



St Mary's
WEST HORSLEY

Easter 2022

Magazine



**The Servant
Queen**
and the King
she serves

Who are we?

We are your vibrant Anglican parish church in this village of West Horsley, seeking to follow Jesus Christ, shape our lives whole-heartedly around Him and be a blessing to you, our local community.



Our Vision: Committed | Connected | Courageous

We are one church, meeting at two different sites. If you like a traditional and more contemplative feel, why not try our 9am service in St Mary's Church. If you prefer a more contemporary service, which includes children's groups for 0-15 years, then we would love to welcome you to our 10.45am service at East Horsley Village Hall. There are lots of ways to make friends, find community and use your gifts, so please do contact us at office@stmaryswesthorsley.co.uk to find out more.



We would love to meet you!

Don't forget to bring your own mug to our services for your coffee, to help us reduce our waste!

We invite you to celebrate Easter Sunday with us!

HAPPY EASTER

Sunday 17th April, 10am at St Mary's Church

This will be a family celebration for all ages, including activities for children and refreshments served after the service.

www.stmaryswesthorsley.co.uk

I am writing this welcome to you all two weeks before it will land upon your doormats, and a lot can change in that time. Will tentative peace talks have achieved anything? Will the war in Ukraine have worsened? Will NATO have been dragged into the conflict, which would change things again for the world, not just Europe. So much uncertainty.

Life is fragile and we cannot take it for granted. But it always has been. Viking invasions, plagues, civil wars, the blitz, cancer, car accidents, myriad diseases that debilitate our bodies and kill us. We are no different from our ancestors in that the threat of a premature death is never far away. 'T'was ever thus. And now a war in Europe comes our way.

Yet, in every crisis there is opportunity. There is the opportunity for neighbours to help those struggling to pay petrol bills by lift sharing; we may be forced to think about how we heat our homes, drive our cars, where we buy our food. There may be the opportunity to help traumatized refugees from Ukraine settle into a new life. There is the opportunity to simplify our lives again, focus on what matters - simple times with friends and family. Fun together which doesn't have to be expensive. All of which creates the space to slow down and let our souls breathe a little. Family, Friends, Fun. With everything that's going on, perhaps now is the time to re-engage with another F - Faith. Four ingredients that make life so rich.

In this edition, we explore a few ways for opportunity to grow out of crisis. There is an article by our Curate, Steve Green, on the hope that Easter Day offers following the crisis of the first Good Friday. I have written an important, but difficult, article on the subject of pornography, and the opportunity to help the sons and daughters of the village avoid something that has created a significant crisis amongst many young people.

Hello

Judy Young shares about the village "Plant a Sunflower" project (planned long before we knew it was the national flower of Ukraine) and we are privileged to include an article from West Horsley Place, following the sad news of Bamber Gascoigne's death. What an opportunity for revitalizing an old house he put in motion and how good it is to see new life there.

In this time of uncertainty, there is opportunity. Opportunity to help others, deepen relationship, simplify our lives, take stock. Family, Friends, Fun and Faith. Join us this Easter as we remind ourselves of who Jesus is, and why He is the hope of the world. I hold the village in my prayers.

As ever, Phil



Phil and Louise Herrington

The Servant Queen

and the King she serves

FROM THE
 Bible Society



This year, Her Majesty the Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, seventy years of service, having acceded to the throne on 6th February 1952 when Her Majesty was just 25 years old.

To celebrate this unprecedented anniversary, events and initiatives are taking place throughout the year, culminating in a four-day UK bank holiday weekend from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June. The bank holiday will provide an opportunity for communities and people throughout the United Kingdom to come together to celebrate the historic milestone. The Horsleys will be holding their very own Jubilee Picnic in the grounds of Horsley Towers!

The Queen is by any measure a remarkable woman – she’s the longest reigning monarch in British history. She never went to university, but she has been the adviser and confidante to fourteen British Prime Ministers. She is the most famous woman in the world, but seems as relaxed in a school, a residential care home or a technology business as in the company of celebrities or other Heads of State. The Queen’s remarkable life of service to nation and Commonwealth has made her one of the most admired people in the world. But what is the source of her inspiration and strength in good times and tough times?

It’s a question she herself answered back in 2002 – *‘I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take*

the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God ... I draw strength from the message of hope in the Christian gospel.’

The Queen is the Supreme Governor of the Church of England, attends church weekly, even on holiday, and prays daily, but never tells anyone to go to church.

She has had a gruelling travel and work schedule for over 70 years, but as political commentator Andrew Marr pointed out: ‘There are no reliable recorded incidents of the Queen losing her temper, using bad language, or refusing to carry out a duty expected of her.’ Most of us would find it hard to match that record for a week never mind 70 years!

In December 1939, Britain had been at war with Germany for three months. On Christmas Day, King George VI, Elizabeth’s father, was getting ready to speak to the nation and Commonwealth. What do you say to a nation that still bears the scars of the First World War? What do you say when you know that what lies ahead is only more loss, devastation and terrible suffering? At the time Elizabeth was 13 years old; she handed her father a poem by Minnie Louise Haskins that she thought might be helpful. She was right. And indeed, it was the lines from that poem that stirred and strengthened the hearts of millions at that terrible time:

I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year ‘Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.’ And he replied, ‘Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way.’

It was a call to the same simple trust in God that has marked her own life – whatever has come. And we can ourselves today still find strength and encouragement in those same words, whatever we may be currently facing or whatever lies ahead of us.

Six months before her Coronation, Elizabeth asked the people of the United Kingdom and Commonwealth to: *Pray that God may give me wisdom and strength to carry out the solemn*

promises I shall be making, and that I may faithfully serve Him and you, all the days of my life.

God, it is clear, has answered those prayers. And we owe him and her enormous gratitude.

Many commentators over the years have noted the depth of the Queen’s trust in God, but few have explored it. We’ve found it inspiring and hope you do too.

With our thanks to the Bible Society for the use of information, quotes and sources from their book ‘The Servant Queen and the King she serves.’

We hope you will enjoy celebrating this Platinum Jubilee and we look forward to seeing you at the Horsley Jubilee Picnic!



Sunday 5th June

2-7pm



East and West Horsley Parish Councils are joining forces to lay on a fabulous Jubilee Picnic in the grounds of Horsley Towers. There will be activities for children, lots to eat and drink and entertainment throughout the afternoon including a headline performance from (appropriately) a Queen tribute band. A fun-filled day out for all the family for a once in a lifetime occasion!

NEWS FROM WEST HORSLEY PLACE

This season has been a sad one at West Horsley Place, with the loss of our founder and trustee, Bamber Gascoigne. As many of you will know, in 2014, Bamber unexpectedly inherited West Horsley Place from his aunt, Mary, Duchess of Roxburghe. Bamber, together with his wife, Christina, had the inspiration to create West Horsley Place Trust – our charity which is here to save Grade I listed West Horsley Place and its surrounding estate so that they can be enjoyed by the public. This vision of a welcoming space for local residents to share and enjoy, with arts, culture, community, history and nature at its heart, will be his continuing legacy.



We are looking forward to our reopening in April with our first 'Nooks and Crannies' guided tours of the house on Wednesday 13th, and our first Open Day on Sunday 24th. From 7th April, you'll be able to see our GladRags banner on exhibition in Place Farm Barn, a creative lockdown project, now a piece of inspiring textile art.

On Sunday 10th April, we'll be holding our 'Wedding and Celebrations Showcase', to show off our possibilities for hire for special events. We're so looking forward to being part of people's special days again; not just weddings, but as a lovely local venue for anniversary parties, or a chance to reunite and celebrate with family and friends after so long.

On 28th May we welcome back the brilliant Three Inch Fools with 'The Gunpowder Plot', an explosive new show for all the family. Did you know that Guy Fawkes was a footman at West Horsley Place? What better setting for this evening of historical fun. You'll find all the details on our website.

We look forward to seeing you at West Horsley Place again soon.

www.westhorsleyplace.org

It's a quieter period for West Horsley Place at the moment, but if you take the path from St Mary's walking across the estate, you may already have noticed progress on our Heritage Hedgerow project. Surrey Wildlife Trust and volunteers have been planting thousands of young plants which will create and renew our native hedgerows. This project will create an important wildlife corridor and help to improve biodiversity across our 380-acre estate. Like many of you, we lost some trees in the recent storms, but fortunately the gardens and the estate were not very badly affected, and we'll manage the fallen trees as part of our overall plan for improving wildlife habitats.



A highlight of our performing arts calendar will be Globe on Tour's performance of Julius Caesar on 26th and 27th August - the first time they have performed in Surrey. We are also planning a community archaeology week, and our partnership with Surrey History Centre continues, with a volunteer project to catalogue our archival papers. You may have seen coverage of our new 'Our Stories' project, joining the generations as local school students (aged 15-18) interview older people about their memories of West Horsley Place, Mary, Duchess of Roxburghe, and the surrounding area to create an oral history. If you've been part of the history of West Horsley Place, or remember Mary, Duchess of Roxburghe, we'd love to hear from you.



You are invited to...
Celebrate Easter
 with the Horsleys and Ockham Group Ministry

Monday 11th April: Easter Meditation, *St Michael's Chapel, Downside at 6pm*

Tuesday 12th April: Holy Week Reflection, *St Mary's West Horsley at 8pm*

Wednesday 13th April: Taize Meditation, *St Martin's East Horsley at 8pm*

Maundy Thursday 14th April

Holy Communion and Stripping the Altar, *All Saints' Ockham at 6pm*

Maundy Thursday Holy Communion, *St Mary's West Horsley at 8pm*

Maundy Thursday Holy Communion, *St Martin's East Horsley at 8pm*

Good Friday 15th April

Outdoor Service on the Station Parade Village Green, *10am*

Easter Devotion, *St Martin's East Horsley from 12-3pm*

Family Easter Trail around the Sheeps, *St Mary's West Horsley from 2-4pm*

Easter Sunday 17th April

St Martin's East Horsley

6am Easter Dawn Service

8am BCP Holy Communion

10.30am Easter Holy Communion
with children's activities

St Mary's West Horsley

10am Family Easter

Celebration

with Holy Communion

All Saints' Ockham

9am Holy Communion at

St Michael's Chapel, Downside

10.30am Easter Day

Holy Communion



www.easthorsleychurch.org.uk



www.stmaryswesthorsley.co.uk



www.ockhamchurch.org.uk

The Hope of Easter

What is the significance of Easter today? Easter is a time when Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus from death to life. In an autobiography or biography, it is usual to write the early part of a person's life first. In writing the Gospels in the Bible, the reverse was true. The first part of the Gospels to be written was the account of Jesus' death and resurrection. This was talked about, and then written down much earlier than the story of Jesus' birth or any of Jesus' teachings. Why was this? The answer is that, without the resurrection, there would have been no reason to have a Gospel in the first place.

Following Jesus' death in around AD30, all his followers would have been devastated. This sadness would spread across all of Jerusalem and throughout Israel. During his life, Jesus had raised the aspirations and expectations of everyone who had seen him. Now, following his arrest and death, all this excitement had evaporated. However, as we now know, this was not the end of the story. Jesus had come back to life, which was an event observed by hundreds of witnesses over a period of a few days. Earlier on in his ministry Jesus had said he would come back to life and rise from the dead. Now that this had happened, it meant that everything else that Jesus had said and done was also trustworthy and true. An indescribable flood of hope was injected back into Israel at the time and, indeed, into the future of humanity.

If Jesus was right about rising from the dead, he was right about God's love, right about God's mercy, right about God's forgiveness, right about life beyond death. There was nothing before or after that could equal the hope that was engendered by the resurrection of Jesus.

The resurrection is the hope for the Horsleys, it is the hope for Surrey, it is the hope for Britain, and it is the hope for the world. It was the hope for the world in AD30 and it is the hope for the world in AD2022. It is the hope for the people of Yemen, the people of Syria, and the people of Afghanistan. It is the hope for Asia, for Africa, and for America.

At the time of writing, the world is grieving over the invasion of Ukraine. There is a pervading sense of anxiety and fear across Europe about what will happen next. Is there any hope for us in this situation? Ultimately, the answer is a resounding yes, and the reason is the resurrection.

Happy Easter

BY STEVE GREEN
 CURATE AT ST MARY'S

Can We Talk About Porn?

BY PHIL HERRINGTON
RECTOR OF ST MARY'S



As a village, do you think we love (in terms of caring for, wanting the best for, looking out for) 'the sons and daughters of the village' - the young people growing up in our midst?

It may seem mad to write an article about pornography in the Parish Magazine of a village CofE Church – 'surely, Rector, you should stick to baking competitions and flower shows?' – and there is a part of my heart that agrees. But I have become increasingly concerned about the impact of pornography on the young people of our nation and know it must be happening to the young people in our village. So, I have plucked up some courage and put pen to paper!

Last year, OFSTED published a report on the dreadful level of sexual harassment taking place in our secondary schools, with girls disproportionately affected and teachers 'underestimating the scale of the problem'.

It revealed that 80% of girls replied that sexual assaults happen either 'a lot' or 'sometimes' in their school. The report also noted that 75% of secondary school girls had experienced pressure to send nude photos of themselves. The inspectors concluded that 'the government needs to look at the ease of accessing online pornography'.

Of course, pornography was around when I was growing up, but you had to physically walk into a shop and buy a magazine - a painfully embarrassing thing that limited your access to it. Nowadays, 60% of

11-13 years olds see pornography accidentally for the first time because of its prevalence online.

Pornography is powerful and it is now well-known in neuroscience that it literally rewires the brain.

In December of last year, Billie Eilish, the Grammy award-winning singer, revealed in an interview how accessing pornography at an early age adversely impacted her. She said,

'I started watching it because I thought it made me look cool... but I realise now (aged 20) how it totally destroyed my brain and I feel incredibly devastated that I was exposed to it. I did things that were not good because I thought that's what you're supposed to do.'

And just today (24th February when writing this article), another report has highlighted the link between the sexual assault of teenage girls and online dating apps. In the face of the highly sexualised content we're constantly exposed to, what can we do? Well, there is hope.

OFSTED may think that teachers underestimate the problem, but I wonder whether the solution lies closer to home with parents, and, in particular, us Dads. If you're anything like me, you might hope that your wife/partner will be the one who have any kind of 'sex' conversation with your children, but what we say matters, especially to our sons.

Dads, I want to urge you (because it's urgent) to have a conversation with your teenage children about the danger of pornography, the impact it has, the way it skews our understanding of what intimate, satisfying, rewarding relationships are all about. There is no 'good porn' at all, whatever the relationships column in the Saturday newspapers might say.

Dads with sons, it is imperative that you help them understand about how to engage with girls in a respectful, caring, loving way.

It will be awkward, it will be embarrassing, you may need a stiff drink afterwards, but you have to embrace the awkwardness. Because it's a whole lot better than the other option, which is to allow the sons and daughters of our village to be exposed to content that damages them, increases the likelihood of sexual assault, and leaves a toxic legacy.

Other practical suggestions might be:

- Give our young people good training on how to use mobile phones well. After all, we help them learn to eat, walk, ride a bike and in time drive a car. Why would we just give them such a powerful tool and literally leave them to their own devices?
- Limit screen times and remind them that what we watch online shapes how we live in the real world.
- Help strengthen them in the battle with peer pressure and their ability to say no.
- Be a friend/follower of your kids. One parent I know told me that when they gave their children their first phone, they insisted that whatever social media apps their children went on, they themselves had to be a friend/follower. Initially their kids hated the idea, but in the end got used to it and it helped them in the long run because they felt safer online.
- Connect with an organisation like 'Care for the Family' - careforthefamily.org.uk - which has a range of helpful resources.



Each and every young person in the village is precious, with a whole world of possibilities ahead of them. We can't tell them what to do, we can't tell them how to act, but as we warn our children of so many other dangers as they grow up, so too we can warn them of the dangers of pornography. I know it will be difficult, but by having these conversations we'll show that collectively, we do love not just our own children, but also the sons and daughters of our village.

And next time round, I'll write about a baking competition or something.

What's on at St Mary's?



Sundays

Traditional Morning Prayer/Communion Service
9am at St Mary's Church

Contemporary Service with children's groups for 0-15 years
10.45am at East Horsley Village Hall

Whole Church Service together, once a month
10am at St Mary's Church

Reclaim Youth Group for school years 6-13
5-6.30pm at The Wheelhouse, East Lane

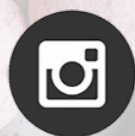
Thursdays

Noah's Ark Toddler Group
10-11.30am at The Wheelhouse, East Lane

Fridays

The Wheelhouse Cafe
Free coffee, cake and conversation
10.30am-12noon at The Wheelhouse, East Lane

We also run events and courses throughout the year including Alpha, Ladies and Men's Events, Home Groups, Children & Youth Socials and Parenting Courses.
Keep an eye out for up-coming events on our website and social media.



YouTube

St Mary's Medieval Wall Paintings

Following the recent fundraising for the conservation work required to its unique 13th century wall paintings, St Mary's is delighted that this long overdue work can now go ahead.

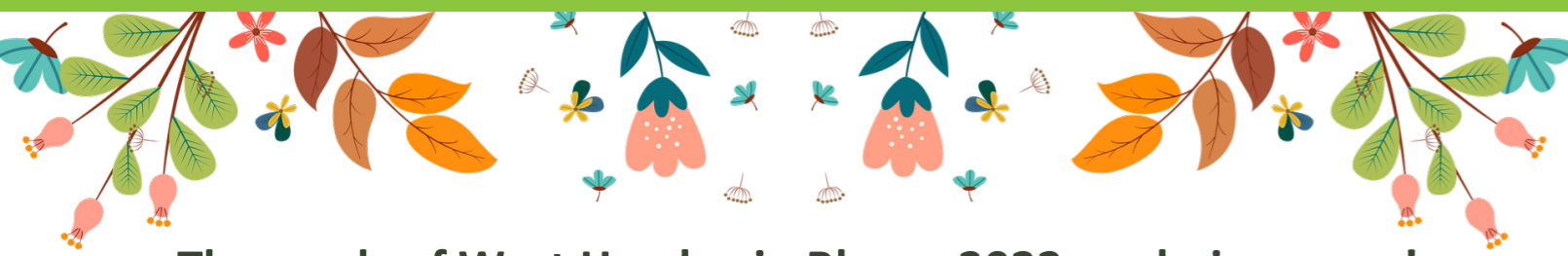
The conservators, Rickerby & Shekede, have set a date for immediately after Easter when they will commence the treatments required to stabilise the damaged and vulnerable areas of the paintings. The treatment will also contribute to an improvement in the appearance of the paintings. This work will extend to some 3 to 4 weeks.



St Mary's is hugely grateful to all those from their congregation and the wider community who gave so generously to this project. A total of almost £9,000 was achieved from the fundraising which, added to the initial grant of £6,000 from Church Care (financially supported by the Radcliffe and Pilgrim Trusts), means that these unique paintings can now be conserved for the enjoyment of future generations.

Thank You

OUR COMMUNITY



The seeds of West Horsley in Bloom 2022 are being sown!

As it is Jubilee year, let's make it an outstanding year, with record entries. There is something for everyone in this very friendly competition - it's just all about how much you love and enjoy your garden. Here are the dates:

Junior competition: Planting date for Potato in a Pot - March 25th

Weighing date for Potato in a Pot - June 17th

Adult competition: Judging - Mornings of June 20th and 21st

Presentation evening - Friday July 1st at 7pm

There are two exciting new categories which will be announced shortly on the West Horsley Parish Council website.

For any more info and to find out about up-coming Easter events, please go to www.westhorsley.info

 West Horsley Parish Council



Volunteers from St Mary's take weekly food donations to The Salvation Army in Guildford. If you would like to help, please drop non-perishable food and hygiene items to the green boxes outside the Church Office. This is located down the left-hand side of The Wheelhouse, East Lane, West Horsley. Thank you!



West Horsley Wheel of Care



Call for Volunteers

Let's make a difference!

Can you spare an hour a month to help a neighbour in need?

All sorts of roles available from driving to helping at clubs and many more. Help as much or as little as you are able. Get involved and do something rewarding!

Contact us at 01483 281708 (Mon-Fri 10am-noon)

or visit www.westhorsleywheelofcare.co.uk



We hope you enjoy growing these seeds!

Flower Power

The Horsley Sunflower Challenge 2022

BY JUDY YOUNG

The smell of spring is officially in the air and looking ahead we are all probably hoping for a beautiful summer so we can all spend plenty of time outdoors, so here's the seed of an idea...

Each year West Horsley in Bloom encourages the community to enter a friendly garden competition with judging in June- but in addition this year we're extending a giant invitation to everyone to join in the **Horsley Sunflower Challenge** which will be judged in September.

Sunflowers need to be planted in April or early May. The seeds can be planted directly into the soil outside, but you can give them an advantage over the slugs by starting them indoors or in a greenhouse. Follow our simple guide below for planting in a pot from Celia, one of the West Horsley in Bloom committee:

You will need:

- Sunflower seeds (some for you attached above, or source your own) - Compost and small plant pots

1. Fill 3/4 of the pot with compost. Give the pot a little shake to make sure that the compost settles and press it down gently.
2. Create a small hole in the middle of the compost, then add one seed per pot.
3. Cover the seed with another layer of compost (about 1cm)
4. Place your pot on a tray or plate. Label your pot and water it thoroughly. Make sure that all of the compost is moist.
5. Place the pots on a sunny window sill and watch the seeds start to germinate. Remember to turn the pots daily or the sunflowers will bend in the direction of the sun as they grow. Also check the compost every day to make sure that it is moist, but not drowning while the sunflower seeds are growing.

In May or June your sunflower seedlings will need to be planted in the garden or in larger pots (20cm+) outside. If you have the space, plant your sunflowers at the front of your house so that everyone can benefit from the display this summer!

How to enter:

Send us your pictures each step of the way from little seedlings to garden giants to show us their progress. Find Horsley Sunflower Challenge on social media or email horsleysunflowerchallenge@gmail.com

There will be plenty of prizes for the tallest, the biggest head and the finest photo... and other categories along the way. Look out for more news about the Horsley Sunflower Challenge soon. **Final entries 1st September 2022.**

Winners will be announced at a village garden party at West Horsley Place on Saturday 10th September 2022.



Terms & conditions: We welcome entries from anywhere in the world - so invite friends and family to take part too. However, only entrants based locally to KT24 are eligible to win a prize. Therefore, only measurements submitted from entrants within a reasonable distance of KT24 will be entered for consideration as a prizewinner. The judges decision on the prize winner is final. By submitting your images via Horsley Sunflower Challenge, other associated social media channels, or by e-mail, you are automatically consenting to being shared on social media. Should you wish to withdraw your consent, please email horsleysunflowerchallenge@gmail.com with the details and we will remove any social media posts.

FAMILY EASTER TRAIL

GOOD FRIDAY 15TH APRIL

Come for a fun afternoon for all the family, no matter the weather! We have a free Easter Egg Trail around the Sheepleas with prizes... plus games, activities, Easter craft and creative fun in the church.

There will also be Easter cakes, hot cross buns and refreshments.

St Mary's Church

2-4pm

Epsom Road, West Horsley
KT24 6AP - Free Parking



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www.stmaryswesthorsley.co.uk

St Mary's Church

Epsom Road, West Horsley,
Leatherhead, Surrey KT24 6AP

St Mary's Church Office

The Wheelhouse, 82 East Lane,
West Horsley, Surrey KT24 6LQ

East Horsley Village Hall

Kingston Avenue, East Horsley,
Leatherhead, Surrey KT24 6QT