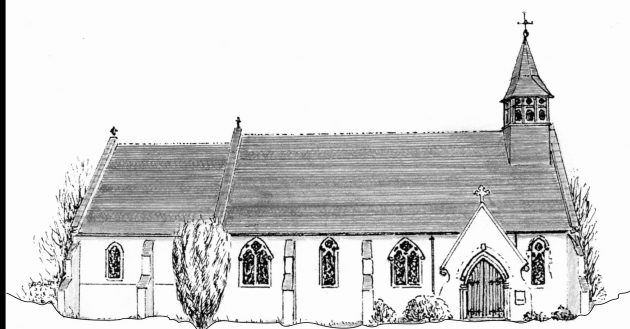


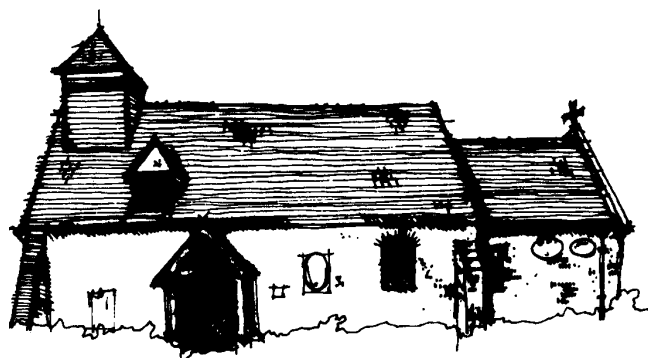


Holy Week

13th - 19th April



Five Alive!



A Monthly Magazine

**for the parishes of Michelmersh, Awbridge,
Braishfield, Timsbury and Farley Chamberlayne**

April 2025

THE UNITED BENEFICE OF BRAISHFIELD

including the parishes of Michelmersh, Awbridge, Braishfield,
Timsbury and Farley Chamberlayne

Rector: Revd Tom Benson 01794 368335

tbenson09@aol.com

Associate Priest: Revd Jane Thompson 01794 502035

jane.thompson@me.com

Church Wardens

Awbridge	Mr Fred Tucker	01794 340709
	Mrs. Mary Savage	marysavage126@gmail.com
Braishfield	Mr. Andrew Brooks	01794 523928
	Miss Sarah Boothman	01794 368143
Farley Chamberlayne	Mr. Iain Chisholm	01794 368250
	Miss Hannah Boothman	01794 368143
Michelmersh	Mrs. Clare Harvey	01794 368789
Timsbury	Mrs. Catherine Baker	01794 368364
	Dr. John Glasspool	01794 368017

Websites: <http://www.asbchurch.org> (Braishfield)
www.awbridge.church (Awbridge)

Benefice Office Tel: 01794 878020

Email: braishfieldbenefice@gmail.com

Address:

Braishfield Benefice Office

Elm Grove Farm

Dummers Road

Braishfield

Romsey

SO51 0QG

Benefice Administrator: Sarah Boothman

Items for 5 Alive

may be sent to Sarah at the
Benefice Office by post or
email.

**Deadline for
Msy edition**

Mon 21st April

This edition
will be available by
Sunday 27th April

From Rev'd Tom Benson

Hello everyone,

At last it seems like Spring has sprung, the hedgerows are bursting into life, the birds are all busy and the nights are drawing out. And we get the chance to 'April fool' each other. I wonder how many of us will be caught out this year? I regularly fall foul and have been known to quote these stories as fact until some kind soul puts me out of my misery - usually after a few days!

At this time of year then we seem to be always surprised by the unexpected, whether it is by a prank or simply the fact that the evenings seem to get lighter at such a rate. In April this year, we have our most profound encounter with our ever-surprising Creator. I am, of course talking about Easter. The time when we remember with joy the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, his triumph over death and sin as well as the promise of a new relationship between God and humankind.

Perhaps the biggest surprise is when we realise that we are ALL loved - loved beyond reason...beyond logic.. beyond anything else...we are all loved by God. No matter what, we are never beyond the love of God. And we should never forget that we are Easter People – set free, living a full life in the light once again. Jesus did not go to the cross for us to continue to live in darkness—he did it for our new life—.. a life that is lived out in the light once again.

So, I hope that this Easter season finds you well and I look forward to seeing you around over the next few months at the various events that make our community such a great place to live.

God Bless, Tom

VE Day 8th May

There will be a service to mark the 80th Anniversary
of the ending of the 2nd World War in Europe
at All Saints Church, Braishfield at 7pm.
Everyone is invited.

Electoral Roll forms - thanks to everyone who has returned them!
If yours is still outstanding please give it to your Electoral Roll officer or put it into the box in your church soon.

Thank you!

Mothering Sunday, 30th March, falls on a 5th Sunday this year -
and the day the clocks go forward!



We have a choice of two services, **both at 10.00am**

**A Family Service for Mothering Sunday
at All Saints, Awbridge**

**Mothering Sunday Service with Holy Communion
at St Peter and St Paul, King's Somborne**

APCMs - Annual Parochial Church Meetings

Everyone who is on the Electoral Roll of their church is invited to come along to the APCM to hear a report about how the year went in 2024, to look at the accounts for 2024 and to take part in the election of members to the PCC.

Dates of the meetings:

Farley Chamberlayne Sunday 6th April following 6 pm Evening Prayer

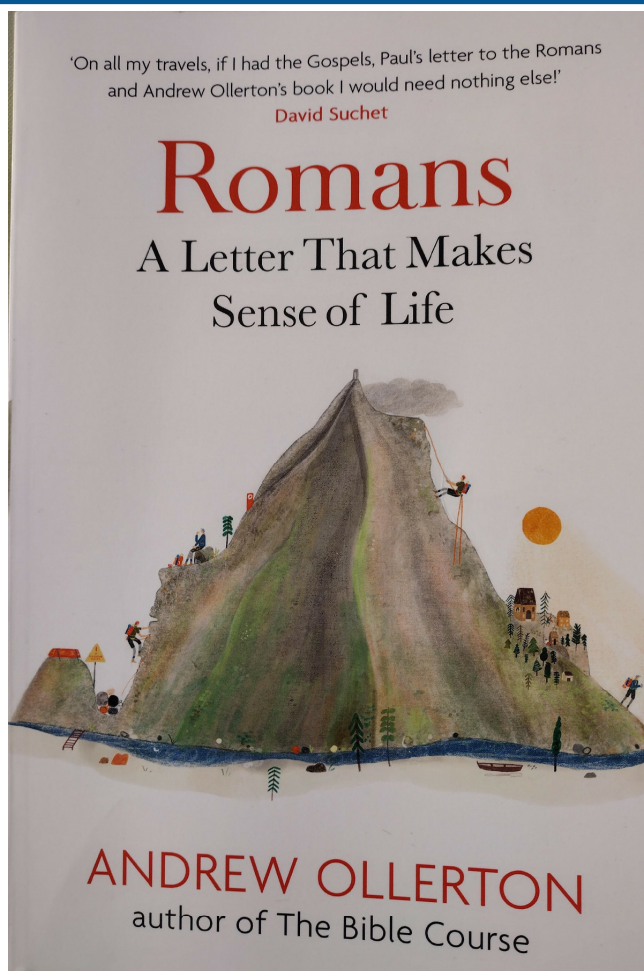
Michelmersh Sunday 13th April following 6pm Holy Communion

Braishfield Sunday 27th April following 9.30am Holy Communion

Timsbury Sunday 27th April following 6pm Evening Prayer

King's Somborne Monday 28th April 7.00pm

Awbridge Wednesday 30th April 7.30pm



Lent Study Course

If you haven't got to any of these sessions yet, there is still time! The videos are very informative and engaging, and there is time for informal discussion

Wednesday evenings

7.30 - 9.00pm

Awbridge Village Hall Committee Room

26th March, 2nd & 9th April

or

Thursday afternoons

2.00 - 3.30pm

Braishfield Church Room

27th March, 3rd & 10th April

All sessions will include refreshments

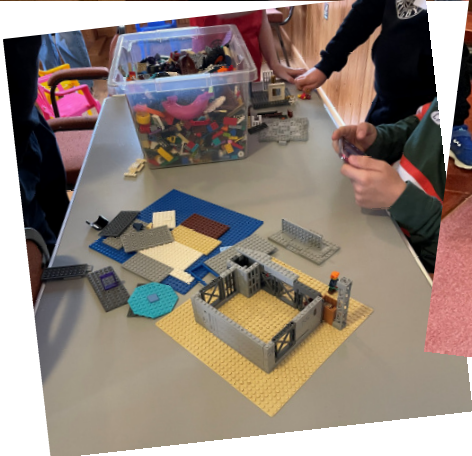
Each session is complete in itself, so if you can only come to a few, that's not a problem! You can also mix and match evening and afternoon sessions, if that suits your diary.

The Michelmersh Prize Monthly Draw

Despite the input of much time and effort it is still not possible to re-start the monthly draw. As soon as new plans are in place participants in the Draw will be notified.

Thanks to everyone for your patience. Draws will eventually be made for all the 'missing' months.

Any queries please to Franny Hornblow, 0788 182 1513. Thank you.



Fun at Messy Church!

From making volcanoes with Rev Tom to creating a musical instrument and building with Lego, along with other activities based around the story of Paul's escape from prison (*Acts ch 16*), an exciting time was had by the large number of children and parents who came to Half Term Messy Church. Everyone moved over to the church for a story, songs and prayers, and returned to the Church Room to sit down together for a shared meal. Children, parents and helpers alike had a very enjoyable morning.

The next Messy Church will be on Friday 11th April, 3.30 - 5.30pm



Holy Week - beginning on Palm Sunday, including Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and ending with the great joy of Easter Day - is the most important week in the Christian calendar.

We mark this holy week by having special services to help us to follow and remember the events as they unfolded and be ready to celebrate on Easter Day.

PALM SUNDAY - 13th APRIL

8.00am	Farley Chamberlayne	HOLY COMMUNION BCP
9.00am	Awbridge Village Hall	FAMILY BREAKFAST SERVICE
9.30am	Braishfield	MORNING WORSHIP
10.00am	King's Somborne	HOLY COMMUNION
11.00am	Timsbury	FAMILY SERVICE
6.00pm	Michelmersh	HOLY COMMUNION + APCM

MONDAY in HOLY WEEK - 14th APRIL

10.00am	King's Somborne	HOLY COMMUNION
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TUESDAY in HOLY WEEK - 15th APRIL

10.00am	Timsbury	HOLY COMMUNION
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WEDNESDAY in HOLY WEEK - 16th APRIL

10.00am	Michelmersh	HOLY COMMUNION
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MAUNDY THURSDAY - 17th APRIL

7.30pm	Farley Chamberlayne	HOLY COMMUNION and VIGIL
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GOOD FRIDAY - 18th APRIL

9.30am	Awbridge	AN HOUR AT THE CROSS
7.30pm	Braishfield	LAST WORDS OF LOVE - Music and readings

Coffee, Hot Cross Bun and a Chat



**Meet a local expert
who can talk to our animals!**

Everyone welcome. Come along to
meet others, chat and be entertained

**Tuesday 8th April 10.30am
at St Andrew's Church, Timsbury**

Pop the date in your diary. Every second Tuesday of the month
to come along to meet friends and neighbours, enjoy
refreshments and be entertained!

*These events, though organised by members of
St Andrew's Church **for the community**,
are not religious in nature*

SAVE THE DATE!

Come along to meet the inspirational ladies, Kate and Jess, from
Featherstone Flowers near Stockbridge, who grow their own
flowers for cutting for

A Demonstration of Sustainable Flower Arranging

Wednesday 14th May, 7pm

at St Andrew's Church, Timsbury

News and ideas from Awbridge

Eco-Tips for April Spend time in nature. Spending time appreciating God's creation can be amazing. Creation is sometimes described as God's Second Book, after the Bible! Nature can be experienced when we notice an insect, hear a bird sing, feel the earth beneath our hands or even when we watch a documentary. There is strong evidence that nature is also good for our mental health. Try to immerse yourself in nature every day, even for just a few minutes and give thanks to God for His good creation. Further ideas can be found at arocha.org.uk/ideasto-enjoy-nature/

Thank you to everyone who came and supported our social event "Humour In Horticulture", it was a great evening with much fun and great food. Thank you all for supporting it, we raised £2,000 for our church funds which is much needed and appreciated.

Awbridge Fete on Saturday 10 May, the church is organising a plant stall, with a puzzle and game section so please look out any puzzles or games you no longer need and maybe get some plants growing too!

Events at All Saints Braishfield

Christian Aid Week is on the horizon - if you would like to help by delivering envelopes - no collecting required! - please offer to Mrs Jane Bennett, 01794 368109.



On **Saturday 10th May** we are having a **Coffee Morning for Christian Aid** at the Church Room 10.30 - 12 noon, and on **Sunday 11th May** joining with the URC for a **United Service for Christian Aid Week at Braishfield URC church at 10am.**

And another event On **Saturday 16th August** we plan to have a **BBQ** in the church car park starting around 4pm - hoping for a lovely sunny day!

Forever Young Dementia Day Care in Braishfield Church Room

‘Forever Young’ is a dementia Day Centre run by Stef Pinchbeck for those living at home with early to mid onset dementia. ‘Forever Young’ has begun to run sessions at Braishfield Church Room every Wednesday, and there are a few spaces.

A wide range of brain stimulating activities is offered, a two-course lunch is provided and the sessions give an opportunity for those who attend to make new friends and socialize.

This also provide respite for carers.



Costs are as below:

Full day session 9.30-3.30pm - £85

Half day session 9.30-1pm OR 12-3.30pm - £50

All sessions include a two-course lunch

Booking is required

Contact Stef for more details: 07988059266

info@foreveryoung-dementiadaycare.co.uk

www.foreveryoungdementiadaycare.com



Guess Who?

One of the various
faces/dresses
of Aunt Em -
aka our ordinand
Anthony Cross -
in Nomads 2025 Panto
‘The Wizard of Oz’!



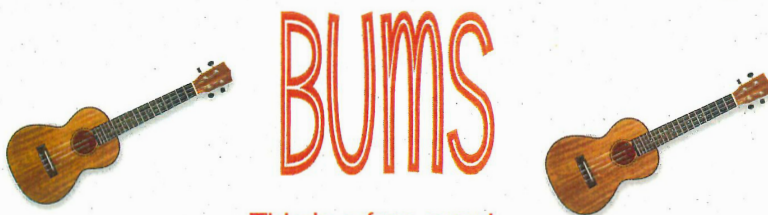
Sing Along

All welcome to join us on the 3rd Monday* of each month during 2025 at All Saints Church Room, Braishfield.SO51 0QH. Starting at 2.30pm until 4.00pm we will be singing some of your favourite songs and providing song sheets should you wish to sing along with us.

We would welcome anyone including those with disabilities, carers, friends. We will serve Coffee, Tea and Biscuits at the end and our wish is that you enjoy the time together.

**April 2025 2nd Monday. No session in July and August.*

Hosted by Braishfield
Ukulele Musical Society.



This is a free event.

If you would like more information or perhaps book us for an event contact:
jhdalton@hotmail.co.uk



Good Friday, 18th April 7.30pm for an hour

All Saints Church, Braishfield

LAST WORDS OF LOVE

Well known hymns,
Bible readings and short reflections
about the last words Jesus spoke from the cross
interspersed with anthems from the church choir

Everyone is very welcome



Eco-Easter Trail in Awbridge



Easter Monday 21 April 2025

All Welcome 10 00-11 30 am

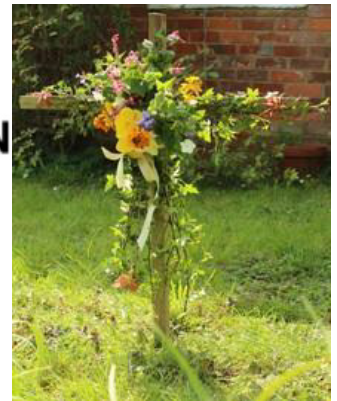
All Saints, Awbridge

Church Lane, Awbridge SO51 0HN



For Info contact:

marysavage126@gmail.com



Messy Church explores Palm Sunday

**Friday 11th April 15.30 to 17.30
at**

All Saints Church Braishfield

messy activities – celebration - feast

Contact Rev Jane Thompson for details
jane.thompson@me.com 01794 – 502035



Freedom of the Parish



Many congratulations to Lynda and Fred Tucker, key members of Awbridge church, whose unstinting contribution to village life has been recognised by Awbridge Parish Council. They have both been granted Honorary Freedom of the Parish "for your valuable and devoted services rendered to the village over many years. Your commitment and tireless work for the village of Awbridge has been extraordinary and deeply appreciated. We loudly applaud your valuable and sterling service whilst thanking you most sincerely." A most deserved tribute which will be widely echoed.



..... And on Monday 17th March Fred received his British Empire Medal from the Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire.

Certainly a moment to remember!

Overview of events in the Benefice in April

General

Lent Course at Awbridge Wednesdays 26th March, 2nd & 9th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Committee Room

at Braishfield Thursdays 27th March, 3rd & 10th April at 2.00pm in the Church Room (see p.5)

Messy Church Friday 11th April 3.30-5.30pm Braishfield Church Room (p.12)

Special Services for Holy Week (see p.7)

APCMs find the date and time of yours on p.4

Awbridge

Coffee Hub Every Tuesday 9.15-11.30 am Church Rooms. All welcome

Prayer Meeting Tuesdays 1st & 15th April 8.45 am in Church

Craft & Chat Group Fridays 4th & 11th April, 10.30am -12.30pm Committee Room, Awbridge Village Hall - contact Sue Franklin 01794 322185

Awbridge Lunch Club Wed 9th & 23rd April 12 noon Church Rooms

The Ark All Saints Church Baby and Toddler group, Fridays 4th & 25th April 9.30 - 11.00am, Awbridge Village Hall

Braishfield

Singalong for All Monday 14th April (2nd Monday this month) 2.30-4.30pm Church Room

Village Voices Monday 28th April 2-4pm, Church Room

Farley Chamberlayne

Coffee and Chat Thursday 10th April from 10.30am in the church

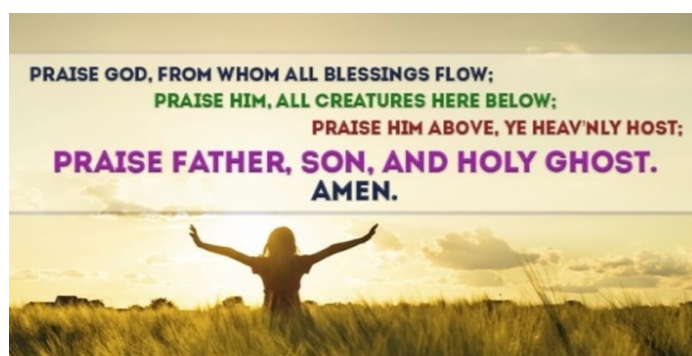
Michelmersh

Thursday Morning Prayer 9.15am in the church, unless otherwise advised

Timsbury

Coffee Morning Tuesday 8th April 10.30 am in the church (see p.8)

Celtic Prayer Tuesday 22nd April



Bible readings for APRIL

SUNDAY 6th APRIL - 5th SUNDAY of LENT

Old Testament Isaiah 43.16-21

Epistle Philippians 3.4b-14

Gospel John 12.1-8

Psalms 126

PALM SUNDAY - 13th APRIL

Old Testament Isaiah 50.4-9a

Epistle Philippians 2.5-11

Gospel Luke 19.28-40

Psalms 31.9-16

EASTER SUNDAY - 20th APRIL

For Old Testament Acts 10.34-43

For Epistle Acts 10.34-43

Gospel Luke 24.1-12

Psalms 118.14-24

SUNDAY 27th APRIL - 2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER

For Old Testament Acts 5.27-32

For Epistle Acts 5.27-32

Gospel John 20.19-end

Psalms 150

SUNDAY 4th MAY - 3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER

For Old Testament Acts 9.1-6

Epistle Acts 9.1-6

Gospel John 21.1-19

Psalms 30

Services for

SUNDAY 4th MAY - 3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER

8.00am	King's Somborne	HOLY COMMUNION BCP
9.30am	Awbridge	HOLY COMMUNION
9.30am	Braishfield	FAMILY WORSHIP
10.00am	Michelmersh (& Timsbury)	MORNING WORSHIP
10.00am	King's Somborne	MORNING WORSHIP
6.00pm	Farley Chamberlayne	EVENING PRAYER BCP

SERVICES FOR APRIL 2025

SUNDAY 6th APRIL - 5th SUNDAY OF LENT

8.00am	King's Somborne	HOLY COMMUNION BCP	T.Benson
9.30am	Awbridge	HOLY COMMUNION	T.Benson
9.30am	Braishfield	FAMILY WORSHIP	A.Manners
10.00am	Timsbury (& Michelmersh)	MORNING WORSHIP	M.Hatfield
10.00am	King's Somborne	MORNING WORSHIP	Lay led
6.00pm	Farley Chamberlayne	EVENING PRAYER BCP + APCM	T.Benson

FRIDAY 11th APRIL

3.30pm	Braishfield	MESSY CHURCH
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PALM SUNDAY - 13th APRIL

8.00am	Farley Chamberlayne	HOLY COMMUNION BCP	J.Thompson
9.00am	Awbridge Village Hall	FAMILY BREAKFAST SERVICE	T.Benson
9.30am	Braishfield	MORNING WORSHIP	J.Thompson
10.00am	King's Somborne	HOLY COMMUNION	Visitor
11.00am	Timsbury	FAMILY SERVICE	J.Thompson
6.00pm	Michelmersh	HOLY COMMUNION + APCM	T.Benson

MONDAY in HOLY WEEK - 14th APRIL

10.00am	King's Somborne	HOLY COMMUNION
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TUESDAY in HOLY WEEK - 15th APRIL

10.00am	Timsbury	HOLY COMMUNION
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WEDNESDAY in HOLY WEEK - 16th APRIL

10.00am	Michelmersh	HOLY COMMUNION
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MAUNDY THURSDAY - 17th APRIL

7.30pm	Farley Chamberlayne	HOLY COMMUNION and VIGIL
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GOOD FRIDAY - 18th APRIL

9.30am	Awbridge	AN HOUR AT THE CROSS
7.30pm	Braishfield	LAST WORDS OF LOVE- Music and readings

EASTER SUNDAY - 20th APRIL

9.30am	Awbridge	HOLY COMMUNION	J.Thompson
9.30am	Braishfield	HOLY COMMUNION	T.Benson
10.00am	King's Somborne	HOLY COMMUNION	Visitor
11.00am	Timsbury	HOLY COMMUNION	J.Thompson
11.15am	Farley Chamberlayne	HOLY COMMUNION BCP	T.Benson
6.00pm	Michelmersh	EASTER PRAISE WITH HOLY COMMUNION	T.Benson

SUNDAY 27th APRIL - 2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER

8.00am	Michelmersh	HOLY COMMUNION BCP	T.Benson
9.30am	Awbridge	MORNING WORSHIP	tba
9.30am	Braishfield	HOLY COMMUNION+ APCM	T.Benson
10.00am	King's Somborne	HOLY COMMUNION	J.Thompson
11.15am	Farley Chamberlayne	MORNING PRAYER BCP	M.Hatfield
6.00pm	Timsbury	EVENING PRAYER BCP + APCM	T.Benson

SUNDAY 4th MAY - 3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER see previous page for service details