

Vicar's View – June 2026

I wonder if you are a person who thrives on change - always wanting to experience something new, or if you prefer stability and find change unsettling. Perhaps the summer, when some of us are able to take holidays away, tells us something about our preferences. I have just come back from a week's boating on the Norfolk Broads. Was that a new adventure for me? Hardly – I have been sailing on the Broads most years for over half a century! But it was exciting to be taking the next generation, our grandchildren, with us for their first time.

The truth, for us as the church that Christ founded, is that we should probably be both sorts of people. We are called to hold on to the *'historic creeds and formularies'* that keep us faithful to our theological roots, but also to seek to *'proclaim afresh in each generation'* the good news of the gospel of Jesus.

In our three parishes we are in a season of change. As I write this on Wednesday, I am looking forward to the Archdeacon attending a joint PCC meeting this evening at which he will guide us into the way forward for the leadership and structure of our churches. Some may feel excited, and others daunted, by the new things that will emerge from these changing times, but there is a sense that we should always be 'a church on the move'. When Jesus said *'I am the way and the truth and the life'* (John 14:6), the word used for 'way' does not mean 'method' - as in, this is the way to tie a shoelace. The Greek is *'hodos'*, which means road or pathway. To be a follower of Jesus, and together as followers to be a church, is to be journeying on 'the way' - in fact one of the earliest names given to Christians was *'people of the way.'*

One Bible commentator says of the concept of journeying with Jesus - *"The 'way' as a metaphor is not precisely characterised, but is variously the way of Jesus, the way of the cross, the way of suffering, the way to Jerusalem. The term marks Christians as those who live in a way contrasted to every fixed and settled form of life. They pursue a God who finally will be at peace with no human arrangement that falls short of the Kingdom in its practice of justice and freedom."*

Whether we find it comfortable or not, we are on a journey. The exciting thing, as Matt reminded us yesterday evening at our monthly Praise and Prayer gathering, is that we are on the journey together as members of the three churches in Hartfield, Coleman's Hatch and Cowden.

I look forward to seeing where God will take us as we follow Jesus together, and live out the good news of the gospel in our communities.

Blessings, Stephen



Worship this Sunday

Sunday 7th June 2026

The First Sunday After Trinity

At St Mary's Hartfield

9.30am Holy Communion

(with Sunday Discoverers and Sunday Connect)

Lead and Preacher: Rev Nigel Hinton

At St Mary Magdalene's, Cowden

10.30am Open Air Service

Lead and Preacher: Rev Stephen Hills

At Holy Trinity Coleman's Hatch

11am Matins

Lead and Preacher: Donna Dewar

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Lead and Preacher: Rev Stephen Hills

Sunday 14th June

The Second Sunday After Trinity

9.30am Morning Worship

Lead and Preacher: Rev Stephen Hills

Sunday 21st June

The Third Sunday After Trinity

9.30am Holy Communion

(with Sunday Discoverers and Sunday Connect)

Lead and Preacher: Rev Nigel Hinton

Sunday 28th June

The Fourth Sunday After Trinity

9.30am Morning Worship

with International Needs

Lead by Matt Marriott and Rachel Reid

with International Needs

Sunday 5th July

The Fifth Sunday After Trinity

9.30am Holy Communion

(with Sunday Discoverers and Sunday Connect)

Lead and Preacher: Rev Sue Diggory

Save the Dates:

Saturday 6th June at 6.30pm

Jazz on the Lawn –

on the Tennis Lawn behind Holy Trinity Church or
in Trinity Hall if inclement.

(see flyer in “News from the 3 churches”)

Friday 19th June at 6pm

Trinity Talks – Tales of India with Nigel Hinton at
Trinity Hall. (see flyer in “News from the 3
churches”)

Sunday 28th June at 3.30pm

Forest Church at Cowden Church (see flyer in
“News from the 3 churches”)

Friday 3rd July at 6pm

Trinity Talks – Demonstration of a Summer Picnic
with Kim Myhre at Trinity Hall. (see flyer in “News
from the 3 churches”)

Tuesday 7th July at 7.30pm

Praise and Prayer at Hartfield Church

(see flyer in “News from the 3 churches”)

Children and Youth Corner



5pm-6.15pm Connect at Hartfield Village Hall

Youths aged 10+. Games, food, and fun!

- 4th June
- 18th June
- 2nd July



5pm-6pm Connect Extra at The Oast

for youths aged 13+. Read, question, and explore
the Christian faith together!

- 11th June



9.15am-10.45am Little Stars

Parent and toddler group, tea & coffee provided

- 8th June
- 15th June
- 22nd June
- 29th June



9.30am Sunday Connect

at The Oast for Youths aged 10+ for breakfast and
chat to build a relationship with Jesus – during the
Sunday Communion service

- 7th June
- 21st June
- 5th July



9.30am Sunday Discoverers

Children up to 10 years to learn more about our
Creator – during the Sunday Communion service

- 7th June
- 21st June
- 5th July

Saturday 6th June at 6.30pm

Jazz on the Lawn –
on the Tennis Lawn behind Holy Trinity Church or
in Trinity Hall if inclement –
family event with the New Orleans Echoes Jazz
Band. (see flyer in “News from the 3 churches”)

Thursday 11th June

9.30am-12pm Trinity Café at Trinity Hall
Serving hot chocolate, coffee, tea & cake.

Sunday 14th June

The Second Sunday After Trinity

11am Holy Communion

Lead and Preacher: Rev Stephen Hills

Friday 19th June at 6pm

Trinity Talks – Tales of India with Nigel Hinton at
Trinity Hall. (see flyer in “News from the 3
churches”)

Sunday 21st June

The Third Sunday After Trinity

11am Sunday Praise

Lead by Angela Ogle
Preacher: Donna Dewar

Thursday 25th June

9.30am-12pm Trinity Café at Trinity Hall
Serving hot chocolate, coffee, tea & cake.

Sunday 28th June

The Fourth Sunday After Trinity

11am Holy Communion

Lead and Preacher: Rev Nigel Hinton

Friday 3rd July at 6pm

Trinity Talks – Demonstration of a Summer Picnic
with Kim Myhre at Trinity Hall. (see flyer in “News
from the 3 churches”)

Saturday 4th July at 10.30am

Holy Trinity Bible Study Group, at Caroline and
Tony Daszweska's home.

Sunday 5th July

The Fifth Sunday after Trinity

11am Matins

Lead and Preacher: Donna Dewar

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Lead and Preacher: Rev Stephen Hills

Save the Dates:

Sunday 28th June at 3.30pm

Forest Church at Cowden Church (see flyer in
“News from the 3 churches”)

Tuesday 7th July at 7.30pm

Praise and Prayer at Hartfield Church (see flyer in
“News from the 3 churches”)

Saturday 11th July

Table Top Sale at Trinity Hall (see flyer in “News
from the 3 churches”)



Friday 5th June

10am-12pm Cowden Community Café
at Cowden Village Hall

Sunday 14th June

The Second Sunday After Trinity

10.30am Morning Worship

Lead and Preacher: Donna Dewar



Friday 19th June

10am-12pm Cowden Community Café
at Cowden Village Hall

Sunday 21st June

The Third Sunday After Trinity

10.30am Holy Communion

Lead and Preacher: Rev Stephen Hills

Sunday 28th June

The Fourth Sunday After Trinity

10.30am Morning Worship

Lead and Preacher: Rev Stephen Hills



3.30pm Forest Church

(see flyer in "News from the 3 churches")

Sunday 5th July

The Fifth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Morning Worship

Lead and Preacher: Rev Stephen Hills

Save the Dates:

Saturday 6th June at 6.30pm

Jazz on the Lawn –

on the Tennis Lawn behind Holy Trinity Church or
in Trinity Hall if inclement.

(see flyer in "News from the 3 churches")

Friday 19th June at 6pm

Trinity Talks – Tales of India with Nigel Hinton at
Trinity Hall. (see flyer in "News from the 3
churches")

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Forest Church at Cowden Church (see flyer in
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Friday 3rd July at 6pm


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Praise and Prayer at Hartfield Church
(see flyer in "News from the 3 churches")




News from the 3 Churches



From your churchwardens

The PCCs of all three churches met with Archdeacon Russell Dewhurst on Wednesday 3rd June. This was a useful and productive meeting to clarify the process of working in an interregnum and the advertising and appointing of a new incumbent. The churchwardens will ensure that you are kept informed, where confidences allow, of the process.



Jazz on the Lawn

Jazz on the Lawn will be on **Tennis Lawns behind Holy Trinity Church in Coleman's Hatch on 6th June at 6.30pm.**

This is a fabulous event for all the family with the New Orleans Jazz Band. Bring a picnic and relax and enjoy the music!

See details below:



Holy Trinity
Church of England, Hartfield, Cowden

Jazz on the Lawn

Saturday 6th June 2026
6.30pm-9.30pm


Join us on Saturday 6th June at 6.30pm for an all age family event with the New Orleans Echoes Jazz Band.

Tickets are £10 per person, children under 16 free.
(Available from the Café team)

Bring a picnic, relax and enjoy the music.

On the tennis lawn behind Holy Trinity Church, Coleman's Hatch, TN7 4HN

All donations go towards our local charity, Air Ambulance Charity Kent Surrey Sussex charity no. 1021367 which provides emergency medical services through the provision of a helicopter air ambulance covering the four English counties of Kent, Surrey East Sussex and West Sussex



Praise and Prayer

The next Praise and Prayer will be in **St Mary's in Hartfield on 7th July at 7.30pm.**



Praise and Prayer

FOR OUR THREE CHURCHES

We are holding our next monthly praise and prayer evening for our three churches
Everyone is welcome.

We will meet at 7.30pm on:
7th July at Hartfield Church
to pray together as a church family.

We will have tea and coffee on arrival

The evening will start with a short bible thought and a time of sung worship.
The evening will then continue with several slots praying in small groups on various topics covering the life our church and communities.

Prayer is the powerhouse of the church.

07929 939116
ADMSMHT@GMAIL.COM



Forest Church

See below for the details of the upcoming June Forest Church held in Cowden.



4th Sundays at 3.30-4.30pm

28th June 2026

A family time of worship and activities in church and outside, as we celebrate God's creation

Come dressed for the great outdoors!

Meet in church at 3.30pm

Songs, crafts, story prayers, tea and cakes

News from the 3 Churches

Trinity Events

Please see below for details for next two upcoming talks: Tales of India and a Demonstration of a Summer Picnic.



Trinity Talks 

Nigel Hinton on 'Tales from India'

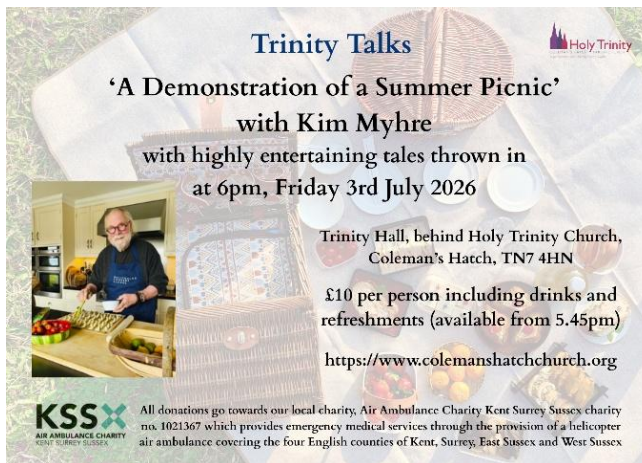
at 6pm, Friday 19th June 2026


Trinity Hall, behind Holy Trinity Church,
Coleman's Hatch, TN7 4HN

£10 per person including drinks and refreshments (available from 5.45pm)

<https://www.colemanshatchchurch.org>

KSSX AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY KENT SURREY SUSSEX
All donations go towards our local charity, Air Ambulance Charity Kent Surrey Sussex charity no. 1021367 which provides emergency medical services through the provision of a helicopter air ambulance covering the four English counties of Kent, Surrey, East Sussex and West Sussex



Trinity Talks 

'A Demonstration of a Summer Picnic'
with Kim Myhre

with highly entertaining tales thrown in
at 6pm, Friday 3rd July 2026

Trinity Hall, behind Holy Trinity Church,
Coleman's Hatch, TN7 4HN

£10 per person including drinks and refreshments (available from 5.45pm)

<https://www.colemanshatchchurch.org>

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If you would like to donate to East Grinstead food bank, there are boxes in both St Mary's Hartfield and Holy Trinity churches.

Here is a list of the items they are currently are in urgent need of (in date, not homemade and non perishable please):

- Basmati Rice 550g
- Cooking Oil 1ltr
- Long-life Fruit Juice (not chilled and not squash)
- Sanitary Pads – Heavy/Night
- Multipurpose cloths (packs of 10)
- Instant Mash Potato
- Cup-a-Soup
- Kitchen Roll
- Coffee small/medium
- Deodorant Male
- Surface Spray Cleaner

For more information visit eastgrinstead.foodbank.org.uk

Prayers and Contacts



This month we are praying...

For peace in Ukraine, the Middle East, Sudan. For those suffering the loss of loved ones, homes and from the lack of food, power and medicines. For the wisdom of leaders as they work on maintaining or creating conditions of ceasefire and finding diplomatic solutions for sustained peace.

For unity in our society, for people to “Love you neighbour as yourself” (Mark Ch12 v31).

For the churchwardens, Rev Stephen, Rev Nigel and Donna as they take on extra duties and services and lead us through this interregnum.

For our schools as they enter the final term of the school year. For the year 6's as they close in on the end of their primary schooling, and those taking exams.

For the International Needs service in Hartfield on 28th June, their work and how we can support this.

For those in distress, who need our prayers.

- Sally Kuhrt
- Sandra Owen
- Jean Nutt
- Frances Stuttaford
- Andrea Johnson
- Brenda Hildreth
- Camilla Clarkson
- Francis Whetstone

Pray for all who have recently been bereaved, including the family and friends of:

- Peggy Cochrane
- Ros Cope

Contacts

As we are now in vacancy please contact Lisa Gibbs-Murray, or if urgent and out of office hours please contact the churchwardens

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Lisa Gibbs-Murray – Church Administrator

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Andrea McGlew - Safeguarding Officer for Hartfield

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CJ Payne - Safeguarding Officer for Coleman's Hatch

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