

# THE BOXGROVE BUGLE

## THE MAGAZINE LINKING CHURCH AND PARISH

Boxgrove Priory, Church Lane,  
Boxgrove, Chichester, PO18 0ED  
[www.boxgrovepriory.co.uk](http://www.boxgrovepriory.co.uk)

## FEBRUARY 2026



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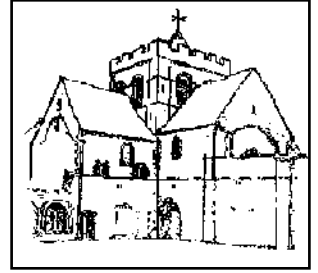
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# Who's Who in Boxgrove

## VICAR OF BOXGROVE

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## CDC MEMBER FOR BOXGROVE WARD & CHAIRMAN, BOXGROVE PARISH COUNCIL

**Mr Henry Potter** - 01243 527312

## BOXGROVE C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

01243 773309 - [office@boxgrove.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@boxgrove.w-sussex.sch.uk)

## BOXGROVE VILLAGE HALL Bookings & Enquiries

Administrator: **Mrs Sally Beckers** - 01243 788332 - [info@boxgrovevillagehall.co.uk](mailto:info@boxgrovevillagehall.co.uk)

## BOXGROVE VILLAGE STORES & CAFE

Open: **Mon-Fri** 7.30am-5.30pm; **Sat** 8.00am-5.00pm;

**Sun** 8.00am-2.00pm

Tel no: 01243 773201 - [Boxgroveshop@gmail.com](mailto:Boxgroveshop@gmail.com)



**FOR OTHER USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS**

**see page 32**

## From Father Dominic.....

Dear friends,

Over the course of the last decade our winters have become wet, muggy affairs – a kind of dark, rainy season contrasting with the hard heat of summer. At the end of these waterlogged months, February can feel leaden and depressing. This year we seem to have been reprieved, with a winter of crisp coldness and piercing sunlight, and perhaps February will be kind as well. Lent, which begins on 18<sup>th</sup>, is Anglo-Saxon for *spring*, reminding us that this season of the Church year is for renewal. The three traditional disciplines of Lent – fasting, prayer and charitable giving – are put before us as disciplines to help that renewal, and channel the first shoots of our spiritual regrowth.



We will begin Lent with two celebrations of the Eucharist on Ash Wednesday – Low Mass at 12.00pm, and a Solemn Mass at 7.00pm, both with Imposition of Ashes. Beginning the season at the Lord's Table is important, as we gather to acknowledge our mortal frailty (we are made of dust, and will return to it); and are nourished for the journey ahead to the celebration of Christ's Passion and Resurrection. Please come if you can.

We will use the diocesan Lent course as a focus for our study and prayer through the season. The course is about the gospel of Matthew, which we are reading Sunday by Sunday in church this year. Times for Lent study groups will be published in the weekly pew sheet. If meeting in a group doesn't work for you, there are plenty of Lent books to choose from. The Archbishop's Lent book this year is *Dancing to the Heartbeat of God*, written by an ensemble of authors from across the Anglican Communion (SPCK: ISBN: 9780281092314). Carys Walsh offers a different approach in *Dappled Beauty: through Lent with Gerard Manley Hopkins* (Canterbury Press: ISBN: 9781786225276). There are of course many other options in print, as well as resources online.

In life as in gardening, sometimes we need to clear away dead vegetation in order for new growth to push through. That insight lies behind the traditional encouragement to make use of the Ministry of Absolution (also called Confession, or the Sacrament of Reconciliation) in Lent. In Confession we articulate our failures in the context of a conversation with a priest, and receive the assurance of God's healing love and forgiveness. This ministry can powerfully liberate us from the weight of the past and help us move forward with deeper confidence and hope. I commend it to you as an option that is always there, but which is especially good for Lent. If you would like to arrange a time to make your confession on Shrove Tuesday or any other day, please let me know.

Sadly this year it has not been possible to organise a St Blaise Fair for early February. However, we are still committed to supporting Kwa Mkono Disabled Children's Hostel in Tanzania, and are looking to fundraise for them in different ways in 2026. On Sunday 8 February we will celebrate the Feast of St Blaise, giving thanks for his life, martyr's death and heavenly company. The traditional Blessing of Throats will take place at the Solemn Mass, and we will welcome a special guest preacher, Fr James McMahon, Lead Chaplain at Sussex Partnership, the NHS Mental Health Trust for Sussex. We look forward to welcoming James to the Priory as we commemorate our patron, one of the 'Fourteen Holy Helpers' especially associated with healing and wholeness.

With love and prayer,

Fr Dominic



### **Boxgrove Junior Church**

Come and join us at the St Blaise Centre in Boxgrove at 16:30 for 30 minutes of activities before the mass @ 5, every second Sunday of the month (excluding school holidays.)

We use craft activities, games, songs and stories to help us learn more about Christian teachings.

After Junior Church, we walk over to church together, to meet up with parents and carers and to enjoy Mass @5 .

We cannot wait to see you at the next Junior Church.

Vicky Willavise

## **Special Services this Month**

Candlemas – Sunday 1 February  
Candles will be blessed at both masses; procession at the Solemn Mass  
5.00pm Evening Prayer and Benediction

Patronal Festival – Sunday 8 February  
10.30am Solemn Mass with Blessing of Throats  
Guest Preacher: Fr James McMahon  
Lead Chaplain, Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Ash Wednesday - 18 February ;The First Day of Lent  
12.00pm Low Mass with Homily and Imposition of Ashes  
7.00pm Solemn Mass with Sermon and Imposition of Ashes



### ***From the Registers***

#### ***Funerals***

***John Luffingham***

***Patricia Hinman***

The Bugle's better online -  
it's in colour and has all the hyperlinks.  
[http://www.boxgrovepriory.co.uk/boxgrove\\_bugle.html](http://www.boxgrovepriory.co.uk/boxgrove_bugle.html)



# THE BUGLE

The Boxgrove Bugle is funded, printed and published by Boxgrove Priory. It is published [online](#), as well as printed copies being made available in the Priory, Boxgrove Village Hall and the Village Shop. The Bugle is not published in January or August.

Articles on any aspect of Boxgrove news - Village or Priory-based - are always most welcome. Material to be considered for publication should be sent by the copy date below and no later than the **15<sup>th</sup> day of the month**, please, to [editor.boxgrovebugle@gmail.com](mailto:editor.boxgrovebugle@gmail.com) for publication on or around the last Sunday of the month.

## DATES 2026

*NB: There is no Bugle in January or August*

Issue Month	Copy Deadline	Publication Date
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## BUGLE ARTICLES AND CONTENT

Please email the editor at [editor.boxgrovebugle@gmail.com](mailto:editor.boxgrovebugle@gmail.com)

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## Calendar and Intercessions

February	Observance	Prayer Intention
1	Sun <b>PRESENTATION OF THE LORD</b>	Parish and People
2	Mon Presentation of the Lord	Expectant parents
3	Tues St Blaise	All who visit the Priory
4	Weds	Home communicants
5	Thurs St Agatha	All who live with cancer
6	Fri Ss Paul Miki and Companions	The Church in Japan
7	Sat Our Lady on Saturday	Parish Walsingham Cell
8	Sun <b>PATRONAL FESTIVAL: ST BLAISE</b>	Parish and People
9	Mon	Vocations to ministry
10	Tues St Scholastica	Benedictine communities
11	Weds	The gift of true prayer
12	Thurs	Our diocese
13	Fri of Requiem	Departed of February
14	Sat Ss Cyril and Methodius	The peace of Eastern Europe
15	Sun <b>SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT</b>	Parish and People
16	Mon	St Richard's Hospital
17	Tues	The gift of penitence
18	Weds <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>	The forgiveness of our sins
19	Thurs	All who are bereaved
20	Fri	Parish councillors
21	Sat	
22	Sun <b>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	Parish and People
23	Mon St Polycarp	Persecuted Christians
24	Tues	Baptizands and confirmands
25	Weds	HM King Charles
26	Thurs	Penitents and confessors
27	Fri	Palliative carers
28	Sat	Boxgrove CE School

# BOXGROVE PARISH COUNCIL

From the Parish Council, January 2026



The Parish Council met on 05/01 in this New Year 2026.

The Chairman wished everyone in the Parish a Happy and Peaceful New Year. Due to my incapacity I haven't been out and about much but that has changed, I'm now able to drive hence my attendance at the meeting.

An overheard comment made in the Village Stores that the 'high' footpath between Halnaker and Boxgrove was blocked by a large amount of overgrowth of hedging and weeds broken loose by the high winds at the time was reported to a Councillor who was able to visit and assess the situation. Through his phone call to the coordinator of the draft Parish Resilience Plan a volunteer was motivated and attended with chainsaw and other kit and it was cleared away very promptly. So I wish to thank those involved. Though it wasn't an emergency in the true sense of the word, it did show what could be achieved in a short time.

Another report I received was of the poor state of some of the footpaths which criss cross the Common. I appreciate that we've had an awful lot of seasonal rain but the operatives of the farm machinery working those areas which aren't vines have failed in their duty of care and photos of some areas show how bad it has become. These fields are contract farmed by Barfoots Farms at Sefter, near Nyetimber, Bognor. I have written to them asking that they try and show a little more care. I also found out that because Barfoots are 'contract' farming the land as opposed to tenant farming it, they are not responsible for overgrown footpaths. Of particular concern is the 100 metre stretch of the path running from the eastern end of Church Lane out onto the open land beyond. Subsequently the land 'owner' has agreed to attend to it.

A planning application to convert the integral garage of Lind House to additional living space was discussed. Though it is within the Conservation Area, no comments will be made by the PC as the only visible minor change is changing the garage door to an entrance door with window. There is no further information available regarding the permitted development at Rohan Stables. The developer is still unable to attract a Registered Provider to assume ownership of the 8 "affordable" units provided within the permission. A variation to the Section 106 agreement is being sought from the CDC Local Planning Authority.

Work has commenced on the permitted viniculture machinery storage barn within the southern area of the Tinwood vineyard. This is intended to take the machinery

away from the very attractive wine tasting and restaurant area as well as the new lodges for overnight accommodation, which, I am told are proving to be extremely popular. Tinwood has certainly become a “must visit” venue in the Parish. The disturbance of the footpath / track during this construction work will be reinstated we are assured.

Henry Potter.

Chairman of the Parish Council



### **CHICHESTER LIBRARY**

**Tower Street, Chichester  
Telephone 01243 777351  
(Renewals 01243 642110)**

Please check [opening hours](#) before visiting



#### **OPENING HOURS**

Monday-Friday 9.00am - 6.00pm  
Saturday 9.00am - 5.00pm  
Sunday - closed



Please continue to support the Chichester District Foodbank.

Urgently needed items include tinned carrots, peas and green beans, sponge puddings, tinned fruit, tinned meat, rice, tinned potatoes/instant mash, tinned rice pudding/custard.

[Website link](https://chichesterdistrict.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/) for details of food donation points, opening hours, etc: <https://chichesterdistrict.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>; **tel: 01243 773687**



***Plea from the Editor:***

***Can you help at all with the next Boxgrove Dog Show?***

***Please see p 11.....***



# **Boxgrove Neighbourhood Plan**

## **Update January 2026**

The Modified Neighbourhood Plan has now been submitted to CDC so it can progress to the next stage of its adoption.

Our modified timetable suggests that this stage, called Regulation 16, will take place in April, meaning that the examiner can review in June followed by a local referendum in September. Reaching this stage does give the plan more weight in planning law against unwanted development.

In the meantime, The Folly site which is for 9 houses is expected to go to before the next CDC Planning Committee meeting which was due to take place on 14 January 2026 but is now more likely on 11 February 2026. The team and the Boxgrove Parish Council will be supporting this as it is in our NP.

We are, however, aware that other developers are pursuing other sites not in the plan. Namely, the Longmeadow site to the east of Boxgrove is being promoted for a smaller, 10 unit, in lieu of the larger site that was refused 2/3 years ago.

We are also aware of much larger developments on part of the vineyard in Halnaker alongside the A285. Also, on agricultural land to the east of the public footpath and along Tinwood Lane up to the main vineyard. Here ground water testing has been taking place. Both these sites have been identified as 'potentially developable' by CDC for some years but also rejected by them, the team and residents at our Open meetings in the past.

We will advise when further information becomes available.

Please follow the following link for any further information.

<https://boxgroveparishcouncil.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/our-neighbourhood-plan/>

David Leah

Chair of Boxgrove Neighbourhood Plan Team

2 January 2026

# 2025 Boxgrove Dog Show – Financial Results

Proceeds from	Total
Sponsorship	£805.00
Stalls	£410.00
Registrations	£822.00
Raffle	£494.00
Donations	£7.45
Refreshments	£703.74
Name the Dog	£32.00
Bric-a-brac	£76.37
Agility Ring	£92.00
Take-your-pick-stall	£93.58
	<b>£3,536.14</b>
Expenses	£518.54
	<b>£3,017.60</b>



Proceeds shared equally	
Canine Partners	£1,005.87
The Priory Church of St Mary & St Blaise	£1,005.87
Boxgrove Village Hall	£1,005.87



## Working together with our charities:

Boxgrove Priory  
Reg Charity 1131214



Reg Charity in England & Wales 803680

Boxgrove Village Hall  
Reg Charity 1167340

We are still looking for volunteers so we can hold a show this year - 2026

### Feb - May

**Judges & Stewards** – *Two judges have offered to give advice*

**Sponsors** (old and new) for all classes

**Schedule & posters** – design & print

**This is totally dependent on the two above & must be completed by June**

### June to September

**Stalls** – invite, invoice, receipt, site plan & emails to each

**Publicity** – Facebook (✓*Volunteer agreed*), emails, road-side advertising

**Gather Volunteers for the day** (47 used this year, any time is appreciated, from an hour to all day)

- ✓ *Volunteer agreed - Site set-up & equipment - Co-ordination of everything used on the day*
- ✓ *Volunteer agreed – Rosettes, order and collate*
- ✓ *Catering – Craig & Boxgrove Village Stores*
- ✓ *Volunteer agreed - On the day organisation*

**Why not give it a try?**

**Do we really want the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary show to be the last one ever?**

Contact Ali B [boxgrovedogshow@btinternet.com](mailto:boxgrovedogshow@btinternet.com) for more details or Tel: 07836 565 380



## Hello from the Hall!

It's been a wintry few days in Boxgrove and as I write this there is snow settling softly on the ground. Probably soon to be washed away...but it was very pretty whilst it lasted!

We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. Here at the hall, the decorations have gone back in their boxes and we have started work on plans for the various annual events we put on at the hall, for 2026.

As ever, we are on the lookout for more hands to help at our events, particularly our two largest events, the summer and Christmas fayres (Christmas in Boxgrove), so if you're interested in getting involved, please get in touch at: [community@boxgrovevillagehall.co.uk](mailto:community@boxgrovevillagehall.co.uk).

Don't forget, our hall is available to book for private events, no matter what the occasion may be. Whether you're thinking of celebrating a milestone birthday, hosting an anniversary party, running a workshop, launching a club, or simply gathering friends and family, our modern, multi-functional venue is here for you. The flexibility of the space makes it perfect for nearly any use - and because it's local, it's easy and convenient for your guests...(we offer discounted rates for community, midweek bookings, too!).

Interested in hiring the hall? Visit our website: [www.boxgrovevillagehall.co.uk](http://www.boxgrovevillagehall.co.uk) to check availability of your chosen room and book directly online! If you need any help making your choice or want to see the venue first, then get in touch at [accounts@boxgrovevillagehall.co.uk](mailto:accounts@boxgrovevillagehall.co.uk) or call and speak to Sally, Hall Manager, on 01903 788332.

That's all from us for now but keep an eye on the Bugle or our Facebook page (@boxgrovevillagehall) for the latest updates on our community events and classes.

Until next time...!

### Can you help?

Get in touch if you'd like to volunteer at your local village hall events!



[community@boxgrovevillagehall.co.uk](mailto:community@boxgrovevillagehall.co.uk)

## **From the Boxgrove Belles**

“Female Allied World War II Agents” - an intriguing title and an enthralling talk by Sheryl Green. She is passionate about her subject and has researched it in depth.

Do any of these names resonate with you? Andree de Jong, Mary Lindell, Suzanne Warengam, Nancy Wake, Betty Pack, Lise de Baissac. No? These are World War II's forgotten heroines - amazing, courageous women who put themselves in extreme danger to save thousands of Allied servicemen as well as French Resistance fighters. Some of the women were captured, tortured and executed or sent to concentration camps like Ravensbruck from which they never returned. Others survived. Andree de Jong, a Belgian, was a key member of the Comet Line, a group which helped 2-3,000 individuals escape occupied France, keeping them fed and clothed. They provided papers and documents and guided them out of France, travelling hundreds of miles. Andree survived Ravensbruck and after the war served as a nurse in a leper colony.

Or take the extraordinary story of Suzanne Warengam, a young French woman. She first worked in Paris helping airmen to escape. She then moved to Marseilles from where an important escape route took people over the Pyrenees and down to Gibraltar. Suzanne then worked with another agent, Harry Cole, helping allied servicemen out of France via Tours to Toulouse and then to Spain. Cole was said to be a by-word for chivalry and courage. He became ill and was nursed by Suzanne. They married in April 1942. However, it turned out that he was a double agent working for the Nazis. He brought about the deaths of many would-be escapees and agents. He even plotted to have Suzanne liquidated even though she was carrying his child! She eventually escaped to Britain in a Breton fishing boat and then trained with the SOE and went back to France to continue her work as an agent.

What these women accomplished during World War II is astonishing. They, and many like them, should be better remembered.

Our meeting continued with the usual tea and cake, raffle and reports from the sub-groups. So, in addition to the monthly meetings we have a book group, craft group, lunch club and cafe club. We also have special outings 3 or 4 times a year, often to local gardens. We have our sights on Parham House and Woolbeding Gardens for the Spring/Summer.

We meet on the second Wednesday of the month, 2 pm at the St Blaise Centre in Boxgrove. Come along and meet us and, who knows, you may decide to join.

## Weekly Food Waste Collections—Coming Soon!



### Your new weekly food waste collection service is coming soon!

From spring 2026, the council will be introducing a new weekly food waste collection service for households which will be rolled out across the Chichester District area-by-area. Before collections start, each household will receive a kitchen caddy (about the same size as a toaster), a roll of caddy liners to get you started, an outside bin (about the same size as a pair of wellington boots), and instructions on how to use the new service. You won't need to be at home to receive the containers, we'll place them outside your property. These will be delivered in phases, ensuring minimal delay from when you receive your bin to your first collection starting.

Nearer the time, collection dates will be available online at: [www.chichester.gov.uk/checkyourbinday](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/checkyourbinday) Your food waste collection day may be different to your recycling and waste collection day, so we strongly recommend that you check your start date before you begin to use your bin.

All household recycling, waste, and garden waste (if subscribed to) collections will continue as usual every two weeks. Collections for communal properties who share bins will start later in the year. More information will be provided to residents nearer the time.

If you live within the district, you can download the council's app! It's a handy way to stay updated as we get closer to launching this new service. Make sure that you sign up for notifications to receive live service updates during roll out, including for bin deliveries and service start dates. You can find more information at: [www.chichester.gov.uk/chichesterdcapp](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/chichesterdcapp)

Food waste collections are on the way, and every bit counts - no matter how much or how little you currently throw away. About a third of the average rubbish bin in the Chichester District is food waste, so once you start separating it, you might be surprised at how much you're wasting.

More information, including what you can and can't recycle, can be found on our dedicated webpage, which we will regularly update: [www.chichester.gov.uk/food-waste](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/food-waste)

# The Optimistic Gardener

## Fair Maids of February



No garden should be without snowdrops. On a grey January morning when the decorations are down after Christmas and the last of the turkey has been eaten, there is one sight which makes my heart sing! Not the adverts for summer holidays; not the January sales. No - just a clump of snowdrops. These tiny white flowers have the ability to announce that winter, while still very much holding us in its grip, has at least been challenged!

Snowdrops (*Galanthus*, if you want to sound impressive at a garden centre) are among the earliest flowers to bloom here in Britain. We have some peeping out from their green spears on the 1st January. Luckily, despite their delicate apparel, snowdrops are surprisingly tough. They can push through the frozen soil, survive frost and layers of snow (not that we ever get **that** any more!) When their glorious shoots emerge, you know you've survived the darkest ten weeks, and the days will only lengthen.



*No fear of a blanket of snow*

The thing I love the most about the snowdrop is its modesty. It hangs its head demurely unlike the brash extroverts of later in the year. No rose-like blowsiness or the outrageous colour palette of the dahlia. Subtlety is its middle name. It always wears white with the odd accessory in green. Those who are even more passionate about snowdrops than I am - galanthophiles (or as Christopher Lloyd quipped - galanthobores) - can talk for hours about their 'distinctive' markings. Ask a galanthophile about their collection and you may hear sentences such as, "This one has a distinctive green ovary mark," delivered with the

intensity of someone discussing fine wine. Nod respectfully. Back away slowly. Never suggest that all snowdrops look the same.

Here's a fact that we here at Boxgrove should be familiar with; they have been called Candlemas Bells as they were used to decorate the church for that festival, 2nd February, very much the time when common snowdrops are in full flower. They symbolise the purity and light of Christ. This is possibly why there are many churches with carpets of snowdrops - probably planted there to supply flowers for that festival. But they are also known by more secular names - "Fair Maids of February", "Snow Piercers" and my favourite, "Dingle Dangles"! Research done over decades at Kew Gardens shows that the average flowering date of the common snowdrop has moved from around the end of February in the 1950s to early January in the 1990s.

Though we think of them as the ultimate woodland plant, they are not truly native to the UK but were likely introduced back in the 16th century - possibly by monks for use in medicine. They are still being used in a medical context. Galantamine, an alkaloid first isolated from the common snowdrop (hence the name - our common snowdrop's Latin name is *Galanthus Nivalis*) is a prescription medication primarily used to treat the symptoms of mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease.

Nowadays galantamine is harvested from daffodils (snowdrops not being cost-effective) and these produce the most effective galantamine if they are grown in challenging upland areas such as the Black Mountains in Wales. Chemical synthesis of this drug is possible but it is difficult and expensive so the natural world wins out!



*Right: Daffodils in The Black Mountains*

Another joy of snowdrops is that they are easy to grow, particularly if you give them conditions which suit their temperament. They are woodland plants which emerge before the leaves of deciduous trees have opened up. So if you can give them good light early in the year you are onto a winner - particularly if you have soil which is rich in leaf mould. If your soil is poor and thin just regularly add organic matter to mimic the ground beneath deciduous trees. If it is heavy clay then add grit to improve it.

You can plant snowdrops in the autumn using bulbs but by far the most successful way that I have tried is to split existing clumps and plant the snowdrops after flowering 'in-the-green'. In 2023 I found a company which would send clumps of snowdrops in this state. It was relatively inexpensive (phew!) and I planted the 200 'in-the-green' plants in a group beneath some red-barked Cornus. By 2024 I had a modest display in February but last year I had twice as many. And I have great hopes for 2026.



*Left: Snowdrops (Galanthus Nivalis) growing beneath the red stems of Cornus alba Sibirica*

The reason the snowdrops increase over the years is not because of my back-breaking, knee-knocking grovelling around splitting them, but nature gave me a helping hand. If you divide snowdrops after they have flowered you can get ten-fold increase

but if, like me, you forget to do this they will double in number. They are flowering at a time of year when there are very few pollinating insects around so it needs a different way of furthering its species. Bulbs will split when dormant. Later, new flowers sprout from both parts of the split bulb.

*Left: Snowdrops (Galanthus Nivalis) growing beneath the red stems of Cornus alba Sibirica*

Ultimately, snowdrops matter because they arrive when we need them most. They don't promise instant warmth or endless sunshine. They don't pretend winter is over. Instead, they offer a gentle reminder that seasons change, even when it feels like they never will.

*Janet Reeves*

# Chantry Quire

Registered Charity no: 1189477

Director: Peter Allwood



**making  
music**

GOODWOOD

In memory of Susan, Duchess of Richmond

# JS Bach St John Passion

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Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2026

7:30pm



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## Petworth House & Park News for February

Petworth House and Park, Church Street, Petworth, GU28 0AE



Details at <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/petworth>

Having been closed until 25th January for the updating of the fire safety system, cleaning, conservation and refurbishment of the shop and other areas, Petworth House has now reopened. The deer park is still open. Please check via the website to plan your visit to the House.

***STOP PRESS!! There will be a Family Trail running during half term, but no more details were available at the time of going to press. Please check the website for further information, dates and times.***

\*\*\*\*\*

## Goodwood's Cows Go High-Tech with New Robotic Milking System

Goodwood is continuing its commitment to sustainable farming and animal welfare with the installation of state-of-the-art robotic milking machines at Home Farm. The new 'Astronaut A5 Next Milking Solution' from Lely allows cows to choose when they are milked, creating a calmer, more natural experience that enhances both wellbeing and milk quality.

The system uses gentle brushes, laser-guided precision, and smart data to ensure each cow is milked comfortably, efficiently, and hygienically. By letting cows set their own routine, stress is reduced, udder health improves, and milk yields increase. The technology also monitors milk quality and the health of every cow in real time, enabling early intervention and supporting proactive, data-driven herd management. For the Goodwood team, the benefits extend beyond the barn. The automated system means farm staff can dedicate more time to animal care, pasture management, and other sustainability initiatives. It also reduces energy use and waste, aligning perfectly with Goodwood's long-term goal of combining innovation with responsible farming.

By embracing cutting-edge technology while maintaining traditional values, Goodwood continues to lead the way in ethical, sustainable dairy production — ensuring a healthier herd, fresher milk, and a bright future for farming in our local community.



## **A perfect match could be closer than you think.**

This month's column is a little different from my usual property update.

As we now are well into 2026, I wanted to try something slightly more hopeful and perhaps a little more fun. The start of the year always brings fresh starts, new ideas and unexpected opportunities, and in property that can sometimes lead to the most satisfying outcomes of all.

Right now, I am working with one very specific buyer for our villages who is actively looking to move into one of our beautiful villages in **PO18 or GU29**. This is not a speculative enquiry. They are motivated, ready to proceed and have a budget of up to £2m for the right home.

The buyer is a cash purchaser, offering a level of flexibility that is increasingly rare, whether that's on timing, completion dates or simply making the process as smooth and straightforward as possible for the right seller. (We are paid by the buyer not the seller)

What if their perfect house is already here, quietly waiting?

So often, homeowners assume "now isn't quite the right time", while buyers assume "nothing suitable ever comes up". Every now and then, a simple conversation creates a genuine perfect match, one that works beautifully for both buyer and seller, without pressure or publicity.

This buyer is looking for what our villages do best: character, space, privacy, gardens, and a home in a perfect West Sussex village. Perhaps it's a house you have loved for years but

are starting to think about the next chapter. Or maybe it's simply a case of if the right buyer comes along....

Well, they just might have.

This year , it might be worth seeing what happens. After all, some of the best property stories begin with a quiet conversation and end with a very happy match indeed.

Please contact Property Acquisitions on  
07776-452128 or email: [jh@propertyacquisitions.co.uk](mailto:jh@propertyacquisitions.co.uk)

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**Director**



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## **Latest News from St Wilfrid's Hospice**

### **February 2026**

#### **New Year Raffle**



You could win £1,500!

St Wilfrid's New Year Raffle is open, inviting the local community to take part and enter for a chance to win some amazing cash prizes. By entering, you'll be helping to support the incredible care and compassion that the Hospice provides to those in need.

The raffle closes on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, so don't miss your chance.

Get your ticket for only £1 here: [www.stwh.co.uk/raffle](http://www.stwh.co.uk/raffle)

#### **Moonlight Walk 2026**

Walk in memory of a loved one!

St Wilfrid's Moonlight Walk returns this June 13<sup>th</sup>, inviting you to join us on an in-memory walk around Chichester. This is a wonderful event, with hundreds of other walkers taking part and fundraising to support the Hospice. By taking part, you'll get to explore Chichester under the moonlight and stop at exclusively decorated areas.

Tickets are available now: [www.stwh.co.uk/moonlight](http://www.stwh.co.uk/moonlight)

#### **Make a Will Fortnight**

As life changes, so should your Will.

From March 9<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, a group of generous local solicitors are offering the chance to update or write your Will. In return, they ask that you redirect their usual fee as a donation to St Wilfrid's Hospice, helping us continue providing exceptional palliative care to those who need it most. See which solicitors are participating and get in touch to book your appointment:

[www.stwh.co.uk/mawf](http://www.stwh.co.uk/mawf)

#### **Gifts in Wills**

Your kindness could mean less tax and more hospice care.

A gift in your Will to St Wilfrid's Hospice could reduce the amount of tax you have to pay.

A gift left to any charity, such as St Wilfrid's Hospice, would be taken off the value of your estate before Inheritance Tax is calculated. Plus, if 10% or more is left to charity, your Inheritance Tax rate could also be reduced. Your gift could help protect the future of hospice care in your local community. It's simple to do and we are here to help you every step of the way.

You can find out more about the importance of gifts in Wills and how it can help local charities like St Wilfrid's here:

[www.stwh.co.uk/gifts-in-wills](http://www.stwh.co.uk/gifts-in-wills)

*St Wilfrid's Hospice is not a financial advisor. Inheritance Tax rates are complex and could change. Please ensure you have consulted with your solicitor or Will writer about any changes you'd like to make to your Will. The most up to date information can be found at [www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax](http://www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax)*



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**Tod Anstee**

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## Your parish, your property... our passion

Tod Anstee is an independent company with a strong local history providing our clients with the widest market exposure and a highly proactive approach to selling and letting. Sam has unrivalled knowledge of the parish having spent over 20 years living in the village of Boxgrove.

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**Sam Tod**  
residential sales  
partner



**Ros Healey**  
residential lettings  
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Mark Peters - 07729 773277**



The Society presents its next lecture on

**Tuesday 24 February at 2 pm  
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Visit: **[www.tasboxgrove.org.uk](http://www.tasboxgrove.org.uk)**

Membership Secretary: **07768 927554**

*New members and guests very welcome*



St Joseph's, Hunston Road, Chichester, PO20 1NP  
Tel: 01243 537934 ~ Email: [admin@stonepillow.org.uk](mailto:admin@stonepillow.org.uk)  
<https://stonepillow.org.uk/>

Please continue to leave any non-perishable food you can spare in our bin just inside the inner doors of the church. We welcome gifts, including furniture and electrical goods, at the Restore Shop in Terminus Road (Stonepillow Restore, Unit 3, Plot 27, Terminus Road, Chichester PO19 8UE; Tel: 01243 698547; [restore@stonepillow.org.uk](mailto:restore@stonepillow.org.uk)). We can collect larger items if needed.

We are also looking for volunteers who don't mind getting stuck in and sorting our donations; this will enable us to make the best use of them. So many people have so much experience which would be very welcome ...!



Please remember - if you have any unwanted sewing machines, carpentry, garden or engineering tools, Tim Pullan and Malcolm Knight collect such items for 'Tools with a Mission' and 'Tools for Self-Reliance' respectively to be despatched to Africa to help families and individuals to start or expand their business.

**Tim Pullan** 01243 532065

**Malcolm Knight** 07722 115212

They can arrange to collect.



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## Dates for Your Diary

*NB Information correct at time of going to press*

Sunday 1 February	Candlemas (See p5)
Thursday 5 February	Guildhall Open Morning 10-11.30, Priory Park—free drop-in to rarely open Grade I listed building
Friday 6 February	Sussex Harmonisers at Sage House 1-3pm Tickets £14 Tea, sandwiches, cake etc served; call 01243 888691 to book
Sunday 8 February	Patronal Festival (See p5)
Wednesday 11 February	Lavant Horticultural Society talk—"Barnsdale after Geoff" at 2.30pm in Village Hall
Wednesday 11 February	Cellophonics concert in the Priory at 7.30pm
Wednesday 18 February	Ash Wednesday (See p5)
Monday 23 February	Air Aces Talk—"Spitfire & Winkle Brown" 7.30pm in Village Hall—£10 <a href="http://www.airaces.org.uk">www.airaces.org.uk</a>
Thursday 26 February	Chichester Chamber Concert—Sitkovetsky Trio—in Assembly Rooms <a href="http://www.chichesterchamberconcerts.com">www.chichesterchamberconcerts.com</a>

## CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

*Please see the cathedral website for details of the many events being held there: [www.chichestercathedral.org.uk](http://www.chichestercathedral.org.uk)* The popular lunchtime concerts held at 1.10pm on Tuesdays continue in term

time. There is no charge for admission but a minimum donation of £7 per person is invited (Gift Aided as appropriate).

3rd February—David Malusa, piano  
10th February—Otonove Ensemble  
17th February—Amber Emson, violin & Leah Nicholson, piano  
24th February—Benjamin Chewter, organ

## PRIORY SERVICES AND MASS TIMES

**Sundays** at 8.30am and 10.30am [Solemn]

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday** at 10am

(Coffee after Mass on Tuesday)

**Wednesday and Friday** at noon

On, usually, the first Sunday of the month at the 10.30am Mass the setting of the Ordinary (Kyrie, Gloria, Creed, Sanctus, Benedictus and Agnus Dei) will normally be congregational, with anthems and motets sung by the choir.

***Please see page 4 for Boxgrove Junior Church arrangements.***

Readers are advised to check service times on the Priory website (<http://www.boxgrovepriory.co.uk/worship.html>), as it is necessary from time to time to amend them.

You are encouraged to attend the services in person; however, if you prefer you can still 'join in' the Mass from the Priory, 'live' or at a time which may be more convenient for you, via the Parish [Facebook](#) page.

***Youngsters: Come and join in at Boxgrove Junior Church (2nd Sunday) and our new Mass@5 (Usually 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays)***

\*\*\*\*\*

**FOR SPECIAL SERVICES DURING FEBRUARY PLEASE SEE  
PAGE 5**

## Useful contact details

### Local Police

Emergencies 999 or 112 ~ Other matters 0845 60 70 999 or 101

### Citizens Advice

Consumer helpline 0345 4040506

### Action on Elder Abuse

Confidential helpline 080 8808 8141

### Action Fraud

National fraud reporting centre 0300 123 2040



*The Church is open daily  
and all are welcome!*