

The Chronicle

For West Hoathly, Sharpthorne & Highbrook. October/November 2023. £7 for six issues or £1.50 each.



From the Editorial Team....

 * We hope you have coped with the heatwave and by the time you read this we'll have *
 * had some much needed rain! It was great to see the *Flying Scotsman* a few week ago, *
 * so have a look at Trevor's article inside. There's also a feature on the history of the *
 * Bowls Club (a place close to my heart) by John. Enjoy. *
 * *
 * Sadly, we missed the installation of our new vicar, Heather. We welcome her and her *
 * family and hope they'll be very happy here. It was lovely to see the photos on the *
 * Facebook page. *
 * *
 * Please support the Autumn village events if you can. If you have any funny stories *
 * about holidays or anything else that you'd like to share with our readers, do send *
 * them in to us. *
 * *
 * The clubs listed on the back of our magazine are always pleased to welcome new *
 * members so just phone the number listed there. If you are artistic why not have a go *
 * at a picture for our front cover, see the current issue for the size of picture needed *
 * (greyscale or black & white please) allowing space for the heading. *
 * *
 * Enjoy the autumn and don't forget to put your clocks back on night of October 28/29! *
 * *
 * Kathy & Pat *
 * *
 * *****

THE CHRONICLE

is published six times a year by St. Margaret's Church, West Hoathly for the benefit of the communities of West Hoathly, Sharpthorne and Highbrook.

The publication is edited and distributed entirely within the parish by a dedicated team of volunteers. We welcome reports of regular and one-off events and meetings, notices of forthcoming activities, reminiscences, poems, line drawings, short stories, individual viewpoints, letters, information and news of other matters. **Items for inclusion should be sent by email to both editors;** typed or short handwritten items can also be delivered to any of the editors.

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO EDIT ANY ARTICLES SUBMITTED

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COLLATION AND DISTRIBUTION

The Chronicle is distributed bi-monthly by a team of deliverers. **Kathy Brown**, at **01342 811866**, can arrange for the Chronicle to be delivered to your home or posted to you. Some copies are also put out in the local churches for purchase at **£1.50 a copy**. **Annual subscription - now £7 is due in July**

ADVERTISING & SMALL ADS

Sue Billings at **01342 810049**

handles boxed business

advertisements, which can be included for £30 annually, and also the Small Ads, on back page, which cost £1 per issue for two lines of copy.

Inclusion of an advertisement does not imply any form of approval of the quality of the services offered.

The Cover

This month's cover picture of the **Chronicle** is by **Melissa Page**

We do need your pictures so please keep those creative ideas and artwork coming! Please send cover designs to **Kathy Brown**, new contributors always welcome.

Next Issue

The next issue of the Chronicle will cover the months of **December 2023 & January 2024**. Latest date for the submission of articles is **Friday 17th November 2023**. Printed copies will be available from **Tuesday 28th November**.

Letter to Parishioners

New Beginnings

I'm so delighted to be writing this, my first article for 'The Chronicle' in this beautiful place. And it is beautiful.

Jonathan and I are overwhelmed at how lucky we are to have found ourselves here, and we're very much looking forward to getting to know the area and its people more over the next months and years. We have arrived just in time to benefit from the last of the blackberries, but late enough to avoid intensive lawn mowing. We are so grateful for the very warm welcome that we have received.

One of the first festivals we will be celebrating will be the Harvest Festival, at our Sunday worship and with the children of West Hoathly Primary School.

Then, in November, we remember the people that have gone before us: the saints, the souls and those who have given their lives in war. Harvest and Remembrance are festivals in the calendar, but they are also very real in this place. We see at first hand the benefits of the land, and the gifts it brings, in food, but also in beauty. Our churches in Highbrook and West Hoathly have memorials to those who gave their lives in the first and second world wars. These memorials name people of these villages – who never returned to the beauty that we experience today. There is a real connection with our life as a community and it is important therefore that we appreciate both the harvest and the gifts of those who have gone before us.

These festivals won't be unfamiliar but will be new to me, in this place. As an 'incomer' I will be learning about how these communities gather and what is most important to them. I'm very much looking forward to standing alongside you as we celebrate and remember together. If you are also new to this community, please do come and join us.

The Bible comes to us through the hands of many generations, and parts of it stretch back to times thousands of years ago. The Israelites, searching for the promised land, were given a picture of this 'good' place:

A land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. (Deuteronomy 8:7-9)

Not all land is the same as this, nor as fruitful, but this picture of goodness helps us to remember to be thankful for the earth and its beauty. We inherit it from those who have gone before us, and are custodians of it, making it ready for those who will follow us. Let us pray that we will look after it wisely and continue to appreciate its goodness.

Rev'd Heather





CHURCH NEWS
ST. MARGARET'S, WEST HOATHLY &
ALL SAINTS', Highbrook



A list of general church services for October and November 2023 can be found on page 35

Other Church Notices

1) Sunday Club at St. Margaret's Church: Every Sunday except for the first Sunday of the month. Young people from the age of 2 - 14 meet in the vestry to study God's word and learn about Jesus. We are very Blessed now to have between 4 - 6 families attending Church weekly which equates to 5 - 10 young people. Together we read the Bible, act out, discuss, craft & pray.

We then come back into Church to receive God's Blessing at the communion rail and give a brief account of what we have learnt to the congregation. Church worship is for everyone on a Sunday, and we take great care to include young people so that they feel important, cherished and loved. Please pray for the young people of our Parish.

2) Funding St. Margaret's Church. it costs around £71,000 per year to run the Church which is £1400 per week. At the start of the year, we were facing a shortfall of £24,000. I am pleased to report that kind and generous households from the Church and wider community have pledged to cover a sizeable amount of this deficit which is wonderful news. However, there is still a good chunk to be found, so please consider giving regularly to St. Margaret's Church so that we can continue to provide all the services, ministries and vibrant Church life which exists at the moment, as well as maintaining this special grade 1 listed Building and Churchyard, at the heart of our community.

3) Flower Arranging at St. Margaret's Church: In response to growing calls to stop using oasis foam for flower arranging here at Church we are trialling just using vases and chicken wire for support. Oasis is non-biodegradable and is deemed to be bad for the environment. So far we have had a positive response to taking this approach and the way the flowers have been arranged.

If you would like to get involved with arranging flowers in Church, please contact Derek Shurvell. We will be arranging flowers for **Harvest Festival on Saturday 30th September**, please check Church web site for timings.

4) Churchyard working parties: These are held on the first Monday of each month from 2 - 4.00 p.m., the next ones are **2nd October & 6th November**. Jobs include weeding, raking, pruning, sweeping, tidying, cleaning & brushing. Together we keep the Churchyard tidy, do jobs that wouldn't normally get done and develop new ideas and projects. Currently 7 - 10 people attend, it would be lovely to double that number. please contact Derek Shurvell. Please note we will be removing the dead box hedge on the boundary with Church Hill. Once it has been dug out, we will pause and see what the view looks like before considering replacement or leaving it open.

5) Emmaus Youth Club: for youngsters aged Year 6 - Year 9 inclusive, (roughly 10 - 14-year-olds). We meet weekly during term times on Friday evening 6.30 p.m. - 8.00 p.m. (Please note the change in time). Subs are £2.50 per session to cover refreshments; hall hire and other activity "ingredients". (*Autumn program shown overleaf*)

The Club meets in WH Village Hall, Sharpthorne Hall and outside depending on the activity. Evenings consist of games, activities and hanging out together. It is managed, overseen & safeguarded by St. Margaret's Church, all youngsters of the right age are most welcome.

6) Dates for your diary

Light Party Saturday 28th October 4 - 6.00 p.m. at Sharpthorne Hall

Lantern Making workshop at Sharpthorne Hall, date to be arranged

Carols in the Square Sunday 10th December 6.00 p.m
Queen's Square, West Hoathly (Outside Church/The Cat)

Events at Worth Abbey – Autumn 2023

Mass for All Souls – Thursday 2nd November at 5.30 pm

A special Mass to remember the faithful departed. See worthabbey.net/missions/pilgrims for more information. If you are not able to be there in person but would like prayers to be said for your loved ones, there will be an opportunity to leave names via the website or on special postcards that will be at the entrance to the Church in October.

Advent Talks by Abbot Mark and the Monastic Community Saturday 25th November and Saturday 2nd December

Meet at 10.30 am at the Church. At the end of each talk, you are welcome to join the monastic community for the divine office at 1 pm. Coffee will be served from 10.30 am.

Advent Carol Service – Sunday 17th December at 5.30 pm

Come and celebrate the joy of Advent with the monks of Worth Abbey. An hour of readings, singing and music which will bring alive the true meaning of Advent. Families are most welcome. Festive refreshments afterwards.

Father Paul
Worth Abbey

Programme for the Emmaus Club Autumn Term - 2023

September

- 8 Getting started & Games
- 15 Swimming (outdoor) & Camp Fire (Vaux End)
- 22 Camp Fires at Horncombe, Cob Lane
- 29 Special Guest & Games



October

- 6 Games in the Dark in Ashdown Forest please bring a good torch
- 13 Dodgeball
- 20 HALFTERM - NOMEETING
- 27 HALFTERM - NOMEETING

November

- 3 Team Sports
- 10 Night Walk - meet & pickup from WH Village Hall
- 17 Special Guest II & Games
- 24 Pizza Night & Board Games at the Sharpthorne Hall

December

- 1 Man Hunt in the Forest
- 8 Christmas Party

Further information from Derek on 01342 810780



SATURDAY
2 | DEC | 2023
10AM - 3PM

HIGHBROOK
CHRISTMAS MARKET
VILLAGE HALL

FESTIVAL OF ANGELS
ALL SAINTS CHURCH

CAFE | TOMBOLA | XMAS TREES
PRODUCE | ARTS & CRAFTS



CHURCH SERVICES
ST MARGARET of ANTIOCH, WEST HOATHLY
and The BENEFICE of ALL SAINTS, Highbrook
October & November 2023



Services

Every week:

Fridays at 5.30pm – St Margaret's Evening Prayer (BCP)

Sundays:

1st Sunday of the month

10.30am	St Margaret's All Age Eucharist	
4.00pm (<i>winter</i>) / 6pm (<i>summer</i>)	All Saints	Evensong (BCP)

2nd Sunday of the month

9.00am	All Saints	Holy Communion
(BCP)		
10.30am	St Margaret's	Eucharist

3rd Sunday of the month

9.00am	All Saints	Mattins (BCP)
10.30am	St Margaret's	Eucharist

4th Sunday of the month

9.00am	All Saints	Holy Communion
(BCP)		
10.30am	St Margaret's	Eucharist

5th Sunday of the month (*where appropriate*)

One morning service takes place at either St Margaret's or All Saints. Please see our website for details on page 36

Services at All Saints use the Book of Common Prayer (1662).

The Back Page Directory

Clubs and Organisations in the Villages

Allotments	Leanne Andrews	811301
Beavers	Frank Willard	07778 260586
Bellringers	Rachel Edwards	810210
Book Club	Rita des Forges	810224
Bowls Club	Glyn Lyford	810539
British Legion	Laurie Gausden	810751
Brownies	Catherine Goodridge	810937
	Deidre Smith	811258
Costcutter	Carol Johnson	810234
Cricketer Club -West Hoathly ..	David Scott	811845
	Richard Ward	810394
Cub Leader	Michelle Hasan	810047
	email: michellehasan@sky.com	
Family Support Work (FSW) ..	Ingrid Sethi	810085
Football Club	Kirk Howick	07834 910110
Friends of the Priest House	Tricia Hughes	810158
Friends of WH Churchyard	Paul Brown	811866
Good Companions	Helen Scott	811845 or 07887 928442
Gravetye Manor	Andrew Thomason	810567
Holiday Club	Cat Bellamy	07809 211212
HUSG (Ukraine Support Group) ..	Gren Tipper	01444 892434
	Jane Lock	01444 892588
Karate Group	Dorian Fretwell	811044
Local History Group	Tony Hunt	810534
Local History Archives	John Ralph	810458
Parish Council Clerk	Leanne Andrews	811301
Parish Council Chairman	Douglas Denham St Pinnock	07785 288554
Pericles	Paulamaria Blaxland-de-Lange ..	810133
Pre-school (Village Hall)	Sophie Abbott	07854 128616
Priest House Curator	Anthony Smith	810479
Pubs - The Cat Inn	Andrew Russell	810369
The Fox	Tim & Paul	810644
School	Tina Allen	810302
1st WH Scout Group Contact	Desmond Henderson	07500800488
	Email: desmond.henderson@egscouts.org.uk	
1st WH Scout Leader	Jaime Reed	07906 334630
	Email: Jaime.reed@egscouts.org.uk	
Sharpthorne Club	Sharron Jones	07849 296959
Soundshack	Rachel Whitlam	07508 723328
Table Tennis Club	Colin Gibbs	07941 921326
Tennis Club	Nikki Evans	811738
Tootsie Time	Naomi Decap	07799895249
Village Hall Bookings:-		
- West Hoathly	Leanne Andrews	811301
- Sharpthorne	Lindsay Shurvell	810780
- Highbrook	Eleanor Thompson	07754281183
W.I. - Sharpthorne	Caroline Rogers	810470
WH Rainbows Guides	Brenda Farley	811020
Youth Groups - Emmaus	Lindsay Shurvell	810780

Please notify any changes to Pat Dunn

Post Office Opening Times

Monday	7 am to 5.30 pm
Tuesday	7 am to 5.00 pm
Wednesday to Saturday	7.30 am to 5.30 pm
Sunday	8.00 am to 3.00 pm

The above times are dependent upon staff availability. The last post Monday to Friday is 4.45 pm and Saturdays at 9.30 am

Costcutter's Opening Times

Monday—Saturday	7 am - 7 pm
Sunday	8 am—4 pm

Telephone: 01342 810234

SMALL ADS

Anything to sell? Why not put it in the Small Ads column. Cost £1 per issue for 2 lines.

Contact Sue Billings on 01342 810049.

susanbillings70@gmail.com

The Churches and Services

**St. Margaret's, West Hoathly, and
All Saints, Highbrook**

www.westhoathly.org.uk / www.highbrook.org.uk

Rev'd Heather Wilkin

Vicar of Highbrook & West Hoathly
01342 529047

Please contact the Churchwardens for help and information

Church Officers at St. Margaret's

Churchwardens:	Tim Baker	Tel: 01342 810424
	Ann Hutchings	Tel: 01342 810742
Treasurer:	Tina Allen	Tel: 01342 810302
Child Protection:	Lindsay & Derek Shurvell	Tel: 01342 810780

Church Officers at All Saints

Churchwardens:	Tony Osborn, Tel: 01444 892191
	Adam Hackett Tel: 01342 811920
Treasurer:	Simon Witheridge Tel: 01342 811604
Child Protection:	Despina Edge Tel: 01444 891307

Information on Church services at both of these churches is listed on Pages 35

Roman Catholic Chapel of St. Dunstan's

www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk

Parish Priest: Father Paul Fleetwood Tel: 01342 710313

Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/Worth-Abbey-Parish
to see our Live Streaming of services

Community Transport

If you would like a lift to a local hospital or doctor/dentist, for a contribution towards fuel costs, please contact:-

Any Day:	Christine Graystone	810603
	Wayne Morley	07825 429722
	Emma Barker	07863 256598
	Pat Dunn	810406
	Kim Bridges	810635/07870325569
Emergency:	Simon Hasan	07917 733230

More volunteers would be greatly appreciated

Police Community Support Officer

Our PCSO is Paul Umney who covers Lindfield, Scaynes Hill, Horsted Keynes, Ardingly, West Hoathly, Sharpthorne and Highbrook. Contact 01273 404937 or email midsussex@sussex.pnn.police.uk.

Local Taxi Numbers:

Forest Cars 01342 822228; Southdown Taxis 01342 317400; Acorn 01342 410518; Jill King 07808798371; A&B cars 01342 317887; Simon Hasan 07917 733230

East Grinstead Recycling Centre

Opening Hours

The East Grinstead Refuse Tip is now open, please go to <http://www.recycleforwestsussex.org/recycling-sites/> for hours of opening.

Proof of residency in West Sussex required

SCHOOL PLAYGROUND HIRE FOR PARKING

(Subject to Availability)

Contact WH School on 01342 810302