



September 2021

LINK-UP

Keeping Churches in Touch

www.godalmingchurches.org

facebook.com/ChurchesTogetherinGodalmingandDistrict

Message from the Acting Chair

AGM - Wednesday 13 October, Busbridge Church, 18.00

I hope you have had an opportunity to take a holiday to relax and reflect on the past year. It has been a challenging yet rewarding twelve months when we have had the opportunity to learn new skills and different ways of living and working. CTiG&D should be very proud of all we have done to support our community. Last year we held the AGM via Zoom and we have continued to organise our projects and to hold our meetings via this platform. My grateful thanks go to Matt Blake, our Webmaster, Anne Brook for keeping the Facebook page updated all the members of the Executive, Councillor Penny Rivers, Andy Poulson and the Trinity Trust Team who have worked so hard and innovatively to produce:

- Revamp of the website and launch of the Facebook page.
- 300 Angels with a message of hope distributed in Godalming and the surrounding villages
- Godalming Shines – Christmas advertising & star in Crown Court
- Service of Hope – live stream and 100 CDs with carols and readings
- Christmas visits and gift vouchers for the more vulnerable members of our community.
- United Service in January live streamed from the website and Facebook page
- World Day of Prayer live streamed in partnership with Churches Together Farnham
- Sitting at Jesus' Feet – live streamed retreat for Holy Week
- Maundy Money – Lenten Alms Giving
- Good Friday Pilgrim Trail in Godalming
- Ascension Thursday Service of Evening Prayer at St Johns in Farncombe
- Pentecost Songs of Praise at Godalming United Church
- Staycation Worship Service held at St Peter & Paul's due to the rain

CTiG&D Executive Meeting – Monday 13 September, 18:00 via Zoom

Link and Agenda will be emailed prior to the meeting.

Prayer Breakfast, Saturday 25 September, 8:30

We are pleased to be holding our first actual Prayer Breakfast at the Cellar Camino Café, Godalming (opposite Waitrose). More details in the section below.

Great Big Green Week, 18-26 September 2021

The Great Big Green Week is a national event. Here is a link to the website to find out how you can get involved <https://greatbiggreenweek.com>. Many of our members are already Accredited Green Churches, and their teams are discussing how to participate during the week. I am sure the reps will update us on their plans via their monthly reports to *Link-up*.

Worldwide Day of Prayer, Friday 4 March 2022

Our grateful thanks to the Rev Hannah Moore, for allowing this lovely service to take place at St Nicholas Church, Peper Harow. Gillian Martin is the lead on this event, and she has received an overview of the day – the theme this year is England, Scotland and Wales and we will therefore be quite familiar with the hymns. Gillian is in the process of gathering a team together to help with the organisation

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.” (Ephesians 3:20-21)

Angela Gilmour, Acting Chair of Godalming & District Churches Together

Churches Together prayer breakfasts

The September Prayer Breakfast will be at The Cellar Camino Café in Godalming

Breakfast will be provided from 8:30 by the Café, with the prayer time commencing 9:15. Mandy and Emma will serve coffee, tea, juice, croissants and cereal and later join in the prayers.

The Cellar has asked that we pay in cash to make life easier via a donation basket.

Dr Chris Jagger will lead the prayers from 9:15 and we will finish by 10am at the latest.

News of the Churches and organisations

Parish of Godalming

We encourage the use of masks and social distancing for the wellbeing of everyone. There will be a designated, socially-distanced zone for those who wish to continue to distance and refrain from singing. All services are safeguarding-compliant.

St Peter & St Paul

- First Sunday of the month – 8:00am Holy Communion Service (BCP), and 10:00am All-Age Service.
- Other Sundays – 10:00am Holy Communion Service.

Children's ministry

Sunday Club will return to St Peter & St Paul on Sunday 12 September. This all-age group is for children aged 3 years to 13 years. Our group meets during the 10:00 Holy Communion service. We learn about the Bible with a combination and weekly variation of stories, chat, games, drama and craft. For more details please contact Sarah Bryans at godalming.church.office@gmail.com.

Heritage Weekend

St Peter & St Paul will be open for the Heritage Weekend on Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 September. There will be tours of the church based on a 10-point written guide. On the Saturday, the church bells will ring from 15:00 to 17:00, followed by a service of Choral Evensong.

Friends of St Peter & St Paul

The Friends will have a promotion table in the church over the Heritage Weekend. Also, they are providing a bring-and-buy table in the Burys Field on 18 September as part of Godalming Town Day. Any contributions would be welcome: please contact Jacky Tickner on 01483 415702. Looking further ahead, the Friends are organising a concert by the Hart Male Voice Choir, 'A Sparkling Evening', in the church at 19:00 on Saturday 20 November.

Alpha Course

This multi-week course creates a space where people come and discuss life's big questions. The talks are designed to encourage conversation and explore the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. The evenings will begin, led by Canon John Harkin, on Wednesday 22 September at 19:30 in the Octagon, continuing every Wednesday evening until 24 November. There will also be a Saturday meeting from 10:00 to 16:00 on 30 October. To register your interest, please speak to Canon John, or book via the church website – <https://parishofgodalming.org.uk/alpha-course>.

St Mark's

- First Sunday of the month – 10:00 All-Age Service.
- Second and Fourth Sunday – 10:00 Holy Communion Service.
- Third and Fifth Sunday – 10:00 Service of the Word.

Community Survey

St Mark's Church, supported by volunteers from Busbridge Church, carried out a Community Survey to find out the social needs of the local community, and enquire about people's beliefs and their link, if any, to St Mark's. This involved dropping off surveys and returning to collect them, enabling us to have conversations at the doorstep. We had a good response rate which will help St Mark's to get a picture of the needs of the local community and how we can respond. Early survey results show a need for support for children and young people, and seniors and those isolated at home. It was encouraging that several residents volunteered to support any upcoming activities. The next step is to inform the community of our findings, respond to

community needs, and, where relevant, inform the Council of needs. This way St Mark's can facilitate a co-ordinated response.

www.parishofgodalming.org.uk

St John's Parish Church, Farncombe

On 21 August we were able to host the Farncombe Village Show after last year's hiatus, our first community event since the pandemic started. It was a great success, with entries only a little down on 2019 and up on 2018's total.

We are reassessing our plan for resuming aspects of worship and are working towards the Harvest celebration on 3 October. Other activities are starting up again, beginning with Messy Church on 11 September and Toddler Group on 17 September.

www.farncombe.org.uk

Busbridge&Hambleton Church

Job opportunity

Busbridge&Hambleton Church seeks an experienced manager(s) for its new café at Busbridge Church. Full time (37 hours) or part-time (job-share), starting autumn 2021. Could you bring the vision for the Yew Tree Café to life, and oversee the delivery of excellent coffee, food and service to our active church and local community?

Please find latest news about the Yew Tree Café at www.bhcgodalming.org/yew-tree-cafe, and see the job role and specification, and complete the application form and submit a covering letter to Karen Hart via: church.office@bhcgodalming.org. Closing date for applications: 24 September 2021.

Archbishop of Canterbury visit to the Diocese of Guildford 24-27 September

The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Reverend Justin Welby, will visit the diocese from 24-27 September 2021. There will be a number of opportunities for you and your guests to hear and question the Archbishop, and all events are free to attend. Space is limited and places must be booked in advance.

An evening with Justin Welby

Lakeside Country Club near Camberley on Friday 24 September at 20:00. This is our main diocese-wide event with the Archbishop and is intended for clergy and congregations rather than for guests from outside the church. There will be worship, prayer for the weekend, celebration of all that God is doing in our parishes, a key address from the Archbishop on the future of the local church, and an extended time of question and answer session. Register at www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-evening-with-justin-welby-tickets-160856571335

Big questions with the Archbishop of Canterbury – a series of eleven guest events

Godalming – Prior's Field School, Godalming, Sunday 26 September 13:30

Register at: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/big-questions-with-the-archbishop-of-canterbury-godalming-tickets-162253385243

The Archbishop will respond to questions from the public at the following major events across the diocese, and speak on how to find security and hope in uncertain times. These events are only for church members bringing guests, or guests booking places on their own.

These events will be followed up with locally run Alpha courses. Busbridge&Hambleton Church is teaming up with Emmaus Road, Guildford and will be hosting the next Alpha in October 2021. Details of all the events from 24-27 Sep, and how to get hold of tickets can be found here: www.cofeguildford.org.uk/whats-on/events/archbishop-of-canterbury-mission-sept21

Muddy Church, starting October at Busbridge&Hambleton Church

BHC is one of the churches in the diocese to pilot the outdoor service for families. Muddy Church (which comes under the Messy Church goes wild umbrella) is outdoors, with a focus on creation and caring for the environment. Muddy will stand in place of the All age services on the 1st Sunday of the month, starting 6 October at 10:30. Meet at Busbridge Junior School before going to Heath Farm. Muddy will also build on the positive feedback from the outdoor Children's Worship at Busbridge Church last term, for families with 0-11s. Services took place in all weathers and parents and children experienced real value in worshipping together and teaching each other.

www.bhcgodalming.org

Godalming Baptist Church

Sunday services

Sunday services at GBC start at 10:00 and should be booked beforehand if possible. The services are also live streamed on our [YouTube channel](#) for those not able to attend. We are able to sing with our masks on, and are now offering refreshments after the service in a COVID-secure way.

Sing for Fun

Our Sing for Fun group for those with dementia and other conditions takes place on Tuesdays from 14:00 to 15:00. Families and carers are welcome. Please call Janet on 01483 414019 for more details.

The Ark Group

The Ark Group for ages 0-3 takes place on Thursdays from 9:30 to 11:30. There are lots of games and fun-filled activities for the children! Please call Catherine on 07973 927 233 for details.

Trinity Trust Fuse Group

Fuse is a group for teenagers run by Trinity Trust, which takes place on Wednesday nights from 20:00 to 21.30.

Short Mat Bowls Club

This group will be restarting on Friday evenings in the church sports hall, so come along and join in the fun there - all are very welcome. Please contact Geoff Young on 01483 810 795 for more information.

Conservatoire Concert on Saturday 18 September, 19:00

The regular Conservatoire Concerts are now back in the church. The next one will be on Saturday 18 September at 19:00 and will be a harp duo concert featuring Maria McNamee and Clara Gatti Comini. Works include Handel, Liszt and Ravel. Please email suzanne.cacciottolo@gmail.com for more information or book via www.conservatoireconcerts.org.uk
www.godalmingbaptistchurch.org.uk

Godalming United Church

We continue with our cautious resumption of "normal life". Lettings and church groups are picking up:

- Thursday Fellowship, every fortnight at 14:00, starts 23 Sept, 7 Oct, 21 Oct and so on.
- Sunday 3 October Harvest Festival and welcome to New Members - 10:30, led by our Minister, Rev'd Adam Payne.

www.guc.org.uk

St Edmund King & Martyr Godalming with St Joseph's Milford Roman Catholic Churches

The Great Big Green Week

The *livesimply* Parish Group are planning their response to "The Great Big Green Week" and the call of Pope Francis to celebrate "The Season of Creation" from 1 September (World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) to 4 October (the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi) each year.

This ecumenical season is dedicated to prayer and action for the protection of creation. It is a time to renew our relationships with God our Creator, and with all creation, as we join together in prayer.

<https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Season-of-Creation>

The sisters at Ladywell have invited the parish to hold a Creation Mass in the beautiful grounds of the convent on Sunday 5 September at 10:30, followed by refreshments.

Arrangements for Mass from September

As we move into September, we will be restoring much of the pre-COVID pattern of weekend Masses:

- Saturday 18:00 at St Edmund's.
- Sunday 8:00 at St John's (with children's liturgy) from 5 September
- Sunday 10:30 at St Joseph's

Bumps and Babes

This resumes in September, on Monday mornings at St John's Centre, Farncombe. All young families are welcome. More information from Janet: 01252 702156

Sycamore

We will be running a series of Sycamore films followed by a shared discussion group this autumn. In addition to a Tuesday evening Zoom option, we will be hosting small house groups to share the films, discussion, fellowship and hospitality – rather like the Alpha model.

Surrey Churches Ride & Stride

This year's fundraiser to help preserve local church buildings takes place on Saturday 18 September. We will follow our usual ride from Farncombe to Godalming via local villages. All are welcome to take part contact Ian at honeysett@btinternet.com

Wintershall Stations of the Cross

These are on the first Friday of every month at 7am all are welcome to join us.

Baby Loss Matters Week - 24 to 31 October

There will be a memorial set up in St Edmunds Parish throughout the month of October and a special Service for all who have been affected by baby loss, to which everyone is welcome. I will update you on the date of the service over the coming months.

Beginning Experience Weekend

If you are single again following divorce, separation or the death of your partner, a residential weekend to help you to heal takes place from 8 to 10 October in Essex. Contact 01322 838415 or besouthofengland@gmail.com

Gardening Services

The grounds at St Edmund's and St Joseph's need regular maintenance, and we are looking for a new local contractor. Please contact Sarah in the Parish Office godalming@abdiocese.org.uk

Redundant iPads & laptops

These are desperately needed by GDWG (Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group) to enable the detainees to communicate with friends and family and access English Language tuition and support services. If you can help, please contact josie@gdwg.org.uk
<https://stedsgod.com>

Items for next month's Link-up

Please send items for the October 2021 edition of *Link-up* to Matt Farrow: farrow.matt@gmail.com by Friday 1 October, for publication on Friday 8 October.