Charity Gift Fair,

Sat 21 November, 10.30 - 16.30 hrs, Crawley Village Hall

The ever popular Charity Gift Fair will be back this November and once again the Village Hall will be packed with beautiful handmade artisan crafts, art work and arty gifts, cards, home produce and more. If you've time, you could even stop for a slice of homemade cake with a cup of tea or fresh coffee, or even enjoy a tasty light lunch. Admission £1 (adults).

Funds raised by the Fair are donated to charities nominated by the stallholders which this year include amongst others Prostate Cancer UK, Dementia UK, Coeliac UK, RNIB, Winchester Hospice, Young Lives v Cancer, St Marys Church and Crawley Village Hall. For more information, visit the Fair's Facebook page www.facebook/CrawleyCharityGiftFair

Wherwell Home Guard Club, The Old Hill, Wherwell

9th Annual Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 14th November, 11 am – 2 pm

Fourteen stalls including Charity stalls, Handicrafts, Cards, Chocolate tombola, Saxnot Meadery gifts and preserves, Knitted and soft toys, Cakes

Tea and coffee. Raffle

Admission free

Freelance stall holders – please bring cash if possible!

Trinity Winchester AGM

Tuesday 24th November, 7.00 pm, Hope Church Winchester

As we reach our 40th anniversary supporters, partners and community members are invited to attend an evening of reflection and celebration. Alongside the formal business of the AGM, there will be presentations from staff and clients sharing their experiences and the difference Trinity's services make across the community. We hope you will join us as we continue working together to build a kinder, more inclusive and stronger Winchester together.

Book your place at https://trinitywinchester.org.uk/

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 8th November 2026











Services for Sunday 8th November
Remembrance Sunday

10.50 am	Remembrance Service, in Chilbolton church
10.55 am	Remembrance service, at the War Memorial in Crawley
10.55 am	Remembrance service, at the War Memorial in Sparsholt, moving to the church
4.00 pm	Bubble Church, in Chilbolton



Services for Sunday 15th November
Second Sunday before Advent

8.30 am	Holy Communion (BCP) in Sparsholt
10.00 am	Morning Worship in Chilbolton
10.00 am	Holy Communion with Baptism in Crawley
3.00 pm	Peace and Wholeness, in Littleton

Prayer for the Week – *Remembrance Sunday*

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Readings: Amos 5: 18-24 — 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-end
Matthew 25: 1-13 — Psalm 70

Karis Kids - Christmas Gifts for Uganda

This year's Christmas party for our link families in Kampala will take place on Tuesday 15th December. This is always a joyous occasion, with hundreds attending from all the member churches – for details of last year's party, visit https://www.kariskids.org/news/2026/1/28/karis-christmas-party-2025.

The cost of hosting the party, with food, music, cake, has already been covered, so all that remains are the gifts for the families, sometimes the only Christmas gift they will receive. The cost is £16 per family, which in the past has provided sugar, soap, tea, moisturiser, and sometimes a live chicken! If you would like to contribute towards this cost for our link families, please visit

https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/18848 before Sunday 29th November.

Let's give our amazing families a Christmas to remember!



Christmas Tree Festival, Chilbolton

Saturday 5th - Sunday 6th December



Village organisations and individual families are invited to take part in our 2nd Christmas Tree Festival. The theme this year is "Christmas Carols". Choose a Carol and decorate your tree in any way you wish. As before, please limit the size of your tree to no more than 60cm. Please let me know if you would like to take part and I will send you further details, Jenny Seddon, Pj_seddon@hotmail.co.uk 01264 861164

Help sought - I am looking for volunteers from the church community to help in different ways. I need people to be in the church to welcome visitors etc. There is a rota with hourly slots for both days. I also require cakes (various) to serve to people attending this event. Please contact me on 01264 861164 or 07305 622243 if you can help in any way. Thank you, Jenny Seddon

Diocesan Weekly Online Prayer Gathering

Every Monday termtime, a team of Winchester Diocese staff along with friends across the Diocese meet for an online Diocesan Prayer gathering where we pray for the six Benefices listed in the Diocesan Prayer Cycle that week. We would be delighted to welcome all parishioners to the prayer gathering. Please contact the benefice Office for the Zoom Meeting link.

DIARY

Monday 9th November

10.00–11.30 am St Catherine's Toddler Group in the Church Room. *Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886*

2.30 pm Wherwell Home Group. *Contact Susan Ansell, 01264 860775*

Tuesday 10th November

7.00 pm Sparsholt home group. *Contact Jemma Mack on 07984 203698*

7.30 pm Littleton house group. *Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886*

Wednesday 11th November – Remembrance Day

10.50 am Act of Remembrance, with Sparsholt school, at the War Memorial

10.50 am Act of Remembrance, with Wherwell School, at the War Memorial

10.55 am Act of Remembrance at War Memorial, Littleton

2.00 pm Wherwell Prayer Meeting – *Dancing Ledge*

Thursday 12th November

11.00 am (Li) Funeral – Elizabeth Read

2.15 pm Prayers for those on the Benefice Prayer List, in Littleton Church Room *(please note change of time)*

Friday 13th November

Saturday 14th November

1.00 pm (Sp) Wedding – William Raynor & Holly Arundell

St Catherine's Patronal Festival

Our Patronal Festival is on **Sunday, 22nd November**. The service starts at 11.15 am and is followed by a 'Bring and Share' lunch in the Church Room. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends and the community to join us in celebrating all aspects of our church life at St Catherine's and within the benefice. It would help us with catering if you could let us know that you are coming and whether you are bringing a plate of savoury or sweet food to share.

Please email or telephone Carol Ward (carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk; 01962 883185)