

St Peter & St Paul

Little Horkesley

Parish Magazine

August/September 2026



The porch at St John the Baptist church, Mount Bures

Bures Flower Festival photos.

**Reverend Emma's last service at St
John's Mt. Bures, photos.**

St Peter & St Paul Little Horkesley

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To the King's Ridge Parishes

21 July 2026

Dear Friends

Re: Revd Emma Barr

We know how much you have enjoyed journeying with your Curate, Emma Barr, and how much you have valued her presence and her ministry over many years, as a lay person, churchwarden and now priest. We are really pleased to tell you that Emma has now successfully completed her curacy and has been signed off.

Emma has discerned that now is the right time to explore possible ministry elsewhere. She has also expressed a need to rest and reset. To enable this, Bishop Roger has agreed that Emma should take a period of leave after Sunday 19th July, which will be her last Sunday in your parishes.

Emma says:

"I am deeply grateful for the love, friendship and support I have received during the past twenty years of serving and journeying with God alongside the wonderful people of these parishes. It has been a privilege to share in so many moments of faith, joy and community together. As I now respond to God's call into a new season of ministry, I do so with heartfelt thanks, many treasured memories, and the assurance of my continued prayers for you all."

Please do pray for Emma as she will be praying for you.

With all good wishes,

The Right Reverend Roger Morris
Bishop of Colchester

The Venerable Ruth Patten
Archdeacon of Colchester



www.chelmsford.anglican.org



Heavenly Father, as **August** begins, I open my heart to the new things You are doing in my life. Wash away disappointment and renew my hope. Give me courage to step forward with faith and not fear. Help me trust Your plans even when I cannot see the full picture. Let this month mark a fresh start filled with Your grace, wisdom, and divine direction (Isaiah 43:19)



September

God of all creation,
open our eye and hearts
to the wonder and beauty of creation;
the changing colours of each season,
the ancient woodlands and fragile flowers,
the mountain streams and ocean depths,
and all that grows and lives,
ensuring our world is renewed and sustained.

Reveal to us our part in the care of creation,
so all can find healing and peace within it,
today and in the future.

Amen

*From the pen of
Reverend
Emma Barr*

August is an unusual month. For many families it is the season of summer holidays, when school corridors fall silent and the familiar rhythm of term time is set aside. It is a month that invites us to pause, to rest, and to enjoy the gift of longer days before life begins to gather pace once more.



There is something deeply symbolic about this time of year. We lay down the old term, with all its achievements, disappointments, busyness and routine, and begin to look towards the new one. Even long after leaving school, many of us still think of September as the real beginning of the year. We are so shaped by the pattern of school life that the turning of the academic calendar still feels like the perfect moment to start afresh, to learn something new, or to take up a challenge we have been putting off.

Our faith reminds us that new beginnings are part of God's work in our lives. The prophet Isaiah records God's promise: *"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?"* (Isaiah 43:19). God is always inviting us to look forward with hope, trusting that each new season brings fresh opportunities to grow in faith, love and service.

As we enjoy the slower pace of August, may we also prepare our hearts for whatever September brings. May we return to our daily routines refreshed, thankful for the gift of rest, and ready to embrace the new things God has in store for us.

God Bless, Reverend Emma



MERIEL'S REPORT

BARRY GIBBONS

I am so sad to have to write about our dear friend Barry Gibbons who died on June 8th. He had never fully recovered from heart surgery last year, but it was a real shock to hear of his death.

Barry really was 'Mr Wormingford'. He was born and lived all his life in the village. He went to Wormingford School, which is where I first knew him, and then on to St Helena School. He worked, when he first left school, at the Boggis -Rolfe farm as a cowman but then went on to Woods of Colchester where he stayed until retirement.



He was part of a close family of which he was the eldest of 6 children, 2 brothers and 4 sisters. He helped to care for his parents as they got older and was still helping his sisters, where he could, until the end.

He learned to bell-ring at a very young age, taught by his uncle, Ted Leggat, who was tower captain at Wormingford. Apart from a short break, he rung for the rest of his life. On the death of his uncle, he became Tower Captain. The final time he rung, a very short ring, was on the occasion of the visit of Bishop Gulli to Wormingford last November.

When our church was built, I learned to bell-ring, also taught by Ted Leggat. Along with our much-missed Mary Langstone, her brother Peter (who now attends our church regularly) Barry and I spent many happy evenings and weekends going to ringing practices and ringing meetings all over Essex and Suffolk. On Saturdays, after the meetings, we would then go onto the seaside or a fair. Barry always said they were his very best memories.

Barry was very knowledgeable and well-read about all church matters and was a great person to have at a Study Group meeting as he always enlivened discussions. He, of course, attended Wormingford church but he also supported Little Horkesley. He rung each week, was on our Electoral Roll, and supported all our events over many years.

He was an extremely amusing storyteller, stories mostly against himself!
To me, he was a great friend and also my gardener for a number of years, following his retirement from Woods. After I moved to Braiswick he used to drive past my Lamarsh house and report, with great sadness, that the new owners were not keeping the garden as we had.

I kept in touch with him regularly and he was always so grateful for that, especially through the Covid lockdown when he was quite lonely. During that period, he started to join the services streamed from Long Melford (Henry Heath was an assistant priest there). He continued to do so until he died, either live on Sunday Morning (if there was no service at Wormingford) or on the afternoon of the following day.

His funeral service, conducted by the Revd Emma, was beautiful and amazing. The church was packed and the tributes showed in what high esteem he was held by so many.

At his request, his ashes will be interred, in his parent's grave, in Wormingford churchyard, which he looked after with such care, for many years
I will miss him enormously, as will Wormingford and Little Horkesley, his family and the bell-ringing community



Ringling handbells at my sister's 21st Birthday in 1959

David Culham, Meriel, Peter Perkins and Barry



Ringers of a quarter peal 1999

Brian, Barry, Alan Cansdale, Meriel and David Culham

MOUNT BURES FLOWER FESTIVAL

At the end of the hottest week that we have known, came Mount Bures Flower Festival. Amazingly the church was refreshingly cool, and the flower arrangements were as beautiful as ever.

The theme was remembering past members of the church and village, and a quite wonderful programme had been put together by Rev Emma with potted biographies of people who had played an important role in the church and village. I remembered many of them and it was fascinating. I have a hard copy of the programme and also have it on my computer so if anyone is interested in reading it, please let me know. We had refreshments, bought raffle tickets and books and visited Olive's garden, adjacent to the church.

Sadly, our Editor Suzanne was away as she normally takes beautiful shots. However, Emma did get some taken by drone, which are here on pages 9 & 10

REVD EMMA BARR

We have all been so sad to realise that our much-loved Emma is no longer going to be with us. We have greatly enjoyed her warmth, love and enthusiasm, and her obvious deep faith has been infectious. We had so hoped she was going to play a big part in our three parishes as she finished her training. However, it was not to be and she is moving to Great and Little Tey, Chapel and Wakes Colne where, I am sure, she will be welcomed with open arms.

Our last service at Little Horkesley was on July 12th where this photo was taken showing a few of us who were chatting after the service.

Her final service was on July 19th at Mount Bures, where her heart has been for so long. Several of us attended what was an extremely emotional service in a packed church.. Elaine, for Mount Bures, Mike Crisp, for Wormingford and I, for Little Horkesley, said a few words of appreciation for what she has meant to us. Elaine gave her a large, engraved glass and champagne, I gave her a beautiful, pale coral climbing rose, appropriately named 'Scent from Heaven' and Mike gave her a bottle of champagne. I also gave her a card signed by as many of our congregation as possible.

We all wished her well as she starts her new ministry. We will miss her so much.

Photos of the event, taken by Suzanne, are on pages 19 and 20



Val Palmer, Sally Bramall, Val's granddaughters Annabelle & Kimberly, Val's daughter Claire Jones, Meriel, Christopher Orme, Rev Emma, Harold Thomas, Val's son-in-law Peter Jones, Graham Soar (hiding) and Margaret Thomas.

SERVICES AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

There are some changes to the services, mainly so that our vicar, Heather, can tell us of her Camino de Santiago pilgrimage. It does mean that there are three Sundays in August when there are no services at our church. The dates are August 16th, August 23rd, August 30th. Then on September 20th there is another joint service to welcome Dominic Sheil as a curate.

Please look at the calendar for details of where the services are being held.

SEPTEMBER 6TH BAPTISM

At the morning service on September 6 our last vicar, Revd John Chandler is conducting a service of Baptism. He has been asked as he conducted the parent's wedding and their previous baptisms. It will be lovely to both have a baptism and to see John again.

MERIEL



Mount Bures - Flower Festival photos

June 2026





**St John's
Mount Bures**

FLOWER FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 27TH
and
SUNDAY 28TH
JUNE

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Dedication, Faith and Care Have Helped
Our Church and Village Flourish*

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Altar Flowers



<i>Month</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Arranger</i>
August	2	Julia Orme
	9	Fionna Morrison
	16	Fionna Morrison
	23	Roger Beatty
	30	Roger Beatty
September	6	Roger Beatty
	13	Roger Beatty
	20	Roger Beatty
	27	Roger Beatty
October		
	4	Roger Beatty



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Little Horkesley Parish Council

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DEANERY SYNOD 17th June 2026

This was a short meeting as the Speaker; Colchester MP Pam Cox was unable to attend.

The main item was the Deanery Day, Saturday October 17th at St John's, Ipswich Road. Revd John Chandler gave a list of speakers, but the final programme is not yet finished. Details will be sent to each church later.

The other main point was that the Family Purse will increase by about 10% in 2027 due to an increase in staff costs.

The Revd Janine Wilde is the new priest-in-charge at Myland.

BRIAN LORD



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**Mrs Julia Orme
Tel: 01206 271841**

LITTLE HORKESELEY WEATHER

May - June 2026

By Adrian Szabo

May 2026 was a historic, record-shattering month for weather in our region. Fittingly described by meteorologists as a "month of two halves," it began with unseasonably cool, damp, and unsettled conditions. However, a sudden, dramatic shift in the atmospheric pattern led to an unprecedented late-May heatwave that ultimately rewrote the UK climate record books.

The first two weeks of May felt more like early April, with temperatures tracking roughly 1.4°C below the long-term climatological average. Overnight ground frosts on 11th and 12th affected the fruit trees and vegetables in more exposed areas and we only reached cool daytime highs of 11°C to 13°C.

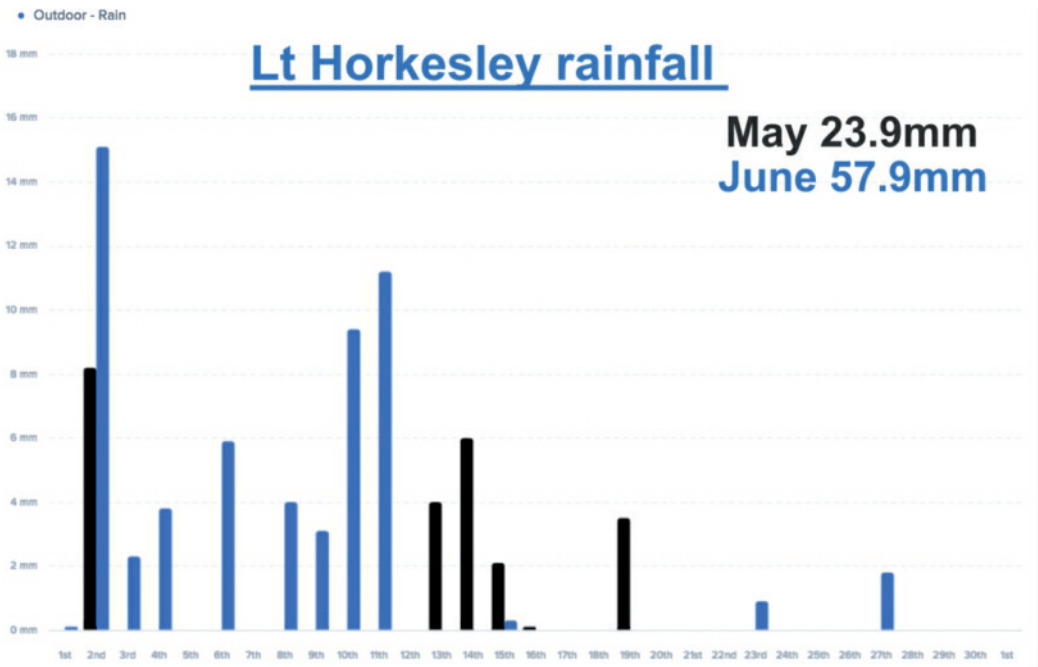
Everything changed around May 22, when a powerful "subtropical plume" of high pressure locked over the UK, resulting in intense sunshine, heat and humid conditions. This culminated in an extraordinary heatwave on May 26 when the maximum reached 31.2°C in Little Horkesley, nearby High Beach in Essex reached 33.7°C, while Kew Gardens in London set a national May record of 35.1°C. Because of this historic heat spike, the mean monthly temperature surged to an overall average of 14.6°C - significantly,

higher than the typical 12.3°C.

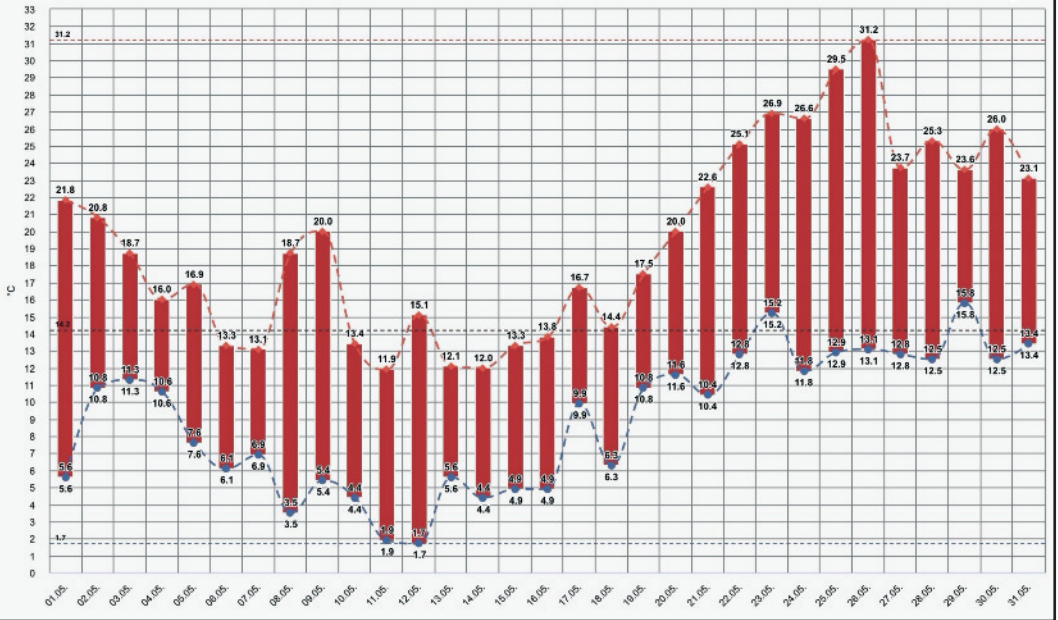
While western parts of the UK saw active weather systems, East Anglia sat firmly under a protective dome of high pressure which impacted the rainfall, we totaled 24mm (in short downpours in the first half of the month) which is less than half of the multiannual average of 59mm. South westerly moderate winds dominated throughout the month and gentle breeze conditions during the heatwave. Sunshine hours were about 120% of the multiannual values (approx. 230 hours).

June was historically England's hottest on record largely driven by the extreme heatwave in the final third of the month in contrast with the damp start during the first third. The same pattern of May's two halves repeated- unsettled, cool and damp first half, dry and hot in the second. Typical Atlantic circulation brought temperatures that were reaching only the high teens in the days followed by cool nights in the first two weeks, also significant rainfall fell in this period to the relief of our farmers and gardeners. However after June 15 temperatures steadily climbed culminating in the historic heatwave of 24-27 June when the Met Office issued rare Red warnings for Extreme Heat. On June 26th we

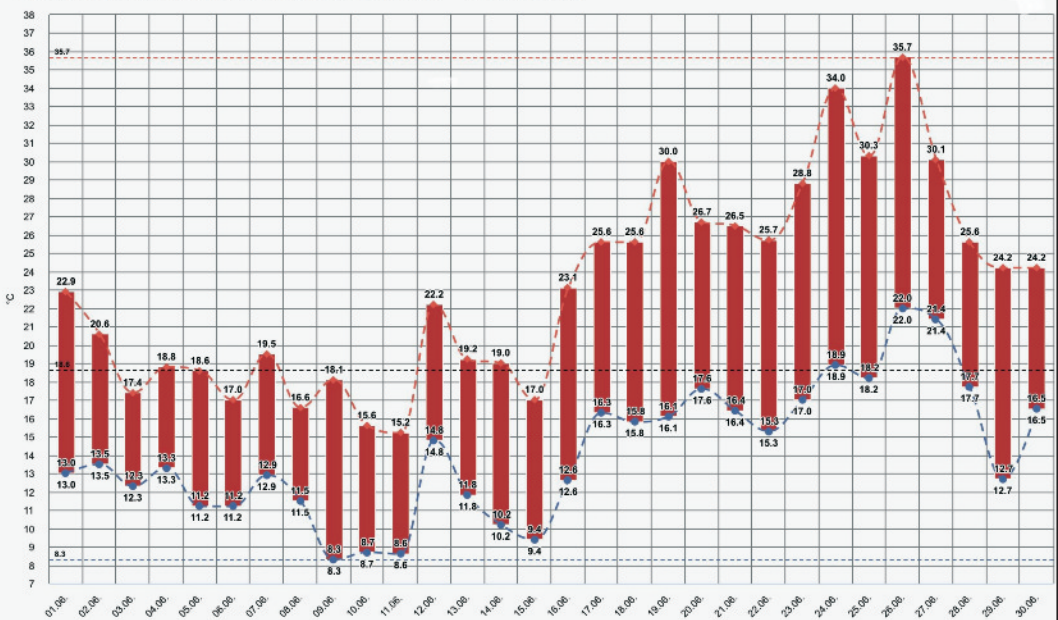
peaked at **35.7°C** while in Norfolk, a national June record of **37.7°C** was provisionally set. We also recorded a couple of uncomfortable tropical nights where temperatures didn't fall below 21 degrees. High humidity during this heatwave added to the general discomfort. Mean temperature for June was **18.6°C** (compared to 15.3°C average) making this one of the warmest spots in the country. Rainfall totaled about 58mm, close to the multiannual values, concentrated in the first 12 days of June. Calm conditions dominated during the month, South and Southeasterly hot, dry continental winds dominated in the second half of June. Sunshine hours were similar to May (225 hours).



Daily minimum/maximum temperatures 1 T May 2026



Daily minimum/maximum temperatures 1 T June 2026



Photos of Reverend Emma's last service at St John's, Mount Bures 19th July 2026



The congregation



Meriel read a very moving speech of thanks.



Mike Crisp and Meriel Sparkes



Wine and cake



Mike Crisp, from St Andrews, Wormingford, gave a wonderful speech and gifted Emma a lovely, boxed bottle of Champagne.



“Go With God”



Emma, smiling broadly at her dad Paul, who along with her mum Valerie, have been a huge influence on Emma’s life in the Church.

Rev Emma has strong support from her parents, her husband Stephen, her daughters Martha and Ellie and her son Hector also, the dogs, cat, chickens, sheep, horses and everyone that knows and loves her. She will be missed.

Suzanne

Sidesmen & Readers : August 2026

Sunday	Sidesmen	Readers	Readings
2nd August			
Morning	David Lewis Vicky Minett	David Lewis Brian Lord	Romans 9: 1-5 Matthew 14: 13-21
Evening	NO EVENING SERVICE		
9th August			
Morning	NO MORNING SERVICE		
Evening	Christopher Orme Ann Garnett	Graham Soar Harold Thomas	Romans 10: 5-15 Matthew 14: 22-33
16th August 23rd August 30th August	NO SERVICES AT LITTLE HORKESLEY		

Pet Of The Month

This lovely photo of the very gentle and beautiful **Amber** was taken in Nov 2019.

She is 18-years-old now and is still very gentle and very beautiful, if a little scrawny.

She doesn't run much these days but today (early July), she had the zoomies and I loved watching it.

Whist putting this magazine together she likes to sit in front of me and purr - loudly. When I say she likes to sit in front of me, she literally likes to get on the keyboard of my laptop and purr. It's no wonder it takes me so long to get this mag finished and ready for the printers!

Suzanne



Sidesmen & Readers : September 2026

Sunday	Sidesmen	Readers	Readings
6 th September			
Morning	Brian Lord Will Pavry	Sally Bramall Will Pavry	Romans 13: 8-end Matthew 18: 15-20
Evening	NO EVENING SERVICE		
13 th September			
Morning	NO MORNING SERVICE		
Evening	Margaret Thomas Harold Thomas	Margaret Thomas Brian Lord	Romans 14: 1-12 Matthew 18: 21-35
	Intercessor: Brenda Green		
20 th September NO SERVICES AT LITTLE HORKESLEY			
27 th September			
Morning	NO MORNING SERVICE		
Evening	John Sparkes Christopher Orme	Emma Taylor Christopher Orme	Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
	Intercessor: Brian Lord		
4 th October			
Morning	David Lewis Vicky Minet	David Lewis Julia Orme	Philippians 3.4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
Evening	NO EVENING SERVICE		



DEADLINE DATE

**The deadline to submit articles for the next magazine is
Tuesday 15th September 2026
Please send your articles to parishmag@msn.com**

Church Calendar: August 2026

August 2nd
11.00 am

9th Sunday after Trinity
Morning Service

August 9th
6.30 pm

10th Sunday after Trinity
Evening Service

August 16th
10.30 am

11th Sunday after Trinity
UNITED CELEBRATION SERVICE AT
MOUNT BURES

August 23rd
10.30 am

12th Sunday after Trinity
UNITED CELEBRATION SERICE AT ST
JOHN'S GREAT HORKESLEY

August 30TH
10.30 am

13th Sunday after Trinity
UNITED CELEBRATION SERVICE AT
BOXTED

Church Calendar: September 2026

September 6th
11.00 am

14th Sunday after Trinity
Morning Service with Baptism

September 15th
6.30 pm

15th Sunday after Trinity
Evening Service

September 20th
10.30 am

16th Sunday after Trinity
UNITED SERVICE AT WEST BERGHOLT
WELCOMING DOMINIC SHIELDS

September 27th
6.30 pm

17th Sunday after Trinity
Evening Service

October 4th
11.00 am

16th Sunday after Trinity
Morning Service