

# The Botolph Bell



The Magazine for the Parish of Heene  
February – March 2026



## **Worship at St. Botolph's**

Regular services each Sunday are at **10.00 am**, including Holy Communion.

All 10.00am services are followed by refreshments.

Other services are as follows:

### **February**

1<sup>st</sup>: Taizé celebration for Candlemas 4.00pm

(see separate advert)

4<sup>th</sup>: Mid-week said Communion Service 11.00am

**18<sup>th</sup>: Ash Wednesday Service 11.00am**

### **March**

4<sup>th</sup>: Mid-week said Communion Service 11.00am

15<sup>th</sup>: Mothering Sunday Celebration (Mothers' Day) 10.00am

29<sup>th</sup>: Palm Sunday Service 10.00am

30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>: Holy Week Meditation (Compline) 7.00pm

### **April**

1<sup>st</sup>: Mid-week said Communion Service 11.00am

Holy Week Meditation (Compline) 7.00pm

2<sup>nd</sup>: Maundy Thursday Service 7.00pm

3<sup>rd</sup>: Good Friday Meditation (the last hour) 2.00pm

5<sup>th</sup>: Easter Day Celebration and Egg Hunt 10.00am

## Thought for the Month

### **Are you sitting comfortably?.....**

Nursery Rhymes tell stories, some tracing historical events such as The Grand Old Duke of York where the former Duke of York, Richard III, fought unsuccessfully to defeat the future Henry VI. Others are reflections on life itself. One such is the rhyme of Solomon Grundy:

*Solomon Grundy*

*Born on a Monday,*

*Christened on a Tuesday,*

*Married on a Wednesday,*

*Sick on a Thursday,*

*Worse on a Friday,*

*Died on a Saturday,*

*Buried on a Sunday,*

*And that was the end of Solomon Grundy.*

Here we discover how fast the pace of life can appear to be, with so many significant events following one another in rapid succession, giving no time to breathe!

The events marking the life of Jesus seem also to follow one another in rapid succession, never more so than at this time of year. From the celebration of his birth just over a month ago, we mark the end of the Christmas Season at the beginning of February with Candlemas, when the candles used in Church and school are blessed for use in the coming year. All well and good until we arrive at the middle of February (18<sup>th</sup> to be exact) when we mark Shrove Tuesday, the day

**February - March 2026 130th Edition**



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## Thought for the Month (continued)

when traditionally all rich foods are consumed, in preparation for Ash Wednesday and the six weeks of Lent. In these weeks we trace Jesus' final journey to Jerusalem and, in the final week of March, we celebrate Palm Sunday. Holy Week follows, culminating in his Crucifixion and then his joyous Resurrection.

It is all too easy to get caught up in the rapid passage of time, losing the significance of each precious moment. For example, during these same brief months, where there are patches of bare earth, Spring flowers will slowly begin to break through. On the bare branches of our many street trees the buds, which have lain dormant, will gradually open to reveal their bright green leaves.

Therefore, as we make our way through the events which mark our individual life's journey, I pray that we can take time to pause and notice those seemingly insignificant moments which can give us joy and lift our spirits and, maybe, help us glimpse the loving hand of God

Rev Kathryn Flenley.

### St. Botolph's Messy Church

Heene Church Rooms, 106 Heene Road, Worthing, BN11 4PN



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## **Special Services for March and April**



### **Mothering Sunday**

**March 15<sup>th</sup> at 10.00am**

Family Celebration for Mothers' Day:

An opportunity to give thanks for all who care for us.

### **Services for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter**

**29<sup>th</sup> March Palm Sunday at 10am**

including the distribution of Palm Crosses and procession around the church, remembering Jesus' entry into Jerusalem

**Holy Week: 30<sup>th</sup> March – 3<sup>rd</sup> April**

**Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 7.00pm**

Readings and Prayers from the service of Compline. An opportunity to spend time reflecting on Jesus' final week in Jerusalem.

**Maundy Thursday at 7.00pm**

A service focussing on Jesus' last supper with his disciples, leading to his arrest in the Garden of Gethsamane following his betrayal.

**Good Friday at 2.00pm**

A meditation on the last hour of Jesus' Crucifixion, death and burial.

**5<sup>th</sup> April at 10.00am**

### **Easter Day**

Hallelujah, Christ is Risen!





# Women's Land Army

The Land Army was formed to keep farms staffed while the male farm hands were fighting in the great war. In the summer of 1939, with war looming once again, agricultural training was offered to women. The government provided some courses and during the war, farmers were offered 15 shillings a week to cover the board and lodgings of recruits while they were in training.

Women and girls were recruited to take on the routine, every day, farmers jobs; milking cows, ploughing fields, planting crops, shepherding and digging potatoes. Young female relatives of Heene Cemetery residents were targeted by adverts in the press. Hetty Reay Clifford Forbes-Adam was the Women's Land Army organiser for West Sussex. She lived at Carylls Country House, Faygate Lane, Faygate not far from Horsham. She was very active in recruiting women and often organised special events in her magnificent home to honour the work of the land army.



Hetty Forbes-Adam



Aunty Betty

Up to 80,000 women formed the Land Army and their service is recorded on a series of index cards. Initially, their name, address and usual occupation was collected with the date of their recruitment. This was updated with the date when they retired or resigned from the service. If they married during service their index card was amended with their married surname.

My Aunty Betty was a Land Army girl and joined service in the winter of 1942. Unlike many recruits, she was

well qualified to add to the war effort. From childhood she had helped her parents with their market garden in rural Sussex. Betty joined the Land Army at Worth Abbey, near Balcombe, where she worked until 1945. She returned to work

BARTLETT, Miss Bessie, Hazelwood, Camstra lane, Coveham, Reul.		WEST SUSSEX.
Age 38. (1.8.20)	W.I. 92779.	
Occupation market gardening. 18.8.42. 2.8.43. 2.8.44. 2.8.45.		
21.8.42.		



## and Heene

on her parents' small holding, looking after hens, growing flowers and vegetables, trimming hedges, fixing fences and selling produce at markets.

Land Army Women with relatives buried in Heene Cemetery:

Student teacher, Millicent Mary Collet of Warwick Gardens, Worthing, joined the land army in 1940 as a mobile recruit. She was the niece of Alison and Ferdinand Gates. She resigned months after joining presumably to continue her studies as a teacher.

COLLET, Millicent Mary (Miss) SUSSEX.  
35 Warwick Gardens, Worthing (West).  
Worthing.  
Age 21.  
Present Occupation —  
Usual Occupation —  
Employer's Name and Address —  
Employer's Business —  
Service Preferred: Mobile Local Locality preferred —  
Qualifications —  
Other remarks PART TIME  
W.L.A. 15645.  
Joined 6 June 30.9.40.  
Resigned 23-11-40 by Surrey.  
N.C. 17.9.34

SAMS, Miss EDITH MARJORIE,  
THORPE COTTAGE,  
82, ROWLANDS ROAD,  
WEST WORTHING. W. SUSSEX  
AGE 30  
Occupation, Lady Kennel Work  
N.A. 36075  
Now Mrs. GOODMAN.  
En to Sussex resigned 1st 2.10.44  
In Str and Do not count.  
Resigned to Sussex 1st 2.10.44

Marjorie Edith Sams was the granddaughter of William Sams and Betty Beeson Sams. She was formerly a kennel worker but joined the land army in West Sussex on 20th September 1940 from 82 Rowlands Road, West Worthing. She left the land army on 2nd October 1944 after her marriage to Goodman.

The Ayling and Wenban-Smith families also had relatives in the land army.

I would like to hear from anyone with relatives in the land army.

Pat Brownbill

**St. Botolph's Website :**  
**<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2864/>**

## Living with an

In the spring of 2024, we took the decision to change our diesel powered car for a battery electric car. It was something we had been thinking about for a while and we decided to take the plunge. We settled on an MG4 EV and duly arranged a test drive at our nearest MG garage. We were very impressed with the drive and began the process of purchasing one.

One of our requirements was to have a fairly good range on a full charge and the model we chose quotes this as around 260 miles (enough to get us to Cambridge and back to visit our daughter without having to charge on the way home). We also had a home charging point installed - an essential part of charging the car.



So, having had the car for over one and a half years, how does it compare to our previous car? The first thing that we noticed was the absence of engine noise. As you drive along, the familiar road noise is heard

as the tyres roll along but stopping at junctions leaves you in silence. There is no engine ticking over (I appreciate many new petrol / diesel cars stop the engine if the car is stationary for more than a few seconds). When you start driving, the car quietly picks up speed with a very faint noise of the electric motor whirring away. The acceleration is completely smooth, with no gear changes.

Coming to a halt is also a different technique as the motor does most of the braking, as it turns the kinetic energy (motion) of the car into electrical energy that is put back into the battery, increasing the range available. We can drive to Cambridge and maybe use the brake pedal just a handful of times. We very quickly got used to knowing the distance the car would take to stop with the motor doing the braking when driving along at different speeds.

## Electric car

One thing that is evident is the effect of the ambient temperature on the range the car will manage. Although it has a nominal range of 260 miles, in the warmer months (April through to October) we can achieve a range of 320 miles on a full charge. However, when the weather is cold (as it has been this January, as I write this) the range drops to about 215 miles. Some journeys therefore need a bit more planning.

This neatly leads up to charging. Most of our journeys are local so most of our charging is done at home. Our electricity supplier has an EV tariff which gives us extremely cheap electricity at night. We also have solar panel which we use to charge the car during the summer months. On longer journeys, when we go somewhere for a reasonable long period of time and need to top up the charge, we tend to use kerbside charging (such as those along the road from St. Botolph's in Lansdowne Road), where we will leave the car charging for a few hours. We have once, so far, needed to use a rapid charger at a motorway station - it certainly was rapid as by the time we had gone to buy a takeaway coffee and got back to the car, we had topped up enough to get safely home but, this charging comes at a higher price than kerbside and a very high price compared to charging at home.

So, how do fuel / electricity prices compare? A quick calculation of the cost per mile for a years worth of fuel for my previous car compared to a years worth of electricity gives the following: diesel worked out at 13.75p per mile whilst the electricity cost 2.4p per mile - about five and a half times cheaper.

So far, the only issue we have had with the car was a charging issue, where it would take several attempts to get the car charging when plugged into the charger. This was quickly put right with a software update. Would we change back to a petro / diesel fuelled car? Definitely not.

Rik Clay

## Friday Coffee

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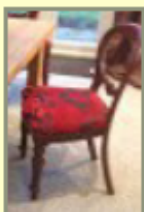
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## The New Archbishop of Canterbury

The new Archbishop of Canterbury said she has received hundreds of letters of support after her appointment. Dame Sarah Mullally will be the 106<sup>th</sup> Archbishop of Canterbury having been elected to succeed Archbishop Justin Welby after he announced his resignation more than a year ago over failures in handling an abuse scandal.



Bishop Sarah, confirmed as Archbishop at St Paul's Cathedral on 28<sup>th</sup> January, will be enthroned on 25th March in her seat of office at Canterbury Cathedral. She was formerly the Bishop of London from 2018, the first woman to hold this post.

Sarah's initial career was in nursing, culminating in the post of Chief Nursing Officer from 1999 to 2004. In 1998 she had begun part-time ordination training at the South East Institute of Theological Education, now St Augustine's College of Theology. She was ordained as a priest in 2002.

She served her curacy in the parish of Battersea Fields, in Southwark Diocese, stepping down from her nursing role in 2004 before taking up the full-time post of Team Rector at St Nicholas Church, Sutton. Next, she moved to the Diocese of Salisbury where she served as Canon Treasurer at Salisbury Cathedral before being appointed a Bishop and consecrated as Suffragan Bishop of Crediton in the Diocese of Exeter.

In 2005 she was made a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire in recognition of her outstanding contributions to nursing whilst she was Chief Nursing Officer.

Dame Sarah told BBC Radio 4 "one of the wonderful things over the past months since my appointment has been the hundreds and hundreds of letters of support I have received from women." Dame Sarah was speaking to former Prime Minister, Baroness Theresa May, guest editor of the *Today* programme on 31<sup>st</sup> December.



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## The new Archbishop of Canterbury

Asked how she sees the role of the church in a world that has become much more polarised and divided, Dame Sarah said “Well I think the opportunity for the church is to provide spaces for listening and for increased community cohesion. You know, there is a church in every community. Interestingly enough, what we’re beginning to notice in the Christian Church is this sort of quiet revival. I do wonder whether there is a hunger for relationships away from social media and this is what we’re beginning to see.”

Dame Sarah said the Church of England had significant” safeguarding failures for which we are truly sorry” and added the church has made progress over the last ten years. And she added: “ We can never be complacent and it certainly will be something that I will pay primary attention to as I become Archbishop of Canterbury.”

Nick Le Mare

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# Heene Primary School



## Heene Primary School

To begin the Spring Term 2026, the pupils have been considering the school's values. You can see these values on the school logo. During the term, the school community will be practising these values both in the way they treat each other and how the values can support their learning.

How wonderful it would be if we could all put these values into practice in our daily lives. Thank you, Heene School, for the example you are setting us!

Rev Kathryn Flenley



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M: 07432 597647

**Life Drawing      Wednesday 6.30 - 8.30pm**

Contact: [martinaziewe1@gmail.com](mailto:martinaziewe1@gmail.com)

**Sundays 3.00pm - 5.00pm monthly Messy Church**

Contact: [messy5church@outlook.com](mailto:messy5church@outlook.com)      07908 069819

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# What's on at St. Botolph's



Monday	9.00am— 10.00am	Gentle Exercise Class
	10.00am - 11.00am	Gentle Exercise Class
	11.00am - 12 noon	Gentle Exercise Class
Tuesday		
Wednesday	5.30pm - 6.30pm	Pilates
	7.00pm - 8.00pm	Pilates
Thursday	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Spring into Soul Community Gospel Choir
Friday	10.30am - 12.00 noon	A Place of Welcome: Coffee, cakes and a chat for all ages.
Saturday	10.30am - 12.30pm	Monthly U3A Humour Group

Website: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2864/>

**The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of St. Botolph's Church.**

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# Who to contact

Priest-in-Charge	Vacant	
Churchwardens	Rik Clay	01903 693587 rv.clay@outlook.com
	Diane Le Mare	01903 241673 dklemare@outlook.com
PCC Secretary	Vacant	
Choir Practice Friday 7.30pm	Judith Ellis, Choir Director	07394 522313 judith.ellis.coco@gmail.com
Bell ringers Practice Wed. 7.30pm	Rik Clay, Tower Captain	01903 693587 rv.clay@outlook.com
Botolph Bell Editorial & Distribution	Rik Clay	01903 693587 rv.clay@outlook.com
Botolph Bell Editorial & Advertising	Nick Le Mare	01903 241673 nidi-lemare@virginmedia.com
A Place of Welcome coffee morning	Cleo Roberts	01903 823811
Prayer meeting	Cleo Roberts	01903 823811
Tai Chi/Kung Fu/ Gentle Exercise and Balance & Posture class	Shafi	07432 597647 shaf@whitecranemartialarts.co.uk
Spring into Soul Community Gospel Choir	Mike, Carol & Vanessa	01903 533402/07906 831291 info@springintosoul.co.uk
Church Room bookings	Diane Le Mare	01903 241673 dklemare@outlook.com
Pilates, Circuit Training	Amalia Montague	07399 572826 amalia@gyre-fit.com
Messy Church	Sally Pritchard	07908 069819 messy5church@outlook.com

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