

Pirbright Village News

August 2025

Caring Together, Walking Together

Dear friends,

In John's Gospel, Jesus says:

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

(John 10:11)

This simple image of a shepherd beautifully captures what pastoral care is all about. It is about being alongside people in every season of life — in times of joy and celebration, but also in times of sadness, loneliness, or uncertainty.

As your parish church, we want to assure you that we are here for you. Pastoral care simply means caring for one another's spiritual, emotional, and practical needs. It might look like a quiet cup of tea and a listening ear, a visit when you're unwell or finding life hard, or sharing in the comfort and hope of Holy Communion in your own home.

If you would value a visit from me, or from one of our wonderful pastoral team, please do get in touch. We would be privileged to sit with you, to pray with you, or to bring you communion if that would be meaningful for you.

Whatever you're facing, please know you are not alone. As your local church, we are here — ready to walk alongside you, just as our Good Shepherd walks alongside us all.

With every blessing,

Revd George Watkinson



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St Michael's and All Angels
Church Lane Pirbright
GU24 0JJ

St Mark's Church Wyke
Guildford Road Normandy
GU3 2DA

St. Michael's and All Angels Church

Remembering Philip Barralet, a Pillar of the Pirbright Community

It is with great sadness that we have to notify the village and community of Pirbright that Philip Barralet has died. Older members of our community will remember Philip as a true cornerstone of local life.

In the 50 or so years that he and his wife Elizabeth made their home here and raised two daughters, Sarah and Anna, Philip served the village in so many different ways, as Chair of the Parish Council, as a Churchwarden, as Chair of the local Royal British Legion, the Horticultural Society and the Twinning Association, in which he played a pivotal role in our linking up with the Normandy village of Cagny.

Another of Philip's projects was what became a regular feature at Pirbright Church – the concert featuring the Cardiff Arms Park Male Choir, which was so popular and raised many thousands of pounds for local charity.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Elizabeth, Sarah and Anna and their families. Philip was a good friend and a good man. He will be sadly missed.

Reverend Gary Williamson

Pirbright Village Fair

This year's Pirbright Village Fair takes place on 30th August – set to be a late summer day of fun for all, celebrating all things British!

Proceedings kick off at 11am with the grand opening and a Morris Dancing display in the arena on the main green. Throughout the day, the same arena will also host Jiu Jitsu, Children's Field Games, Raiders Performing Arts band and the perennially popular Dog Show – lots and lots for adults and children to take part in with some brilliant prizes to be won.

A second arena will be all things Dog Agility, beginning firstly with a professional dog agility display with the course then opened to dog owners to have a go.

Elsewhere, you'll find a vintage car display showcasing the best of British cars and motorcycles, fairground rides, crazy golf, art exhibition, loads of stalls, delicious local food and drink providers, local musical acts including the Pirbright Gospel Choir and Rev & The Revellers and loads, loads more.

Enter your model for the 'Best of British' theme on the little green and win a cash prize or go for Best Flower Display in the church and win a weekend brunch for two at The Gosling in Woking – you've got to be IN IT TO WIN IT!

There will be things to see and do across the village; in the church, Lord Pirbright's Hall and all over the green – it's a best of British takeover and we can't wait to see you there!

St. Michael's and All Angels Church

If you have any unwanted books (in very good condition), we would love them for the village fair, any unopened bottles (from wine, beer, shampoo, salad dressing, anything in a bottle), children's toys, games, puzzles, (all new), cakes (from flapjack to victoria sandwich and anything in between).

Your donations will be gratefully received.

Please contact Helen at 07777659138 helenwelliewhitworth@btinternet.com

Contact pirbrightvillagefair@gmail.com for more information on how to enter the theme makers and flower arranging competitions. Entries for the dog show and children's field day races can be taken on the day.



Pirbright Parish Council

The Parish Council does not meet in August. The next full Parish meeting will be on 9th September at 19.30hrs in the Committee Room of Lord Pirbright's Hall. In the meantime, the flag will be raised in honour of VJ Day on 15th August, commemorating the 80th anniversary of the surrender of Japan, officially ending the Second World War. It is an opportunity to remember the sacrifices of those who served in the Far East and Pacific theatres.

Lord Pirbright's Hall



Swing by our Sweet Stall at the Pirbright Church Fair on Saturday 30th August on the Green for a sweet treat and a sprinkle of community spirit! While you're there, find out all about the Hall's exciting new fundraising plans to keep this much loved hub buzzing with life. It's all about keeping our community space thriving, for everyone to enjoy.

Support Your Local Community

Introducing The Cake Shed – Right in the Heart of Pirbright!

We're delighted to bring you a selection of bespoke, handcrafted cupcakes, sheet cakes, and baked goodies – all freshly made and full of flavour.

You'll find us at 1 The Old Forge, on the Green, Pirbright

Open every Saturday & Sunday from 9am until we sell out!

Pop by early to get the best pick of the day.

We operate a simple and convenient payment system – just use our honesty box or scan the QR code provided.

Stay updated with our weekly bakes and specials by following us on social media:

Facebook: The cake shed by BakerLou

Instagram: BakerLou_Uk

We look forward to welcoming you and sharing something sweet!



Support Your Local Community

PIRBRIGHT ART CLUB

PIRBRIGHT ART CLUB – 25 + years at Lord Pirbright's Hall!

We will have a few places available in each of our two groups from September. We welcome new members! Please visit our website for details of how to join: www.pirbrightartclub.co.uk or contact Maggie for more details (see below).

The first group meeting is on the third Thursday of each month from 1.15 – 4pm and is especially for those who want to enjoy art, learn and improve.

The second group meeting is on the fourth Thursday of each month from 2pm – 5pm and is more suited to those who wish to exhibit and sell their artwork.

Our tutor-led* art sessions all have an optional 'theme' that members may follow - or work on their own projects, if preferred. I give group demonstrations and individual guidance.

All members have automatic entry to our Annual Exhibitions (no extra fees) and the option to hang their work in the Quince Cottage Gallery, on Pirbright Green.

Visit our outdoor 'Railings' exhibition at the Pirbright Village Fair on Saturday August 30th You can find us outside Lord Pirbright's Hall, where we have a large display of original paintings hanging on the railings! Come and browse – many reasonably priced works of art for sale. You can get printed details and joining forms at our gazebo sales desk too.

Contact me - Maggie Read (*professional artist and qualified art tutor) - for more details: Tel: 07977 552780 or email pirbrightartclub@btconnect.com

Woking Food Bank Needs Your Help!

Although we live in leafy, affluent Surrey, we shouldn't forget that there are still pockets of real local hardship. Woking Foodbank is a vital part of important local practical support and needs your help through donations of everyday food and household items or by giving financial donations direct to the Trussel Trust see woking.foodbank.org.uk.

In Pirbright, it couldn't be easier to donate everyday items! Just drop them off at any time of day (or night!) to the Foodbank bin at Linnards on the Little Green (GU24 0JF) or give Catherine Cobley a ring on 07947 032210 to fix a collection.

Thank you!

Community Groups

Pirbright Historians

The Pirbright Historians group has just launched a brand new house-by-house history of Pirbright online. It includes maps, photos, details of who built each house in Pirbright and when, who lived there, what they did for a living, and much more. As far as we know, no other village in Britain has tried to do this. Currently it's 30% complete.

Come and see us at the Village Fair on 30th August to see if your house history has already been written up (over 340 have been so far), and which are next in line.

Rawlins Club

We are running a stall at the Pirbright village Fair on Saturday 30th August between 11.00am and 5.00pm.

Any contributions for the Adult and Children's tombola would be welcome. Please come and visit us and find out about the Rawlins club.

For further details, please contact Denise Granger on 01483 472070.

Pirbright Country Market

The Country Market is open every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.15am in Lord Pirbright's Hall. Come along and enjoy a variety of local produce and goods!

Royal British Legion

Our August meeting at the Fox will be on Monday, 11th August at 8pm. We will also have a display on 'Victory in Japan Day' on Thursday, 14th August in the Club Room during the Country Market so why not visit and have refreshments at the WI Coffee Morning.

contact Anne Hawkins on 01252 404276

August Eco Tip

Creams and sauces are often sold in both glass jars and squeeze able plastic tubes. Choose the stuff supplied in glass jars which are reusable. Plastic tubes are not recyclable and there is lot of the sauce left in the used tube for which you have paid!

Pirbright Tennis Club

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/PirbrightTennisClub>

www.facebook.com/pirbrighttennisclub
Congratulations to our Pirbright Mens' and Mixed League teams who are doing very well in the Woking and District Tennis League. The Mens' are currently at the top of the League and the Mixed are 4th.

Come and play on Tuesdays, from 6.30pm, at our Club Night. Check our WhatsApp group to see who's playing and also to add your name to play.

Contact our coach Michael Jefferies for adult and junior coaching.

All enquiries (including all tournament entries and WhatsApp Group, please contact info@pirbrighttennisclub.com or Fiona Robotham at this address for new membership enquiries. Michael Jefferies, Coach: jefferiesmichael@

Pirbright WI

Our barbecue will be held on 16th August and will be at Judy and Richard's place near Henley Park. This is for members only. A map of the location will be sent out in due course and lifts will be arranged as needed.

The WI serve refreshments every Thursday morning from 10.00am to 11.15am in Lord Pirbright's Hall. If you're visiting the Country Market, why not join us for a warm drink and a chat? For more information, contact Irene Dredge on 01483 233279 or email iredredge@outlook.com. We'd love to see you there!

Community Groups

Pirbright Twinning Association

Jon Lopez (Chairman) and Lucy Baker, founder have been honoured with the Freedom of the Commune of Cagny. The award was presented by the Mayor of Cagny, Eric Margerie during their recent visit to France.

The awards recognise their work and reinforces the bond between Pirbright and Cagny. It is a friendship rooted in cultural appreciation and a shared vision for a strong and continued 33 year relationship between the two communities.



Pirbright Twinning Association Wine Tasting & Cheese Evening 2025

Pirbright Twinning Association and Majestic Wines Guildford will be hosting again an informative evening tasting regional French wines and cheese at Lord Pirbright's Hall at 8.00pm on Thursday 11th September 2025. New and existing members are most welcome, tickets are £16 available from George Lane. Payment please send via bank transfer (BACS) to account name: Pirbright Twinning Association, account no: 93560249 sort code: 51-81-22.

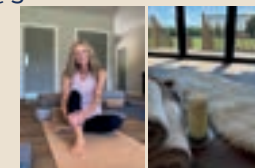
For information please contact us at treasurer.twinning@gmail.com

Restorative Yoga with JoJo

Starting in September in the Community Pavilion - Discover the healing power of restorative yoga with JoJo.

Classes will take place every Sunday, from 28th September at 4.00pm - 5.00pm. £12 per class, limited spaces available.

Email JoJo to secure your space: jojo.phillips.yoga@gmail.com



August Gardening tips

There is lots of pruning and harvesting to be done in August. Dead head faded blooms, but leave some to turn into seedheads for the birds and ones that you plan to sow for next year. Crysanthus will benefit from being pinched or sheared back, encouraging more growth and flowers. Take pelargonium cuttings. Trim lavender plants by removing flower stalks and about 2.5cm of the current year's growth. Hoe to keep on top of any weeds. Pull alstroemerias rather than cut them as this encourages more growth from below ground to hopefully give you a second flush of flowers right through the autumn. Prune the wispy growth on wisterias, back to 5-7 leaves. Prune climbing and rambling roses after they have flowered, unless they are repeat flowering. Prune summer flowering shrubs after they have flowered. Cut down wildflower meadows. Ensure Camellias and Rhododendrons are well-watered to encourage good flower bud formation next spring. Water plants thoroughly when needed instead of every day. Feed containers and tired perennial borders with a liquid tomato food each week to encourage them into early autumn. Lift and store onions, shallots and garlic when the tops have gone brown and bent over. Continue to pick fast maturing vegetables such as beans, peas and courgettes to encourage further cropping. Pinch out the tips of climbing beans when they reach the top of their supports. Make sure you leave a shallow container with water for wildlife.

Pirbright Community Calendar August 2025

Date	Time	Event
Sun 3rd	10.00am	Joint Holy Communion Service at St. Michael's Pirbright
Sat 9th	10.00am - 12.00pm	Operation Churchyard at St. Michael's Pirbright
Sun 10th	10.00am	Joint Holy Communion at St Marks Church GU3 2DA
Mon 11th	8.00pm	Royal British Legion at The Fox at Fox Corner
Sun 17th	10.00am	Joint Holy Communion Service at St. Michael's Pirbright
Sun 24th	10.00am	Joint Holy Communion at St Marks Church GU3 2DA
Sat 30th	11.00am - 5.00pm	Pirbright Village Fair on the Green
Sun 31st	10.00am	Joint Holy Communion Service at St. Michael's Pirbright Followed by Drinks and Grazing Platters in the Church Room
Every Tues	6.30pm	Pirbright Tennis Club Night
Every Thur	10.00am - 11.15am 10.00am - 11.15am 7.30pm - 8.30pm	Refreshments with WI at Lord Pirbright's Hall Pirbright Country Market at Lord Pirbright's Hall Bellringing Practice in the Church Tower

Pirbright Village News is produced and delivered by volunteers on behalf of
St. Michael's and All Angels Church and Pirbright Parish Council.

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Please send content to our new email editor@pirbrightvillagenews.org.uk

St. Michael's and All Angels Church

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Pirbright Parish Council

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Chair of the PPC: David Woollett

Parish website: www.pirbright-pc.gov.uk

Lord Pirbright's Hall: Catherine Loots
07494 485056 LPH@pirbright-pc.gov.uk

