



Harvest in the Downs Benefice



Chilbolton Harvest Festival will be on **Sunday 20th September**, followed by a Harvest Lunch. Money raised by the Auction of produce and the collection will go to the Andover Crisis and Support Centre.

Crawley Harvest Festival Service is at 10am on **Sunday 4th October**. Donations will go to Winchester Beacon.

Littleton Harvest Festival is at 10.00 am on **Sunday 27th September**. Donated goods will be shared between Winchester Beacon and the Basics Bank. Lists of requested items are available on the font. A box will be left at the back of the church for your donations if you are unable to get to the service.

Sparsholt Harvest Festival will be held on **Sunday 11th October** at 10.00am. Donations will go to The Winchester Beacon. A list of goods that they would like/consider necessary are posted in the Church and at the Village Shop. The Harvest Supper will take place at Sparsholt Memorial Hall on **Saturday 10th October** at 7pm. Tickets are now available to buy at the Village Shop.

Wherwell's Harvest Festival is on **Sunday, 11th October** at 10am with a collection in aid of Andover Food Bank.

Christian Aid Harvest Appeal 2026

As we celebrate our harvests with giving to such excellent local causes, may we spare a thought (or more?) for the struggling farmers of South Sudan who are the object of this year's Christian Aid Harvest Appeal?

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/harvest-appeal>

Winchester Beacon

Every act of kindness helps to change lives, and we'd love to thank you in person. Whether you have donated, volunteered, fundraised, partnered with us or you would just like to know more about what we do – you are warmly invited to join us for **The Winchester Beacon's Supporters' Evening on Thursday 15th October 2026**.

<https://winchesterbeacon.org.uk/news/join-us-for-our-supporters-evening-thursday-15th-october-2026/>

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 13th September 2026



Services for Sunday 13th September

Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

- | | |
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| 10.00 am | Family Communion, in Littleton |
| 10.00 am | Patronal Festival Morning Prayer, in Wherwell |
| 4.00 pm | Bubble Church, in Chilbolton |



Services for Sunday 20th September

Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 8.30 am | Holy Communion (BCP), in Sparsholt |
| 10.00 am | Harvest Festival, in Chilbolton, followed by Harvest lunch |
| 10.00 am | Holy Communion, in Crawley |
| 6.00 pm | Peace and Wholeness, in Littleton |

Prayer for the Week – *Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity*

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings:	Genesis 50: 15-21	Romans 14: 1-12
	Matthew 18: 21-35	Psalms 103: 1-13

Home Groups

Home groups are places that help us grow as Christians. The homes in which we meet, and the people who gather in these homes have at least two things in common. We deepen our friendships with one another, and we study the Bible or a topic that grows us as Disciples. Could you find time to join us at a home group near you? For God has equipped you with wonderful gifts to enrich our lives as the mystical body of Christ. Revd Kevin

LOCATION	DAY	TIME	CONTACT
Wherwell	Monday (fortnightly)	2.30pm	Susan Ansell - EMAIL
Sparsholt	Tuesday (fortnightly)	7pm	Jemma Mack - EMAIL
Littleton	Tuesday (weekly)	7.30pm	Carol Coleman - EMAIL
Crawley	Wednesday (fortnightly)	3pm	Felicity Gillibrand - EMAIL
Chilbolton	Thursday (fortnightly)	9.30am	Charlotte Nash - 01264 860831

The House Groups have restarted for the Autumn. Littleton, Crawley and Chilbolton have stated and Sparsholt Home Group starts again on Tues 15th. Starting dates for Wherwell group tbc. Please contact the leaders if you would like to join.

St Catherine's Autumn Sale



Saturday 10th October, from 10 – 12 noon, Littleton Church Room

Once again, we will be holding our Autumn Bazaar this October, selling plants, cakes, jams and chutneys, so do come along!! And spread the word! We will also be running a stall selling pre-loved children's toys, games and books.

Donations of jams, jellies, marmalade or chutneys together with plants, homemade cakes or biscuits will be much appreciated so that we have a bounteous array of goods to sell on the day.

We will be raffling a 'luxury hamper' during the sale and so, if baking, making preserves or gardening is not your prowess then please consider a donation of a food item for the hamper.

To donate (or promise) items or help on the day, please contact Peggy Ormston: peggy.ormston@gmail.com; 01962 883682, or Clive Thompsett for hamper donations: clive.thompsett@icloud.com; 01962 885039.

DIARY

Monday 14th September

10.00–11.30 am St Catherine's Toddler Group in Littleton Church room.
Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886

2.30 pm Sparsholt School Welcome Worship, in Sparsholt Church

Tuesday 15th September

10.00am-12 Noon Littleton Lounge – *Littleton Church Room*

7.30 pm Littleton Home Group – see opposite

Wednesday 16th September

9.00 am Ministry Team meeting, in the Rectory

1.30pm Wherwell Prayer Meeting - *Dancing Ledge*

3.00 pm Crawley Home Group – see opposite

Thursday 17th September

4.15 pm Prayers for those on the Benefice Prayer List, in Littleton church room

Friday 18th September

Saturday 19th September

BUBBLE CHURCH

Today!

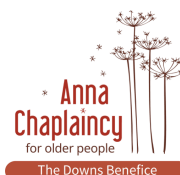
Bubble Church

BUBBLE CHURCH

'Church Service for little ones' at St-Mary-the-Less, Chilbolton

Bubble Church is restarting on Sunday 13th September at 4.00 pm.

Do come, young or more elderly and bring your children and grandchildren!



Autumn Community Café

Thursday 24th September, 10.00 – 12 noon
Littleton Memorial Hall



Drop in between 10am and noon for tea, coffee, cake, chat and good company!
Everyone welcome.