 462 8759 and livestreamed to Facebook

A chance for to join in a wonderful group healing with our very own healer, Alan Moore. Alan will start with an explanation of what to expect which will be followed by a 10 minute meditation. Once we are all relaxed and present he will begin a 20 minute healing session, directing the healing energy to everyone in the group.

THE POWER OF SELF-FORGIVENESS at The Sanctuary

7.30pm Thursday 15th September

With Kim Vincent on Zoom

- Learn how forgiving yourself can set you free
- Self- forgiveness is crucial for moving past our perceived failings and to grow
- Learn how self-forgiveness is crucial for moving forward in our lives
- Self-forgiveness improves our well-being and health
- Understand the importance of being kind to yourself

£12 per person

Tickets available through Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-power-of-self-forgiveness-with-kim-vincent-at-harry-edwards-healing-tickets-361641127347>

Everyone who books can receive a recording of the talk on request.

This event is organised by The Harry Edwards Healing Sanctuary and Healing in America

(Continued on page 26)

FOUNDATION COURSE: AN INTRODUCTION TO HEALING

10am to 4.30pm on Saturday 24th September at the Sanctuary

A one-day course that provides an introduction to spiritual healing, lightly touching on several aspects and giving an understanding of what is involved in being a healer. There is a certificate of attendance at the end of the day.

Cost: £100

Includes 2-course light vegetarian lunch.

This course is mandatory if you wish to proceed on to our two-year qualifying Healing Course.

For more information or to book your course, please email the college administrator at college.administrator@burrowslea.org.uk

IN CONVERSATION WITH HEALERS: BEV HICKS

10.30am on Tuesday 27th September on Zoom and livestreamed to Facebook

Are you fascinated by the world of Healing? Would you like to know more? Do join us for our next interview with one of our very own Healers; Bev Hicks. You may know Bev from our online Healing Minute as she is a regular presenter. Join us to find out more about her, what it is like to be a healer and her healing experiences.

Zoom Meeting ID: 355 462 8759

GRIEF AND A CUPPA

10.30am on Thursday 29th September at the Sanctuary

If you have been bereaved do join our friendly and supportive group for cuppa and a chat. Please contact jean.hill@burrowslea.org.uk for further details.

Any questions do email me.

*Alison McWhinnie,
Director of Development,
The Harry Edwards Healing Sanctuary
Alison.McWhinnie@burrowslea.org.uk*

First day back

It was the first day of school. As the new Head made his rounds, he heard a terrible commotion coming from one of the classrooms. He rushed in and spotted one boy, taller than the others, who seemed to be making the most noise. He seized the lad, dragged him to the hall, and despite his protests, told him to wait there until he was excused.

Returning to the classroom, the Head restored order and lectured the class about the importance of good behaviour. "Now," he said, "are there any questions?"

One girl stood up timidly. "Please sir," she asked, "May we have our teacher back?"

From the Parish Pump



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Shere Village Cinema -

Now open for bookings in September and October

It has been lovely to see full capacity audiences (max 70 including helpers, to allow increased space between seats) at both our recent films. Please continue to buy your tickets early if possible, to avoid us having to cancel a film due to slow ticket sales. We are in the midst of our change over to the new website (www.sherevillagecinema.com), but if you go to the old website, you should automatically be re-directed to the new one when it has gone live. A reminder - when you book tickets online from the new website for the first time, you will need to re-register.



You can also buy tickets from the shops: Crumbs and/or the Surrey Hills Beer & Gin Company in Shere. All tickets cost £5/adult and £3.50/child. Please note that the cost of our interval ice creams has been raised to £2.50/carton, to cover the increased wholesale cost.

Please note that from this month (September), we will be starting film performances at the earlier time of 7.30pm, due to the extended running time of Downton Abbey, Elvis, and some of our future films. This is for a trial period, so please let us know what you think.

In September we will be showing - the following films:

Thursday 1st September - *Downton Abbey: A New Era* - The story starts from where the first film (Downton Abbey) ended, with widower Tom Branson (Allen Leech) marrying Lucy Smith (Tuppence Middleton). The Crawley family is soon shaken by two events. First, Violet Crawley (Maggie Smith), reveals that she has acquired a French villa; Second, that a film crew will be invading Downton, causing much kerfuffle, but paying handsomely! For full details, see August magazine or website. PG (Running time is 2 hours 2 minutes) **Start time: 7.30pm**

Sunday 18th September -- *Elvis* is Baz Luhrmann's version of the Elvis Presley story. The film explores the life and music of *Elvis*, seen through the prism of his complicated relationship with his enigmatic manager, Colonel Tom Parker, played by a prosthetically enhanced Tom Hanks. He is the anti-hero of the story, taking 50% of the profits and 100% of the control from Elvis. Elvis is played by Austin Butler who gives a physical, emotional and *electrical* energy that throbs through his performance. For full details, see August magazine or website. 12A (Running time is 2 hours 39 minutes) **Start time: 7.30pm**

In October we will be showing - the following films:

Thursday 6th October - *The Phantom of the Open* - is based on the strange, but true story of Maurice Flitcroft (played by Mark Rylance), a Barrow-in-Furness shipyard worker and amateur golfer who took up the sport in middle-age. Flitcroft practised on the beach, and became known for cheekily entering the British Open golf championship in 1976 as a self-declared professional, thus circumventing the handicap requirement for amateurs. He found himself competing with the likes of

Seve Ballesteros, but chaotically chalked up the worst score in the tournament's history, to the spluttering rage of the puce-faced gentlemen in charge. They tried to ban him but he kept on gate-crashing competitions with wacky disguises and fake names! Sally Hawkins plays his long-suffering and affectionate wife; and Rhys Ifans plays the pop-eyed, pompous club secretary. This film is uplifting, but grounded by sensible messaging about being aware of your limitations while pursuing your dreams. 12A (Running time is 1 hour 46 mins) Start time: **7.30pm**

Sunday 16th October - Top Gun: Maverick - This is the long-awaited 'follow-up' to the original Top Gun film. Tom Cruise returns as Maverick, with the jacket, the bike (s), the aviator shades and (most importantly) the "need for speed" that made him a hit in 1986. He also still has the rebellious streak that has prevented him rising above the level of captain! At the start of the film, Maverick is recalled to his old 'Top Gun stomping ground' to train a new generation of aviators (including the son of his friend Goose, who died in the first film), who have assembled for a deadly mission: to neutralise a uranium enrichment plant. This is adrenaline-pumping, edge of your seat action, and the dog fights were real not computer-generated imagery (CGI), as the actors had to train to fly the jets! It also stars Ed Harris as a forward-looking rear admiral, nicknamed the 'Drone Ranger'. 12A (Running time is 2 hrs 11 minutes) **Start time: 7.30pm**

We do rely upon your support, and hope you will be able to join us for all our films in September and October.

Shere Village Cinema Team

Sudoku

Each of the nine blocks has to contain all the numbers 1-9 within its squares. Each number can only appear once in a row, column or box.

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

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

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What's on in September

Date	Time	Event	Location	Page
1	7.30 p.m.	Shere Village Cinema Downton Abbey	Shere Village Hall	29
10	All day	Ride and Stride		6
Heritage Weekend For full details, see heritageopendays.org.uk				
10	10.00–5.00	Parish Church	Church Lane, Albury	7
11	11.00–4.00	Parish Church	Church Lane, Albury	7
10&11	10.00–4.00	Art in the Barn	St Michael's Church Farley Green	11
10&11	10.00 -5.00	Albury Old Saxon Church	Albury Park	
11	4.30 p.m.	Guided Walk		
11	11.00-5.00	The Pigeon House	Weston Yard, Albury	
Heritage Weekend For full details, see heritageopendays.org.uk				
17	7.00 p.m.	Pride and Prejudice This is my Theatre	Old Saxon Church Albury Park	17 & 36
18	7.30 p.m.	Shere Village Cinema Elvis	Shere Village Hall	29
20	8.00 p.m.	Albury History Society Film by the Surrey History Centre	Albury Village Hall	11



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Learn about Catholicism

Study days at St Augustine's Abbey, Chilworth



THE BENEDICTINE MONKS at St Augustine's Abbey, Chilworth near Guildford warmly invite anyone interested to attend a series of study days about Catholicism to be held in person at the monastery. The study days are based on 'Catholicism - a journey to the heart of the faith' by the acclaimed author and speaker Bishop Barron.

The study days start at the monastery on Saturday 3 September 2022 and will take place one Saturday every month. There's no need to book, it's free to attend (donations are welcome to support the monastery) and each day is given by one of the Benedictine monks, Fr John Seddon OSB, who will show the episodes Bishop Barron has recorded on video, contextualise them and then teach and lead discussions about their subject matter.

Discussion subjects over the series of study days include: the Mystery of God; Jesus's teachings; Prayer; the Church; the Eucharist; the Communion of Saints; Mary as the Mother of God; Ss Peter & Paul as missionaries of the Church; The Incarnation; Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell.

The format is the same for every study day: Catholic Holy Mass is in the Abbey Church is at 9am, followed by coffee in the Assisi Room at the rear of the monastery. Midday Divine Office prayer and lunch will divide the day which concludes at around 3.30pm. Come for part or all of the day. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee are provided.

Attend as many as you like of these popular monthly study days which take place on Saturdays 3 September 2022, 1 October, 5 November, 3 December, 4 February 2023, 4 March, 1 April, 6 May, 3 June and 1 July.

St Augustine's Abbey, Sample Oak Lane, Chilworth, near Guildford GU4 8QR. Chilworth railway station is a short walk away. Members of the public are always welcome to pray here, 365 days a year: Daily Mass is at 9am, Sunday Mass is at 10am followed by coffee with the monks.

Join the monks for daily Divine Office prayer seven times daily, finishing with Compline at 8.30pm which is often sung in GREGORIAN CHANT with a holy water blessing for all present.

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Richard Morris

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or post to

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by the 14th of the month please

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and reports of local organisations are all welcome

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For any further information, please contact me.

Denise Chamberlain
ads@alburychurches.org

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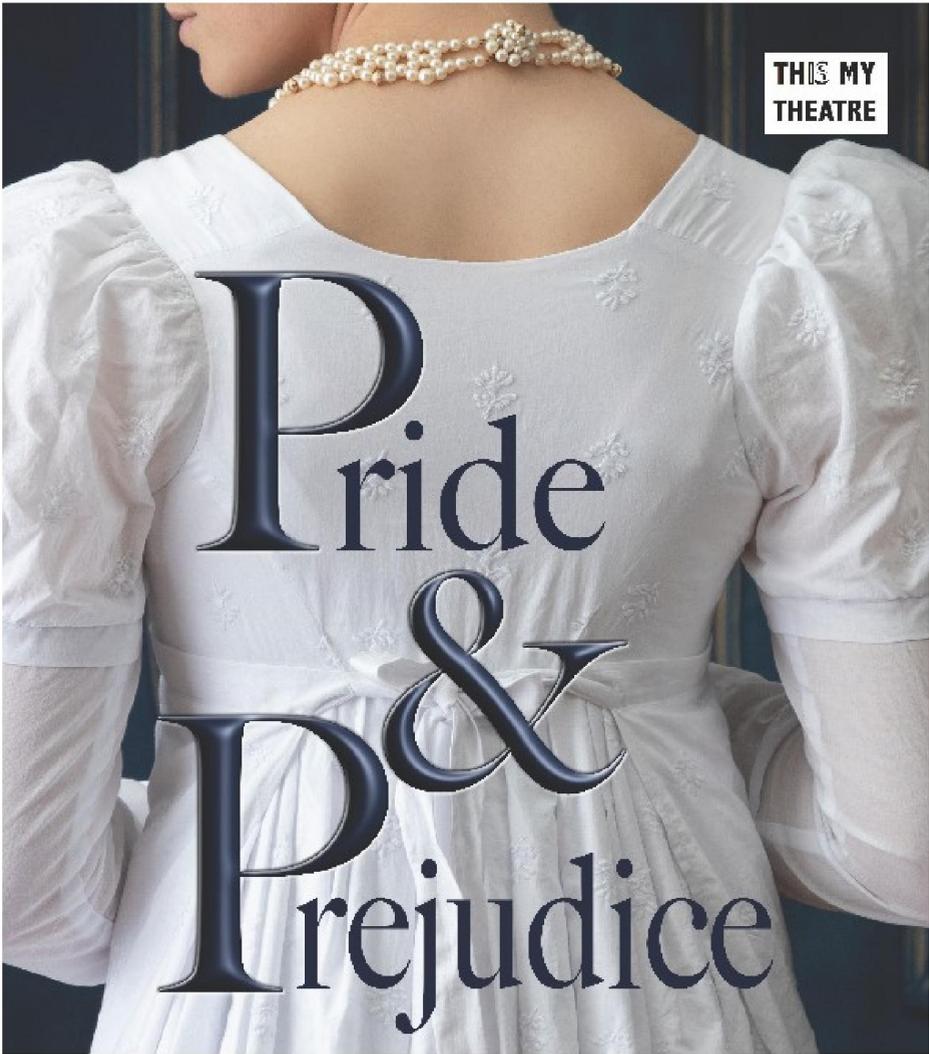
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	Theodora Viney	wardens@alburychurches.org
Treasurer:	Timothy Viney	treasurer@alburychurches.org
Electoral Roll Officer:	Ali Kerlake,	rosecottagefarm@outlook.com
PCC Secretary:	Theresa Channer	202210
Organist:	David Hughes	01306 881684

Parish priest for Chilworth
Revd. David Oakden

Good Neighbours:

Jo Kelly	01483 205446/ 07900 302794
Helen Esplen	01483 209522 / 07771 537150
Albury Cricket Club: Carl Nunn	202104
Albury Football Club: Paul Mace	chairman@alburyfc.co.uk
Albury Hall Bookings: Ms Chloe Bishop, Parish Clerk	07856 010600
	bookings@alburyparish.org
Albury History Society: Secretary: Mrs. Margaret Clarke	202294
	malcmargclarke@tiscali.co.uk
Albury Parish Council: Clerk: Ms Chloe Bishop	07856 010600
	cj.bishop@alburyparish.org
Albury Post Office, Pratts Stores	202123
Albury Village Store	203727
Albury Produce Assoc: Julie Baxter	07807 999 896
	Juliec.bax@gmail.com
Albury Bowls Club Mr Ken Walters	01372454536
	alburybowls@gmail.com
West Surrey Highways Services (Pothole line)	03456 009009
Shere Surgery	202066
Shere Dispensary	209913
The Modern Slavery Helpline	08000 121 700

If anyone is suspicious of an activity or concerned about some one.



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