The Botolph Bell



The Magazine for the Parish of Heene

Noveember – December 2026

Services at St. Botolph's

November

1st	Sung Eucharist	10am (Sunday)
4th	Mid-week Said Communion service	11am (Wednesday)
6th	Prayer Group	10am (Friday)
8th	Sung Eucharist & Act of Remembrance	10am (Sunday)
13th	Prayer Group	10am (Friday)
15th	Sung Eucharist	10am (Sunday)
20th	Prayer Group	10am (Friday)
22nd	Sung Eucharist	10am (Sunday)
27th	Prayer Group	10am (Friday)
29th	Sung Eucharist	10am (Sunday)
29th	Christingle Service	4pm (Sunday)

December

2nd	Mid-week Said Communion service	11am (Wednesday)
4th	Prayer Group	10am (Friday)
6th	Sung Eucharist	10am (Sunday)
11th	Prayer Group	10am (Friday)
13th	Sung Eucharist	10am (Sunday)
13th	Community Carols Celebration	4pm (Sunday)
18th	Prayer Group	10am (Friday)
20th	Sung Eucharist	10am (Sunday)
24th	Christmas Eve Eucharist	11pm (Thursday)
25TH	Christmas Day Celebration Eucharist	10am (Friday)
27th	A short service with carols, readings and prayers	10am (Sunday)

Our Sunday services are followed by refreshments. We look forward to welcoming you at any of our services.

Thought for the Month

At the start of the month - 2nd November - the Church marks All Souls' Day, otherwise known as the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed. It's a day set aside to pause and remember all those whom we love but see no longer. We give thanks to God for their lives, for all they have meant to us, and for who they were in themselves. As we remember them, we also acknowledge our sadness that they are no longer with us; it's a sense of sorrow which can be very real to us whether our loss has been recent or a while ago. And alongside this, All Souls' Day offers an opportunity for us to commend our departed loved ones afresh to God's loving care. It's an act of remembrance which is very personal to each one of us.

The Bible recounts several instances of people expressing to God their sorrow, frustration and even anger at the seemingly irretrievable loss of someone or something that has been dear to them. In the Book of Lamentations, we find these words:

...my soul is bereft of peace;
I have forgotten what happiness is;
so I say, 'Gone is my glory,
and all that I had hoped for from the Lord.' (Lamentations 3:17-18)

The historical context is the exile of the Jewish people - God's chosen people - from the Promised Land. Jerusalem and its Temple (their central place of worship) have been destroyed by the invading Babylonians and the leading citizens of the city have been taken away into exile. So here, those who have been left behind look upon the devastation all around them with a deep sense of loss. Yet in the midst of their bereavement, we find this amazing declaration:

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:
The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:21-23)

About the Thought for the Month

Through our own times of bereavement and loss, we're reminded here that God is with us. Though we might feel overwhelmed by a sense of despair and a fear of what the future holds, we have the assurance that God *is* with us, sustaining and comforting us as we journey on. What's more, Christians believe that our hope is grounded in the historical reality of the resurrection of Christ from the dead. For those who put their trust in Jesus have the assurance that death is not the end - that there is indeed life beyond the grave in the presence of God forever.

(Peter Kane's article from the November 2019 edition of the Botolph Bell)

This month's cover photo is of the main organ in church. It has been a long time since it has any work done on it and it has recently undergone sone needed repairs. Work has been done to mend the tight slides on the Open Diapason and Trumpet stops which should mean they no longer seize up during cold and damp weather. These are the two loudest stops on the organ, so negotiating the Christmas season without them has been something of a challenge to both our organists.

St. Botolph's Messy Church

At St. Botolph's Church, Lansdowne Road (note new venue)



ALL AGES invited for creative activities, celebration, fun and food.

Please see the church website for up-to-date information

https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2864/

Or, contact: sallypritchard15@gmail.com

Together in faith, we love, grow and learn.

Here is a poem written by children in our school who have been inspired by the character of Jesus:

Oh, Son of God,

The conflict denier,

The creator of peace,

The kindness enthusiast,

The Lord of sacrifice,

The doctor with no tools,

The hero for Christians,

The parable dictionary.

Oh, Son of God,

The creator of peace,

Bringer of hope,

The Lord of sacrifice

Came from above.

War stopper,

Miracle doer,

Son of the skies,

A Saviour to all!

Charitable Giving

Money raised for charities over the last few months

Kathryn's Mercy Home

The Kathryn's Mercy Home is funded by a Trust, based here in the UK, through which sponsors support the education of children who live in some of the poorest areas in Southern India, with a particular focus on education.

Reverend Jeyapaul, founder of the project and his daughter Ruby visited us at St Botolph's on Sunday 16th August.

Following the service there was a Bring and Share Lunch when we heard more about the project which provides hostel accommodation for destitute girls aged between 10 and 17. The project also has a home for elderly, unsupported widows on the same campus. Kathryn's Nursery and Middle School enables poor local children to receive an excellent Christian education, regardless of faith backgrounds. These are just some of what Kathryn's Mercy Home is able to achieve, thanks to the generosity of people in the UK. **The donations received at the lunch amounted to a staggering £300**. St Botolph's will also be sponsoring three girls as they begin their Secondary Education. If you would like to know more about the Charity, then please go to the website: www.kmhuk.org

In September, our regular Friday Coffee Morning was devoted to raising money for Macmillan Nurses who offer end-of-life care for those with cancer and are in their own homes. We are thrilled to be able to contribute £280 to such a wonderful Charity. Thank you to Val and Rik for organising this event.

On a different note, our **Bell Appeal** is slowly growing and at the moment stands at just over £7000. We are waiting for formal quotes for various work options and will then have an official launce in February. More details of the launch and the project will be given in the next edition of the Botolph Bell which will be the February – March edition 2027.

Lives remembered



In the Lady Chapel at St. Botolph's is a memorial to all those from Heene who lost their lives in World War One and World War Two. We remember them every year at our Remembrance service (this year on Sunday 8th November). During the service, we observe the two-minute silence at 11am and the Last Post is played. Prayers are also said for the souls of the departed.

This year, one of our parishioners , Shafi, has put up a display of poppies in the garden to the east of the church (adjacent to the vicarage). There is one poppy for every life lost in Heene and it is a sobering reminder of those who gave their lives for our freedom.

If you find yourself walking past St. Botolph's in Lansdowne Road, do take some time to stop and reflect on the poppies.





Sunday November 29th

Christingle Celebration

4.00pm

at

St Botolph's Church

Come and share in songs and activities

In the run up to Christmas!

Together we can

Shine as a light in the world!

Following the celebration there will be refreshments

including mulled wine, fruit juice and seasonal goodies!

There will also be an opportunity to support the **Children's Society**

in their work to help vulnerable children across the UK.



Please spread the word if you know anybody who might be interested in this event. It's great to be able to promote local businesses and this event is just for that. There is so much going on in Worthing and this will give a great taste of what is happening.

Link to Hope

FAMILY & ELDERLY SHOEBOX APPEAL

Ukraine • Moldova • Romania • Bulgaria

JOIN US
HELP US, HELP THEM

Link to Hope is a local Christian charity based in Ferring, with shops in Goring, Ferring and Worthing. Its aim is to combat poverty and give humanitarian aid to the poorest and most vulnerable in Eastern Europe. Each year the charity launches a **Christmas Shoebox** appeal. All the shoeboxes are taken to families and elderly villagers in Romania, Moldova, **Ukraine** and Bulgaria.

There is a box at the back of St Botolph's Church in which we would gratefully receive any of the items below:

- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Candles and candle holders
- Small games e.g. playing cards, draughts
- Packets of sweets or chocolate (made in the EU with at least a year best before date)
- Soap and flannels

Leaflets with more information will be available from the church and any of the Link to Hope shops. The Church is open every Sunday and Friday morning.

Thank you, Kathryn Flenley

PS If you have any **empty adult-sized shoe boxes** please bring them to St Botolph's Church Hall any **Friday morning from 10.30am** and have a cup of coffee and a piece of cake!

A keen Angler



Two or three times a week you will find me next to open water, preferably a riverbank, but equally happy on a small boat twenty miles offshore, always on the hunt for fish. Whether I catch or not I always end up feeling closer to God.
Up well before dawn pack bait and flask off to the Pulborough area, park up down to the bank in torchlight setting up in silence, waiting for the sun to appear the music of the dawn chorus the sun peeks over the horizon and its lines out now the waiting begins. Today the target species is Barbel a very elusive fish, so I am more likely to catch the 'Dustbin of the river' i.e. Bream, after 10 – 15 minutes reel in and rebait cast again, wait some more basking in nature, the world waking up slowly cows down for their first drink of the day, Swans, Ducks and Moorhens busy in the reeds. Occasionally a Kingfisher or Robin will settle on a branch nearby; this is bliss to me.
The rod tip swings round and a fish is on! Reeling in wondering what sort of fish it is you have on the hook, it feels like a good sized one, steer it away from any snags that could break the line inching it closer to the net, a last burst for freedom and it's in the bag, quickly onto the landing mat and de-hook back in the net to rest before weighing and a photo if it's a good fish all fish get returned to the water after a kiss on the lips and rest in the net before gently releasing it back into its home. There's another 8 hours of this to go, how successful will the day be? Does it matter? I have spent the day in nature surrounded by Gods creation.

Ian Howard

Christmas Fair

St. Botolph's Christmas Fair

Saturday 28th November 11am - 2pm

Tea, coffee, cakes & light lunches

Tombola

Raffle

Bottle stall

Takeaway food

plants

Books

Bric - Brac

Musical entertainment

We look forward to seeing you!

St. Botolph's Website :

https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2864/

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For more information, please contact Nick Le Mare

Tel - 01903 241673

nidi-lemare@outlook.com

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Heene Community Centre



Can you complete this month's sudoku in 5 minutes or less? Solution in the February 2027 edition of the Botolph Bell.

2	1	6					9	
5	8	9						
3								
4				8	9			
	5				4		8	
7	6		1	3		5		
	9	4		2				5
8	3	2				1		
	7				8			6

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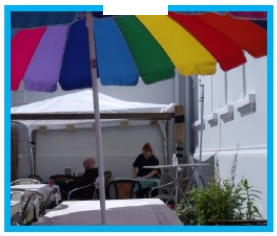
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South facing Garden
Teas - Coffees Meals

What's on at the Heene Church Rooms



Pilates on Mon. Tues. Wed. Thurs. Friday & Saturday.

Contact: amalia@gyre.fit.com
M: 07399 572826

Tia Chi Monday 6-7pm

Kung Fu Monday 7-8pm

Balance & Posture Thur 3-4pm

Contact : shaf@whitecranemartialarts,co,uk

M: 07432 597647

Life Drawing Wednesday 6.30 - 8.30pm

Contact: martinaziewe1@gmail.com

Sundays 3.00pm - 5.00pm monthly Messy Church

Contact: messy5church@outlook.com 07908 069819

If you would like to hire the Heene Church Rooms, please contact Diane Le Mare on 01903 241673 or email dklemare@outlook.com

What's on at St. Botolph's



Monday	9.00am—10.00am 10.00am - 11.00am 11.00am - 12 noon 6.00pm - 8.00pm	Gentle Exercise Class Gentle Exercise Class Gentle Exercise Class Pilates
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
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.

Please remember to mention The Botolph Bell if you use our advertisers.

Who to contact

Priest-in-Charge	Vacant	
Churchwardens	Rik Clay Diane Le Mare	01903 693587 rv.clay@outlook.com 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@ outlook.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

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Val Clay 01903 693586 rv.clay@outlook.com

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