



Parish of Wargrave
with Knowl Hill

OUR VISION IS TO BE A CHURCH AT THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITY

PARISH

MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 2023

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Where did yours take you?

CREATIONTIDE

Join us in the annual worldwide
Christian celebration of prayer
and response to the cry
of God's creation

A BETTER STORY

Discover and see life in a
completely different way, and
learn how that difference fills
the world with colour, meaning
and purpose once again



In other news:
Have you met? - Katie Cosnett
Painting the Cross
Music Notes

A BETTER STORY

SERIES STARTING IN SEPTEMBER FOR 6 WEEKS

Find out how the Bible invites us to see life in a completely different way, and how that difference fills the world with colour, meaning and purpose once again.



THURSDAYS

7th, 14th, 21st, 28th September & 5th, 12th October

7.45PM - 9PM



MORE DETAILS ON PAGE 17

From the Editor

Here we are with our September edition and hoping for an Indian Summer (are we allowed to say that anymore?) to prolong our warm weather.

Inside this issue you will find some holiday accounts which I hope you will find entertaining. For the Austens we are looking forward to a late summer cruise on the Llangollen Canal in September, a complete contrast to the visit from our Canadian family in July which is described in our 'What We Did On Our Holidays' feature.

I hope all of our readers have enjoyed a relaxing summer; how quickly the years roll by! I frequently ask myself (and others) the question 'where on earth does the time go?' John's letter this month reminds us that our time here is insignificant compared to the glorious future that awaits us in Heaven when our time here is done.

Praise the Lord!

Bob

BOB AUSTEN | PARISH MAGAZINE EDITOR



WELCOME

The copy date for submissions for the October magazine is noon on Wednesday 20th September 2023

Articles of up to 400 words are most welcome for publication in this magazine and should be sent to the Editor: bobausten@wargravechurch.org.uk. The decision to edit and publish material is at the Editor's discretion. Views expressed in articles included in the magazine are not necessarily shared by the Editor. The Parish Magazine cannot accept responsibility for any products or services advertised in this publication.

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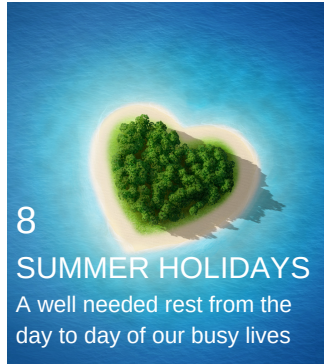
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JUNIOR CHURCH

Looking at The Lord's Prayer in detail and an evening of film in September

PARISH REGISTERS : WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS & FUNERALS

Baptisms at St Mary's, Wargrave

2nd July Aria Eve Dax
9th July Evie May Birchall
9th July Felicity Eve Hunter
9th July Clarabelle Rosemary Hunter

No Weddings or Funerals for July

If you are interested in holding your wedding, baptising your child or getting baptised yourself, or need to discuss funeral arrangements, please contact Lucy in the Parish Office or alternatively contact our Vicar, John Cook (see page 3).

SUNDAY SERVICES

September

St Mary's Church, Wargrave

8am Holy Communion: a said service in traditional language every Sunday
9.45am Service reflective below

1st Sunday of the month: **3rd September**

9.45am All Age Family Worship with Baptism followed by Brunch

2nd Sunday of the month: **10th September**

9.45am Holy Communion
Junior Church & Crèche

3rd Sunday of the month: **17th September**

9.45am Morning Worship in modern language with music with Baptism
Junior Church & Crèche

4th Sunday of the month: **24th September: Climate Sunday**

9.45am Holy Communion with Baptism
Junior Church & Crèche



St Peter's Church, Knowl Hill

1st Sunday of the month 10.30am Holy Communion
3rd Sunday of the month 10.30am Village Praise

St Paul's Church, Warren Row

2nd Sunday of the month 9.15am Holy Communion

Parish Activities

September

Saturday 2nd	9am	Ladies' Breakfast	Church Centre
Sunday 3rd	9.45am	All Age Service & Brunch	St Mary's
Thursday 7th	7.45pm	The Better Story Part I	Church Centre
Saturday 9th	9am	Ride+Stride	Windsor
	9.30am	Annual Concert Ticket Sale	Church Centre
Thursday 14th	7.45pm	The Better Story Part II	Church Centre
Thursday 21st	2.30pm	CAMEO: Whist Drive	Knowl Hill VH
	7.45pm	The Better Story Part III	Church Centre
Saturday 23rd	5pm	Junior Church Film Night	Church Centre
Sunday 24th	9.45am	Climate Sunday Service	St Mary's
	12 noon	Ramble with Bob	TBC
Thursday 28th	7.45pm	The Better Story Part IV	Church Centre
Saturday 30th	4pm	Baptism Tea	Church Centre

October

Sunday 1st	9.45am	Harvest Festival Service	St Mary's
Thursday 5th	7.45pm	The Better Story Part V	Church Centre
Saturday 7th	9am	Ladies' Breakfast	Church Centre
	7pm	Harvest Bring & Share Dinner	Church Centre
Thursday 12th	7.45pm	The Better Story Part VI	Church Centre
Thursday 19th	2.30pm	CAMEO: Mixed Activities	Knowl Hill VH
Saturday 21st	9.30am	CCT: AI according to the Bible	Church Centre
Saturday 28th	3pm	Junior Church Family Games	Church Centre
Sunday 29th	12 noon	Ramble with Bob	TBC
Tuesday 31st	4pm	Light Party	Church Centre

November

Saturday 4th	9am	Ladies' Breakfast	Church Centre
Sunday 5th	9.45am	Fairtrade Christmas Sale	St Mary's
	3pm	Bereavement Service	St Mary's

Our Groups

WELCOME CAFÉ

The Café is open on Tuesdays from 2.30pm - 4pm in the Hannen Room



Next Sessions:
5th, 12th 19th & 26th
September

OPEN CHURCH

St Mary's Church is open Monday to Saturday 9am to 5pm.

BUTTERFLIES

Butterflies returns to meet on 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month (during term time) in the morning, where you can, enjoy a delicious breakfast, chat and parenting discussion time in the Church Centre.

If you are the parent of a baby or toddler, we'd love to meet you! Details can be found on our Facebook page @butterflieswargrave

Butterflies is held in the Church Centre, 9.30am - 11am.

September: 6th & 20th

October: 4th & 18th

November: 1st, 15th & 29th

December: 6th



LADIES' BREAKFAST

Join us on Saturday 2nd September in the Church Centre at 9am when we will be exploring what it means to follow Jesus using pictures, bible verses and song.



Please let Linda or Lesley know if you are planning to attend.

lindacaradine9@gmail.com
lesley.turville@gmail.com

OUR HOME GROUPS

There are a number of groups that meet regularly throughout the year. Not all are every week, so please check with the group leader for more details.

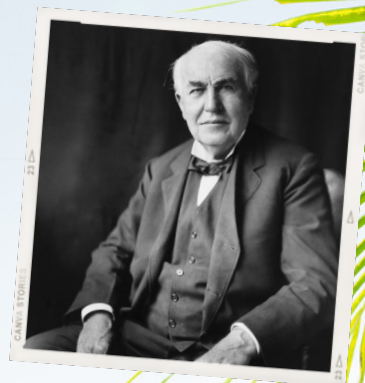
More information found online at wargravechurch.org.uk/groups

Tuesdays	Ladies' Bible Study Ephesians 1:17	9.30am 7pm
Wednesdays	Monthly Prayer (1st) Pints of View	11.45am 7.30pm
Thursdays	Seeking Wisdom Braybrooke Gardens Young Families	2.30pm 7.30pm 8pm
Saturdays	Ladies' Breakfast (1st)	9am

Summer HOLIDAYS

DID YOU JUST BOOK IT? OR THOMAS COOK IT? Sally Churchus

Thomas Cook did not start his travel business with the primary goal of making money. Motivated by his Christian faith, it was to help combat the dangers of alcohol and to help the victims of alcohol misuse.



Thomas Cook was born in 1808 in Derbyshire. At the age of 20 he became a Baptist missionary and toured the region as an evangelist distributing tracts, and in the 1830s, he became involved in the temperance movement. He was a cabinet maker by trade.

With the expansion of the railway network around 1840, he had the idea of combining rail travel with the cause of temperance. He arranged to take a group of temperance campaigners from Leicester Street railway station to a teetotal rally in Loughborough, 11 miles away. On 5th July 1841, he escorted 485 people, who paid one shilling each for the return rail journey and a meal, on his first outing. Many say that this is when the modern travel industry was born. Other excursions followed, including one in 1851 for 150,000 people to travel to the Great Exhibition in London. Four years later he was running trips abroad.

By 1865 he had acquired business premises on Fleet Street, which included a shop selling travel accessories such as guide books, luggage, telescopes and footwear. He and his wife also ran a small temperance hotel above the office. As the business grew, he built an imposing Temperance Hall and hotel in central Leicester and used much of his money to support the poor, often the victims of alcohol misuse.

In all the excursions he went on to organise, he wanted to bring people closer together and nearer to their creator by making 'God's earth with all its fullness and beauty' accessible and affordable to all.

Eventually his son, John Mason Cook, became a partner in the company and the name was changed to Thomas Cook & Son. Towards the end of his life his attitude towards profitability brought him and his son into conflict, including the issue of allowing lower fares for fellow Baptists. He died aged 83 in Leicester in 1892. After several mergers and takeovers the company collapsed in 2019, but he had given many the opportunity to experience the beauty and variety of God's world because of his strong Christian faith.



Sarah & Sue 'do' Blackpool

Sarah Whiteside & Sue Witney

Sarah: Blackpool isn't everyone's idea of the perfect place for a relaxing break, but I was excited! Finally, I was on my way to stay with Sue 'up north'. With Steve working nearby, staying in a hotel not at their house, a bit of 'girlie time' was definitely on the cards.

Sue: In June, Sarah took the plunge, heading into the 'unknown'- (that would be the north!). She was coming to our house in Rossall, just outside Blackpool.

Sarah: Arriving at my destination- Poulton-le-Fylde- Sue and her sister, Lynne, were waiting for me. Big smiles! Big hugs! In tour guide mode, Sue explained that Poulton-le-Fylde used to be the end of the train line for people visiting Blackpool. From there, the journey to the coast continued by carriage! Luckily, Sue had the car- no need to hail a Hansom cab then!

Sue: After refreshment, we headed home. Sarah had a quick tour and was introduced to the seagulls living next door. The pair had produced 3 young chicks who were waddling around, awaiting food. Naturally, Sarah fell in love with them.

Sarah: Confusion reigned in Sue's house; it's upside-down; bedrooms and bathrooms downstairs and 'lounging' quarters upstairs. I couldn't get my head round it and, much to Sue's amusement, often found myself on the wrong floor, searching for a room or door that wasn't there! Once upstairs, however, I appreciated the perfect layout. The view from the upstairs window was incredible! Being close to the sands, I was able to watch the sea move with the tides and study the ever-changing waves. With sunny days and warm nights, we enjoyed evenings on the balcony, wine in hands, watching the sun slowly set. Perfect!

Sue: Sarah's first day involved a drive further north to the edge of the Lakes, to Kirkby Lonsdale, a lovely market town with a river walk. Shopping, eating and drinking was done with a vengeance! Sarah coped well with the change in accent but was somewhat concerned when she found herself uttering the phrase 'I'n't it'!

Sarah: Days being busy and nights being wine-and-food-filled, I knew I would sleep well when we headed to bed. The seagulls next door, however, had different ideas- waking me before dawn each day with their shrieking and squawking; sleep deprivation remained a feature of my stay.

Sue: Sunday was worship at Cleveleys Baptist church and then on to Lytham St Annes, driving along the seafront. I pointed out the Pleasure Beach, the piers and Sarah caught her first glimpse of Blackpool Tower!

Sarah: No visit to Blackpool is complete without climbing the Tower, which was done with some trepidation, as the outside steps to the top seemed to narrow the higher up we walked. Hearts in mouths, we finally reached the highest point: the views were breath-taking! Eventually, the lift arrived to take us down-what a relief! I'd been brave enough for one day!

Sue: The Tower Ballroom was the perfect retreat to calm our nerves, and have some (more) light refreshments. The Wurlitzer organ, impressively ascending and descending through the floor, accompanied a few brave visitors dancing.

Sarah: I spotted the sign for the famous Blackpool circus as we departed. I was eager to go, but, alas, my time 'up north' was done.

Sue: Once home, Sarah enjoyed some much needed recovery time but missed the sea air, the culture and even the seagulls. Will she visit again, next time to see the Blackpool illuminations?

Sarah: Definitely! Perhaps then I'll even run away with the circus!

A Tale of Two Holidays

Mark Puddy

Susan and I had a two-stage holiday this Summer. Firstly, we went walking in the French Alps, in glorious hot sunshine, followed by the best part of a week at the Open Golf, finishing with a deluge on the last day. The thoughts of sun-kissed flower-covered alpine pastures disappeared, as did the Welsh coastline the other side of the Dee estuary which receded into mist and rain.



I am ever eager to learn about the mountain flowers and birds from self-styled expert, Susan, who has books galore. However, every time I ask her what some rare plumage or pink flower signifies, she tells me she hasn't brought her book. However, equipped with our walking poles, we marched purposefully up and down inhaling pure air (actually more down than up as they run some of the ski lifts in the summer to help with the ascent). Navigation along paths is hampered by summer grazing of cows and goats, meaning that electric fences and big beasts of burden frequently block the way, resulting in untracked rocky diversions.



Susan was not as keen to learn about all the world-beating golfers. Indeed, after a couple of hours on the course on the final practice day, she preferred to change from spectator to lady of relative leisure, reading books, sipping coffee and taking gentle walks.

Every day she would drive to the supermarket and top up the stock of drinks and food in the fridge, which I would then empty in replenishing our guests as we returned in the evening.



Then we men folk would discuss each player's golfing style and mishaps and watch the highlights of the golf on the telly to see what had happened that day on all the other holes we had not been watching. By the end of the week Susan was crowned as best chalet girl, though, if truth be told, she faced little competition.

A week at the Keswick Convention

Camilla Cook

Most readers will know how much our family enjoy holidays in the Lake District! So a holiday in the glorious Lakes combined with wonderful Bible teaching is a real treat for us.

That's what being at the Keswick Convention offers. The Convention runs over three weeks, attracting around 12,000 Christians from the UK and around the world. The Convention started on a vicarage lawn in 1875 with a view to gathering Christians from all denominations under the banner of 'All one in Christ Jesus' (Galatians 3:28). Each year there is a set theme which runs over each of the three weeks and this year it was 'Human', unpacking what it means for our identity to be in Christ.

One of the things we so enjoy about Keswick is the mix of Bible teaching, joyful worship and breadth of ages gathered together. There's a full timetable of morning seminars, Bible readings and evening celebrations (as well as vibrant children's and youths groups). We had chosen to be a bit more relaxed this year and focus on the main morning meetings; you can do as little or as much as you like.

John and I had booked a little cottage in Keswick itself. People come together from campsites, hotels, b and b's and cottages in and around the Keswick area. After the main morning Bible readings we set off to enjoy the surrounding countryside, with the dog. Often we'd see old friends and arrange to meet up for a walk or tea. Particular highlights were discovering new sections of Derwent Water and Buttermere, as well as bumping into Wargrave friends in Booths supermarket. You really can't escape!

The main focus was of course the Bible teaching. In Week 1, while we were there, this was given by Sam Allberry on 1 John. Sam had been a minister down the road in Maidenhead and is now in a church in Tennessee, USA. The letter of 1 John is deeply encouraging. John is writing to readers who clearly needed to be reassured: of how we can be certain that we're Christians, of our identity in Jesus, of how much we are loved by him and how that love shapes our identity. A dive into this small letter in the New Testament has grown our love for Jesus as we've reflected on the depths of his love for us. What a way to spend a week's holiday!



So....what are you planning for holiday next year? Why not pray about and plan a week at Keswick? It can as easily done as an individual, a couple, a family or with a group of friends. Like us, many have been richly blessed as they have met with the Lord Jesus at Keswick.

What we did, or rather what we didn't do, on our holidays

Jane Austen

Well we didn't have a lie in – we didn't watch the telly – we didn't sunbathe – read books or generally unwind – as you do on most hols.

We had our son and wife and 3 grandchildren (aged 9, 6 & 4) to stay from Toronto for 6 weeks - an amazing time with many, many outings including a week in Cornwall – before the wet weather set in – trips to farms, play parks, swimming pools, steam trains, tin mines, fun fairs, steam rallies, boat trips, Eden Project, cinema, Matilda the Musical, river trips, bowling, Junglemania, Bowood House with fond memories from Junior Church for us and our sons, extended family gatherings, splash pads and the list goes on.

It was such fun but exhausting for one and all and Bob & I are hoping we will have the house put back together by Christmas! Sad when we had to say goodbye at Gatwick as we know we won't see each other again for a while but sure lots of families know what it's like as so many children and grandchildren live the world over now.

As an aside we did have a weekend in the New Forest after they all left and a chance to do the things we hadn't done for a while - unwind and recover!

Bognor Regis, Ryde Isle Of Wight and Hayling Island

Katie Cosnett

Lucy and I went on holiday for a short break in June to Bognor Regis, Ryde on the Isle Of Wight and Hayling Island. We went to a BBC TV recording of 'Songs of Praise' at St Wilfrid Church, Bognor Regis. We sang Modern Worship songs and it was led by Lucy Grimble and her band. We sat next to a lovely couple, who have visited every BBC's 'Songs of Praise' TV recording. It was a wonderful evening.

The following day, Lucy, Birty (Yorkshire Terrier) and I went to Ryde on the Isle of Wight. We met our Dad at Hayling Island. The weather was warm and sunny and the Fastcat Ferry was very busy with Festival goers, as it was the Isle of Wight Festival. The Fastcat was delayed, due to a technical problem and we were given free ice pops!

Our last day, I went to a traditional greengrocers at Hayling Island. I bought some bananas, cherries, peas in a pod and some locally grown strawberries.

Lucy and I stayed at a B&B on Hayling Island. She knows the owners from South Hayling United Reform Church. Lucy and I had an enjoyable holiday.

WARGRAVECHURCH.ORG.UK



Three Days away from the allotment!

Clare Haines

Our summer break has been short but very sweet. (Allotments are hard task masters and at this time of year produce crops and weeds in equal measure.)

We set off on Thursday for Wilton House in Wiltshire, the home of the Earls of Pembroke since Henry VIII granted them the title and the nunnery. It helped that the first Earl was also Welsh and married to Katherine Parr's sister (Henry's 6th wife, the rose without a thorn). Wilton House is magnificent and very much still the home of the Pembroke family. The paintings are especially wonderful. We walked the grounds and availed ourselves of the excellent restaurant for lunch and tea.

We spent our two nights at the Grosvenor Arms in Hindon, a delightful pub with lovely young staff, and super food. The village is a dream, and once boasted 17 inns for the coaching trade. The only other pub now is the Lamb.

Wednesday morning we visited Shaftesbury, beginning with the ruined Abbey, another legacy of Henry VIII dissolution of the monasteries. This one had been a nunnery, very wealthy, and hugely important. Then a stroll round the delightful town and some pictures of Gold Hill, of Hovis advert fame!

In the afternoon we walked the grounds of Stourhead, so beautiful especially now the sun was out. The house too is interesting, but not so personal as Wilton House. It has belonged to the Hoare banking family for the past 200 years.

Today we came home via Salisbury. First stop the superb Cathedral, where we pored over a model of the building being built, showing scaffolding and workers.

It never ceases to amaze me how craftsmen managed to build so many breath taking edifices in medieval times with such simple tools.

The Cathedral is home to one of the four extant Magna Cartas, where it is on display in the beautiful chapter house. Lincoln Cathedral has a copy too, and the London Library has two, but the whereabouts of the remaining 9 is unknown.

Ted Heath's home, Arundells is opposite the Cathedral Close and well worth a visit. It is full of memorabilia and his collections of art and glass. The garden which ends with the river offers lovely views back to the Cathedral spire.

And so home after a most enjoyable 3 days, and time for a rest.

DELIGHTFUL DILEMMAS

As Summer recedes, why not enjoy training your brain? This month, your challenge is a word-search puzzle, consisting of 20 words all connected with Autumn. Good luck!

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H P X T R E B M E T P E S O C D R
A F Y J I B L L X N P R C Q J Z A
R E U J A Z K C W S N E P I R Q I
V Q M O I B A P I S E L P P A J Y
E U R O A O I R A I J U K T B R G
S I Q D B S C C P O X W E F E B N
T N C O R N U C O P I A R T L O I
G O W O R C E R A C S R S J C C H
D X G N N M C S Q V U R T D J C
R Z L K G G I R U R L C O U E V N
A B B O E A G A O B X B Z U S B U
H S P O R C R C U R E U S J B T R
C A H F F W A K D R Z K L G G H C
R T B U Y O T L I S F O L I A G E
O A D J R N I C F O R A G I N G
N C F D K E O N E S G M E C F R G
E W X L E F N G D T U N T S E H C

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Apples	Scarecrow	Deciduous	Foraging	Crops	
Blustery	Ripen	Equinox	Crackling	Orchard	Rust
October	September	Crunching	Crisp	Harvest	
Migration	Foliage	Cornucopia	Chestnut		

The solution can be found on page 31

CREATIONTIDE

Creationtide is an annual worldwide Christian celebration of prayer and response to the cry of God's creation.

On 1st September, the international Christian community will mark the start of this year's Creationtide with the World Day of Prayer for God's Creation. This prayer comes from the Leeds Diocese:

**Living God,
you call us to be good stewards of this earthly home,
strengthen us to care for your creation;
forgive us when, through our greed and indifference
we abuse its beauty and damage its potential.
Empower us, through your Spirit to so nurture and love
the world, that all creation sings to your glory.
Amen**

This year's theme is climate justice. The poorest are suffering most for what the rich and powerful are mainly responsible for. The non human creation suffers too.



Amos 5:24 has been chosen as a key verse:

"But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!"

The Bible asks us to lament (Amos 5:1), repent and help the poor and their environment, e.g. via Fairtrade. For more information visit seasonofcreation.org.

CREATIONTIDE IN THE PARISH

01

In services, principally on 24th September (Climate Sunday) and 1st October (Harvest Festival)

02

Our weekly Grapevine devotional will focus on Creation Care through September. If you don't receive it and would like to, please contact the Parish Office. If you don't use email, we will gladly put it through your door each week, at no cost to you.

03

A series of five Bible studies for small groups and personal reflection, now or for example in Lent. Sarah Whiteside has sent a copy to house group leaders. Copies may be downloaded free at jri.org.uk.

04

In Sonning Deanery, a series of free lectures at All Saints Church in Wokingham. See page 15.
Advanced booking advised - sonningdeanery.com/the-walter-lectures.
Mike Buckland is willing to organise car shares.

The Walter Climate Change Lectures

A new series of lectures by guest speakers offer conclusive evidence for climate change and the likely impact it will have on all aspects of our lives. All lectures at **7pm, All Saints Church Wokingham RG40 1YA**



14th September
The Challenge of Climate Change
Prof Sir Brian Hoskins



21st September
Responding with Faith to the Climate and Ecological Crises
Hannah Mann



12th October
**Wokingham Borough Council:
*Climate Emergency Action Plan***
WBC Officer



31st October
**Energy Efficiency and Climate Action:
*transforming homes and businesses for a sustainable future***
Simanand Gandhi-Jeyaraj



23rd November
Our changing climate: *past, present & future*
Prof Chris Merchant

Booking: scan QR code or email
thewalterlectures@spauls.org.uk

Pic: Earth Rise Image, NASA/Goddard/Arizona State University

CREATIONTIDE

HAVE YOU MET?

Katie Cosnett

I joined St Mary's church in 1995 with my mother, Kathleen, and sister Lucy. This was not my first experience of church life however, as I had been baptised at St James' Church in Ruscombe and spent my early years attending St Mary's in Twyford.

At St Mary's in Wargrave, we all joined the Robed Choir. I was the youngest member and, thinking about it, I'm still the youngest in the Music Group today!

I have always had a love for music and one of my proudest moments took place in 1999, when I was given the opportunity to sing 'Once in Royal David's City' during the Christmas Carol service and the Millennium Banners service. Bishop Dominic Walker, Bishop of Reading at that time, was the invited guest and I was honoured to have been asked to sing. I must admit however, I was more than a little nervous! Following the service, I was given my own personal Hymn book which I still use today. The performance was also particularly special to me because it was the last opportunity that my Gran had to attend and give me her support.

Continuing the music theme, I have attended recordings of BBC Songs of Praise, one in St George's Chapel, Windsor, which was very special. I've been involved in 'The Big Sing' twice, which allowed me to sing in 'The Royal Albert Hall', Reading Town Hall, Guildford Cathedral and finally St Wilfrid's Church, Bognor Regis.



I became a Christian in October 2004 and was confirmed the same year at St Andrew's, Sonning by Bishop John Bone.

At St Mary's, I am a member of the music group, singing soprano. I'm also a newly trained Audio-visual operator, a role I'm really enjoying- when the equipment works! You will also see me assisting during Communion, holding the chalice.

I still take part in Ride+Stride, known previously as CROW when my family participated together, and I've joined our 'Seeking Wisdom' bible study group, which I attend whenever I can as work so often gets in the way. I enjoy meeting with the other members of the group, and have learnt a lot from the sessions, much that has helped me progress in my Christian life.

I love being a member of St Mary's, and, if you haven't met me before, please come and to say 'Hi' when you see me.

A Better Story

Looking at the world through a different pair of eyes

The Better Story is a series of 6 evening sessions where we will be taking the opportunity to set aside all of our assumptions, preconceptions, and, perhaps, disappointments about how the world around us is, and instead see the world as it looks through the eyes of the Bible. However you see the world, come and join us as we explore the Better Story.

Modern life is a leaky football. When you were younger you could kick the ball and it would bounce and roll almost forever. But now the bounce is gone, and the ball flops flat the moment it touches the ground. That's how life in the modern world feels. We can sense that it used to be fuller somehow, full of meaning and beauty and purpose and story. But like air from a leaky football, all those good things have drained away, little by little, until all that is left is the flabby football-pancake.

So how do we repair the puncture, and give the football back its bounce? How do we stop the leakage, so that we can lead lives that are full of goodness and beauty and meaning and purpose once again?

The answer is that we need a better Story. A better capital 'S' Story, the kind of Story which all of the little stories fit into. We need a story in which ideas like meaning and purpose and beauty make sense. Because that's the problem we face.

The Story we are telling ourselves at the moment - that physical reality is all that there is, and we are here only as a result of chaotic and indifferent natural forces - that Story doesn't really have any space for purpose or meaning or beauty or goodness. None of those things make sense in a Story like that. And the fact that we yearn for those things, that in many ways we find it impossible to live without them, is a pointer to the wrongness of that big Story. As C. S. Lewis might have said, "If I find in myself desires which nothing in this Story can satisfy, the only logical explanation is that I am a character from a better Story."

But where do we find that better Story? Well, if the New Story is leaky, maybe we need to look back to the Old Story. The Story of angels and demons, prophets and miracles, sinners who become saints, and a God who becomes a man and dies as a criminal to rescue his rebellious children. That's the Old Story, and if you dust it off and crack open the cover, you might just find that it's the better Story you've been looking for.

THURSDAYS

7th, 14th, 21st, 28th September & 5th, 12th October

7.45 PM - 9 PM

Please register your interest

officeewargravechurch.org.uk | 0118 940 2300

WARGRAVECHURCH.ORG.UK

PAINTING THE CROSS IN SHADES OF GREEN

Ruth Howse

Eco Theology Conference Day

Conference days can be a chance to listen, reflect, enjoy the company of other Christians, and have helpful conversations. Certainly, during the day at Ripon College in the village of Cuddesdon, near Oxford, the four Wargrave delegates Steve Turville, Mike Buckland, Rosie Creedon and Ruth Howse also had time to explore the lovely surroundings and college buildings. It's good reflecting back afterwards on notes taken – pointers to authors not heard of before, books to read – articles to dip into – new ideas.

The Cotswold stone Oxford College felt like it had been dropped in the midst of the countryside - and we were there to learn about some of the latest academic thinking on Eco Theology.

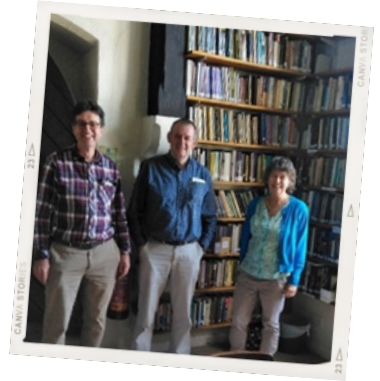
The Rt Revd Olivia Graham, Bishop of Reading spoke of how justice lies at the heart of the environmental crisis and our vocation is to be protectors of God's world. We are called to love God, each other and the created world. Bishop Olivia highlighted the importance of gratitude, responsibility and how all creation is connected, reflecting the image of God. We need to retain simplicity and the capacity to be content and to wonder at what we see around us.

As well as making changes individually, it's important that communities work together so that God's given resources are used for the common good.

There was encouragement to consider Hope as a habit to be formed. A discipline if you like. While depending on God for help with this. Not letting ourselves be overcome by anxiety by what may appear to be happening to the world. There was discussion of what hope can look like in practice – how we might do things that make a difference, with Eco Church, encouraging the wider community to get involved, being imaginative and also thankful, appreciating the wonder of creation around us.

And where does this leave us... well, it's always good to end a 'thinking' day by considering what practical steps we might take next...

At Wargrave and Knowl Hill we have beautiful churchyards with wildflowers, butterflies, together with nature reserves at the Chalkpit and Mumbery Hill. Volunteers are always welcome to help with the care of these sites. Perhaps we might encourage you to join the **churchyard grass-cutting team**? If you've a couple of hours free on a Saturday morning every 5-6 weeks or so, new helpers are most welcome. There's the **annual leaf sweep** later in the year – or maybe come along to one of Bob's **Sunday afternoon rambles** – a great way to enjoy the benefits of being outside with a group of like-minded folk.



THINKING ABOUT FUNERALS

Steve Turville

Just before the summer holidays, we held a 'Thinking about Funerals' morning at St Mary's Church Centre. You may remember the 'Grave Talk' mornings we ran a few years ago, which gave a lot of information on what happens at the time of death, the role of the Funeral Director, and the importance of wills and lasting powers of attorney. Although we still had a section on Wills, Power of Attorney and Probate, the majority of the new morning was focussed on listening to hymns, music and readings that are popular at funerals, helping us to think about what we would like at our own funerals and writing it down! It takes a lot of stress from our loved ones, knowing they are giving us the funeral we would want.

24 people came along to the morning, including some guests from outside of the parish, and we received a lot of positive feedback on how helpful the morning was. Great thanks go to everyone who attended, Nigel Pearce (Wills etc...) Andy Ferguson (music), Lesley Turville (refreshments) and Sheila Thorne for providing the delicious cakes. We plan to run these mornings annually each Spring, but if you would like to discuss your funeral service plans with a minister from the Church before then, please call the Parish Office to make an appointment

LADIES' BREAKFAST

Sheila Williams

At the July Breakfast Sheila Williams led the group up a number of mountains - we read many passages from the Bible concerning peaks as varied as snow-capped Ararat to city-bound Mount of Olives. We reflected on the uplifting of spirits gained from gazing up at majestic ranges, and the joy of walking on the hills with daily cares left below. In our cluttered lives we all felt that peace can come from the simplicity of treading a mountain path, allowing the mind to think more clearly and listen out for what God might be saying to us. Whether heading up Mount Sinai or just Bowsey Hill, the climb starts with just one step; and for the cares of the world and ourselves moving on also starts with just one step. *"Praise to the Holiest in the Height"*.

SUTCLIFFE BBQ

Sean & Liz Sutcliffe

By a lucky stroke of fate the evening for the church barbeque at our house at the end of July proved to be dry, and warm enough for everyone to stay outside well into the evening.

Dodging the scaffolding, and scattered across the garden, around 25 enthusiastic parishioners came and enjoyed the food and chat.

In fact the food was particularly excellent, since the gathered group brought it themselves to share, with a providentially good balance between salads and pudding and sumptuous offerings.

Peter Mayes had very kindly supplied wine for the occasion which was greatly appreciated by those partaking. A good time was had by all.



JUNIOR CHURCH: What's going on?

Jubi Filho da Silva



Do you pray? How do you do it? Can you think of someone who taught you to pray the way you do?

Perhaps the best request Jesus' followers ever made to him was precisely that. "Teach us to pray..." (Luke 11:1) They saw that John the Baptist taught his followers to pray and surely they saw Jesus himself praying. That request prompted Jesus' masterclass on praying: The Lord's Prayer. "Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name... Amen."



At **JUNIOR CHURCH**, we are not skimming it. We are actually going through it bit by bit to help our children pray, and digest it well – sometimes literally.

The session on "Give us today our daily bread", for example, had our very willing and talented Rosalyn Lane Heath teach the children to bake bread as we prayed for it. It was all very proper. The children got to wear their aprons, knead some dough and mess about with flour as we kept on praying that the bread would rise in time! It did.

What else is happening?

We started running activities outside church time. At the end of July, on a Saturday afternoon we had a picnic and games, but of course, in true British style, it rained. So we met at the church centre. I got to play a giant whose slumber should never be disturbed (easy to play, as I take on a similar role every day with my wife during my afternoon nap). We played with balloons and eggs and skittles. We ate plenty delicious Brazilian cheeseballs that Ana, a fellow Brazilian, had made for us all just out of holiness. We even made bug hotels! It was all a lot of fun.

The next event will be a film "night" on Saturday 23rd September. We will be watching **The Prince of Egypt**, a fantastic animation based on the famous Bible story. We can't promise you any bread or skittles or cheeseballs, suddenly this article got peppered with food! Junior Church is about fun, faith and friendship. Save the date and bring some popcorn with you. Microwave is fine.



FUN, FAITH & FRIENDSHIP



FILM NIGHT

Prince of Egypt

Church
Centre

Saturday
23rd
September

4pm - 7pm

RSVP

annie@wargravechurch.org.uk

Next Event: Family Games - 28th October



VICAR'S LETTER

All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them from a distance. And they admitted they were aliens and strangers on earth...Instead they were looking for a better country - a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them. (Hebrews 11: 13&16)



Dear *Friends*

I wonder if you have been fortunate to have been able to have some time away this summer. I have noticed that there is both something wonderful about going away on holiday, but also about coming home.

In Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*, as Frodo and the other hobbits set out on their great adventure, they sing - 'Home is behind the world ahead.' But for Christians, it is the other way around. Our primary citizenship is out of this world. As C.S. Lewis writes in his book *The Weight of Glory* "our lifelong nostalgia, our longing to be reunited with something in the universe from which we now feel cut off...is the truest index of our real situation."

We need to remember our primary citizenship is out of this world. As the Apostle Paul writes "our citizenship is in heaven" (Philippians 3:20). To some extent, Christians will always feel like homesick travellers in this life (Hebrews 11: 14-16) but one day we will arrive home. As we are reminded in Christian funeral services the Lord Jesus is getting that home ready for us "in my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going to prepare a place for you" (John 14: 2-3). As C.S. Lewis wrote about this fleeting life, "Our Father refreshes us on the journey with some pleasant inns, but will not encourage us to mistake them for home."

As September begins, and the light, warmth and life of summer recedes it might seem to some that the best is behind us. However, as Christians we need to keep before us the fact that the best is always yet to come. We need to recalibrate our minds, so we do not just look forward to our next time away but to our eternal heavenly home. Recently going through a series of demanding and uncertain medical investigations, this looking forward is something which I have felt myself made to do. I have been reminded I am not yet home.

We should be looking forward to that eternal home now. A British passport allows its bearer to pass freely around the world "in the name of his majesty the King". But a Christian's faith guarantees free passage beyond this world on the authority of an even greater name.

Yours in Christ,

John

John R.M. Cook
Vicar of Wargrave with Knowl Hill

PCC REPORT: 24th July Meeting

Sheila Williams

17 members of the PCC were present at this meeting and there were 4 apologies. The subjects covered were as follows:

Safeguarding

Sue Witney thanked Lesley Turville for her work in the past and provided an update on the safeguarding certificates.

The following 3 documents were approved: Parish Safeguarding, Safer Recruitment, Recruitment of Ex offenders

The following activities approved:

Butterflies – C.Cook

Welcome Café – S.Turville

Tuesday Group – R.Eves & C.Walker

Junior Church - A & J. da Silva

Finance

Jane Willis advised that there was a £10K deficit year to date due to increased inflationary costs and a reduction in giving. This deficit could be doubled by year-end but the Church has sufficient reserves to cover this. It was suggested that collections are needed at ALL services, including baptisms. Donation trays at the back of the Church should be highlighted by the Clergy. John Cook will talk with Sean Sutcliffe about a new stewardship campaign.

Knowl Hill Update

Lesley Bell advised that there has been no update from the Diocese regarding Church improvements. A new smart meter for gas supply has been installed.

CoG Reports

Leaders of the various CoGS updated the meeting on their current status.

Health & Safety

Mark Puddy expressed thanks to Doug Clark for his work on this in the past. A new H&S Policy was adopted.

Work with Children at St Mary's

Jubi & Annie da Silva presented slides which indicated that of the 815 children in the village, only 25 were regular attenders at St Mary's with 38 on the register. with huge potential for growth. The overriding mission is for all Wargrave children to have heard the Gospel in a way that they can understand. Challenges: lack of time and an evangelism culture where parents are not keen on bringing their children to Church with so many other activities going on. It was proposed that a children's worker be recruited to meet these challenges. Concern was expressed about how this could be funded, and this would need further consideration.

Requests for Donations to the Upkeep of the Churchyard/New Cemetery:

Peter Mayes had suggested a fundraising campaign to help fund maintenance. It was agreed that for all funerals a voluntary donation be requested, and this should be added to all funeral documentation for both Wargrave and Knowl Hill.

Internet Link in Church Centre & Hannen Room:

This was discussed in depth and it was agreed that Andy Ferguson would progress.

Forthcoming Dates & Events:

John Cook reported that Major General Rob Thompson had been recruited to speak at the Remembrance Service.

Dates for Future PCC Meetings:

It was agreed that the PCC date on 18.9.23 be changed to 11.9.23.

COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

Steve Turville

I was up at St Peter's recently, and noticed a CWGC van parked at the cemetery. Intrigued, I went to see what was happening, and found a man tidying the several war graves. I spoke with him for a while and learned his name was John, he had left the army after 25 years service, and that he and a team of 3 others tend 40,000 war graves across the South East of England. Their job is to make sure the graves are accessible to visitors. The following day he was going to Dover to tend 40 graves. I learnt a lot in that brief chance meeting, and gained a great appreciation for the work that John and his colleagues do.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission's mission is to ensure those who died in service, or as a result of conflict, are commemorated so that they, and the human cost of war, are remembered forever. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for 1.7 million graves around the world.



SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

YELDALL MANOR OPEN DAY

Sue Hedger

Our Open Day in July was a great opportunity to celebrate some successes and to thank our supporters, for standing with us. It was great to see eight men rejoice in their freedom from addiction and pay tribute to the work of Yeldall Manor, and of course God, in helping them get to that point. And, more than that, it was a real joy to see so many ex-residents come back to be part of the day - it really warmed my heart! Everyone was also very touched by the poem from resident, Laurie, which you can watch on YouTube (@Yeldall_Manor/streams)

To God Above, In Awesome Love - Laurie Culley 2023

A prodigal son, To God returned, A faith renewed, A life relearned.	In blessed rays, In joys abound, In Jesus Christ, New man is found.	How strong, how blessed, I am today, No longer distressed, To God I pray.	Herein is seen, My soul ablaze, I thank you Lord, For now I'm saved!! Amen!
To walk the way, Of righteous love, To never stray, From him above.	No longer sinning, In evil ways, Anew the path, To God I gaze.	Forgiven now, Forgiven all, To here I stand, A proud man God called.	
A man reborn, No longer deceased, No longer torn, By worldly beasts.	I thank you Lord, O Christ how great, I'm on my way, To Heaven's gate.	To bear in witness, Man can change, In tune with God, For endless days.	
Now robed in gold, New sandals worn, To walk atoned, No fear of scorn.	To there forever, To live in peace, To home at last, To a glorious feast.	To live in Christ, In whom I praise, Surprised not! Yet so amazed!	



POETRY PIECES

POETRY UP CLOSE



ANDREW CURTIS

Our Poetry Piece this month, 'Saturday Breakfast, Torquay', an original composition, has been sent to us by Andrew Curtis, one of our local residents.

Andrew was introduced to poetry at school at the age of six or seven, when he discovered that he loved the rhythms used in the words; to Andrew, they sounded like music. Keen to reproduce these rhythms himself, he began writing his own pieces.

Andrew has always written poems for special events in the lives of his family, (which now consists of his wife, 4 children and 8 grandchildren), but it was on becoming semi-retired, about 8 years ago, that he started writing more seriously and now has a collection of well in excess of 100 poems.

'Saturday Breakfast, Torquay

Hardy annuals, down for the Festival,
head for breakfast.

We watch the tide receding, three swans
bobbing on the swell.

An egret stands statuesque on the rocks,
water swashing its feet.

Two cormorants assume their Dracula pose
and out in the bay

a paddle-boarder floats quietly by,
all arms and shoulders.

Near the sunbeds on the lawn, a falcon
breakfasts on pigeon,

pulling feathers and tossing them
to the wind.

In the restaurant, we sit and order
coffee and kippers.

Andrew is a member of the Temys Poets, a one-time Secretary of the Betjeman Society, a retired member of the South Poetry Magazine management team and was also administrator for the Poets' Café in Reading. His poems have been published in South Poetry Magazine, Orbis International Literary Journals and the Frogmore Papers.

Andrew says of the poem: " 'Saturday Breakfast, Torquay' was written while I was attending the Torbay Literary Festival a few years ago. It was inspired by the view from the hotel bedroom window. The hotel itself was sited right on the edge of the beach and all the activities in the poem took place as I watched. It was one of those poems that just flow from the pen, followed by just a little fine tuning. Then, I was happy with it."

POETRY PIECES



Do you have a favourite poem you would like to share? Do you have any poems that you have written yourself? If you would like to be involved in

Poetry Pieces in the future, please send your contributions to :

sarahwhiteside@btinternet.com

Harvest Supper: Saturday 7th October

Sue Witney

Why not celebrate our Harvest Supper with us?

Following on from our successful and most enjoyable BBQ in July, of which, we must say a very big thanks to Sean & Liz for hosting and also to Peter Mayes for his kind contribution, the Celebrating team is now busy organising our next event - The Harvest Supper.

On Saturday 7th October at 7pm in the church centre, join us for a new venture to which everyone is invited.

We are planning the gathering to be similar to previous 'bring and share' evenings.



The main course will be provided by the team, but we would appreciate those attending to bring the accompaniments - either a salad, some bread or a delicious dessert to round the meal off. In addition, a selection of soft drinks will be available but you are welcome to bring your own drink of preference - be it alcohol or milk shakes!

The cost of the evening is £5 per person and in order to make sure that catering requirements are as accurate as possible, we will need to know firm numbers by 24th September at the latest. We look forward to seeing you there!

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES



RSVP by 24th September

Sign up at the back of church or scan the QR code.

For any questions, please email suewitney8@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER RAMBLE: 24th September

Our September circular walk again takes us further afield and is an opportunity to walk from the centre of Wokingham to open countryside within a few minutes. The railways east and south have acted as a buffer in holding back the tide of development in parts of the town; this gentle stroll explores a green corridor with barely a sign of habitation!



We shall meet at Denmark Street car park, RG40 2BB at 12.30pm (£4.50 for 4 hours) and following the ramble will partake of a late Sunday lunch at 3pm at The Lord Raglan.

If you would like to join us on this walk, please contact Ramblin' Bob by Monday 11th September latest to book your place and advise whether you wish to stay for lunch.

Email: austenrobert@hotmail.com

Phone: 0118 940 3038 or Mobile: 07970 611013



MUSIC NOTES FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

Peter Dart

ANNUAL CONCERT: 18th November

Please be sure to book your tickets early. Tickets are available at Ticket Day on Saturday 9th September between 9.30am - 11am (with a complimentary glass of wine on the evening if you purchase at this time) at the Church Centre. After that, after Sunday morning services.

The concert is on Saturday 18th November at 7pm and has a fabulous line-up of musicians with classic and popular music. Those of you who came to the Royal Albert Hall heard Richard Pearce on the Organ, and he will be one of the people coming to our Concert. Please support this; it's a golden opportunity to invite friends and relatives from the village and beyond.



CHRISTMAS: Join the Choir

Our Carol Service is on Sunday 17th December. It is always a most joyous and wonderful occasion. We are limited to 40 people because of space, so please sign up early! Whilst we love having sopranos and altos, we'd love even more to have tenors and basses! Interested in joining, please contact Rosie at rosiecreedon@btinternet.com. Rehearsals will be on Friday evenings: November 24th, December 1st, 8th, 15th at 7pm and on the day after morning service around 11.30am.

Just to note that the RCS will be singing 'Christmas with the Royal Choral Society' in the Royal Albert Hall on Monday 11th December at 7.30pm.

MUSIC GROUP JOLLY: 13th January

Both the regular choir and Christmas specials are invited to our Annual post-Christmas party in the Centre at 7pm on Saturday 13th January.

TRIP TO THE ANVIL: 10th February

I am organising transport to the Anvil in Basingstoke to hear Mozart's Requiem and the Mozart Clarinet Concerto. Sung by the Royal Choral Society with the Academy of St Martin in the Fields. It's on Saturday 10th February at 7pm leaving around 5/5.30pm (TBC). Those of you that came to the Academy concert in the Church a few years ago will remember that it was James Burke that played clarinet - and he will be doing so again in this concert. I will be able to get discounted tickets, Contact Peter (peter@familydart.com) if you would like a seat held for you - more details to come.

ACADEMY of St Martin in the Fields - Wargrave Festival 2024: 17th June

The date, for your diary, is Monday 17th June at 7pm. The programme has yet to be decided, but they are the best classical chamber orchestra in the world - so you are guaranteed a great evening. Please reserve the date and invite your friends!

NEWS FROM KNOWL HILL

Lesley Bell

CAMEO: River Trip

On Friday 21st July, a few of the more able members of CAMEO enjoyed a trip down the Thames from Hobbs boatyard in Henley on The Waterman.

A most enjoyable journey with an excellent commentary pointing out places of interest and especially a talk about Swan Upping which took place during last week. An activity that goes back many centuries where swans are caught, given a health check and marked. Most swans belong to the King.



The Pantaloons

The Pantaloons returned to Knowl Hill on Saturday 15th July to perform their interpretation of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. The performance should have taken place, as in previous years, in the field next to The Grange. Disappointingly, due to the severe weather warning from the Met Office, it was deemed inappropriate to hold it outdoors. Instead, and with the kind permission of the Clergy, we were able to hold it in St Peter's Church which was filled to the rafters.

As there are, as yet, no toilets in the church, Knowl Hill Village Hall kindly allowed us to use their car park and toilets and picnics were still on the menu.

James Pickavance said a few words in recognition of Richard Sandford who recently passed away and who was a great supporter of Knowl Hill Village Association and who allowed Pantaloons patrons to use his field for car parking.

As always there was plenty of audience participation; some of the children played croquet in the aisle and both Nick Flook and Jim Hadden were singled out as (almost) willing participants for the various antics that took place. Those sitting near the front were treated to an unexpected shower from water pistols.

It was a fun evening, apparently enjoyed by all and although the venue was not what was expected at least it wasn't cancelled



GAS METER EXCHANGE

Karen Larkins

Recently St Peter's made another small step towards moving into the 21st century by having a gas Smart meter installed!

After a false start earlier in the year, the day arrived to have our old gas meter swapped for a shiny new smart meter. Richard, the friendly gas man, came fully equipped to exchange the meters on a rainy summer's afternoon in July. Within an hour the job was done.

We have now been assured that we will have automatic and accurate bills. What a treat.



MID-SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL

Kay Bruce

The weather could not have been better for the first MSM event following the pandemic on the June 24th in the field at the rear of The Royal Oak Pub.

A small number of volunteers worked hard to plan the event and to ensure it was a success.

Gates opened at 4.30pm and festival goers, some dressed for the part, piled in to see the acts which included Knowl Hill C of E Academy school choir and a local young home-grown band The Veraguers, along with Ade Tucker, Hannah Woolford, Dave and Confused, Al Plummer, Milan Webb and X-Y-Zees.

Along with the music which had people up on their feet dancing, there was a sell out BBQ, run by the school, tent games, fancy dress and a free bouncy castle, not forgetting the beer tent, which served Lager, Beer, Prosecco, Wine, and Pimms.

The evening was a great success and enjoyed by all who attended, many asking what is the date of the next one!!



WRITING COMPETITION: MATILDA

Richard Best

The Knowl Hill Village Association supported writing at Knowl Hill Academy for the seventh year with the popular writing competition. The theme for the children's writing this year was the story of Matilda by Roald Dahl. Steve Glover and I visited the school a few weeks ago to introduce the competition to the children, it provided an excellent excuse to re-read the original book, watch the classic movie with Danny Devito as Matilda's dodgy car-dealer dad and the recently released film of Tim Minchin's stage musical.

KNOWL HILL ASSOCIATION



The panel of judges comprising; Lesley Bell, David Bell, Steve Glover and myself have subsequently enjoyed reading the children's stories, which as usual have been of a high standard. The judges were particularly impressed at the standard of hand-writing, spelling and grammar which showed the progression of the students through the school from year 1 to year 6.

The entire school and many parents attended the prize giving at St Peter's on the last Tuesday of term and the picture shows the winners with their certificates, the church provides a wonderful setting for such a special occasion for the school community to celebrate the children's achievements and Mrs Bourner, the head teacher, closed the assembly with prayers for the children as they move toward a new school year, for their parents who care for them and for their teachers who enable them to achieve so much.

I was secretly hoping the school might sing for us, there is a wonderful enthusiasm for singing fostered at the school and I had thoroughly enjoyed the end of year school play which I suspect not coincidentally had been Matilda the musical.



The entire school had been involved with Mr Baker's year 6 class taking the lead roles, it was tremendous fun and I noticed the children playing Matilda and Miss Trunchbull both managed to also win a prize in the writing competition.





St Peter's Church, Knowl Hill
with St Paul's, Warren Row presents:

Skittles Evening

Sat 23rd
September

Knowl Hill
Village Hall

Doors open 7pm.
First game at 7.30

Ticket includes a
fish and chip
supper: £17.50 for
adults and £8 for
children under 16

Cash bar



For further details and tickets contact
Lesley on 07966 178142 or Karen on
07507 333789

EVENTS AT KNOWL HILL

DELIGHTFUL DILEMMAS: Autumn Days Answers

H P X T R E B M E T P E S O C D R
A F Y J I B L L X N P R C Q J Z A
R E U J A Z K C W S N E P I R Q I
V Q M O I B A P I S E L P P A J Y
E U R O A O I R A I J U K T B R G
S I O D B S C C P O X W E F E B N
T N C O R N U C O P I A R T L O I
G O W O R C E R A C S R S J C C H
D X G N N M C S Q V U R T D J C
R Z L K G G I R U R L C O U E V N
A B B O E A G A O B X B Z U S B U
H S P O R C R C U R E U S J B T R
C A H F F W A K D R Z K L G G H C
R T B U Y O T L I S F O L I A G E
O A D J R N I I C F O R A G I N G
N C F D K E O N E S G M E C F R G
E W X L E F N G D T U N T S E H C

- | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Apples | Scarecrow | Deciduous | Foraging |
| Crops | Blustery | Ripen | Equinox |
| Crackling | Orchard | Rust | October |
| Crunching | Crisp | Harvest | Migration |
| Foliage | Chestnut | | |



Live life, your way

On your doorstep within the village of Wargrave, Elizabeth Court is the perfect solution for families who want retired relatives living independently but not too far away.

The Wargrave Housing Association is managed by a board of trustees appointed from within the community. Elizabeth Court provides high quality accommodation for Wargrave residents who are of retirement age and for those families who have retired relatives who may wish to move to Wargrave.

Set in a peaceful location, surrounded by the beautifully maintained gardens, Elizabeth Court is the perfect place for independent retirement living.



Elizabeth Court
Wargrave-on-Thames Housing Association

Email elizabeth.court1@btconnect.com or visit www.wargrave-retirement-housing.org.uk

Gardiner's HOMECARE

0118 334 7474

We are a local, family business that has provided quality care since 1968.
Our experienced team are ready to help you in whatever way you need.

Such as:

- ✓ Companionship
- ✓ Washing & dressing
- ✓ Overnight stays
- ✓ Support with medication
- ✓ Variety of household tasks
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