

Pirbright Village News

Easter: A Season of Hope and New Beginnings

Easter is an important and joyful time in the Christian calendar and marks the arrival of spring, a season of new life, hope and fresh beginnings. Across the village many people will be looking forward to spending time with family and friends, enjoying lighter days, and taking part in local traditions and events.

Easter sits right at the centre of the Christian faith. On Good Friday we remember Jesus giving his life on the cross, an extraordinary act of love. On the first Easter morning the tomb was empty and the message spread quickly among Jesus' followers: **He is Risen!** The resurrection tells us that death does not have the last word and that hope is stronger than despair and God is still at work in our world, bringing forgiveness, new beginnings and life where we might least expect it.

You should have received the Easter card that we delivered to homes in Pirbright inviting you to our Easter services this year. It would be wonderful to see you. Whether you come to church often or have not been for a long time, you are very warmly welcome to join us as we celebrate Easter together.

As you may also have seen on the card, we will be running an Alpha course during the summer term. Alpha is simply a relaxed place to explore the Christian faith and ask the big questions of life. In turbulent times many people are asking those questions, and Alpha is a brilliant place to do that in an open and non-judgemental setting. Over eight weeks we look at questions such as Who is Jesus? Why did Jesus die? What about suffering? How can we pray? What is the church? If you are curious about faith or would simply like to explore further, you would be very welcome. The course will run on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm. Dates and details can be found on our website.

*With every blessing,
Reverend George*

In this month's Newsletter

Easter: A Season
of Hope and New
Beginnings page 1

St Michael and
All Angels page 2, 3

Pirbright Parish
Council 4, 5

Community page
6, 7

Gardening Tips
page 7

Calendar page 8



St Michael and All Angels Church



ST MICHAEL'S PIRBRIGHT & ST MARK'S WYKE

Maundy Thursday Bring & Share Meal

5pm
2nd April
St Mark's Church Hall, Wyke

Bring the whole family!

The poster features a top-down view of several hands reaching towards a table laden with various dishes, including bread, vegetables, and meats. The text is overlaid on this image.



ST MICHAEL'S PIRBRIGHT

GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF WITNESS

Friday 3rd April

2.30pm
Walk begins: Lord Pirbright's Hall

3pm
Service St Michael's Church

The poster features a close-up of a crown of thorns in the foreground, with a blurred background of a church interior.



ST MICHAEL'S PIRBRIGHT & ST MARK'S WYKE

CHURCH ON THE GREEN

Can I trust The Bible?

Sunday 26th April 10am
Lord Pirbright's Hall GU24 0JE

HOLY BIBLE KJV Welcome!

The poster has a parchment-like background. At the bottom, there is an image of a dark blue Bible with the text 'HOLY BIBLE KJV Welcome!' written on it.



25th Anniversary

PIRBRIGHT CHURCH

PLANT SALE

SATURDAY 9th MAY
11-2 pm

The poster features a vibrant, hand-drawn illustration of various flowers, including tulips and daisies, in shades of pink, yellow, and red.

Church Plant Sale Saturday 9th May 11-2pm 25th Anniversary

Come and join us in Pirbright churchyard to celebrate 25 years of the church plant sale. There will be lots of healthy homegrown annuals, perennials, veg plants and hanging baskets for you to purchase, along with some rather tasty home baked cakes, bbq hot dogs using Fulks sausages, a garden paraphernalia stall with items you never thought you needed, but will feel compelled to go home with, and why not try your luck on the tombola stall. Tea and coffee will be served all morning. All proceeds go to Pirbright Church. Put the date in your diary, and we will see you there.

St Michael and All Angels Church

Pirbright Open Gardens

Saturday 30th May 11-5pm

Sunday 31st May 12-5pm

We are pleased to say that Pirbright Open Gardens are running again this year, and it will be jointly organised by Pirbright Church and Pirbright Horticultural Society. This is a wonderful opportunity to explore a variety of beautiful local gardens, gather inspiration, and celebrate our shared love of gardening and nature. As part of the event the farm at Pirbright School will also be open, offering visitors a chance to see the farm, and learn about the work being done there. Put the dates in your diary. More information will be in May Village Newsletter.



Village Fête – Saturday 6th June 11am to 4pm

Save the date! This year's village fête trots, waddles and bounds into action on Saturday 6th June from 11 am to 4pm with the theme "All Creatures Great and Small."

Expect a day full of animal antics and village fun. There will be donkey rides, a petting farm, crazy golf, inflatables, a dog agility display, and of course the legendary Fun Dog Show—where dogs of all shapes, sizes and levels of obedience are warmly welcomed (well-behaved owners optional).

Alongside the entertainment you'll find artisan food stalls and displays from many of our wonderful village clubs and organisations, so it's a great chance to see what's going on locally while enjoying a bite to eat.

We are also calling for volunteers to help make the day run smoothly. If you can spare an hour or two to help set up, run a stall, point people in the right direction, or generally keep the donkeys (and organisers) under control, we would be hugely grateful. Please email on pirbrightvillagefair@gmail.com

Please save the date, spread the word, and start practising your dog's party tricks. It promises to be a fantastic day for the whole village.

Profits help to support our church and many participating groups.



Pirbright Parish Council

Thank You to Residents Who Attended the 129th Annual Parish Assembly

The Parish Council would like to extend its thanks to all the residents who took the time to attend this year's Annual Parish Assembly. It was encouraging to see members of the community come together to hear about the work taking place in the parish and to engage in open discussion about local matters.

During the evening, residents heard reports from the Chair of the Parish Council and the Chair of the Trustees, outlining the activities and achievements of the past year as well as some of the priorities and challenges the Council and Village Hall will face as we move towards the new West Surrey Unitary Authority coming into force in 2027.



We were also pleased to welcome Al Pinkerton MP, who joined the meeting and took part in a lively question and answer session. Residents raised a range of issues and concerns, and it was helpful to hear the views of our local MP as well as to have the opportunity for open dialogue on matters affecting the parish.

Events such as the Annual Parish Assembly are an important part of local democracy. They provide a forum where residents can hear about the work of the Parish Council, ask questions, share ideas and help shape the future of the community.

The Parish Council would once again like to thank everyone who attended and contributed to the discussion. Your interest, questions and feedback are greatly valued and help ensure that the Parish Council continues to represent the views and interests of the community.

We look forward to seeing many of you again at future parish events.

Pirbright Village Sign

The sign came down in a storm in November and a new oak post is being fitted. The sign itself has been straightened but the Parish Council are looking for a volunteer to rub down the intricate metal parts of the sign and repaint them. This can be done where the sign is stored, under the stage in a warm dry environment and all materials will be provided.



Please contact the Clerk if you can help!

Pirbright Parish Council



Run, Cheer, Support!

David is taking on the London Marathon for LPH!! 🇬🇧

Get ready to cheer for PPC's Chairman and Trustee of Lord Pirbright's Hall as David Woollett tackles the 2026 London Marathon on Sunday 26th April to raise vital funds for our beloved Village Hall. LPH is at the heart of the community, hosting many Birthday parties, Weddings, Clubs and Society Events. Keeping the Hall thriving takes ongoing care and every step David runs helps us get there!

How you can help:

Scan the QR code or visit the link below to support David's JustGiving page. Every pound makes a difference and every donation powers him through another mile!

Donate here:

www.justgiving.com/campaign/lphlondonmarathon

Let's rally behind him and cheer him on!



Christmas Market Stall Holders

We are Looking for You! 🎄

Would you like to run a stall at our upcoming **Christmas Market on 6th December at Lord Pirbright's Hall.**

We're currently inviting stall holders to take part in this festive community event. If you're interested in showcasing your products or crafts, we'd love to hear from you.

Please contact Heidi Marshall to express your interest or to find out more.

We look forward to welcoming a wonderful range of stalls to help make this year's market extra special!

Please contact: **Heidi Marshall**

Tel: 01276 709393

Email: hlm@ssballet.co.uk



Eco tip for April

Refuse. Reduce. Reuse. Recycle.

The greenest choice starts before the bin. **Refuse** what you don't need.

Reduce what you buy. **Reuse** what you already have.

Recycle only what's left. Recycling matters, but the real change happens when we choose less and waste less. Small, thoughtful decisions — repeated daily — make a lasting difference for our planet.

Community Groups

Pirbright Historians

It's not every day that international history turns up in a Pirbright field.

According to the Daily Telegraph, local Army personnel recently recovered two altar plaques – originally from the tomb of Napoleon III – which had been stolen from St Michael's Abbey in Farnborough in 2014.

While our village is known for being crime-free, this bizarre discovery has left plenty of questions. If anyone knows more, please let us know at richard@pirbright.info.

Royal British Legion

If you are interested in hearing more about RBL or have any questions, please join us for our social meeting at 8pm on Monday, 13th April at The Fox Inn, Fox Corner.

Everyone is welcome whether or not you have served in the forces.

For more information, contact Anne Hawkins on **01252 404276**.

Rawlins Club

On Friday 10th April between 2.00pm and 4.00pm in Lord Pirbright's Hall. There will be a very short AGM followed by a talk "Highway 35 – Meeting Disaster Head-on with Hope!" by Chris and Denise Arthey.

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

Pirbright Horticultural Society

You are invited to our April meeting on Tuesday, 14th April, at 19:30 in the Committee Room Lord Pirbright's Hall. We are delighted to welcome Jean Griffin, to talk all things gardening. Jean is a Garden expert and reporter for the Gardening Programmes on BBC Radio Kent, Surrey and Sussex. She has worked for the BBC since the 1970s and is now the regular gardening expert on The Pat Marsh Show broadcasting through all three Counties.

New members and visitors are always warmly welcome to join us.

Pirbright Horticultural Society – We love gardening!

Pirbright Tennis Club

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

1st April; Subscriptions for members need to be renewed online on the membership page. Standing orders no longer accepted. New members can also join online on our website.

Tuesday 21st April: Spring into Club Night with delicious food, drink and tennis from 6.30pm. Club Night is every Tuesday. All welcome.

We have an extensive range of regular activities and tournaments for all abilities. We also have League Matches for those interested in competitive tennis. **All enquiries please contact Fiona Robotham: info@pirbrighttennisclub.com**

Pirbright WI

On Tuesday April 21 at 7pm in the Club Room in Lord Pirbright's Hall. There will be a talk entitled *The Watercress Line Through Time: The Past 160 Years* by Daniel Ball. Visitors are always welcome.

The WI is serving coffees and teas with biscuits on Thursday mornings 10am to 11.15am. When you pop into the Country Market why not visit us for tea or coffee.

Contact Irene Dredge on **01483 233279** or iredredge@outlook.com. We'd love to see you there!

Community Page

Gardening tips for April

April arrives with a flourish! One minute we're admiring frothy cherry blossom against bright blue skies, the next we're reaching for a fleece to protect tender shoots from a sharp overnight frost. It is a month of promise — and unpredictability — but also one of the most exciting times to be in the garden. Sweet peas can be sown outside now.

Prune penstemons and other slightly tender plants, divide herbaceous perennials. Put supports in place for perennials before they get too big. Protect fruit blossom from late frosts, tie in climbing and rambling roses. Feed shrubs and roses. Deadhead spent spring bulbs, but leave the foliage to die back naturally so the bulbs can store energy for next year.

A regular hoe on dry days keeps the emerging weeds in check before they get established. This is prime sowing season. Direct sow hardy vegetables such as carrots, beetroot, peas and spinach once the soil has warmed a little.

Under cover, you can start courgettes, pumpkins and sweetcorn ready for planting out in May. Successional sowing — little and often — avoids gluts later in the summer. Mow lawns whenever the grass is growing with an aim to maintain a constant height throughout the year. If you have bulbs in the lawn, wait six weeks after flowering before you mow the area. Re edge lawns. Apply a spring lawn fertiliser. Sow new lawns or repair bare patches. Keep an eye on pests as new growth emerges. Slugs are particularly fond of tender young leaves, especially after rain. And while it's hedge-trimming season for some, always check carefully for nesting birds before doing any significant pruning.

PIRBRIGHT ART CLUB

We currently have a couple of spaces available and would welcome any new members! As we are half-way through the art club year, there would be a reduced fee for the 5 months to August! See our website for more details of membership and latest news: www.pirbrightartclub.co.uk

Subscriptions include automatic entry to all our exhibitions and events - no extra entry fees or commission! Members may also exhibit in Quince Cottage Gallery.

Monthly art sessions are run by Maggie Read - a qualified tutor and professional artist. Themes are set and Maggie demonstrates techniques and advises artists on their own projects. We have a still-life set up as an optional subject each month. Tuition and individual guidance is offered at each 3 x hour session and members choose to come either once or twice a month – attendance cards now available for Spring/Summer!

Contact Maggie Read by email: pirbrightartclub@btconnect.com or call 07977552780

Pirbright Community Calendar April 2026

Date	Time	Event
Wed 1st	7.00pm	Stations of the Cross at St Michael's Pirbright
Thur 2nd	5.00pm	Maundy Thursday at St Mark's Church Hall GU3 2DA
Fri 3rd		Good Friday Walk of Witness
	10.00am	Manor Fruit Farm
	11.00am	Service at St Mark's Church GU3 2DA
	2.30pm	Lord Pirbright Hall
	3.00pm	Service at St Michael's Pirbright
Sun 5th	10.00am	Easter Service with Easter Egg hunt at St Michael's Pirbright
Fri 10th	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Rawlins Club at Lord Pirbright's Hall
Sat 11th	10.00am - 12.00pm	Operation Churchyard at St Michael's Pirbright
Sun 12th	8.00am 9.30am	Said Communion at St Michael's Pirbright Contemporary Service at St Michael's Pirbright
Mon 13th	8.00pm	Royal British Legion at The Fox Inn, Fox Corner
Tue 14th	7.30pm	Pirbright Horticultural Society at Lord Pibrigh's Hall
Sun 19th	9.30am 11.15am	Holy Communion Service at St Michael's Pirbright Contemporary Service at St Mark's Church Hall GU3 2DA
Tue 21st	10.15am - 11.15am 7.00pm	Mid-Week Communion at St Michael's Pirbright Pirbright WI at Lord Pirbright's Hall
Sun 26th	9.00am 10.00am 11.15am	The Parish Dash at Lord Pirbright's Hall Church On The Green at Lord Pirbright's Hall Holy Communion Service at St Mark's Church GU3 2DA
Every Mon	10.00am - 11.30am	Baby & Toddler Group at St Michael's Pirbright Church Room (term time only)
Every Wed	7.30pm - 9.00pm	Pirbright Gospel Choir at the Pirbright School in the Stefanetti Music Suite (term time only)
Every Thur	7.30pm - 9.00pm	Beginners Bridge Club at the Community Sports Pavilion

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

Editors: Gemma Hyland, Heidi Gower and Jo Hurst.
Please send content to: editor@pirbrightvillagenews.org.uk

Pirbright Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Helen Myers clerk@pirbright-pc.gov.uk
07485 411214 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

St Michael and All Angels Church

Vicar: Rev GeorgeWatkinson
Admin: admin@pirbrightchurch.org.uk
07984323709
Website: www.pirbrightchurch.org.uk