

Lurgashall News

MAY 2026



Highlights



Planning for the Fete is in full swing
- see page 14

AGM of the Lurgashall Recreation Association is on
May 21st - see page 7

The shop is still looking for volunteers -
see page 7



Queer things happen in the garden in May. Little faces forgotten appear, and plants thought to be dead suddenly wave a green hand to confound you.

W. E. Johns

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Many thanks, as usual, to Jax Lawson for her title and photo for the front cover

CHURCHWARDENS

Rob Holgate holgate.family@btinternet.com 0738758 2100

St. Laurence Church Cleaning

Enjoy lively conversation and a great work out in a beautiful village location .

Church cleaning 1 morning a month for an hour .

Contact: Judy Pavia 01428707265

Church Services for May 2026

3 May <i>5th Sunday of Easter</i>	10.00 am	Lurgashall Northchapel	Holy Communion <i>Venerable Philip Jones</i> No Service
10 May <i>6th Sunday of Easter</i>	10.00 am 6.00 pm	Lurgashall Ebernoe & Northchapel	Holy Communion <i>Rev Richard Lloyd</i> Rogation at Horton's Farm
17 May <i>7th Sunday of Easter</i>	10.00 am 10.30 am	Lurgashall Northchapel	Holy Communion <i>Canon Nigel Nicholson</i> Holy Communion
24 May <i>Whit Sunday</i>	10.00 am 6.00 pm	Lurgashall Ebernoe	Holy Communion <i>Rev Jack Mulder</i> Pentacost Celebration <i>Canon John Bundock</i>
31 May <i>Trinity Sunday</i>	10.00 am	Lurgashall	Holy Communion <i>Rev Jack Mulder</i>

Please note, the start time of services at Lurgashall on the third Sunday of the month has now reverted back to 10.00 am.



From the Churchwarden

Coming up in May

May marks two very important landmarks in the Christian calendar – Ascension Day and Pentecost. We celebrated Easter Sunday on 5 April marking the resurrection of Jesus Christ, which Christians believe occurred on the third day after his crucifixion on Good Friday. It is considered the most significant festival in the Christian calendar, signifying victory over death, hope, and new life. Ascension Day (40 days after Easter) celebrates the bodily ascension of Jesus into heaven, marking the completion of his earthly ministry and his exaltation to the right hand of God, and Pentecost (50 days after Easter) commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, often called the "Birthday of the Church", enabling the mission to spread the gospel.

Together, these moments in the calendar encourage us to pause and reflect on renewal, purpose, and the sense of shared journey that shapes our life as a village. May often feels like a turning point in the year - lighter days, new growth, and a welcome lift in spirit - and Ascension and Pentecost sit naturally within that rhythm. As we move through the month, they offer a reminder of hope, connection, and the importance of supporting one another as a community.

Where does everyone go for the rest of the year

It's always striking how full St Laurence is on the great landmark days of the year. Christmas Day saw more than 300 people gather in the church - a wonderful sight by any measure - Easter Day more than 200 - and, Remembrance Sunday and Mothering Sunday all draw large congregations. These moments clearly matter to people: they offer tradition, familiarity, and a sense of being part of something shared. But it does raise a gentle question for all of us: where does everyone go for the rest of the year?

One of the quiet strengths of St Laurence is that it offers something increasingly rare - an hour without phones, noise, or demands. A chance to slow the pace, breathe, and think about something beyond the immediate pressures of daily life. Many who come regularly say they value the space to reflect, listen to an interesting sermon, or simply sit in stillness. In a world that moves quickly, that hour can be a small but meaningful reset. Perhaps the invitation for the months ahead is simply this: if you enjoyed being here on the big days, you might find there's something worthwhile waiting for you on an ordinary Sunday too.

St Laurence is, above all, a place where anyone can walk through the door and feel at ease. You don't need to be confirmed, you don't need to know the hymns, and you certainly don't need to have been before. Many people worry they'll stand out or "do the wrong thing", but the truth is that we are a small, friendly, welcoming community who are simply glad when someone chooses to join us. Whether you come every week, once in a while, or are thinking of coming for the very first time, you will be met with warmth, not expectations.

With all good wishes,

Rob
Churchwarden, St Laurence

Robert Stedall

Thank you to everyone who has been asking about and praying for Robert after his whipple operation.

It has not been an easy road and he is still in the Royal Surrey 4 weeks later. However he is improving daily and we hope to have him home soon. His article on Guildford Cathedral in this issue is appropriate as, but for the end of the building, he would probably be able to see it from his bed.

I apologise for any typos as I do not have my proof reader !



P A C T NEWS

Petworth Area Churches Together

working together in harmony

Petworth Area Churches Together (PACT) held a most successful Palm Sunday Procession through the streets of Petworth at the end of March.

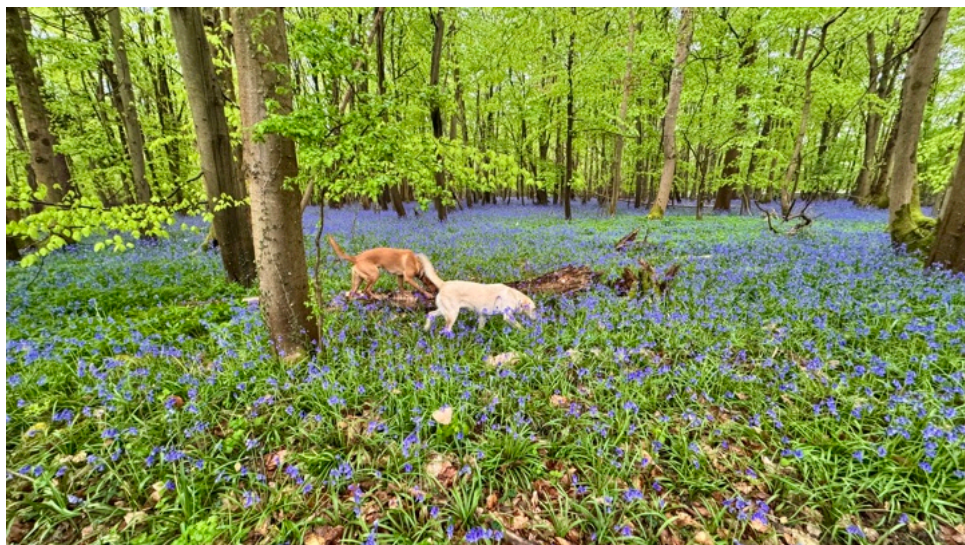
Led by donkeys Ringo and Buster and the Petworth Town Band, the Palm Sunday Procession started at the Sacred Heart Church, Angel Street at 3pm. It then wended its way through the Town Centre to arrive at St Mary's Church at around 3.30.

It was a great Walk of Witness through the town and well received by residents, visitors, shop keepers and staff. Palms were supplied for children and adults. Over 130 attended.

A date for your diary: July 27-31 Kids Club for Primary School age children at Herbert Shiner Centre.

Geraldgreshamcooke@gmail.com

<https://petworthareachurchestogether.com>



LURGASHALL RECREATION ASSOCIATION

The LRA Annual General meeting will take place on Thursday, May 21st 2026 at 7.30pm at Lurgashall Village Hall.

There will be complimentary light refreshments at the meeting and we look forward to welcoming as many members as possible. If you are not already a member, you are very welcome to come along and join as a member on the day for our adult membership fee of £10.

The AGM will include an overview of last year's activities and potential future projects. Members will also be asked to approve the 2025 accounts as well as voting on the re-election of Directors according to the association's rotation rules.

Miles Fairston

Chairman, Lurgashall Recreation Association

Registered in England and Wales, company number 8104504



Can you spare some time to help?

Would you like to be a part of the team involved in the future success of the village shop?



Village Shop:

Volunteers are needed to work alongside staff in the shop for 2-hour shifts either weekly or twice a month. Enjoy serving customers and meeting other volunteers, neighbours and residents of the village. Full training given and if you are not able to commit to a regular slot we also have adhoc or holiday cover opportunities. Please email lvsvolunteers@gmail.com

Management Team:

Join the Steering Group or Board of Directors to help with management, finance and retail business projects. Administrative, retail, finance and IT skills helpful. To find out more, please email Sally Ohlson on sallyohlson@outlook.com

VILLAGE HALL

 **Join the Lurgashall Village Hall 50:50 Club!** 

Support your village hall while having a chance to win a monthly **cash prize!**

Each month, half the subscription pot goes to two lucky winners, and half helps maintain and improve the hall.

✦ **Why join?**

- Monthly cash prizes (totalling around £100)
- Bumper Christmas draw (£200 last year)
- Help keep our village hall thriving

Subscriptions: You can subscribe for as little as £1 a month and contribute as much as you like to a maximum of £20 a month.

To join or learn more:

Contact Steve Corr (07778 357272) or Cathy Nicholes (catherine.nicholes@hotmail.co.uk)

♥ **Thank you** to everyone already supporting us!

Please Note: *If you already subscribe and feel able to increase your existing subscription (to max. £20 a month), we would be very grateful.*

April prizewinners:

1st Sally Stainton
2nd Joyce Wilding



Here for our community

Lurgashall Village Hall and its equipment are available for hire, with special discounted rates for residents of the parish.

The hall is great for children's parties, exercise and dance classes, family gatherings, meetings, film shows – in fact, almost anything you can think of!

Equipment for hire includes tables, chairs, crockery, cutlery, glassware and the ever-popular large urn!

Our rates are very reasonable indeed. To find out more, please go to www.lurgashallvillagehall.org or contact the Booking Secretary on lvhmc.bookings@gmail.com

VILLAGE LUNCH

The next village lunch will be on the 11th May. Just put your name on the list in the Shop. This closes on the Thursday before the lunch.

LURGASHALL OIL GROUP

With the Gulf crisis continuing, the price of heating oil has continued its upward trend, with a number of our regular suppliers refusing to quote for scheduled deliveries. Southern Energy took our April order for 12,000 litres at 124.99 ppl +VAT. Thankfully spring is upon us and, hopefully, warmer weather coming. We're moving to the summer schedule now and so the next Group order will be made at the beginning of June.



Colin Robertson lurgashall.oil@gmail.com

LURGASHALL PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN

Mrs A Martin-Jenkins

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Dr A H J Tate

COUNCILLORS

Mrs B Burkhart

Mr N P Jowett

Mrs J Landstrom

Mr A Loughan

Mr T Macaulay

Mr A Stainton

Mr P Wilding

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Mrs Brett Burkhart

07876 594168

bburkhart@chichester.gov.uk

Mrs Eleanora Newbery

01428 656941

enewbery@chichester.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Mrs Janet Duncton

01798 344914

janet.dunton@westsussex.gov.uk

LURGASHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Lurgashall Parish Council's next meeting is on **Thursday 14th May 2026 at 7.30pm** at the Village Hall. This is its Annual Meeting.

DRAFT minutes from the last meeting are available to view on the Village Green noticeboard and the website.

<https://lurgashall-pc.gov.uk/>

Thank you to the representatives of local organisations who attended the Annual Parish Meeting in April to provide annual updates. Minutes of this meeting will be uploaded onto the website in due course.

REPORTING ISSUES

Please contact OPERATION CRACKDOWN for anti-social driving (i.e., speeding, careless and aggressive driving and driving whilst on a mobile phone) Either via the website www.operationcrackdown.org or 01243 642222. Abandoned cars are now reported to Chichester District Council.

To report all non-emergency POLICE matters, call 101 or visit www.sussex.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/

Want to report a pothole or flooding? www.westsussex.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/make-an-enquiry-or-report-a-problem-with-a-road-or-pavement/

To report a problem with a right of way directly then either report online <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/land-waste-and-housing/public-paths-and-the-countryside/public-rights-of-way/report-a-problem-with-a-right-of-way/> or email prow@westsussex.gov.uk or phone 01243 777620 or inform the Parish Council

Keep up to date with local road closures: www.one.network/uk/westsussex

BONFIRES Please be mindful of others when having bonfires. Guidelines and how to report them if they are a nuisance, can be found on Chichester District Council's website www.chichester.gov.uk/reportbonfireproblem

POWER CUTS

Call 105 to report or download the Power Track app. Do you, or someone you know, need extra help if there's a power cut? Join SSE's free Priority Services Register today Phone 0800 294 3259 or online www.ssen.co.uk/psr

WSSC RECYCLING CENTRES: BOOK TO RECYCLE

To book to visit a Recycling Centre in West Sussex. Phone 01243 642106 or www.westsussex.gov.uk/BookToRecycle

FOOD WASTE COLLECTIONS: All information is available here www.chichester.gov.uk/food-waste

HEDGE CUTTING: Please be aware that 1 March to 31 August is the main bird-nesting season. During this time, we ask residents to avoid hedge-cutting wherever possible to protect nesting birds.

Light trimming by hand (secateurs or shears) is acceptable only if you check carefully first and are certain no birds are nesting. It is an offence to disturb or destroy an active nest.

For any major hedge work, please wait until September, when the nesting season has finished.

Mrs Helen Cruikshank
Clerk to Lurgashall Parish Council

Email: clerk@lurgashall-pc.gov.uk
Tel: 01798 860788
<https://lurgashall-pc.gov.uk/>



LURGASHALL CRICKET CLUB



Founded 1840



The square is looking in very good condition, thanks to Rob Dale's TLC throughout the winter. And, after replacement of a spark plug, the heavy roller is now "running lovely!" according to Luca.

Unfortunately, when the "Alien" (the big Cricket Club mower) came out of hibernation, the cutting blades would not engage. Hence the photo above of Al & Chris who have been using their own mowers to keep the outfield under control until the Alien is fixed.

We currently have 37 bookings for the season, with further enquiries being made. We have a few midweek games booked for the Chiddingfold Ladies which is great, and we hope to secure a few more.

We also hope to arrange a friendly 20/20 game for locals to raise additional funds possibly on a Friday evening.

The ground hire charge is £190 for weekends, and £150 for weekdays.

All enquiries to:

Al Sword 07983 699650

swordalastair@gmail.com

MAY 2026 FIXTURES				
	2	Sat		Grayswood 3rd XI
	5	Tues	6.30pm	Chiddingfold Ladies
	10	Sun		Matthew Wright
	16	Sat		Grayswood 3rd XI
	17	Sun		Edward Russell
	23	Sat		Catherine Harris Hughes
	30	Sat		Grayswood 3rd XI



THE
LECONFIELD
SINGERS

BRAHMS REQUIEM

Sunday 10th May 2026
7.30pm Arundel Cathedral

Elen Roberts Soprano
Dyfed Wyn Evans Baritone

The Leconfield Singers
English Philharmonia
Graham Wili Conductor

Adult £15 - £30
Child (under 18) Half Price

For Box Office
scan QR code



or visit
www.leconfieldsingers.co.uk/events

Retiring collection to
The Sussex Snowdrop Trust



Hi there from Lurgashall Fete! Yes, the Big Day for our 2026 Fete approaches fast – and now we really need your help. All the main attractions are booked, with lots to do for all the family: races for the children (and of course for the dogs!), the tug-o-war, and the famous monster bouncy castle and maze will be back too. Check out our social media feeds on Facebook and Instagram nearer the date and share them with your friends to spread the word – we’d love a bumper turnout.

Time to delve at the back of the cupboard for anything spare

May is the big collections month, so we need your annual turn out to supply our stalls, please. Contributions of bottles, books and good quality clothing are needed and we’re making a big push for the White Elephant stall this year, so please go through your cupboards for those recycling opportunities. The contacts for all your generous donations to the various stalls are listed below. Special request – no Books or Silent Auction prizes on Fete day – **please drop them in advance.**

Stall / run by	Please deliver to:
Books <i>Anne Legg</i> 07855 399238	John Kinnear (01798 860913) in his barn at High Hampstead Farm, ½ mile out of the village on High Hampstead Lane (towards Lickfold) on the left – but not before Saturday 23rd May, please.
Bottles <i>Giles & Dorcas Robinson</i> 07884 437601 07974 680167	Call Giles Robinson if your local door-to-door collection volunteer doesn’t get to you first, or drop off in the box at the Village Shop making it clear the bottles are for the Fete Bottle Stall.
Boutique <i>Caroline Wilding</i> 01428 707324	Clothes to Andy & Ellie Kinnear’s at Orchard Park Farm, behind the Noah’s Ark on the left of the track between the Church and the pub or to John Kinnear’s (see Books above)
White Elephant / toys <i>Cathy Nicholes</i> 01428 653592	Designated stable at The Hole (at the bottom of the dip on Blind Lane, the road out of the village heading towards Northchapel) – but not before Saturday 2nd May please, and please, no TVs, sofas or large chairs.

Budding gardeners and cooks can help too (nearer the day)!

Stall / run by	Please deliver to:
Plants <i>Elizabeth Clark</i> 01428 707230	Jacquie Lawson's Pear Tree Cottage on the Green, inside the gate behind the hedge but not before Thursday 4th June , or to the stall on the day.
Cakes / Produce <i>Charlotte Hughes-Chamberlain</i> 07976 015960	To the stall on the day (cakes, muffins, scones, etc plus jam, chutney, relish etc).
Cakes for teas <i>Sally Stainton</i> 07810 634063	On the day, please, to the Cricket Pavilion (cakes, muffins, scones, flapjacks etc.)

Silent Auction

If you have an idea / offer / prize for the Silent Auction, please contact Ellie Kinnear asap on 01428 707381 elliekinnear6@gmail.com.

Set up and take-down

Our Field Marshal, Andy Kinnear, needs lots of people to help set up all the stalls and marquees on the Thursday and Friday evenings before the Fete and particularly at Fete close on Saturday evening (Sunday morning if wet). If you're able to help, please contact him on agent@barlavington.com or 07973 840699.

Help on the day

There are still plenty of slots for helpers on the day in all sorts of ways – the more the merrier! In particular, more helpers are needed for the White Elephant Stall (particularly for the first half hour 'scrum'), the Tea Stall, the Boutique, the Bottle Stall and to help supervise the Bouncy Castle during the afternoon, even just for an hour or two, so that would be a great way to help if you just wanted a small role. It's great fun, and definitely a case of many hands make light work. No experience is needed. Feel free to contact me (details below) if you think you can help.

Cars

Once again, with special thanks to the Rodbers, we have secured the field on High Hampstead Lane for parking. We need extra helpers for the first couple of hours to arrange the parking – if anyone has any teenagers looking to earn a bit of extra cash to spend at the Fete, we'd be glad to hear from you!

We also plan, as we have done the last few years, to encourage those leaving the Green towards Northchapel to avoid the narrow single-track section of Blind Lane and divert past the Village Hall down Mill Lane then left back to Crossways.

Roll on June 6th!

Neil Harding Chairman

lurgashalfete@gmail.com 07831 631457

THE AULD FOOL HOLDS FORTH ON MATTERS AI

At our quiet little backwater in the southern reaches of the Parish – Whites Green – we are not exactly at the forefront of technical jiggery-pokery. On the premise that others in the area may not be up to speed – so’s to speak – on the not so brave new world – he offers the following salutary warning.....

ALL IS INDEED NOT WHAT IT SEEMS

April the First is also known as April Fool’s Day – and having little else to occupy the Auld Fool’s remaining grey cell he set about a spoof posting in various social media sites.....

“THE AULD FOOL ON MAYORIAL MATTERS.....

Followers of matters appertaining to Whites Green will be aware that some 25yrs ago the residents of this tiny hamlet (situated between Tillington and Lurgashall) voted to declare Home Rule for the area.

It was muted that a Toll Booth would be erected to fund improvements to the facilities and a modest charge made – in view of the present financial situation that the rest of the country finds itself in the Mayor has decided that all Toll charges be abandoned as from today 1st April 2026.

It has however been noted that visitors using the Weather Log Predictions have sometime failed to pay the One Log Fee for the prediction – this must stop – have you seen the state of The Auld Fool’s log store ?”

This was accompanied by a picture of the Mayor of Whites Green in full ceremonial regalia standing in front of his tractor – on the Green –

The Auld Fool/Mayor was berated for spending local residents hard earned money on gold chains and other such frippery of office by his usual trolls – and here is the warningALL IS RARELY WHAT IT SEEMS - the clever ones amongst us are already shouting “AI” and of course that’s what it was – the image was created in less than a minute using a free AI site.....

So Dear Readers do not trust your eyes – the world has changed and all of the images that we see can be manipulated – and may be manipulated to the manipulator’s ends.

Pinch of salt comes to mind.....



LECON FIELD HALL

**NEW at the
Leconfield Hall!**
National Theatre Live
All My Sons May 13

Family Hoppers
May 3, 2.30pm

**ROH Live
Metropolitan**
Eugene Onegin May 5

Local cinema in
Petworth, GU28 0AH,
showing current films,
surround sound, bar,
raked seating,
wheelchair access.

Join us! [Book your
seats online at
leconfieldhall.org.uk/
whats-on](#)

The Drama Apr 28

A happily engaged couple is put to the test when an unexpected turn sends their wedding week off the rails

California Schemin' May 6

Two Scottish lads from Dundee conned the music industry by pretending to be an established Californian rap duo, bagging a record deal and appearing on MTV until their scam is revealed

Glenrothan May 12 & 20

After 35 years in the United States, Donal returns to his family-owned whisky distillery in the Scottish Highlands, to make amends with his brother, Sandy

On Tuesday May 5th Annalie Talent
will give a talk on



Girls Behaving Badly: Jane Austen's Wicked Women

Jane Austen's novels depict the expected behaviour of life in the genteel world of country houses where everyone was expected to be on their best behaviour. This lecture explores how far she subverted her readers' expectations and rebelled against what was expected of women of her day.



Come and join us on Tuesday June 2nd
for a talk given by Andy McConnell
The Genius of René Lalique

René Lalique was the 20th century's greatest glass designer/entrepreneur. His extraordinary work was unrivalled, combining his unique visual sense with his perfect understanding of glassmaking technologies. This talk is a visual feast.

Talks held at 2pm in Fittleworth Village Hall, RH20 1JB
Doors open 1.15. Coffee & tea afterwards
Visitors most welcome - £10
For further details contact Gilly Myers on 07805731663
or email westsussex@theartsociety.org
www.theartsocietywestsussex.org

Change the temperature of a room.

Gera Dunachie paints from her studio in Blackdown.

Shortlisted for RISE Emerging Artist Prize 2026, Henley Festival

Original abstracts in acrylics on wood panel — framed, ready to hang.



Breach of Light

40×40cm · £380, framed in white float frame



Below Threshold

40×40cm · £380, framed in white float frame



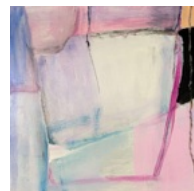
Tidal Zone

90×60cm · £790, unframed, finished edges



Cold Logic

20×20cm · £180, framed*



Moderated Field

20×20cm · £180, framed*

* Framed in black float frame . Local delivery available.

Commissions welcome. More extensive portfolio available on the website and Instagram

gera.dunachie@gmail.com · geradunachie.co.uk · @Gera_studio16a

Please support your community shop



Recently we have introduced for our customers a number of popular brands, competitively priced including Dell’Ugo fresh pasta and sauces, Unearthed Spanish omelette and new deli items, including Wensleydale cheese; Worcestershire Gold Cheddar and Longley Farm Cottage Cheese. In addition, Chalkstream smoked trout, gravalax and pate can also be found in the deli fridge. Delicious Mud pies and quiches are back in stock ready to cook straight from the freezer for your convenience.



An exciting new addition to the shop is a professional Jura ‘bean to cup’ coffee machine which makes high quality, fresh aromatic coffee. Another great reason to make a detour to our community shop to take away or enjoy drinking, sitting inside or outside, with one of our tempting cakes and pastries. For the summer months, Sunday trading hours are extended until 4 pm.

If you would like to find out more of what the management team and directors have planned for the months ahead, please join us at the Village Hall at 7 pm on Tuesday 12 May for the Lurgashall Village Shop AGM.

MAY	VILLAGE SHOP		POST OFFICE	
	OPEN	CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE
MONDAY	9.00 AM	5.00 PM	9.30 AM	12.30 PM
TUESDAY	9.00 AM	5.00 PM	9.30 AM	12.30 PM
WEDNESDAY	9.00 AM	5.00 PM	9.30 AM	12.30 PM
THURSDAY	9.00 AM	5.00 PM	9.30 AM	12.30 PM
FRIDAY	9.00 AM	5.00 PM	CLOSED	
SATURDAY	9.00 AM	5.00 PM	CLOSED	
SUNDAY	10.00 AM	4.00 PM	CLOSED	

TEL 01428 707277
 EMAIL lurgashallvillageshop@gmail.com
 WEBSITE www.lurgashallvillageshop.uk



Lurgashall Archive

Our heritage
matters

The Archive is open at the Village Hall
on Wed 13th and 27th May, 2.30-4.30pm
archive@lurgashallvillagehall.org

May Day festivities in long-ago Lurgashall



In December's Archive article about the local hunt, we showed a cropped photo of the hunt gathering on the village green in the early 1900s. What we cropped out was this (left) – a vastly tall maypole!

The same maypole, standing at the bottom end of the main green, is just visible on the right of this old postcard, below, of the village green and pond, also dating from the early 1900s.

Both pictures show the maypole wrapped in multicoloured stripes, and it turns out, this was for the coronation of Edward VII in 1902.

According to a history of Lurgashall, written in 1958, this maypole was blown down in about 1906.

But there was an earlier maypole that stood on the green nearer to the Noah's Ark. Apparently, it had a weathervane on it, and the iron arrow was forged by blacksmith Percy Hunt who lived at what is now Pear Tree Cottage.



Life-long villager Francis Dillon-Thiselton recalls his mother, who grew up in one of the cottages on the green, talking about dancing round a maypole on the green when she was a child in the late 1920s - early 1930s.

A churchyard story

If you've been to our church, you will have walked past a large, brick-built tomb topped with a heavy stone slab right by the main church door.



Several people have asked the Archive if we know who was buried there. There was an inscription on the stone slab, but it is now illegible. Fifteen years ago, however, researchers recording the inscriptions on all the gravestones in the churchyard managed to decipher the first few words:

In memory of JOHN FEILDER who died the 11th of April....

The rest, including the year of death, is lost to time.

We have searched through all the parish registers of deaths and discovered a John Feilder, son of Thomas, who was buried here on 19th April 1641. We think the stone slab might have originally been positioned by the altar of the church, with the body buried beneath, but was later moved to just outside the door and on top of a brick surround which is clearly of much later construction.

Throughout the 17th century there was a large family of Feilders – or Fielder or Filder, depending on how the resident rector chose to spell the name! – living in the parish. Thomas Feilder married Susannah and they had at least eight children, including John, who were all baptised in the church. Youngest son Christopher was baptised in 1646, married Elizabeth Budd, and had seven children baptised in the church between 1690 and 1699. The family lived at Brockhurst, and Christopher was a churchwarden for the church until his death in 1701. He was buried in the churchyard – perhaps also in this family tomb.

THE NOAH'S ARK COUNTRY PUB



We look forward to welcoming you to the Noah's Ark. Join us for a drink at the bar, or for lunch or supper in our restaurant, bar and spacious Ark room.

To book your table, see our current menu, or for opening hours, what's on, and more information, please visit our website.

reservations@noahsarkinn.co.uk | 01428 707346 | noahsarkinn.co.uk

Haslemere Library May Events 2026



Calligraphy Workshop
Friday 15th May
 1.30-3.00pm
 £8.50 
booking essential
 haslemere.library@surreycc.gov.uk

Make and Take:
Yarn Bugs
Friday 29th May
 Drop-in: 10am-4pm
 £1.50 per child
 Make a cute Yarn Bug to take home!



Make and Take:
Wall Bug Craft
£2  **Saturday 23rd May**
 Drop-in: 10am-4pm
 per child

Author Talks
 Meet Author Anita Chapman and hear about her journey to publication and inspiration behind her many books.
 Tuesday 5th May
 2.30 - 3.30 pm
 Booking essential through Eventbrite at £3.00 per ticket

Games design workshop
Saturday 30th May
 2.00 - 3.30pm suggested donation £2.00 **Ages 8-12**
 Design your own game on paper, no coding skills required


David Sheppard Critters in Crisis
 Hear about an array of endangered species and do a collage craft
Thursday 28th May
 10.30 - 12.30
 Ages 5-11yrs
 Donations welcome
 Booking essential
 haslemere.library@surreycc.gov.uk 

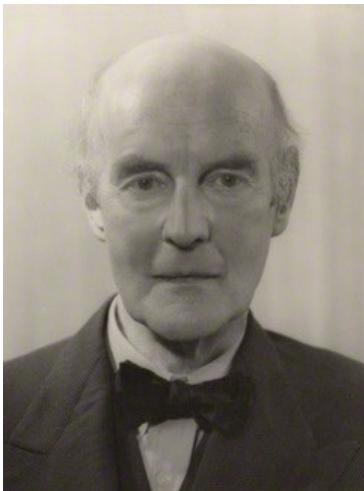
GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL

As a very small boy, I was brought up living with my grandparents outside Guildford. With my father serving his country, my mother had moved the family out of London to avoid the bombing. I well remember the weird structure on Stag's hill which incorporated the shell of the chancel, the tower base and the transept of the Cathedral. This had been begun in 1936 to the design of Sir Edward Brantwood Maufe, MA, FRIBA, appointed as architect in 1933.

In 1927, a decision had been taken to divide the huge diocese of Winchester into three parts by creating a diocese of Portsmouth, encompassing the Isle of Wight and a diocese



Guildford Cathedral



Sir Edward Maufe

of Guildford covering Surrey. Initially Holy Trinity, Guildford, at the top of the High Street became the cathedral church, but it was soon decided to build a new cathedral and there was no more visually imposing site than Stag's Hill overlooking the town (which would now become a city). The decision was controversial even then; church congregations were in decline, and many felt that the money should be raised for a community charitable purpose, but the project became 'an astonishing act of faith and vision'.

In 1933 a cross made from teak salvaged from the timbers of HMS Ganges was erected immediately to the east of the cathedral site. The architects' competition conditions were 'to produce a design definitely of our time, yet, in the line of the great English cathedrals, to build anew on tradition.' Maufe's plan met all these requirements, using the principles of a gothic style while adopting the innovative use of concrete cast in-situ, he provided a feeling of space and light. On 22 July 1936, the Foundation Stone was laid by Dr Cosmo Gordon Lang, Archbishop of Canterbury. With Stag's Hill being composed of soft clay 778 piles had to be driven 50 feet into the ground.



Installation of the cross from HMS Ganges

Maufe had decided to face the building with bricks which could be made from the clay being excavated at Stag's Hill. Eric George Southam, Provost of Guildford from 1937 to 1944 spearheaded fund collections in nearby market

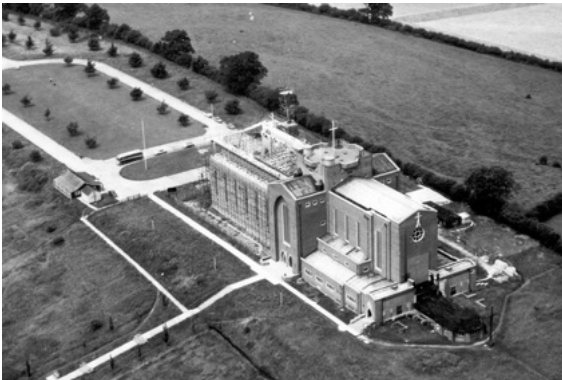


The Cathedral Chancel and Transept during the war

towns and came up with the innovative idea of persuading members of the public to purchase bricks for the Cathedral at 2/6d each on which they could sign their names. This gave donors a personal involvement in the building process.

With the structure of the chancel, tower base and transept completed, work on the cathedral stopped during WW2 and for some ten years afterwards in view of the post-war shortage of money and building materials. Nevertheless, from 1947, regular services were held in the

Crypt Chapel (now used as the Choir practice room). In 1952, work at last could begin again. Led by the formidable Miss Eleanor Iredale who took on Provost Southam's lead, fund raising through bricks, each signed by donors, burgeoned, with contributors, who included Elizabeth II, each signing them. With building costs escalating by four times the original estimate of £250,000 the purchasing of bricks was fundamental to raising the money for the cathedral's completion.



The Cathedral with the nave partially built.

In 1955, work began on the construction of the nave. To mark this important milestone a 'Great Pilgrimage' set off from Guildford's town centre to Stag Hill, involving representatives from most parishes in the diocese to take part in an act of worship and dedication. Building work to Morfe's design continued for the

next six years, during which, in 1957, the Queen and Prince Philip laid a stone at the west door of the nave marking the progress being made. Despite many setbacks the cathedral was consecrated by Bishop George Reindorp in May 1961 before a packed congregation, in the presence of the Queen, Prince Philip and the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Even now the cathedral was not complete. Work had yet to be begun on the western porches (the Garths), the sacristy, the lady chapel and the



The statues at the west end



Cathedral interior

chapter house. More significantly the tower needed to be built and would not be finished until 1966. Hundreds of members of the community worked kneelers for every chair in the nave. Fund raising from its annual festival of flowers also helped, but more still remained to be done until in 2005 the statues on the west

front were completed.

By 2016 it was realised that there was a major problem with the plasterwork. Morfe had specified the use of asbestos to lighten the



The Cathedral today

structural load, and its removal would cost £6.9 million. A further problem was the need for repair to the organ. Thanks to the support of 4,000 donors, and the Heritage Lottery Fund, the money was raised with sufficient left over to support the continued maintenance of the heating and lighting, and repointing of the weathered brickwork and exterior pathways. With 100,000 visitors each year Guildford Cathedral remains 'a place of worship with cultural significance and community engagement'.

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Source: www.guildford-cathedral.org

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