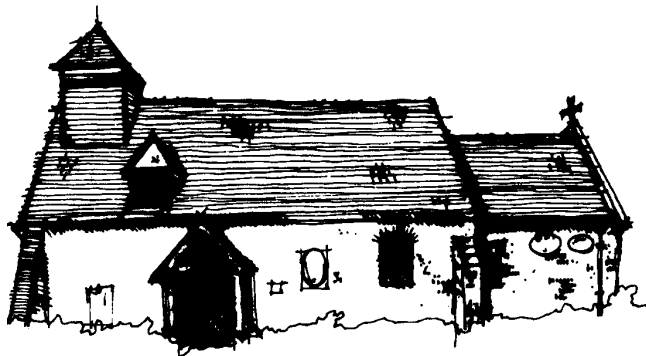


Five Alive!



A Monthly Magazine

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

OCTOBER 2022

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

Hon. Assistant Priest: The Very Revd. Trevor Beeson

Church Wardens

Awbridge	Mr Fred Tucker	01794 340709
	Mrs. Mary Savage	01794 367908
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
	Mr. Peter Hill	01794 523364
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Items for 5 Alive

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

**Deadline for
next edition**

Mon 17th October

next edition
of Five Alive
will be available by
Sunday 23rd October '22

From the Rector: Revd Tom Benson

With the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, we find ourself in a time of change. This change is unwanted, enforced, inevitable and perhaps something of a surprise, a shock. As monarch, she has been a constant in our lives for 70 years and we find ourselves at a moment of world history. Queen Elizabeth's reign covered so many world events - empires rising and falling, liberation and oppression, wars and peace; she has met innumerable world leaders and ordinary people just like us.

The Queen had a great sense of fun. Something that we perhaps saw more of in her later years. Again she handled this with such grace, and we might ask ourselves how she managed it? Her Majesty was a person who could shake hands with Ozzy Osbourne at a variety performance, handle Donald Trump with such consummate ease and dignity, and speak to us at times of trouble.

For me this dignity and leadership is summed up in the photo of the Queen wearing her mask sitting alone and socially distanced at the funeral of Prince Philip during covid times. Complying with the rules of the time. Here was a person who actually WAS above the law but who chose even in her grief to stand in solidarity with her people in theirs.

Around the world, wars continue to rage, viruses continue to infect, economies continue to rise and fall, -- as they always have. Way back in the early 19th century, the poet John Keats wrote that 'There is nothing stable in the world. Uproar is your only music'. In many ways the reign of Queen Elizabeth covered the era with the most change and turmoil. Except in Her Majesty we found a constancy, a steadiness. She somehow provided an antidote to the world's uproar. She clearly regarded her role as one of duty and service, and she provided both for seven decades, without complaint. Much has been said by others and the queen herself about her faith -- as she grew older she expressed more publicly just how much she depended on God.

There is a line in Matthew's Gospel where Jesus told the Parable of the Bags of Gold, in chapter 25 verse 21, where the master greets his worker with the words 'Well done, good and faithful servant.' And it gives me great comfort to think that those could be the first words that Her Majesty heard as she left this world behind.

Her father George VI broadcast this moving poem "The Gate of the Year" by Mini Louise Haskins, in his Christmas broadcast of 1939. It was just after the Second World War had broken out. Many people of the time remember it, but few people know that it was Elizabeth herself, his 13-year-old daughter, who had found it for him and pressed it into his hand to use. It goes like this:

*And 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."
So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.
And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.*

God Bless, Tom

WHAT ON EARTH CAN WE DO?



A talk on A- Rocha and the environment

by
Andy Atkins
on

Thursday 6th October at 7.30 pm

in

Kings Somborne Parish Church

The talk will be followed by questions and a general discussion.

Andy Atkins is the UK Chief Executive of A-Rocha – A Christian charity working to protect and restore the natural world, equipping church and local communities to care for the environment.

All welcome – please bring your questions.



Harvest Thanksgiving and support of the Romsey Foodbank/Southampton Basics Bank

A reminder that our churches especially focus on support for the local Foodbank (*Awbridge support Southampton Basics Bank*) at our Harvest Thanksgiving services. Donated food must be non-perishable and well in-date - three months at least is best.

Romsey Food Bank is currently asking particularly for:

Long life Semi Skimmed milk

Sweets

Chocolate

Crisps

Spreads

Desserts

Tinned Spaghetti

Instant Mash

Tinned Vegetables

Tinned Meat

Rice Pudding

Custard

Pasta

Rice

Toiletries

Squash

Juice

There is now a collecting point at the Co-op at Abbotswood in addition to Romsey Library, the Abbey, Waitrose and our churches



All Saints' Church Blue Skies and Sunflowers Thank you

We'd like to thank all the fabulous performers, those 'behind the scenes', anyone who donated gifts and everyone who came along and supported us on the evening.

With your wonderful support, we've surpassed our own expectations and raised a massive **£1,720** for the Braishfield Ukrainian Support Group.



Some of the performers together with Rev Tom at the end of the performance.

The show took place in Braishfield Village Hall on the evening of Friday 2nd September, with a capacity audience. Everyone enjoyed the musical and spoken word contributions from villagers, excellently compered by Rev Tom who contributed very amusing tales from the everyday life of a vicar between the acts. The last item was a medley of songs sung by one of our Ukrainian guests, Julia. It was a memorable event!

**Next Men's Breakfast is on Saturday 15th October
at Chambers, Stirling Walk in Romsey
- full English breakfast.**

**To book/more details phone Trevor Clewer on
07434593953.**

There is an upper limit of 20 places so don't delay!



Presentation of Bishop's Commission for Mission awards

The Bishop's Commission for Mission (BCM) is for lay people who follow a one term training programme to equip them for ministry in their local church

Four people from our parishes will be commissioned to that role by the Bishop at the annual Lay Ministries Service at the Cathedral on

Saturday 8th October at 11am

Awbridge Mary Savage - Creation Care

Trevor Clewer - Worship

Braishfield Alan and Sue Manners - Pastoral

Do go along to support them! The Cathedral ask that all who are attending the service arrive in good time.

Canon Bruce Kington
(former Rector of the Braishfield benefice)
invites all who would like to, to join him for

A Service of Thanksgiving
to mark the 50th Anniversary of his Ordination

at All Saints Church, Braishfield,
(By kind permission of the Rector, Revd Tom Benson)
at 11.00am on Saturday 8th October

BBQ at Braishfield

All Saints held a BBQ on Saturday, 3rd September after an absence of 3 years, and the pleasing smell of charcoal and the absence of rain (which had been forecast!) all led to a happy afternoon of fellowship and meeting up again. Around 36 attended and our thanks go to Romsey Rugby Club for giving us one of their BBQ's prior to their move to Kings Chase and also thanks to Andy,



Sarah, Stephen and helpers for setting it all up and cooking burgers and delicious pork and apple sausages, supplemented by bread rolls, salads, and an ideal finish with strawberries and ice cream!! Here's to next year!!



[Although not the main focus of this very enjoyable occasion, after costs had been covered, a donation of £320 was added to the Church Clock Tower fund.]

Successful Exhibition at Farley Chamberlayne

The August Hampshire Open Studios event at St John's, Farley Chamberlayne, was a great success. It was a delight to welcome the exhibitors to the church and a privilege to be associated with such talent and skill. The exhibitions of art looked amazing.

As well as displaying their work the artists joined with the community to raise funds for St John's, helping with the tea tent and making delicious cakes. Their generous donations of paintings and other artwork raised an incredible sum of money in the raffle. It was altogether a very happy six days. Much thanks to everyone who was involved.

We are so grateful that in total almost £1 800 was raised for the church; a great achievement, and the event brought so many visitors to Farley – some people discovered it for the first time!

Also, we were inspired to hold our first ever open air Songs of Praise!

Until next year . . .

**All Saints' Church Braishfield
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER ---SATURDAY 31ST DECEMBER



We are pleased that the above will again be held this Christmas, which is a special time not only for children but for all who celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Children of all ages are invited to enter a tree and previous festivals have shown how imaginative children (and Mums and Dads !) can be. Trees can be of any medium but not taller than 4ft and any lights must only be battery operated. Trees should be brought and placed in the church on Saturday 19th December between 10am and 12noon.

There is no charge to enter a tree and we can accept up to 10 entries this year, due to other activities taking place at the same time. Any donations raised from viewing will, as in previous years, go to the benefit of Sparks Club at Braishfield School and Messy Church.

For further information and to obtain an entry form please contact Carole Renvoize on email stevecarole.renvoize@btinternet.com not later than 30th November.

Organisers: Stephen Treglown (01794 502150) and Carole on (01794 368766)

Messy Church had a great picnic session at the end of the school holidays in Braishfield, with many families enjoying a wildlife treasure hunt, games and picnic.

Below - Joining in a parachute game



Messy Church returns again in the October half-term on Friday 28 October, 11am – 1pm, at Braishfield Church Room.

The process to appoint the next Bishop of Winchester - and how you can be involved



On Thursday 1st September the first meeting of the Vacancy in See Committee of the Diocese of Winchester took place.

The Committee is a group of 21 representatives elected and appointed from across our diocesan communities. Their task is to help feed into the discernment and appointment process for the next Bishop of Winchester.

Working in conjunction with the Archbishops' Secretary for Appointments and the Prime Minister's Appointment Secretary, the Committee is responsible for preparing a document that sets out qualities and skills needed in our next bishop in the context of the current state of the diocese. This document is known as a Statement of Needs

At our meeting, the Committee was reminded that the Statement of Needs must be underpinned by two things. The first is **listening**. To this end, we want to hear from as many individuals, groups and communities across our diocese as possible.

Specifically, we invite you to complete a short questionnaire which has been designed to help us all articulate what we hope for in our new bishop.

[Each church warden and PCC secretary has been sent the link to this on-line questionnaire. Ask them to forward it to you, or email braishfieldbenefice@gmail.com for the link.]

Every response received to the questionnaire will be read by at least three members of the Committee (including the Chair), with answers collated and analysed to help inform the Statement of Needs. Short and concise answers to the questions are requested, please.

The death of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has meant that this consultation is beginning later than we had planned. **Please may we ask you, therefore, having considered the questions and prayer about your response, to complete and return the questionnaire no later than the 3rd October 2022.** The sooner we have your responses, the sooner the analysis can begin.

Over the coming weeks and months, we aim to keep the diocesan community updated on the work of the Committee, whilst recognising the strict confidentiality that the process requires. Further details of the process will be shared on our website in the coming days, with regular updates shared through our weekly newsletters and social media channels.

The second vital ingredient at every stage of this process is prayer. Please pray for the Committee in the coming weeks and months, as they undertake this important task for us all.

'Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.' (Ephesians 3.20-21)

With all good wishes,

Charles Stewart, Chair of the Vacancy in See Committee

Colin Harbidge, Secretary to the Vacancy in See Committee

21st Sept 2022

NOTES FROM AROUND THE BENEFICE

Activities in September in Awbridge

Awbridge Coffee Hub Every Tuesday from 9 15-11 30 am in church. All welcome

Prayer Meeting

Meets before coffee hub on 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 8 45 am in church.

Craft & Chat

10 30-12 30 Fridays Village Hall on 7 & 21 Oct, in the committee room.

Church Lunch Club

Wed 12 Oct and Wed 26 Oct at 12 noon, Church Rooms, contact Sarah Keith 01794 340707

Awbridge Housegroup

Thursdays 13& 27 October, 7 30pm at Chanwel, Romsey Road
Contact: Fred Tucker 01794 340709

“The Ark”

The All Saints Church Baby & Toddler group meets in Awbridge Village Hall, on Fridays in term-time, from 9 30 am – 11 00 am.
All toddlers and their parents and carers welcome.
Refreshments, craft, singing and other activities provided.
Contact: Lynda Tucker 01794 340709.

Braishfield Village Voices

Monday October 24th from 2pm to 4pm in the Church Room.
Not a choir, just a group of people who get together to sing for fun on the 4th Monday of the month 2-4pm. All welcome. Just come along!

Remembering Services

At the end of October we are once again holding special Remembering Services at each of our churches for anyone who has been bereaved and for those wishing to remember loved ones. Please look on the back cover to see when these will take place. If there are services in different churches at the same time this is not an error - they will be led by different people.

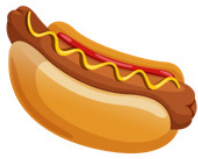
Bonfire Night at St Andrew's Church Timsbury

Friday 5th November 6pm - 7.30

Come and enjoy the bonfire and a firework display to mark the
Autumn season



We are mindful that our grounds are mostly cemetery and would like to assure you that this event will not take place on any grave sites. Graves will be cordoned off for protection. We also appreciate that fireworks aren't everyone's favourite thing and will endeavour to keep the display no longer than 15 minutes and to avoid fireworks with loud bangs.



Soup, hotdogs & warm drinks will be available to purchase.

Cash Only

Everyone is welcome to come along. There will be a collection at the gate to support the costs of running our church for the village.

Please arrive on foot as parking will be limited

All Saints' Braishfield Harvest Supper

Saturday 1st October
6pm – 8.30pm
in the Church Room



Soft drinks provided - please bring other choices for yourself!

Contact Sarah Boothman
on 01794 368143 seboothman@aol.com

to book a place **by Wednesday 28th September**

No charge in advance – please make a donation to the church Clock Fund on the evening

Come and bring your friends to a relaxed meal!

Donations for the Foodbank may be brought to the Harvest Supper or to

Harvest Thanksgiving Service 9.30am Sunday 2nd October
in All Saints church, followed by refreshments

NOTE THE DATE Sunday 6th November - 11.00am
at All Saints' Braishfield

A Service of Celebration for the life of our church All Welcome!



Next Messy Church

Friday 28th October (Half Term)
11 00 am-1 00pm

Braishfield Church Room, Braishfield SO51 0QR

All Welcome

Messy Church welcomes families from our local area for fun, food and worship based on a new theme each session. Children need to be accompanied by parent/carer.

Michelmersh Prize Draw

September 2022 Winners

1st Prize	Sheila Neil	£71.40
2nd Prize	Liz Hill	£35.70
3rd Prize	[Name withheld]	£20.40

Contact Mr Peter Hill 01794 523364 or the Benefice Office if you would like to join in the monthly draw which raises funds for St Mary's PCC.

St. Andrew's Timsbury in October Do join us for

Our regular **Coffee Morning** on **Tuesday 11th from 10.30** in the church.

Celtic Prayer at **11am on Tuesday 25th.**

Play reading group, led by Olivia Murphy. Tuesday afternoons 2-3.30pm in the church. No need to book. Just come!

We continue to pray for peace in Ukraine

Holy and Gracious God

We pray for the people of Ukraine and the people of Russia; for their countries and their leaders.



We pray for all those who are afraid; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear.

We pray for all those who have the power over life and death; that they will choose for all people life, and life in all its fulness.

We pray for those who choose war; that they will remember that you direct your people to turn our swords into ploughshares and seek for peace.

We pray for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ.

Above all, Lord, today we pray for peace for Ukraine.

And we ask this in the name of your blessed Son.

Lord have mercy. Amen

Do you want to help Ukrainian refugees?



The BUSG (Braishfield Ukrainian Support Group) is appealing for donations of money to support refugees and host families in the communities of Braishfield, Michelmersh, Farley Chamberlayne, Timsbury, Awbridge, and King's Somborne as well as Ukrainian refugees wherever they are.

If you are a refugee yourself or a host family and think that we might be able to help you, please do be in touch.

If you think that you can help financially or in some other way please contact:

Geoff Briggs geoffbriggs@btinternet.com

Rev Tom Benson The Rectory, Braishfield Road Braishfield SO51 0PR
tbenson09@aol.com 01794 368335

It would be really helpful if you could consider regular giving via our pledge scheme, but any donation large or small (cash, cheque, or online) is gratefully received.

If possible, please make your donations by on-line banking as follows: Account name: Braishfield PCC Sort Code: 60 18 46 Account Number: 21204470 Reference: BUSG [donor's surname]

If you are making an online donation please let Geoff Briggs know so that we can keep our records up to date. Thanks.

Bible readings for OCTOBER

SUNDAY 2nd OCTOBER - 16th Sunday after TRINITY

Old Testament Habbakuk 1.1-4, 2.1-4

Epistle 2 Timothy 1.1-14

Gospel Luke 17.5-10

Psalm 37.1-9

SUNDAY 9th OCTOBER- 17th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Old Testament 2 Kings 5.1-3, 7-15c

Epistle 2 Timothy 2.8-15

Gospel Luke 17.11-19

Psalm 111

SUNDAY 16th OCTOBER - 18th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Old Testament Genesis 32.22-31

Epistle 2 Timothy 3.14-4.5

Gospel Luke 18.1-8

Psalm 121

SUNDAY 23rd OCTOBER – BIBLE SUNDAY - (last Sunday after Trinity)

Old Testament Isaiah 45.22-end

Epistle Romans 15.1-6

Gospel Luke 4.16-24

Psalm 119.129-136

SUNDAY 30th OCTOBER - ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

Old Testament Daniel 7.1-3, 15-18

Epistle Ephesians 1.11-end

Gospel Luke 6.20-31

Psalm 149

READINGS FOR Harvest services (Year C)

Old Testament Deuteronomy 26.1-11

Epistle Philippians 4.4-9

Gospel John 6.25-35

Psalm 100

Updates and more All Saints Braishfield information can be found at
www.asbchurch.org

SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2022

SUNDAY 2nd OCTOBER - 16th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9.30am	Awbridge	HOLY COMMUNION	J.Thompson
9.30am	Braishfield	FAMILY HARVEST FESTIVAL	T.Benson
11.00am	Timsbury (and Michelmersh)	MORNING WORSHIP	J.Thompson
6.00pm	Farley Chamberlayne	EVENING PRAYER BCP	L.Thompson
7.00pm	Awbridge	INFORMAL BENEFICE WORSHIP	T.Benson

SATURDAY 8th OCTOBER

11.00am Braishfield **A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING** to mark the
50th Anniversary of the Ordination of Rev Canon Bruce Kington

SUNDAY 9th OCTOBER- 17th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8.00am	Farley Chamberlayne	HOLY COMMUNION BCP	T.Benson
9.30am	Awbridge	MORNING WORSHIP	Lay led
9.30am	Braishfield	MORNING WORSHIP	J.Thompson
11.00am	Timsbury	FAMILY SERVICE	J.Thompson
6.00pm	Michelmersh	HOLY COMMUNION	T.Benson

SUNDAY 16th OCTOBER - 18th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9.30am	Awbridge	FAMILY WORSHIP & BAPTISM	T.Benson
10.00am	Timsbury	HOLY COMMUNION BCP	J.Thompson
11.15am	Farley Chamberlayne	HARVEST FAMILY SERVICE	T.Benson
6.00pm	Michelmersh	HARVEST FESTIVAL BCP	T.Benson
6.00pm	Braishfield	EVENING PRAYER BCP	J.Thompson

SUNDAY 23rd OCTOBER – BIBLE SUNDAY - last Sunday after Trinity

8.00am	Michelmersh	HOLY COMMUNION BCP	T.Benson
9.30am	Awbridge	FAMILY WORSHIP	Family Team
9.30am	Braishfield	HOLY COMMUNION	T.Benson
11.15am	Farley Chamberlayne	MORNING PRAYER BCP	T.Benson
6.00pm	Timsbury	EVENING PRAYER BCP	T.Benson

FRIDAY 28th OCTOBER

11.00am	Braishfield	MESSY CHURCH	
7.00pm	Awbridge	REMEMBERING SERVICE	
7.00pm	Timsbury	REMEMBERING SERVICE	

SATURDAY 29th OCTOBER

3.00pm	Michelmersh	REMEMBERING SERVICE	
3.00pm	Farley Chamberlayne	REMEMBERING SERVICE	

SUNDAY 30th OCTOBER - ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY *NB Clocks change!*

10.00am	King's Somborne	UNITED BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION	
3.00pm	Braishfield	REMEMBERING SERVICE	

All services are contemporary worship unless marked BCP - Book of Common Prayer
See www.asbchurch.org for any updates or to read this magazine in colour