

Parishes of Greatham, Empshott and Hawkley with Priors Dean



Welcoming, Invitational & Inclusive, Safe and Encouraging

Church News

6th September 2026

Trinity 14

This Sunday:

Empshott	09.15	Holy Communion
	Judith Bee	

Hawkley	10.15	Holy Communion (<i>including Sunday Funday</i>)
	Richard Wharton	

Greatham	11.00	Morning Worship
	Kay Thorpe and Jan Fuller	

All welcome!

Deanery Confirmation Service

This year's Deanery Confirmation Service will be held at Hawkley on Sunday 22nd November at 4.00 p.m.

Confirmation is a special service where people confirm to the bishop that they agree with the promises that were made when they were baptised (i.e. the promises made by godparents when people were baptised as infants). The bishop places his hands on the heads of the individual candidates and special prayers are said for them.

People can be confirmed at any age as long as they are old enough to make the promises for themselves (usually 10 years plus). If you have not been confirmed and would like to explore this, please do approach or message Rev'd Richard.

Weekday Services at Hawkley:

Holy Communion - Wednesdays 7.30am

An early, said, Holy Communion (without hymns), is held on Wednesdays and is ideal for those who appreciate a quiet, reflective and peaceful form of midweek communion. With readings, prayers and Eucharist, lasting around 25 minutes, it is ideal for those who start the day early or have a commute.

Morning Prayer - Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, all at 9.00am

Morning Prayer from Common Worship is the contemporary version of the morning daily office. It follows a pattern of introduction, psalm(s), readings, canticles including the Benedictus and prayers appropriate to the day. Morning Prayer last for 20 – 25 minutes. Some attendees of Morning Prayer (but by no means all) use the App on their phones which saves having to look up readings and psalms – it's all on the phone!

Everyone (and anyone) is always welcome.

Coming up...

Saturday 5th September – Greatham Flower and Produce Show at Greatham Village Hall, from 3.00pm – details below.

Monday 7th September – Yewlian Meeting at 7.00pm at Priors Dean

Wednesday 9th September at 7.00pm at Hawkley Village Hall – ‘**How Clean is my River?**’ – a presentation about the health and management of the River Rother, arising in the Hawkley Hangers and our nearest natural watercourse.

Saturday 12th September - please join us in the Churchyard at Holy Rood Empshott for the **annual working party** when we trim things back and set it up for the winter season. We need to trim hedges, weed drainage gullies, clear out guttering, prune plants, strim long grasses, rake gravel and more. There are also some indoor tasks in the Church including cleaning brass, hoovering dusting and polishing.

Saturday 12th September – Ride and Stride – details can be found in **The Village Magazine**. A great opportunity to visit other churches and raise some money for the Hampshire and the Island Historic Churches Trust.

Friday 18th September at 7.00pm – A Beginner’s Introduction to Line Dancing, to be held at **The Empshott Hut**. Details below. To book your place please email empshottevents@gmail.com Everyone is welcome. Dress code casual. Smooth shoes, flat trainers or low heel boots are good to dance in. Hats are fun but not essential!

Saturday 19th September – The Kings Pond Shantymen will be visiting St John the Baptist, Greatham, for another evening of entertainment. Doors open at 6.30pm, for a 7.00pm start. Further details below.

Sunday 27th September – Greatham Village ‘Church Crawl’ – our annual opportunity to worship together in the different venues and styles. Please put the date in your diary! Details follow, below.

St John's Coffee Café

The Thursday **Coffee Café** resumes on Thursday 10th September, between 10.00 and noon, in the Parish Room

Coffee and Chat

Coffee and Chat – Continues every Tuesday at 10.00 – noon, at Hawkley Village Hall

GREATHAM FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW

Saturday 5th September 2026

Greatham Village Hall at 3.00pm



KINDLY SUPPORTED BY GREATHAM INN & LISS YARNS

RAFFLE TEA CAKES

Admission 50p Children free

Show Team Contacts:

Tricia Porter 07950 613660

Rebecca Dowling, Lucy Carter, Claire Cornell, Liz Wilkinson

HOW CLEAN IS MY RIVER ?



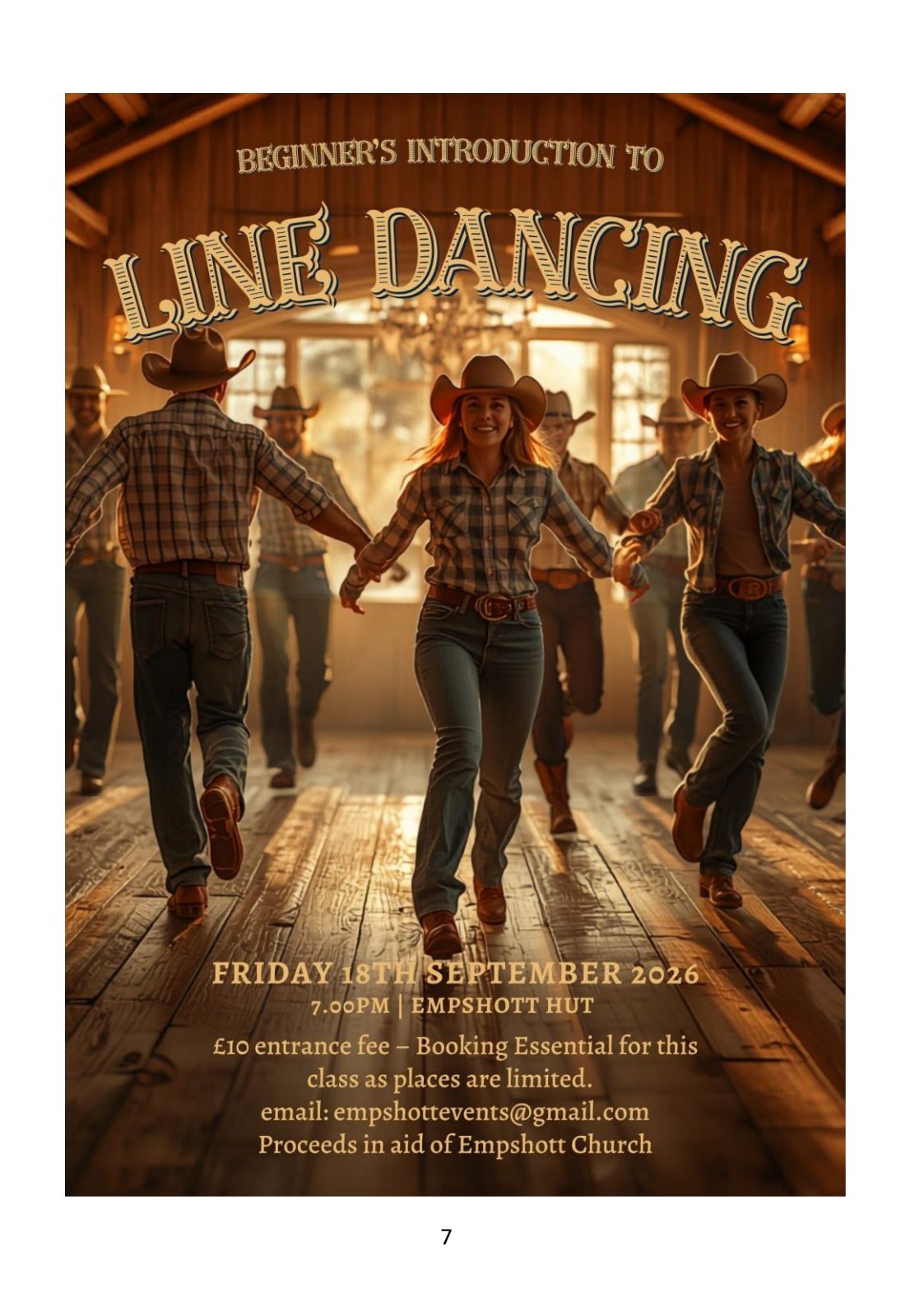
The main source of the River Rother rises in the Hawley hangers. Our village ditches, ponds, streams and fields drain into it. What we do here matters downstream.

The Upper Rother is in trouble. Like many waterways, the health of our river has declined in recent decades. **Louise Barnetson of The Rivers Trust will give an illustrated talk in September about the state of the Rother and how we can help improve it by ensuring the efficiency of our septic tanks and treatment plants and by careful land management.**

Paul Bushell (the South Downs National Park western ranger) and his team have been monitoring the water quality in our area and will join Louise on the night to share their findings. He will also outline a proposal to introduce a beaver colony on the western reaches of the Rother.

Please join us on **Wednesday 9th September at 7.00 in Hawkley Village Hall**

Hold the date: Wednesday 14th October at 104 The Hornet, Chichester – a conference on **‘Surviving the food crisis - who is responsible?’** Organised by local community groups and supported by the **South Downs National Park.**

A group of people, mostly women, are line dancing in a rustic wooden hall. They are wearing cowboy hats, plaid shirts, and jeans. The room has large windows in the background, letting in warm, golden light. The floor is made of wide wooden planks. The text "BEGINNER'S INTRODUCTION TO LINE DANCING" is overlaid on the top half of the image in a stylized, white, outlined font.

BEGINNER'S INTRODUCTION TO LINE DANCING

FRIDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2026

7.00PM | EMPSHOTT HUT

**£10 entrance fee – Booking Essential for this
class as places are limited.**

email: empshottevents@gmail.com

Proceeds in aid of Empshott Church

**THE KINGS POND SHANTYMEN
AT
ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH
GREATHAM HANTS GU33 6HB
ON THE
19th SEPTEMBER 2026**

**DOORS OPEN AT 6.30PM
FOR A 7PM START**

**TICKETS £10
TO INCLUDE A PLOUGHMANS SUPPER
CASH BAR RAFFLE**

**FOR TICKETS OR MORE INFORMATION
TELEPHONE 07818401853 OR EMAIL
carolerudd2412@gmail.com**



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Join us for the annual Greatham Village Church Crawl

10am Sunday, 27th September

Whether you are of the Christian faith, other faith, or no faith, you are warmly invited to join the parish church, Hope Church and L'Abri for the fifth annual 'Church Crawl'. We'll be walking from Greatham School, to the Old Church, to the Manor House and then to St. John's, pausing at each one for readings, reflections, creative prayer and music. We finish with a picnic lunch in Manor Field. Please bring your own sandwiches and we will provide drinks and deserts.

You are welcome to come along to some or all of the gathering places.

10:00 Greatham School: Coffee and Pastries

10:30 Welcome by Hope Church

10:45 Walk to Greatham Old Church for 11AM

11:15 Walk to the Manor House for 11:30 AM

(Please use the front entrance)

11:45 Walk to St John the Baptist Church for 12 Noon

12:15 Picnic at Manor Field



The Roberts Centre and Portsmouth Family Welfare

...can take donations of food. Donations must have a long shelf-life so please check the BBE date when you purchase.

The following items have been requested:

Sugar

Long-life milk: skimmed, semi-skimmed, full fat

Chunky soups

Tinned vegetables including tinned potatoes

Tinned meat and fish, baked beans, noodles, pasta

Cereals

Tea, coffee, including de-cafeinated, and squash

Biscuits, chocolate, pre-wrapped cake

Loo rolls, kitchen towel, dish cloths

Toiletries for men and women. Sanitary pads, toothbrushes and toothpaste, soap, shampoo

Babies nappies.

In addition, children's clothing for 2 - 12 years.

Please leave any donations in Hawkley Church porch or in the container by the font at St John's, Greatham.

They are continuing with Supermarket vouchers. If you would like to make a cash donation for a voucher so that clients can buy for themselves under supervision, please put a donation in an envelope marked 'Roberts Centre Food voucher' and give it to either Jeremy or Elizabeth at Hawkley, or Paul at Greatham.

Thank you for your continued support.



How to donate and support our work

We are hugely grateful to everyone who supports us financially - thank you! Each of the four churches is a member of the national Parish Giving Scheme which means that you can easily set up a way to give that suits you. Either visit the website use www.parishgiving.org.uk or telephone 0333 002 1260. Simply state the name of the church you wish to support and their parish code:

St Peter and St Paul Church, Hawkley	Code Number: 290629087
Priors Dean Church	Code Number: 290629088
St John the Baptist, Greatham	Code Number: 290629086
Empshott Holy Rood	Code Number: 290629083

PGS will ask for your contact details and bank details: sort code, account number and account name. For details of other ways to support any of our churches, please contact the appropriate treasurer:

Hawkley	Alex Wilkinson	Alexandra-wilkinson@hotmail.com
Priors Dean	Carolyn Fair	carolyn.fair1@gmail.com
Greatham	Steve Hedicker	shedicker58@gmail.com
Empshott	Verity Tucker	verityvmtucker@gmail.com

Church News

If you know someone who would like to receive Church News, which is emailed weekly, please contact Paul Goddard rattypaul@hotmail.com

We can also share details of events around our villages, as appropriate.

Clergy Contacts:

Rev'd Richard Wharton richardjwharton@outlook.com 07972 099230

Readers:

Elizabeth Hawkins 01730 827502

Paul Goddard 07837 651579 (rattypaul@hotmail.com)

Parochial Church Councils:

Greatham: Kay Thorpe and Simon Lewis (Church Wardens), Carole Rudd (Secretary & Safeguarding Officer), Debbie Hedicker, David McConnell, Ruth Wey, Steve Hedicker and Paul Goddard.

Empshott: David Tucker (Church Warden and Vice Chair), Helen Sinclair (Church Warden), Carol Ashby, Verity Tucker, Susan Sinclair and Phil Momber. (*Safeguarding Officer:* Jo Knight)

Hawkey with Priors Dean: Neil Chrimes (Church Warden), Tom Wilkinson (Church Warden), Liz Buckle, Molly Keer, Alex Wilkinson, Jane Wyman, Carolyn Fair, D Green, Nick Pettman, Jo Knight (*Safeguarding Officer for Hawkey and Empshott*) and Elizabeth Hawkins.

Safeguarding Officers:

Greatham:	Carole Rudd	01420 538160
Hawkey with Priors Dean and Empshott:	Jo Knight	01730 827974

Electoral Roll Officers:

Greatham	Carole Rudd	carolerudd2412@gmail.com
Empshott	<i>Vacant</i>	
Hawkey with Priors Dean	Tom Wilkinson	tom-wilkinson@hotmail.co.uk

Next Sunday – 13th September 2026

Trinity 14

08.45	Priors Dean	Holy Communion
09.15	Empshott	Holy Communion
10.15	Hawkley	Holy Communion
11.00	Greatham	Holy Communion

Please come and join us!