

Bexley Phoenix Choir

Directed by John MacKenzie

Saturday 16th August - 7pm

St Mary-the-Less Church, Village Street, Chilbolton

Come and hear this vibrant young choir with a repertoire including romantic era to folk, gospel to popular contemporary.

Tickets £10 (Students £5 and schoolchildren free)

Tickets from Lesley - 01264 860 584

Westholme Nursing Home

Summer Fete Thursday 14th August

Do come along to our summer fete! We are hoping to raise money for the home, including running a raffle, which will help pay for in-house entertainment, gardening, and buying equipment for activities. We are in need of donations for the raffle. If you can help, please leave items with our reception team in Harestock Rd.

Getting to Know You!

Have you ever been to a funeral and thought, on hearing about someone's life, "Oh, I wish I'd known that!"?

On the first and third Sundays of the month, when there is no morning Church service at St Catherine's we are inviting you to join us in the Church room at 10am. Someone will be invited to "sit in the chair" and tell us a bit about themselves- where they were brought up and went to school- what they enjoyed or hated at school- what they were good at. How they came to make choices about their work path. What they enjoy as leisure activities. We will simply sit in a circle (no tables) and anyone can ask a question. We are "getting to know you". Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served in the 1/2hr after when we can spend time together following the chair session.

Do come and find out who is "in the chair" on our first session on the third Sunday in September.

Please send all items for Across the Downs to Carol Ward: email carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk, or telephone 01962 883185, by 12.00 noon Thursday at the latest. **If you would like to receive future editions of the newsletter by email, please contact me on the above address.** Thank you.

Across the Downs

*Church News Sheet for the Downs Parishes of
Chilbolton, Crawley, Littleton, Sparsholt and Wherwell
Rector: Revd Kevin Rogers 01962 880845*

Sunday 10th August 2025



Services for Sunday 10th August 2025

Eighth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am (Li) Family Communion

10.00 am (Wh) Morning Prayer



Services for Sunday 17th August 2025

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

09.00 am (Sp) Holy Communion (BCP)

10.00 am (Ch) Morning Worship

10.00 am (Cr) Holy Communion

6.00 pm (Li) Benefice Service of Peace and Wholeness

Prayer for the Week – *Eighth Sunday after Trinity*

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings: Genesis 15: 1-6

Luke 12: 32-40

Hebrews 11: 1-3; 8-16

Psalms 33: 12-end

Littleton and Harestock Show

Saturday 6th September, 12 noon – 5.00 pm

There will be an excellent craft show this year as well as the traditional village fete games, dog gymkhana, tombola and grand raffle, together with food and drink outlets.

You can go online to enter the traditional flower show competitions with classes for both adults and children including vegetables, flowers, fruit, craft, art, cookery, poetry, photography and preserves. See www.lhshow.org.uk/flower-show.

Do then join us on the Sunday, 7th September at 10.00 am, for the Show Celebration Service, in the Marquee

Littleton and Harestock Show Cups and Awards – please note!

Please return all Cups and awards for the Littleton and Harestock Show 2024 to 10, Rozelle Close, as soon as possible, leaving them in the box on the doorstep.



Hants and the Isle of Wight Ride+Stride 2025

Saturday, 13th September



As a participant your sponsored journey on Saturday 13th September between as many churches as you wish can be on foot, bicycle, scooter, houseback, canoe, classic car or bus, exploring and enjoying the countryside from Sandown to Silchester, Fordingbridge to Farnham.

As there are over 400 due to be open, you can have fun choosing which will be part of your itinerary. Many will have refreshments, some will have toilets open, and all should offer your group a warm welcome.

See: <https://hihct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/>

Magazines needed

One of the activities at St Catherine's stand at this year's Littleton and Harestock Show will be a community collage, where people stick pictures of things that they enjoy. We therefore need a range of magazines with pictures of leisure activities - sports, cooking, crafts etc.

If you have any we could have, please put them in the box in the Church porch, or post them through the door at 2 Valley Road, by Friday 5th September.

DIARY

Monday 11th August

10.00 am (Ch) Interment of Ashes – Sigrid and Ted Teague

Tuesday 12th August

2.15 pm (Li) Westholme Holy Communion

Wednesday 13th August

Thursday 14th August

3.00 pm (Cr) Thanksgiving Service – Elizabeth Stradling

4.15 pm (Li) Prayers for those on the Benefice Prayer List, in the Church Room

Friday 15th August

Saturday 16th August

7.00 pm (Ch) Concert – Bexley Heath Choir (see over)

Revd Kevin and Lorna will be joining other parishioners at New Wine Christian Festival (30th July to 4th August) and then enjoying a short time of annual leave. They will thus be away from Wednesday 30th July until Saturday 16th August. Please could you contact the Benefice Office (office@downsbenefice.org.uk / 01962 880 845) with any requests, queries or concerns during this period.

St Catherine's Autumn Sale

For many years we have held a fundraising Autumn Sale of plants, cakes, preserves and books, and this year hope to do so on Saturday 11th October. However, we have no-one to organise and run the sale this year. **Is this something you could do?** Perhaps putting together a team to assist you? If no-one is able to take this on, then sadly we will have to give it a miss for 2025. Contact Carol or any member of the PCC if this is something you could undertake.

5th Sunday Benefice Holy Communion Service 11.00 am, Sunday 31st August

The Benefice Service will take place at **11 am** at St Catherine's, Littleton.

Refreshments will be provided after the Service. Please bring a plate of Canapes/Finger Food to share with others who will be there.

We look forward to seeing you.