Across the Downs

Church News Sheet for the Downs Parishes of
Chilbolton, Crawley, Littleton, Sparsholt and Wherwell
Rector: Revd Kevin Rogers 01962 880845

Sunday 2nd August 2026

Services for Sunday 2nd August
Ninth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am (Ch) Holy Communion
10.00 (Cr) Morning Worship
4.00 pm (Li) Café Church, in the Church Room, 'Hope… springs eternal?'

Services for Sunday 9th August
Tenth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am (Li) Family Communion
10.00 (Wh) Morning Prayer

Prayer for the Week – *Ninth Sunday after Trinity*

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings: Isaiah 55: 1-5 Romans 9: 1-5
Matthew 14: 13-21 Psalm 145: 8-9; 15-end

DIARY

Monday 3rd August

11.30 am (Sp)	Funeral – Beryl May
7.00 pm	Summer Bible School, Littleton Church Room

Tuesday 4th August

2.15 pm (Li)	Westholme Holy Communion

Wednesday 5th August

9.00 am	Breakfast gathering at the Rectory for PCC members and the Ministry Team

Thursday 6th August

4.15 pm (Li)	Prayers for those on the Benefice Prayer List, in the church room

Friday 7th August

Saturday 8th August

August Peace and Wholeness Service in Littleton

Just a reminder that the Peace and Wholeness service held on the third Sunday of the month in St Catherine's, Littleton will not be taking place in August. Thus, the next service will be Sunday 20th September at 6.00 pm.

Bubble Church

'Church Service for little ones' at St-Mary-the-Less, Chilbolton

Bubble Church is taking a break for the School Holidays but will be back after the summer.

Are you interested in volunteering at The Vine Trust Bookshop?

The Vine Trust Bookshop, Andover, is run entirely by volunteers and we are always looking for more people to join the ranks. If you are looking for an opportunity to gain shop experience or want to serve the community in this way then do get in touch.

https://vinetrustbookshop.co.uk/

Banns of Marriage

(Sp)	Mark Himbury & Jemma Mack	1st Time of Reading
(Wh)	Jasper Barrington Galloway & Harriet Asher	1st Time of Reading

Winchester Diocese Annual Review

For the last couple of years, alongside our Annual Report, the Diocese has created Annual Reviews. The aim of this is to help capture the wider story of our diocesan community and demonstrate how the work that they do as a Diocesan Team supports the important impacts in local mission and ministry.

The 2025 Annual Review can be found on the Diocesan website, if you search for 'Annual Reports'. The review is structured to reflect the values Bishop Philip uses to guide 'Walking the Wessex Way', ie looking at how the Diocese has been **learning, serving, growing together and loving together**.

https://winchesterdiocese.org/

Winchester Beacon

Every act of kindness helps to change lives, and we'd love to thank you in person. Whether you have donated, volunteered, fundraised, partnered with us or you would just like to know more about what we do – you are warmly invited to join us for **The Winchester Beacon's Supporters' Evening** on **Thursday 15th October 2026**. This special evening is an opportunity to come together with our community of supporters to shine a light on what we are achieving together.

https://winchesterbeacon.org.uk/news/join-us-for-our-supporters-evening-thursday-15th-october-2026/

Andover Food Bank SUMMER SUPPORT 2026

As often happens at this time of year, donations begin to slow down while many local families continue to need support. The list below includes a mixture of our core food items, alongside some of the treats and extras that help families provide lunches and make the summer holidays a little easier for children:

Tinned Meat Meals; Tinned Fruit; Rice Pudding; Pot Noodles; Pasta Sauce; Long Life Milk; **Ice Pops (Unfrozen); Crisps; Chocolate**; Biscuits

All donations can be made at our office/warehouse in Alexandra Road, Andover SP10 3AD and our opening hours are Monday to Friday 09.30 to 12.30.

Hants and the Isle of Wight Ride+Stride 2026

Saturday, 12th September

As a participant your sponsored journey on Saturday 12th September between as many churches as you wish can be on foot, bicycle, scooter, horseback, canoe, classic car or bus, exploring and enjoying the countryside from Sandown to Silchester, Fordingbridge to Farnham. As there are over 400 due to be open, you can have fun choosing which will be part of your itinerary. Many will have refreshments, some will have toilets open, and all should offer your group a warm welcome.

See: https://hihct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/

Trinity Winchester Fundraising concert

Winner of Germany's Got Talent, **Nick Ferretti** performs on **Friday 7th August** at The Pumphouse, Winchester.

A firm favourite and always a sell-out, this is a fantastic opportunity to enjoy an evening of live music while supporting a great cause.

Book tickets here

Summer Family Fun at Winchester Cathedral

Running from 25 July to 1 September.

Family Trail: Discover, play and explore

Get ready to explore the Cathedral with our interactive summer family trail, Inspired by nature and the upcoming Wild! Flower Festival, this hands-on trail invites children to discover the world of plants, gardens and flowers through fun and creative activities across the Cathedral.

Pick up your trail sheet on arrival and follow the route as you go!

Included with your annual pass

Please send all items for Across the Downs to Carol Ward: email carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk, or telephone 01962 883185, by 12.00 noon Thursday at the latest. **If you would like to receive future editions of the newsletter by email, please contact me on the above address**. Thank you.