

HOBNOB

On-line



**The parish magazine for
St. Peter and St. Paul. Horndon-on-the-Hill
St. Giles and All Saints. Orsett
St. Mary-the-Virgin. Bulphan**

March 2021



THE UNITED BENEFICE OF ORSETT, BULPHAN AND HORNDON - ON - THE - HILL

www.hobnob.org.uk Facebook: @HOBNOBchurches

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Churchwardens	Janet Wilkins	01375 372 067
	Jackie Wood	01375 891 744
Treasurer	Lynn Bennett	
Covenant Secretary	Mark Willett	01375 892 113
PCC Secretary	Vacancy	
Sacristans	Di Bubb, Judi Mowatt, Tony Mowatt	
Vergers	Ed Stoddart	
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Mothers' Union Branch Leader	Di Bubb	01375 891 404
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Tower Captain	Judith Church	01375 891 556

St Mary-the-Virgin Bulphan

Churchwardens	Ron Porter	01375 891 697
	Frank Woollard	01375 891 034
Deputy Churchwarden	Brian Flavell	01708 225 804
Treasurer	Lynda Robertson	01375 892 428
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St Peter & St Paul Horndon-on-the-Hill

Churchwardens	Sonia Ward	01375 674212
	Alastair Macrae	01375 673 327
Deputy Churchwarden	Felicity Tarbard	01375 677581
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	Beverley Macrae	
Vergers	Bill Rayner. Peter Belsham.	

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Christine Mortimer: c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk	01375 641 485
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Musicians

Jane Barry	07552 199 697
Janet McCheyne	07752 836 902

To arrange Weddings, please contact Rev. Sue Mann on 01375 891 254 or email: rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk



COMMUNITY INFORMATION

ORSETT, BULPHAN AND HORNDON - ON - THE - HILL

POLICE

at Grays

email: thurrockcpt@essex.pnn.police.uk

101 or 999

DOCTORS

Horndon-on-the-Hill
Orsett & Bulphan
Bulphan

(Orsett Surgery)
(Ockendon Surgery)
(West Horndon Surgery):

01375 642 362
01375 892 082
01708 852 318
01277 811 770

LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Mr Barry Johnson

07831 609714

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07831 609664

LOCAL MP

Stephen Metcalfe

Orsett Office
Westminster

01268 200 430
020 7219 7009

Write to: House of Commons London SW1A 0AA or
2 Orsett Business Centre, Stanford Road, Orsett, Essex, RM16 3BX

SCHOOLS

Horndon C of E Foundation Primary – Headteacher: Mrs. D. Bradley.
Orsett Academy C of E Aided Primary – Headteacher: Mrs G Smith
Bulphan C of E Academy – Headteacher: Sally Finch

01375 673 260
01375 891 383
01375 891 220



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Rector's Reflections

This month I would like to begin by congratulating Bulphan Church on gaining the Eco Church Bronze Award.

Eco Church is an award scheme designed to motivate and resource churches in England and Wales to care for God's earth as part of their everyday work and witness.

Churches complete a survey which is divided up into the following categories:

- Worship and teaching
- Management of church buildings
- Management of church land
- Community and global engagement
- Lifestyle

Hopefully, you will have been reading the Eco Church articles that Lynda Robertson has been posting monthly in the Hobnob to help us all to think about green issues. Lynda is going to write a more detailed explanation of the Eco Church criteria, and how the process of awarding churches works, next month.

This Lent some of us have been doing a course called 'For such a time as this' about environmental issues and we have been looking at the impact of climate change through the lenses of Christians from different parts of the world, including Asia, the Philippines, the West Indies, Mozambique, South India and Japan. We have had some really interesting discussions and, as part of the course, members of the group have set up their own Lent boxes. Each week we have been given challenges to raise money to put in our Lent boxes. For example, one week we were encouraged to reduce energy consumption in our homes and for every action we took, such as turning the thermostat down 2 degrees, we were asked to put £1 in the Lent box. On another occasion, every time we used a plastic bottle, pot or bag, we fined ourselves 20 pence to put in the pot. All money raised will go to the Green Schools Programme and the wider work of the Church of South India, through USPG, an Anglican Mission Agency that partners churches and communities worldwide in God's mission to enliven faith, strengthen relationships, unlock potential and champion justice.

As part of the course we have also shared ideas. Some people have been to carbonfootprint.com to assess their own carbon footprint. One group member shared that the average carbon footprint in the UK is 6.50 tonnes of CO2 emissions per person, the average worldwide is 5 tonnes and the worldwide target is 2 tonnes! Most of us are not there yet but it is something to aim for.

It would be interesting to hear what other things you have been doing for Lent....

And, of course, as we come out of the wilderness of Lent, at the beginning of April, we pray that we will also begin to come out of the wilderness of the lockdown that we have all been experiencing for the past year.

Please know that you are all very much in my prayers.

Take care and God bless,

Sue



THE BENEFICE REGISTERS

There are no events recorded this month



Wedding Enquiries

If you would like to enquire about booking a wedding at:
Orsett, Bulphan or Horndon churches,
please contact: Revd Sue Mann: 01375 891254
rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk



Baptism Enquiries

If you would like to enquire about booking a baptism at:

Orsett church, please contact:
Christine Mortimer: 01375 641485
c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk

Bulphan church, please contact:
Christine Mortimer: 01375 641485
c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk

Horndon church, please contact:
Christine Mortimer: 01375 641485
c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk



The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford

The Bishop's Annual Appeal 2021 – Empower Marsabit

Freeing people from dependency and helping them live more abundant lives

"Women have many problems. They are the sole provider - looking after children, fetching firewood and water, building the house. Everything is done by women. But I am glad to be a woman. I know & I believe that women can do great things." -Revd. Elema, Mothers' Union Coordinator in Marsabit

Revd Elema is a changemaker, a pioneer, a leader and a woman of God. She is supporting women in Marsabit in finding their voice and releasing their potential. Here in Chelmsford Diocese we have the privilege of being invited into that story. Over the next year we will be walking alongside Elema and the women of Marsabit as they continue to challenge the prevailing gender norms by training and equipping local people in savings schemes, literacy, numeracy and business skills. Tools that do transform lives.

Life in Marsabit is one of serious challenge. Situated in northern Kenya, it's a dry and arid region where the majority live below the national poverty line of less than £25 a month. Alongside this, devastating impacts of climate change and the scarcity of water and pasture have left many vulnerable to food insecurity. In addition, only 28% of women and 47% of men are literate. In a place where women often missed out on any formal education and have no rights to own assets or land, your support will give women new opportunities to overcome the barriers they face.

The Bishop's Annual Appeal aims to raise enough throughout this year long journey to train twelve groups across Marsabit in literacy, numeracy and basic business skills.

This will enable groups, predominantly of women, to create savings and loans co-operatives, which will help them to become more financially independent, develop businesses and ensure that their children can access education for themselves.

Five Talents will be working closely with our link diocese in Marsabit, and particularly the Mother's Union to achieve this goal. Ways that you can be involved ...

Help us spread the word

Resources to help you share details of the campaign are available at www.chelmsford.anglican.org/bishops-appeal. Downloadable graphics and suggested social media copy is available to help you spread the word about this year's annual appeal on your social networks.

Donations

Donations can be made online at www.chelmsford.anglican.org/bishops-appeal or by sending a cheque made payable to CDBF with 'Bishop's Appeal 2021' on the reverse to Appeal, Diocese of Chelmsford, 53 New Street, Chelmsford CM1 1AT.

Your donations will empower the people of Marsabit and enable women to lead positive change in their communities.

If you would like more information about the project in Marsabit, please visit the Diocese of Chelmsford's website or email the Revd Lee Batson ibatson@chelmsford.anglican.org.



Bulphan Churchwarden's Report

This is officially springtime, but it doesn't particularly feel spring like. Alternating bitterly cold and windy days, with unseasonably warm and sunny ones is disconcerting. Not only for me but wildlife; the birds are busy defending their territory and building nests while the sun shines and then noticeable by their absence when the temperature drops.

Many shrubs and trees began to bud, only to be frost nipped a few days later.

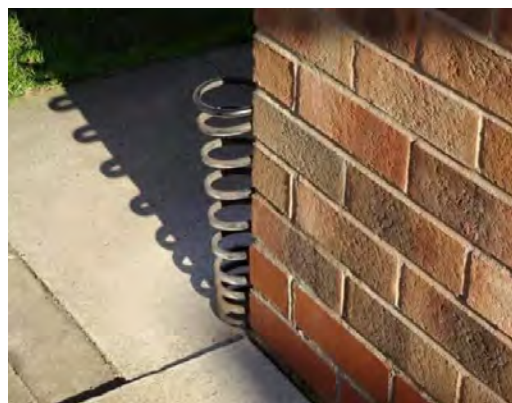
Perhaps this life cycle was ever thus and normally I would not notice it, but these months of lockdown have focused the mind, perhaps almost to tunnel vision, making smaller details more noticeable. I consider myself fortunate to have a garden where I can observe these seasonal changes, for those who live in cramped accommodation without a garden or even a balcony, life must be indescribably confined and overwhelming.

In our three villages we are blessed with outdoor spaces where people can safely walk and take the air. In Bulphan I frequently see people wandering in the churchyard. Perhaps because this is a place of solace in troubled times, or perhaps because it is quiet, calm and peaceful. Even in the depths of winter our churchyard is a very beautiful place.

You will see elsewhere in this edition that Bulphan church has received an Eco Church bronze award. This means that the criteria set by *A Rocha UK* have all been met; *A Rocha is an international network of environmental organisations with a Christian ethos. A Rocha, which means "the rock" in Portuguese, was founded in Portugal in 1983.*

To achieve this, Lynda Robertson worked extremely hard to ensure that we met all of the requirements and then submitted the application; it is my understanding that we almost qualify for the silver award. Well done and thank you Lynda!

The Area Dean, Rev. Daren Barlow, pipped us at the post for the bronze award so now it's gloves-off for silver.



Spring is just around the corner



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PRAYER DIARY

Some thoughts to include in your daily prayers

March 1st	For those living on Orsett Road, Orsett
March 2nd	For those living on Oxford Road, Horndon
March 3rd	For our medical practioners
March 4th	For those living on Fen Lane, Orsett
March 5th	For World Day of Prayer
March 6th	For those living on Brentwood Road, Bulphan
March 7th	For those living on Welling Road, Orsett
March 8th	For those living on Medbree Court, Orsett
March 9th	For those living on Pump Street, Horndon
March 10th	For our schools in Orsett Horndon and Bulphan
March 11th	For those living on Herga Hyll Orsett
March 12th	For those living on Lower Dunton Road, Bulphan
March 13th	For those living on Parkers Farm Road, Orsett
March 14th	For all mothers on Mothering Sunday
March 15th	For peace in the world
March 16th	For those living on Conway Road, Orsett
March 17th	For those living on Fen Lane, Bulphan
March 18th	For those living on Bonham Drive, Orsett
March 19th	For those in hospital
March 20th	For our neighbours
March 21st	For our own prayer lives
March 22nd	For those living on Heath Road, Orsett Heath
March 23rd	For those living on Rowley Road, Orsett
March 24th	For those living on Wingfield Drive, Orsett
March 25th	For those living on The Parkway, Orsett
March 26th	For those living on Hillcrest Road, Horndon
March 27th	For the lonely and childless
March 28th	For our Methodist and Congregational brothers & sisters
March 29th	For the recently bereaved
March 30th	For those living on Fordham's Row, Orsett
March 31st	For members of our congregations who live in Chadwell St Mary

"Thank you, Lord, for our mothers. We remember today their loving care, and their ceaseless love for us. May we show them by our gifts, our words and our actions that we love them and care about them too.

Father, we thank you for the family of the Church. May they know your blessing and strength as they care for others".

Mothering Sunday prayer by Mary Batchelor

Orsett Churchwarden's Report

To have a little bit of sunshine makes such a difference to life. We have all been hibernating because of the cold weather and obviously this past year has felt like that for a lot longer due to the situation in which we find ourselves with COVID.

We have been blessed with our committed Rector Sue and also Max and I think particularly Sue's family Phil and Thomas who I know have played a significant role in participation and the technical side of getting services in to our homes. I also think it is a time that has brought our 3 parishes together in services and the PCC members.

Orsett Church in the last few years has required a great deal of support financially and also in practical ways from Bulphan and Horndon. I am sure I am not alone in wanting to say thank you so much to their compassion and generosity in making us a truly United Benefice.

The wider congregation and community have shown a very united support for our three churches coming together; I hope that this continues going forward.

We now look forward to getting our churches open in a safe and practical way and seeing each other again. I know our Rector is faced with a very challenging time in the next few months, prioritising the wants of the community against the specific needs. We will support this and I am sure people will understand the way forward will have safety and compassion held as priorities.

Looking forward to seeing as soon as is possible

Jackie and Janet

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Interdenominational

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www.zhm100.wix.com/zionhallmission

March 2021

As I write this there appears to be light at the end of the tunnel regarding the Covid epidemic and I'm sure we will all be interested in the Government's road map and be following developments as they unfold through Spring and beyond. Following our third period of suspended services we are planning to start holding services at Zion Hall Mission again in April. At the time of writing we're not sure what date this will be. We will of course advertise these through the Hobnob magazine, but also please see our notice board, go to our website or contact the Secretary for the latest information.

Through all the current difficulties we continue to pray for those in our villages and thank God for His continuing presence through these times. The text on our notice board is as follows and we pray that this may be of encouragement to all who pass by:

God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble

Psalms 46 verse 1

Meanwhile we enjoy fellowship through contact with our regular congregation and friends, and worship with the help of the many forms of communication open to us. Although at Zion Hall Mission we have not put out services on the internet we thank all those involved at the Hobnob churches for their outreach using the web. Through Lent we are pleased to be joining with the Hobnob churches in the Lent course sessions by taking advantage of 'Zoom' technology.

For any information on our church or any of our services you can also contact the Secretary:

Ian Blackburn on 01375 891522 or 07786 110413

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ORSETT EDWARD BEAR TODDLER GROUP



“Do you think I look good in purple?”, asked Edward Bear, “I’m wearing my purple waistcoat because its now a time in the church calendar called Lent”.

Lent is the period of six weeks (40 days not including Sundays) leading up to Easter, the most important festival in the Christian calendar. Lent starts on Ash Wednesday, which this year was on 17 February. Edward Bear was able to join in the live-streamed special church service that evening on Facebook, which took place in Revd Sue’s garden. Everyone was encouraged to burn last years’ palm cross in a fire to make some ash for using to mark a cross on their forehead. This is a sign of saying sorry to God. Edward Bear stayed well back from the fire because he didn’t want to tinge his fur.

Lent is an old English word meaning 'lengthen'. Lent is observed in spring, when the days begin to get longer.



“Look at all the beautiful Spring flowers”, said Edward Bear, “I do love this time of the year.” The third Sunday of Lent is Mothering Sunday, which is a special time to say thank you to all mothers and caregivers for everything that they do for us. Historically people have visited the church where they were baptised and also made simnel cakes. This year it’s on Sunday 14 March.

Edward Bear knows that his friends might give flowers or chocolates but what about making a donation to the Mothers’ Union – a gift of togetherness to help strengthen communities and empower women and girls to flourish using this link:

[Make A Mothers Day](#)

Here are some prayers that Edward Bear thought his friends might like to say:

God of celebration, who rejoices with those who rejoice, as we pray for those for whom Mothering Sunday is a time of thanksgiving and joy.

God of compassion, who weeps with those who weep, we pray for those for whom Mothering Sunday is a time of heartache and pain.

God of every circumstance, we bring our thanks and praise that we belong to your family as your beloved children. Amen

During Lent, people often give something up like chocolate or sweets or they take up something like reading a special book. Edward Bear knows that the grown ups at church have started reading a book called “For such a time as this” and gathering together on Zoom each week to talk about it. Edward Bear had a look at the book, which seems very interesting and is all about creation and climate change and each section of the book has an action. Edward Bear is worried about the impact of climate change on some of his animal friends so he’s been helping Di to think about what she can do to cut down on energy usage – first on the list is to make sure all the light bulbs in the house are energy-efficient.

What could you do to help?

Remember to keep an eye out for news from Edward Bear on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Orsett-Edward-Bear-Toddler-Group>

Stay safe and God bless,

Edward Bear, Di, Gill, and Sandra



March Colouring

*Pictures for
young and old*



With
love on
*Mothering
Sunday*



*Palm
Sunday*

VALENTINES QUIZ Answers
Vague links to everything Valentine

1. Who had a 1978 hit with 'Love Is In The Air'? **John Paul Young**
2. Who was the Greek goddess of love? **Aphrodite**
3. In which US city did the 1929 Saint Valentine's Day massacre take place? **Chicago**
4. 'My Funny Valentine' is a show tune from which Richard Rogers and Lorenz Hart musical? **Babes in Arms**
5. Who, collectively, are Valentine and Proteus? **The Two Gentlemen of Verona (William Shakespeare)**
6. Which British band had a 1988 hit with a single entitled 'Valentine'? **T'Pau**
7. Which famous explorer was killed in a fight with natives of Hawaii on 14th February 1779? **James Cook**
8. Which 1950s English pop singer had hits with 'Finger of Suspicion' and 'Christmas Alphabet'? **Dickie Valentine**
9. In the 1993 film 'Sleepless in Seattle' the main characters, Sam and Annie, finally get together on Valentine's Day - At which building do they meet? **The Empire State Building**
10. Which 80s pop classic with 'love' in the title has this line "Sometimes I feel I've got to run away." **Tainted Love - Soft Cell**
11. Complete the pair of lovers ... Elizabeth Bennett and... **Fitzwilliam Darcy**
12. Who abolished St Valentine's Day, among other things as being altogether too frivolous and irreligious? **Oliver Cromwell**
13. Who was the first woman in space? **Valentine Tereshkova**
14. Like the Taj Mahal, which of the seven ancient wonders was a gift of love from a king to his queen? **Hanging Gardens of Babylon**



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Bronze Eco Church Award Certificate

This is to certify that

St Mary the Virgin, Bulphan

has won a Bronze Eco Church Award in recognition of their efforts
to care for God's earth in each of the following areas (as applicable):

Worship and Teaching
Management of Buildings and Land
Community and Global Engagement
Lifestyle

Signed

Date

26th February 2021

CEO, A Rocha UK



ecochurch.arocha.org.uk
arocha.org.uk

**THANKS TO THE DETERMINED EFFORTS OF LYNDIA ROBERTSON
ST. MARY'S HAS RECEIVED A BRONZE ECO AWARD.
NOW FOR THAT SILVER!**



Bulphan WI

February's meeting was a tad earlier in the evening than usual as it clashed with Essex Federation's talk by Great British Sewing Bee contestant Mark Francis and several members wanted to attend both, the flexibility of using a virtual platform meant they could and a link to a recording of the meeting was sent to those who had other commitments.

As well as all the usual updates and business we heard about the progress of this year's resolution selection, had a make-along paper hearts session to mark 'Show the Love' an event raising awareness of Climate Change and discussed ideas for future meetings, trips when permitted and possible speakers.

In March we have auctioneer Steve Lester telling us about his career and major finds, unfortunately no valuations this time but hopefully Steve will be able to attend a future meeting in person, restrictions allowing, so we can find out if we have any treasures hidden in our cupboards and lofts. Visitors are welcome along to this meeting, just contact us via one of the methods mentioned below for Zoom login information.

Updates about future meetings, information, photographs, and much more can be found on Facebook at Bulphan Women's Institute and on Twitter @bulphanwi or contact us via Secretary Janet McCheyne on 07752836902 or email bulphanwi@gmail.com

Jan Curtis President



COMMUNITY RECYCLING

This page is for everyone to redistribute unwanted items for no charge. Just email details of any items you wish to give away to the address below, together with your telephone number and these will be published in the next issue of the Hobnob. All items must be fit for purpose.

To advertise here telephone 01375 674212
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The churches in this Benefice are committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of everyone within the church community and especially children, young people and vulnerable adults.

*The Benefice Safeguarding Representative is Janet McCheyne who can be contacted on:
0775 283 6902 or
janetmcc101@gmail.com*

*The Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on:
01245 294444 or
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ALL OUR YESTERDAYS

Happenings as reported at the time from the Benefice this month in the past

1837 Ipswich Journal Sat 18th

Orsett Church Fire

On Sunday night, the parish church of Orsett narrowly escaped destruction by fire in consequence of the overheating of one of the flues. The flames were discovered about eleven o'clock and although the body of the church was saved, the north west corner was destroyed.

1837 Chelmsford Chronicle

Fri 31st

Orsett Church rebuild

TO BUILDERS

The Churchwardens of Orsett, Essex are desirous to receive TENDERS for the reparation of the Parish Church, which has been partially destroyed by fire. The Plans and Specifications may now be seen at The George Inn, Orsett and sealed tenders must be sent, free of expense, to the Churchwardens on or before 10 o'clock on Saturday the 8th April next and endorsed "Tender for repairing Orsett Church". The Churchwardens will not pledge themselves to accept the lowest tender.

1854 Chelmsford Chronicle

Fri 31st

Orsett Cricket Club

The lovers of cricketing which was partially revived last year at Orsett are again making preparations "to be up and stirring". On Wednesday 22nd inst a meeting was held at The George Inn, Orsett, and the proposal that a club be formed to be called "Orsett Cricket Club" was unanimously agreed to and from the promised and good feeling of a number of gentlemen in the parish and its neighbourhood, there is little doubt of its success during the ensuing season

1858 Gravesend Reporter Sat 20th

Accident in Horndon

A DREADFUL ACCIDENT BY FIRE - On Tuesday last Mrs Fuller, a resident in the Alms-houses, and the oldest resident of the parish, having entered her 95th year, in

consequence of her clothes accidentally catching fire, was burnt in a shocking manner. She still lingers but Dr Corbet entertains very slight hope of her recovery

1863 Essex Herald Tues 17th

Bulphan children's party

Through the kindness of the Rev W Parker the children of the Sunday and Day schools in number 56, were liberally regaled with a plentiful supply of cake, tea &c. The schoolroom was most tastefully decorated by Mrs Parker, and over the chimney-place were placed portraits of the Prince and Princess. Before and after tea the children entered into various games in one of the fields adjoining the rectory. There was also hurdle racing, running in sacks and scrambling for apples, the winners of the races receiving small sums of money. Before the children separated each had a piece of cake and a glass of wine to drink the good health of the Prince and Princess and the cheering was most heartily given. Each child was also presented with a Coventry favour to be worn on the following Sunday and after singing God Save The Queen, the children dispersed to their homes highly pleased with the days entertainment.

1877 Chelmsford Chronicle

Fri 16th

HORNDON ON THE HILL :

TRADESMENS ANNUAL

GATHERING

The annual social gathering of the tradesmen of Horndon, Orsett, Stanford and neighbourhood was held on Thursday evening week at The Swan Inn, Horndon on the Hill, when a goodly party sat down to the capital repast provided by Mrs Brooks and under the presidency of Mr Clarke, who was faced in the vice-chair by Mr Dale, a most enjoyable evening was spent, toast and song being the prevailing elements

1887 Chelmsford Chronicle

Fri 18th

Orsett church heating

Church improvement - A long needed improvement has been made at Orsett Parish Church by the provision of hot water apparatus, whereby the church is now comfortably heated. The improvement has been effected at a cost of £150, of which £50 remains to be raised.

1890 Essex Herald Tues 3rd

Bulvan

Gift to the parish - Though the kindness of Mr E.D Mee of Wick Place, the parish of Bulvan has been presented by him with a handsome bier for the more reverent and convenient performances of the burial of the dead. The bier is made of solid oak, oiled, with the inscription, in red and black letters "Bulvan Parish, presented by E D Mee, 1890". the want of such a piece of furniture for the Church has long been felt and sincere thanks are due from the parishioners and from the Rector especially, to the donor for his liberality.

1896 Chelmsford Chronicle

Fri 17th

Water by the pail

As part of a longer report ... Speaking of the water supply of the various parishes, the medical Officer says that at Horndon on the Hill water carted up into the village and retailed at a ½d per pail.

1902 Grays and Tilbury Gazette

Sat 15th

HORNDON ON THE HILL

SPORTS COMMITTEE

Tenders are requested for the supply of teas and light refreshments not including Mineral Waters for the annual sports on Whit Monday. Two large marquees found. For further particulars apply to the Hon Secretary
F S REEVE

Horndon on the Hill

1916 Chelmsford Chronicle

Fri 10th

Corporal punishment

Rector to punish - Ebenezer Day aged 12 of Spring Farm, Bulphan and Christopher Saveall aged 11 Church Lane, Bulphan were summoned for breaking certain insulators on telegraph poles at Bulphan - PC Stockwell said Day admitted breaking one - The Chairman suggested that the boys needed a thrashing. As Saveall's father had asked the Rev TA Teitelbaum rector of Bulphan to chastise the boy, the Bench would like to know whether he would do it. The Rev gentleman said he would do so with pleasure. The defendants were ordered to pay the costs and Day 10s in addition. In the case of Saveall they wished the Rev T A Teitelbaum to give him a thrashing. This was agreed to.

1932 Essex Newsman Sat 26th

Boy Scout Boxing

Much interest was taken in the semi-finals and finals of the district boxing tournament, organised by the Essex Boy Scouts' Association, which took place at the Drill Hall, Chelmsford. Some very good contests were seen. *Orsett results*

Scouts over 15 and under 18 : 7st and under - F Boon (Chelmsford) beat James (Orsett) ; 7st 8lb and under - Short (Orsett) w.o. ; 8st 2lb and under - Carruthers (Dagenham) beat Hills (Orsett) ; 9st and under - Warden (Orsett) w.o. ; 10st and under - Whybrow (Dagenham) beat Huckle (Orsett)

1936 Portsmouth Evening News

Mon 23rd

Lord Lieutenant of Essex

The King has approved the appointment of Colonel F.H.D.C. Whitmore, Orsett Hall, Grays, as Lord Lieutenant of Essex in the place to the late Sir Richard B Colvin.

Colonel Whitmore was High Sheriff of Essex in 1922-23 and has been Chairman of the Essex Territorial Army Association since 1929

1937 Shepton Mallet Journal

Fri 12th

Bulphan Isolated

London and the Home Counties had the first really heavy snowfall

of the winter, Sunday. It varied in depth from 3in to 8in.

Snow fell during the weekend in almost all districts from the English Channel to South East Scotland, Wales and North Ireland, but it was heaviest in the counties south of the Thames

The village of Bulphan, Essex, was isolated when the fen dykes overflowed after 16 hours of continuous snow. All roads leading to the village were underwater. The main Tilbury-Brentwood road was flooded for nearly a mile, the water reaching a depth of nearly 2 feet.

1939 Chelmsford Chronicle

Fri 10th

Brentwood-Tilbury Scheme

Abandoned

The Highways Committee reported that in view of the intended provision of a wide road between Brentwood and the Dartford Tunnel further to the west, they were in agreement with the Minister of Transport that a road 140ft (42 metres) between Brentwood and Tilbury would no longer be necessary and the proposal for such a road should now be abandoned. Provision should however be made for the reservation of the land which would be required to enable the existing road between Herongate and Chadwell St Mary to be widened to 100ft, should such a widening be thought desirable at any time in the future, and that proposals to construct by-passes at Bulphan and Chadwell St Mary should be retained.

1952 Daily Mirror Sat 8th

Children's Mirror letters

Last year I brought two comics a week each one costing threepence. At the end of the year I had spent 26s. How much did other readers spend? Terence Lynch, Bulphan, Essex

SMALL ADS

Wanted

1872 Essex Newsman Sat 2nd

To Master Millers - Situation Wanted by a respectable young married man, thoroughly understands the business; used to steam and wind; 3½ years'; good character from present situation - Apply: W Musgrove, Orsett

1898 Barking, East Ham & Ilford

Advertiser Sat 12th

Labourer (day) wanted; need to all kinds of farm work, good house; regular work; Mee, Bulvan, Romford

Herdsmen wanted for Bulphan Fen; April 20; must understand his duties - Apply; Gotts, Bulphan, Romford

Horse keeper wanted; Lady Day; married or single; good wages and cottage - A.W. Squier, Bulvan, Romford

To Let

1857 Chelmsford Chronicle

Fri 20th

To Shopkeepers, Butchers & Carpenters

TO LET, at Horndon on the Hill, a commodious CORNER HOUSE and SHOP with Garden, Stabling and other Offices, adapted for either of the above trades used upwards of 40 years in the shopkeeping, corn and flour trades. - Apply personally, or by prepaid letter to Mr Woolings, Baker Street Orsett, Essex

For Sale

1912 Essex Newsman Sat 30th
BUNGALOW Freehold FOR SALE six rooms, coach house, stable, two acres, main road, £425 or near offer. Jarvis, Bulphan, Romford, Essex

BIRTH MARRIAGE & DEATH

Birth

1875 John Bull Sat 20th

At Bulvan rectory, Romford, the wife of the Rev Walter G Littlehales of a daughter.

Death

1855 Essex Standard Weds 14th
March 3rd aged 3 years 3 months, Walter Graves, son of Mr O.H. Massey of Horndon on the Hill, Essex.

1898 London Evening Standard

Weds 30th

On March 28th at Horndon on the Hill, Essex the Rev John Windle M.A. for 42 years vicar of the parish aged 83. Funeral Saturday 2nd April at 3 o'clock at the Parish Church. No flowers, by request. Foreign papers please copy.



NOTES

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MOTHERS' UNION

Make a Mother's Day 2021



Mothering Sunday (14 March) is a day when we can show love, gratitude and our appreciation for all the wonderful mothers and caregivers, both past and present, at home and around the world. This year, the Make A Mothers Day theme is Gifts of Togetherness, at a time when the chance to come together has been more precious than ever before. Your donation can help empower women and girls to flourish. Give a gift of togetherness this Mothering Sunday using this link [Make A Mothers Day](#). You can purchase your gift to celebrate someone special, or you can dedicate a gift in memory of your mother or someone who has been like a mother to you. You can also add the name of your loved one

in the remembrance book. In return you will be sent a Mothering Sunday greetings card that you can keep or send, to let someone know you are thinking of them.

Note from our World Wide President, Sheran Harper: *"I know many of you and your loved ones are going through a difficult time right now, so please only buy a gift if you are able. May God's promise of a hope-filled future comfort and bless you this Mothering Sunday".*

Online Shop Now Open



The new online shop mueshop.org has launched, showcasing over 400 products including a new range of Easter and Mothering Sunday cards and gifts.

The new shop allows customers to see product availability, receive back-in-stock emails and sign-up to our monthly e-newsletter to be the first to hear about promotions.

Chelmsford Diocesan Mothers' Union - Facebook



Chelmsford Diocesan Mothers' Union now has its own Facebook page, so do have a look – there are photos of some of the recent Zoom meetings with our Diocesan President, Judith Meaden. Its early days yet but hopefully there will be more posts coming up. You can find the page by clicking on this link: [Chelmsford Diocesan Mothers' Union | Facebook](#)

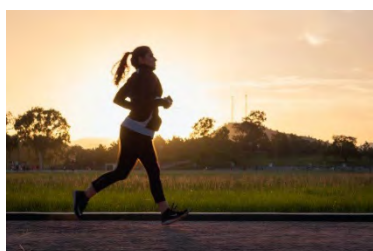
The Indoor Members Prayer Circle (IMPC)



Mothers' Union has always been concerned with supporting people who through no fault of their own are less able to be involved with society than the average person. This year marks 100 years since the establishment of the Indoor Members Prayer Circle by Mrs Edith Mosse.

Southwell and Nottingham IMPC Rep, Sheila Allton outlines the history of this aspect of the movement. [Read all about this fascinating strand of Mothers' Union.](#)

MU on the move



Are you interested in staying in shape and raising the profile of Mothers' Union at the same time? Why not get involved with our latest physical activity project.

Forming part of our Summer of Hope Campaign, members and supporters can hold On the Move events as a singular walk/run on one day or spread it out over a whole month. It can also be a challenge you take on as an individual if you so wish. [Follow this link to find out more and get involved.](#)

Mothers' Union 5 C's Resources

□



Looking after our wellbeing is more important than ever. As we continue through lockdown, many of us are looking for ways to combat boredom and reduce anxiety. The team at the virtual Mary Sumner House have developed a number of resources around the 5 Cs of Dr Radha; **Control, Care, Continuity, Creativity and Compassion**. Check the [following link](#) regularly for new resources.

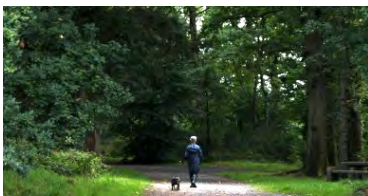
Praying with Purpose



We are offering a series of virtual sharing sessions when all members can come together to draw on experiences (both good and bad) of 2020 and to use these to stimulate, enthuse and inspire each other.

The Praying with Purpose sessions in particular have been a great success so far. [You can read more about them here.](#)

Virtual Walks – In Member's Footsteps



The current restrictions on our daily life are difficult for us all. Repeated lockdowns provide challenges that we can be unsure how to deal with. Many of us have found these circumstances have led to feelings of separation from our friends, our communities and our churches. This is why the Mothers' Union is starting an initiative to bring you a series of virtual walks. As well as providing an insight into the different regions of the UK, it is hoped that watching each video will give you a five-minute break

from your day. A space to relax and reflect but also a way to feel connected to the wider membership. The aim is to put up new walks every two weeks on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/h9IXqQmXOIE>

Mothers' Union in Myanmar (previously known as Burma)



If you've been following the Hobnob for some time, then you'll know that we have had a close link with Myanmar for many years. Several Mothers' Union members from Myanmar have visited us here in Orsett, Horndon and Bulphan in the past. On 1st February, the military seized control and the country's leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, and members of her party, were detained. The threat this has posed to those living in Myanmar has resulted in the banging of saucepans, not in applause as we know it, but in protest brought about by desperation, and thousands of people demonstrating in peaceful protest. This kind of situation is unknown to most of us and the people in Myanmar are greatly in need of our prayers at this time and, especially our Christian brothers and sisters who are living in fear. We are trying to stay in contact with our Mothers' Union friends as the military block social media.

Staying connected through Midday Prayers



Our UK members who don't have access to the internet at home will still be able to hear our midday prayers thanks to the Church of England's Daily Hope line. Just call 0800 804 8044 from a UK mobile or landline and press option 4, then option 8.

Midday Prayers continue from Monday - Saturday on the public Mothers' Union [Facebook page](#). Thousands have viewed these already, but for those interested and not aware, feel free to watch and comment.

Di Bubb, Mothers' Union contact

Update from Orsett C of E Primary School



Last month I introduced myself to you all as the new Head Teacher at Orsett C of E Primary School. It has certainly been an interesting few weeks since my start in January – little did I expect to be leading a school and new team in a new way of teaching and learning!



The children of Orsett have certainly risen to the challenge of virtual learning. Each day the children have 2 live calls where they meet with their teachers and learn as they would do in school. They then have different tasks to complete during the day which they have been doing brilliantly. I've been very impressed. The staff have had to quickly learn to navigate TEAMS and think of new and exciting ways to teach tricky concepts.



This week for example Year 4 learnt all about mixed numbers and fractions by using toast as a teaching aid! They certainly liked being able to eat their resources at the end of the lesson!

Before half term we received so many positive thoughts and words from parents who wanted to give a shout out to staff. It was great for staff to see these and gave everyone a real boost – being away from the children has been very hard. Like we all know, seeing our families virtually isn't the same, the staff feel the same about the children!



Before half term the school took part in a challenge 100 to honour Captain Sir Tom Moore. I challenged the children to do 100 of anything. We had children throwing snowballs, building towers out of 100 Lego bricks, doing 100 star jumps – there were some very creative ideas and all in honour of a real life hero. I cooked 100 pieces of gingerbread with my daughter – they certainly didn't last long!

Of course we are delighted to be welcoming the children back to school on the 8th March. Whilst we will still be managing staggered starts, working in bubbles and ensuring children recover any lost learning it will be wonderful to hear the classrooms full of noise again – like a school should be!

Please do stay safe and continue to remember us at Orsett C of E Primary in your thoughts and prayers. Until next time!



Mrs G Smith – Head Teacher

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The View

News and information

Bishop Guli's Ministry in Chelmsford Diocese – Key Dates

Further to Bishop Peter's *Ad Clerum* last week, here is a reminder of the key dates as Bishop Guli begins her ministry with us over the coming months.

11th March at 5 pm - Confirmation of Election as Bishop of Chelmsford

This prayerful and historic ceremony makes Bishop Guli legally our Diocesan Bishop. It will be presided over by The Archbishop of Canterbury and take place on Zoom. It will not be live streamed, but a

recording will be made available for those who wish to view it later. In attendance will be members of Bishop's Staff, Bishop's Council, The Diocesan Registrar, The College of Canons, Area Deans, Lay Chairs, Diocesan Office Senior Leadership Team and the Vacancy and See Committee

12 March to Easter Day

Bishop Guli completes her ministry as Bishop of Loughborough. Legal authority for oversight of this diocese remains delegated to Bishop Peter until 19 April.

19 April

Bishop Guli begins her ministry as Diocesan Bishop but will not fully move in to Bishops court with her family until the summer.

Early September

It is hoped to hold the public Welcome and Installation service for Bishop Guli in the cathedral.



The View



Chelmsford Cathedral has launched Good Lament and Hard Hope with a group of textile artists called the Material Girls. The project explores the challenges of the pandemic and wants to enable people to express their grief and hope through handmade fabric postcards.

The postcards will then be used as part of an art installation in the Cathedral this summer.

To find out more and discover how you can get involved [Click here](#).

Joiners, movers and leavers

Movers

- The Venerable Elwin Cockett will be seconded to the role of Archdeacon at Bishops court and acting Senior Chaplain to Bishop Guli for a period of six months. At the same time the Revd Canon Jeremy Fraser will serve as Acting Archdeacon of West Ham.
- The Revd Jane Bradbury is to become Vicar of St Peter, South Weald having served as Priest in Charge at St Peter South Weald. She will remain as Area Ordination Advisor.
- The Revd Andy Brown will become Assistant Curate at Church of Our Saviour, East Springfield having served as Assistant Curate at St Mary Widford
- Jo Bluck will become Interim Executive PA at Bishops court, working alongside Jane Carter. Hillary Henry will step up to full time to cover Jo's day to day work at Barking Lodge.

Leavers

- Mary Kersys has left her role as Executive PA to the Bishop of Chelmsford following her move to Ripon
- The Revd Tony Francis Burford is leaving his role as Associate Priest at Grays Thurrock Team Ministry
- The Revd Paul Grover is leaving his role as Associate Priest at the North Hinkford Team Ministry

Please join us in praying for all those who are leaving, joining or moving between roles in our diocesan family.

ORSETT'S AIRMAN REMEMBERED

A quaint English village lives in the imagination of classical novels and faintly coloured movie reels. Yet this image can be experienced today in the village of Orsett, Essex. Thatched cottages are coupled with wide open spaces. The welcoming could not be more embracing. If you ever have the opportunity to visit, a stroll around the lanes displays the history that is ever present. This can also be said for St Giles and All Saints church situated in the centre. The nave dates from the mid-12th century and boundary walls of knapped flint and brick surround the churchyard; resting place of those that have passed away with many a story to tell.

One Grave specifically, has an interesting tale to convey. The one of Flying Officer RL Proudfoot and his sad demise. Robert Lavel was aged 24 and was an Avro Lancaster Pilot in World War II and a member of the Royal Air Force volunteer reserve of 100 squadron. While RAF Bomber Command were given the task of flying an operational tour of usually 30 missions, for Lancaster JB596 crew of which Robert was an officer, Thursday 16th December 1943 was to be it's last.

"Black Thursday", which this date has now been commonly referred to within RAF Bomber Command, experienced a loss of almost 300 airmen and numerous aircraft. Over half of the victims succumbed to the cruel British weather.

On this day at 16:18 the squadron took off for a mission to Berlin. Aboard Lancaster JB596, Proudfoot was one of seven crewmembers. This specific plane was accompanied by a further 482 Lancaster's and 15 Mosquitos. On completion of the mission the squadron returned on a Northerly route over Denmark. A total of 23 Lancaster's were shot down over enemy territory with the loss of over 148 men.

The raid in which Proudfoot and his colleagues participated was considered to some degree to be an effective mission. Damage was sustained to the Berlin railway infrastructure thereby halting war supplies to the Eastern Front for a number of days.

The surviving bombers returned to England only to be confronted by low cloud and thick fog. Proudfoot amongst other pilots had to rely upon what was referred to as "landing on the beam". This was series of signals emitted to aid in navigation upon landing. Sadly the use of this was frequently ineffective. Additionally this methodology created a "stack" of aircraft on this night, loss of fuel and an ever-increasing chance of collision.

If this was not enough to contend with, on this squadron's return the barometric pressure had changed considerably since take off. This resulted in incorrect altimeter readings to a height of 1,000 feet. Inevitably Lancasters and airmen were lost. While some crews on this night elected to bail out of their aircraft others simply ran out of fuel and two collided in mid-air.

The final registered total of planes lost as a result of crashes was 43 far more than the loss experienced as a result of enemy action. Proudfoot and his airmen crashed 5 miles off Grimsby near their departure airfield. Of the total members of Lancaster JB596 three were retrieved from the burning wreckage by some off duty firemen. Two of these subsequently finished their "tours" within Bomber Command. The remaining airman, Sergeant Leslie Noyes never flew again. Proudfoot and four of his comrades sadly died that night.

A memorial exists for this particular crew at the site of the crash and can be seen to this Day. Members of the crew who died are buried in Cardiff, Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire. Robert Lavel Proudfoot is buried in Saint Giles and All Saints churchyard, Orsett. If passing through on Memorial Day or at other times, take a moment if you can to pay respects to Robert and his many comrades who died that night of "Black Thursday". Or at other times, in any war and on any side.



Robert Lavel Proudfoot's headstone in Orsett



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FAMOUS PERSON IN MARCH



Born on 6th March 1806, Victorian poet Elizabeth Barrett Browning published her first major collection, *The Seraphim and Other Poems*, in 1838. Her collection *Poems* (1844) caught the attention of fellow poet Robert Browning, whose admiring letter to her led to a lifelong romance and marriage. The couple moved to Italy, where Elizabeth became interested in Italian politics and released her monumental work, *Sonnets From the Portuguese* in 1850.

Early Life

Elizabeth Barrett Browning was born on March 6, 1806, at Coxhoe Hall, Durham, England. She was the oldest of 12 children, and her family made their fortune from Jamaican sugar plantations. Educated at home, Barrett was a precocious reader and writer. Having delved into classics such as the works of John Milton and William Shakespeare before her teen years, she also wrote her first book of poetry by age 12. Deeply religious, Barrett's writing often explored Christian themes, a trait that would remain throughout her life's works.

Emerging Writer

At age 14, Barrett developed a lung illness that required her to take morphine for the rest of her life, and the following year, she suffered a spinal injury that would serve as another setback. Despite her health issues, Barrett lived the literary life to the fullest, teaching herself Hebrew, studying Greek culture and publishing her first book in 1820, *The Battle of Marathon*, which her father bound and released privately.

In 1826, she (anonymously) published the collection *An Essay on Mind and Other Poems*, which became a touchstone in her writing career. Unfortunately, fate would throw more obstacles her way soon after its release. Barrett's mother died two years later and her father's business foundered, forcing him to sell their estate. The family eventually settled in London, but the interruption never gave Barrett pause. Soon after the estate was sold, she published her translation of Aeschylus's *Prometheus Bound* (1833), and in 1838, she published *The Seraphim and Other Poems*.

Barrett's poor health forced her to live with her brother Edward near the Sea of Torquay for a period, but tragedy would strike again when he drowned, and she returned to London, emotionally and physically shattered. Whether it was despite or because of her continued struggles, Barrett continued writing, and in 1844 her collection titled *Poems* was published. Besides catching the eye of the reading public, it also drew the attention of established English poet [Robert Browning](#). Browning wrote Barrett a letter, and the pair exchanged nearly 600 letters over the following 20 months, which culminated in their elopement in 1846. Barrett's father was very much against the marriage, and he never spoke with his daughter again.

Established Poet

In 1849, the Brownings' only child, Robert Wiedeman Barrett Browning, was born in Florence, Italy, the couple's newly adopted country. A year later, Barrett Browning released *Sonnets From the Portuguese*, a collection of 44 love sonnets that would become one of her seminal works and one of the greatest sequences of sonnets in history. The collection was dedicated to Browning and written in secret during their courtship. "Sonnet 43" begins with "How do I love thee? Let me count the ways," a line that itself would have sealed Barrett Browning's place in the literary canon if all else had somehow failed to do so.

Life in Florence was good to the poet's creative process, as was the roiling political and social atmosphere in Italy. She published the politically charged poem "Casa Guidi Windows" in 1851. Barrett Browning followed it up in 1856 with *Aurora Leigh* (a blank-verse novel/poem), which is her longest work, and then *Poems Before Congress* in 1860. Included in the *Poems Before Congress* collection is "A Curse for a Nation," which criticized slavery in America (although she doesn't specifically mention the country's name). The Boston abolitionist publication, *The Independent*, first published the poem in 1856.

She could never overcome her generally weak constitution though, and Barrett Browning died in Florence on June 29, 1861 at the age of 55 as one of the most beloved poets of the Romantic Movement.

March Puzzle Page

- 1) Which is the first day of Lent?
 - a. Ash Wednesday
 - b. Valentine's Day
 - c. Shrove Tuesday
 - d. Maundy Thursday
- 2) Jazz great Leon Beiderbecke, who was born on March 10th 1903, was known by what nickname?
- 3) What is the original meaning of Lent?
 - a. Autumn
 - b. Spring
 - c. Fast
 - d. Penance
- 4) 16th March 1995 Mississippi finally ratified the 13th amendment, what did this do?
- 5) What did the royal Navy abolish on March 1st 1990?
- 6) Which is the last Sunday of Lent?
 - a. Easter Sunday
 - b. Whit Sunday
 - c. Palm Sunday
 - d. Pentecost Sunday
- 7) Sir Steve Redgrave celebrates his birthday on 23rd March. In which Olympic Games did he win the first of his five gold medals?
- 8) On 5th March 1850 the Britannia Bridge opened, linking which island with mainland Britain?
- 9) Lent is said to be of 40 days even though from Ash Wednesday to last Saturday of the season it is 46 days. Why?
 - a. Sundays are not included
 - b. Mondays are not included
 - c. Counting error
 - d. Saturdays are not included
- 10) Inter Milan was founded on 9th March 1908, what colour shirts do they wear?
- 11) Which society did John Wedgwood, the son of Josiah Wedgwood, found on March 7th 1804?
- 12) How ash for Ash Wednesday is made?
 - a. By burning palms used during previous Palm Sunday
 - b. By burning logs
 - c. By burning books
 - d. By burning clothes
- 13) On 29th March 1886 what product was launched with the slogan "Esteemed Brain tonic and Intellectual Beverage"?
- 14) Which devotion has special place during Lent?
 - a. Novena
 - b. Triduum
 - c. Stations of the cross
 - d. Retreat
- 15) In the March of which year did riots in St. Petersburg lead to the Russian Revolution?

BRITISH CITY ANAGRAMS

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Behind Rug | 9. Flout Ham |
| 2. Mount Potash | 10. Beer Comma |
| 3. Cement Rash | 11. Bare Need |
| 4. Dry Londoner | 12. Cry On Vet |
| 5. Nuns Ladder | 13. Ruby Nectar |
| 6. Retaught Mayor | 14. Mined Ahead |
| 7. Hold Yeah | 15. Giant Month |
| 8. Actors End | |



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