

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) Sunday, 29 April** in church after the 10am service. Come and hear what the church has achieved over the past year and elect the officers for the coming year.

**WEDNESDAY CLUB:** The next meeting of the Wednesday Club is on Wednesday 4 April at 2pm at the Lloyd Hall in Outwood. Libby Groner is coming to demonstrate Flower Arranging. There will be a Bring and Buy stall and the competition is for a Floral item. Visitors are always welcome.

### Windmill United Benefice Services in April

#### Easter Day

<b>1 April</b>	<b>7am</b>	<b>Early Easter Service on Outwood Common</b>
	9.30am	Holy Communion at <b>Burstow Church</b>
	<b>11am</b>	<b>Family Communion at Horne Church</b>
	11am	Holy Communion at <b>Outwood Church</b>
5 April	10am	Holy Communion at <b>Smallfield Church Hall</b>
8 April	9.30am	Morning Worship at <b>Burstow Church</b>
	<b>10am</b>	<b>Holy Communion at Horne Church</b>
	11am	Holy Communion in <b>Outwood Church</b>
	6pm	Holy Communion at <b>Smallfield Church Hall</b>
15 April	9.30am	Holy Communion at <b>Burstow Church</b>
	<b>10am</b>	<b>Morning Worship at Horne Church</b>
	11am	Holy Communion in <b>Outwood Church</b>
22 April	9.30am	Holy Communion at <b>Burstow Church</b>
	<b>10am</b>	<b>Holy Communion at Horne Church</b>
	11am	Morning Worship in <b>Outwood Church</b>
	4pm	Messy Church at <b>Smallfield Church Hall</b>
29 April	9.30am	Holy Communion at <b>Burstow Church</b>
	<b>10am</b>	<b>Holy Communion at Horne Church followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting</b>
	11am	Holy Communion in <b>Outwood Church</b>

Details of all Windmill Benefice services are on the website: [windmillchurches.co.uk](http://windmillchurches.co.uk)

St Mary the Virgin, Horne is part of the Windmill United Benefice with St Bartholomew, Burstow and St John the Baptist, Outwood

**Rector: Revd Nicholas Calver**

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# St Mary the Virgin

Church Road, Horne RH6 9LA



## Diary for April 2018

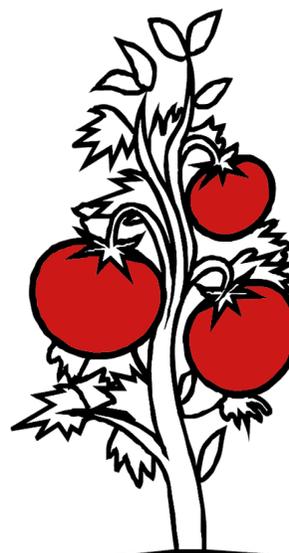
### Easter Day

**1 April 7am Early Easter Service on Outwood Common**  
**11am Family Communion at Horne Church**

### Coming up in April:

#### Sponsored Walk

The traditional Sponsored Walk to raise funds for St Mary's takes place on **Saturday 21 April**. This year we will meet in the Butterfly Nursery car park on Church Road at 10.15am for a 10.30 sharp departure to walk round part of the parish boundary. As in previous years the walk will take a couple of hours with a stop along the way for some refreshment. Well behaved dogs and children welcome! Sponsor forms are available at the back of the church or from Julie Mohacek (01342 841752). Do come and join us for a Ramble with the Rector and enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of the country.



#### Plant Sale

**Saturday, 28 April 10am – 12 noon**, in the churchyard (inside church if wet). Refreshments served as you ponder your purchases! We would be most grateful for any flowers and/or vegetables and all kind of bedding plants so do pot anything up ready to sell. We have a large (single, pink) Camelia specimen (grown in a pot) which is for sale and we would supply it without the pot, but with its root ball in a sack ready to plant. It would be an ideal plant for anyone planning a new garden or landscaping an existing. A garden centre would charge £80+ for such a specimen but we will take any reasonable offer. Further details from Rosemary Spruce (ring: 07813 981202 or 01342 844611 or email: [rosemary.spruce@btinternet.com](mailto:rosemary.spruce@btinternet.com))

## Rector's Ramblings

You may remember me writing in one of my magazine letters last year about how at the same time that I was writing the letter I was also preparing for my mother's funeral service. I said how death is very much part of my work and how I always think what a privilege it is to share in the journey of someone who is dying or to help in the process of saying goodbye by leading a funeral service. It is the essence of why I went into the ministry, part of the sharing of the journey of life.

As I write this month's letter I am preparing for another funeral. As a result of me writing that letter last year, someone wrote to me, asking if I would visit her husband who had been diagnosed with terminal cancer. One visit led to regular visits and while we talked about things like family and work we also talked about death and how he wanted his funeral to be. We spoke about the music and the readings and how and where it would happen. Above all he told me, "I would like the service to be all about love. There is not enough love in the world but I have always tried to show love to everybody I have met."

The music he chose for the start of the service was 'The Prayer', sung by Andrea Bocelli and Celine Dion. It wasn't a song that I remembered hearing before, but it's sung beautifully by both of them in a combination of English and Italian. To have some Italian in the service seems entirely appropriate because Italian is, after all, traditionally known as 'the language of love', not least because with so many words ending in vowels it sounds more like singing than speaking. So, if you listen to 'The Prayer' you'll hear Andrea Bocelli sing these words:

*La luce che tu dai  
Nel cuore restera  
A ricordarci che  
L'eterna stella sei*

All this reminds me of a scene from the film 'The Shawshank Redemption' in which one of the prisoners plays a recording of Mozart's 'Marriage of Figaro' over the prison tannoy system. Listening in the prison yard another prisoner, played by Morgan Freeman, says:

*I have no idea to this day what those two Italian ladies were singing about.  
Truth is, I don't want to know. Some things are best left unsaid. I'd like to think  
they were singing about something so beautiful, it can't be expressed in words,  
and makes your heart ache because of it. I tell you, those voices soared higher  
and farther than anybody in a grey place dares to dream.*

Some things simply can't be summed up or expressed in words, and love, like God – for God is love – is one of them. Nevertheless, I'd like to leave the words of 'The Prayer' with you. As I write, the funeral hasn't happened but when you read this it will have taken place and I have no doubt that the

music chosen and played at the service will have taken all of us present to a place where our hearts ache and yet we dare to dream. So, having translated the words above and adding the words of English that follow them, here is 'The Prayer' for you:

*The light that you give  
In the heart will remain  
To remind us that  
When stars go out each night  
You are the eternal star.*

*Let this be our prayer  
When shadows fill our day  
Lead us to a place  
Guide us with your grace  
Give us faith so we'll be safe*

With love and prayers

Nicholas

*Nicholas.calver@btinternet.com*

**CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE** We are planning a Work Party in the churchyard on Saturday 12 May, from 10am onwards. Please make a note of the date and come along to help – more details next month. We are also looking for people to help with the **strimming** on a regular basis. This would involve a couple of hours every so often depending on the grass growing season and the number of volunteers on the rota. A strimmer will be provided but you can use your own! If you can help please let Barbara Verco know. tel 01342 843543.

**CAMEO:** The next meeting of **CAMEO** is at 2pm on Friday 6 April at Smallfield Church Hall. And from 1.30pm you can **HEAR HERE** as NHS hearing volunteer Helen will be there to provide new batteries and maintenance for your hearing aids. Following meetings of both are on 4 May and 1 June. Everyone is welcome to Cameo, and/or to HEAR HERE, and/or to both!

### CALLING ALL MEN!

Do you enjoy singing? Or have you been told you can't sing?  
Either way, the new **Windmill Songmen** is the group for you!

Come along to learn some sea shanties for a performance at the  
Outwood Church Heritage Day and Hort Soc Early Summer show on 23 June.

**No commitment, no pressure – just fun!**

Starting on Tuesday 23 April 7.30-9.00pm at Smallfield Church Hall,  
Redehall Road (further dates and venues to suit those in the group)

Just come along on the night or find out more from Ginette Nye  
(email: [ginette.nye@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:ginette.nye@blueyonder.co.uk) or call: 07714 403624)