

# **CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HARDWICK and WEEDON**



**St. Mary's Parish Church  
Weedon Methodist Chapel**

**February 2026**

***Dear Friends,***

I am always intrigued by what makes the headlines in the newspapers. Most days, courtesy of the BBC news website, I look at the headlines in the national papers to see what they consider to be important.

So, on the day of writing there is much about Donald Trump's desire to take over Greenland, the apparent breakdown in relations in the Beckham family, questions over the Chagos Islands, along with too much attention on the sunglasses worn by President Macron of France.

The editors need to try to work out what will sell papers, not how best to reflect the news. The sad thing is that the more willing to have a have a pop at political figures - at home or abroad - celebrities who are misbehaving, or failings of local authorities, utility providers, and the like, the better they sell. Rarely did the editors side with good news, so in recent times the good news seems to revolve around the success of women's sports teams, with English victories in the football and rugby.

The saddest thing about this is that it would seem that bad news sells. If a government, of whatever colour, attained great success, one wonders whether it would hit the headlines or be tucked away somewhere in the midst of the newspaper with minimal headlining and little commentary.

This to me seems to contrast with life, where we tend to focus more on the good, to celebrate, rather than allowing what is bad to dominate. We are more inclined to share our good news than the newspapers seem to be.

I conducted a funeral today and it was, as funerals often can be, a love story. The lady who died was well into her 90s, originally from Jamaica, but had made her home in Aylesbury since 1964. Jamaica at the time was facing tremendous economic

hardships, so firstly her husband, and then she, made their way to the UK in search for better life for themselves and for their six children. The agonising part of the story is that they had to leave the children in Jamaica with their grandmother. It took them four years of scrimping and saving, of foregoing anything exciting, before the whole family were reunited in 1968.

I confess I am humbled just thinking about this, of a willingness to leave the children behind in search of something that would ensure their future. It must have been so hard but it was an act of tremendous love. The son, who delivered the eulogy, had tears in his eyes as he remembered the final two children arriving in 1968 and the family being together again.

He then went on to talk about how his mother spent the rest of her life doing what she could to show the depth of love that she had for her brood and their descendants. Her story of sacrifice and pain out of love should have made the headlines. but it never did. The emotion of her children and grandchildren was palpable as they remembered the family matriarch.

The family have stories to share with future descendants. I suppose this invites us to reflect on those who, out of love for us, have sacrificed, who have made life harder for themselves because of the love they have for those who are important in their sight.

It is a story of parents, especially mothers, going without so children have enough to eat, of grandparents moving far from where they call home to support their family in need. There are so many stories of love that we would do well to notice and respond to. This might, hopefully, help us to recognise the heart of Jesus story - there is love in all its beauty.

May the blessings of love be in all our lives,

***Richard***

# **Churches Together in Hardwick and Weedon**

## **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026**

*At 9.00 a.m. in St. Mary's Parish Church*

**Rev. Richard Atkinson** will lead a Communion Service

## **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

*At 9.30 a.m. in The Weedon Methodist Chapel*

**Rev. Richard Atkinson** will lead a Family Communion Service with baptism and confirmation. All children welcome.

## **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

*At 9.30 a.m. in St. Mary's Parish Church*

**Rev. Janet Bayly** will lead a Family Service (no communion)

## **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026**

*At 9.00 a.m. in St. Mary's Parish Church*

**Rev. Richard Atkinson** will lead a Communion Service

## **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026**

*At 9.00 a.m. in St. Mary's Parish Church*

**Rev. Richard Atkinson** will lead a Communion Service

## CHURCH DUTIES ROTA – FEBRUARY

Date	Sidesperson	Reading NRSV	Reader	Prayers	Teas & Coffees
FEBRUARY 1	Sarah	Micah 6:1-8	David R	Sarah	Penny & Mike
FEBRUARY 8	<b>WEEDON CHAPEL SERVICE – CHILDREN</b>				
FEBRUARY 15	Stephen	2 Peter 1:16-21	Children	Children	Valerie & Stephen
FEBRUARY 22 1 <sup>st</sup> in Lent	Helen O	Genesis 2:15-7 & 3:1-7	Penny	David R	Anna & David

### FEBRUARY IN MEMORIAM

Nellie Fincher	1995
Frank Davis	1995
Edmund Bates	1997
Kathleen Bates	2001
May Moore	2013
Ina Smith	2021
Jean Wood	2021
Len Williams	2023
Lilian Ellis	2025

*Come unto Me, all ye who labour and are  
heavy laden – Matthew 11:28*

*Come and drop in at ...*

*Have a chat  
Catch up with the news  
Chill out ...*

*Proceeds to Schoolroom funds*

**Pay by cash or card**

*The Schoolroom Café*  
**WEEDON**



*Friday 10.30 am to 12 noon  
February 6th 2026*

The Schoolroom Café  
is normally on the  
**FIRST FRIDAY** in each  
month

*Freshly brewed coffee & tea  
Home baked cakes & cookies  
Including gluten free  
Eat in or takeaway*

*Book Swap Corner  
... bring one to take one ...*



## **TUESDAY CLUB WEEDON**

**Tuesday February 10th  
at 8 pm  
in Weedon Old Schoolroom**

**“THE CURIOUS DISAPPEARANCE OF MAJOR GLENN MILLER”**

All will be revealed by Mr Tony Eaton.

We look forward to seeing you.

Please contact Judy Nagele on 01296 641278  
for more details.

**Deadline for March Magazine  
End of Monday February 15th**

# Come and join us for a game of



## Whist

**New venue: WEEDON SCHOOL ROOM**

**February 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> starting 2.00 pm, £5 per person**  
Come and join us for a friendly game of whist, coffee & biscuits.  
Everybody's welcome,  
If you don't know how to play don't worry, we can teach you.

*Give up the couch for Lent*

**Join us for Sunday Lent Walks. Starting at 2:30 from a Church near you**  
**Linking the communities of the Schorne Team**

22nd Feb	Upper Winchendon - Waddesdon	1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Quainton – Oving	(2.4 miles)
8th Mar	Oving - Granborough	(2.4 miles)	15 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Granborough – Dunton (4.2 miles)
22nd Mar	Dunton - Whitchurch	(2.2 miles)	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Whitchurch - Weedon (2.4 miles)

Whilst HS2 continues to restrict "public right of way" along the Waddesden to Quainton footpath, we'll start at Upper Winchendon Church on Sunday 22nd Feb.

The walks are suitable for most ages. We walk at a leisurely pace, keeping to footpaths across fields & avoiding roads whenever possible. Each walk takes between 1 ½ to 2 hours.

Participants should also think about co-ordinating transport to enable "safe" transfers back to the start of each walk. A great way meet some new & old friends.

**All are welcome**

Martin Wright – martinwright@gmail.com



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HARDWICK WITH WEEDON

# COMMUNITY EVENTS 2026

25.01.2026

## FAMILY GAMES AFTERNOON

Puzzle Library Launch

3-5pm | Weedon Chapel



28.02.2026

## KID'S MOVIE NIGHT

Please scan to vote for your choice of movie

3-5pm | Weedon Chapel | £5 pc



RSVP  
HERE



15.03.2026

## MOTHER'S DAY AFTERNOON TEA & HOLY COW TEA PAIRING

2-4pm | St. Mary's Hardwick | £15 pp



RSVP  
HERE



11.04.2026

## ITALIAN JOB MOVIE NIGHT

6-8pm | St. Mary's Hardwick | £5 pp



RSVP  
HERE



30.05.2026

## BURGERS, BEER & BANTER

4-8pm | St. Mary's Hardwick | £15 pp / £5 pc



RSVP  
HERE



To RSVP please scan the QR code or email [weedonhardwickchurches@gmail.com](mailto:weedonhardwickchurches@gmail.com)  
We are looking forward to seeing you.



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN  
HARDWICK WITH WEEDON

# KIDS MOVIE NIGHT

28 FEBRUARY 2026 | 3:00 PM  
WEEDON CHAPEL

VOTE FOR YOUR CHOICE OF MOVIE

**£5 PER TICKET**

POPCORN & PICK A MIX  
INCLUDED

**BOOK  
&  
VOTE**



## WEEDON OLD SCHOOLROOM

### **available for hire**

The Old Schoolroom is available for community, group or personal bookings, including parties. Full of historical character and atmosphere, but equipped with all up-to-date facilities, it's suitable for a wide range of activities. Fibre broadband wifi is provided free.

The upstairs meeting room is keenly priced and ideal for small groups.

We have 100% green and clean energy with an electric boiler and renewable electricity supplier.

Interested in hiring?

Phone **01296 641382**

Email [john\\_bush@btinternet.com](mailto:john_bush@btinternet.com)

Text 07303 147839



See the Old Schoolroom pages  
at [weedonbucks.org.uk](http://weedonbucks.org.uk)

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## WEEDON OLD SCHOOLROOM

### **WANTED – Contract Cleaner**

**once a week about 1½ hours**

We were delighted that a long-time Weedon resident has come forward to take over the Bookings Secretary/Hall Supervisor role from Shirley and John Bush this spring.

Now we need a new cleaner! This is a paid contract, not a direct employment. It's about 1½ hours once a week on basic cleaning tasks, flexibly scheduled at an agreed time to fit in with hirings. Start as soon as possible.

For more information, please contact Chair of Trustees Joanna Rose on 07885 201159 or [joanna@cjrose.net](mailto:joanna@cjrose.net).



# Weedon Art Class

**Every Thursday**

**2-4 pm**

**The Old Schoolroom, Weedon**

Come and enjoy developing your own original art in a friendly environment.  
£ 5 a session. All abilities welcome.

We are also looking for an art tutor if anyone is interested.

For details contact Clare on  
**01296 641039**



WEEDON VILLAGE  
ASSOCIATION

Presents

# Weedon Ball

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
Weedon Lodge

Dinner



Dancing



Cash Bar



Raffle and Auction

Tickets £60 each  
(whole table discount)

To reserve contact Wendy  
[w.kett@btinternet.com](mailto:w.kett@btinternet.com)





## THE 30TH HARDWICK X-STREAM

10KM / 6-MILE CROSS COUNTRY

**SUNDAY 22<sup>ND</sup>  
MARCH 2026  
AT 10AM**

**RACE HQ: HARDWICK VILLAGE HALL, HP22 4DZ**

**ENTER AT**

[WWW.BEARBROOKRUNNINGCLUB.CO.UK/PAGE/VIEW/HARDWICK-X-STREAM](http://WWW.BEARBROOKRUNNINGCLUB.CO.UK/PAGE/VIEW/HARDWICK-X-STREAM)

## Weedon Methodist Chapel's stained glass

This article was written by **Andrew Barber**, a member of Heaton Moor United Church, in Stockport, Greater Manchester which has its own W J Pearce window.

Walter John Pearce (the artist behind the glass) was born in Brighton in 1857. Sadly, he was orphaned at the age of 10. Being an orphan in Victorian England was not easy start in life to say the least! He was moved between at least two orphanages but at the age of 14 he was apprenticed to a Painter & Decorator in Chard in Somerset, a placement that was to dictate the direction of his life.



Ten years later we find him living in Lewisham, London, working for Cox & Sons. The firm specialised in furnishing and decorating churches and had its own glass works. It is clear that Walter learned his skills in glass painting and producing leaded windows here.

In 1883 Walter married Annie Hood in Lewisham and within seven years they had moved to Didsbury, Manchester and built a family of three children. One child was adopted, and we can only speculate that Walter, having been an orphan himself, wanted to give a child a better start in life.

By the mid-1890s Walter had his own firm creating stained-glass windows, working from a workshop in Gartside St. in the centre of Manchester. Here he worked with other artists and craftsmen to produce leaded windows. It is likely that the workshop was one of many that fed the fashion for leaded panels in front doors and opening lights in the houses of the rapidly growing city, but it is Walter's designs for church windows that live on as his main legacy.

Beyond glass painting and manufacturing windows, Walter also taught painting and decorating at Manchester Municipal School of Technology and in 1898 he published a very successful book entitled "Painting and Decorating" that was reprinted many times, the last edition being printed in the 1960s!

In 1903 Walter was elected “Master” of the Northern Art Workers Guild, and he was also a Fellow of the British Society of Master Glass Painters.

Walter J Pearce was a noted member of the Arts & Crafts movement in the North of England and his personal style is firmly Art Nouveau, with classical romantic fabrics and organic flowing lines. The Art Nouveau style is evident in many of his windows and runs throughout his decorating text book.

Walter patented a method of fixing gold leaf behind glass and several churches have wall panels that use this technique. He also created mosaics using tiles cut to shapes rather than small tesserae.

In 1939 at the age of 83 Walter was still advertising, working from a studio in Wilmslow, Cheshire. He died aged 86 in 1942 near Congleton in Cheshire, survived by his wife Annie. He had come a very long way from being an orphan to a successful businessman and respected artist.



This remarkable example of Walter J Pearce’s work was created for Stockport Sunday School. It is now in Stockport Museum. The theme is the resurrection and the outer panels show classical romantic angels with beautifully detailed wings awaiting Christ with the trappings of victory. The central panel is of Easter morning when the women arrive at the tomb to find the stone moved and an angel proclaiming the risen Christ.



# Wild Weedon

*The Weedon Wildlife Group  
aims to protect and promote  
wildlife in and around Weedon  
and Hardwick*



After a really cold start, 2026 then warmed up for a while but seems to be back to what we might expect for the time of year.

Technically February is the last month of winter but may show enough signs of spring to get us all excited. The daffodils will be growing and primroses and crocuses may well be in flower. Catkins will be out and the Blackthorn will soon be blooming but it all depends on the weather.

Nature (without the benefit of the Met Office's long-term forecast) has to adjust every bit as much as we do and for some birds timing is crucial for nesting opportunities. They need to be confident that the food supply will be there for the young. Early nesters will be active during the month and you may have seen signs of Woodpigeons, Moorhens, Herons and Tawny Owls making plans for the next brood. The long cold spell in January brought many more birds to my feeders than usual and If you too have been helping our feathered friends I hope you added a count to the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch – a really good piece of Citizen Science at work.

Regardless of the weather the Badgers will be tucked-up in their dens and giving birth about now and if you're lucky Hares can be seen boxing in the fields. In a warm(er) spell Squirrels will stir themselves too. Lots to look out for (and record on our Wild Weedon website) as we head towards Spring. In the meantime stay warm folks.

If you've any ideas for Wild Weedon projects in the coming year just contact us at [contact@wildweedon.org.uk](mailto:contact@wildweedon.org.uk) .

The Hardwick Players Present



# Snow White

Whiter than White

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026

3pm & 6pm

Hardwick Village Hall

HP22 4EA



BOOK YOUR FREE TICKETS NOW  
MESSAGE ROSALIE; 07846544884

# THE FIVE ELMS WEEDON



## SET LUNCH

AVAILABLE THURSDAY - SATURDAY 12PM-2.30PM  
TWO COURSES £25, THREE COURSES £30

## A LA CARTE MENU

AVAILABLE THURSDAY - SATURDAY EVENINGS

## SUNDAY LUNCH

TRADITIONAL ROAST SERVED EVERY SUNDAY

## SUPPER CLUB

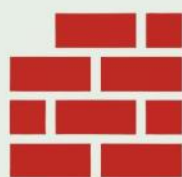
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We are lucky in our village to have a fabulous village hall that is available for hire. It has seen many birthday parties, club meetings, games nights, pantomimes and quiz nights. It is a great space for entertaining with a large hall area and a smaller section at the back that can be closed off.

There are two toilets (including a disabled toilet and access) and a well equipped kitchen. It also has a fenced hard standing court yard and a stones throw away from the small village green with a slide and swing.

Hall hire is £10.00 per hour before 6pm or £20.00 per hour after 6pm

To book the hall please contact Rosalie on 07846544884 or email [hardwickvillagebucks@outlook.com](mailto:hardwickvillagebucks@outlook.com)

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**WHITCHURCH & OVING YOUTH CLUB FUND**  
**INVITATION TO APPLY FOR GRANTS**

The Trustees of Whitchurch & Oving Youth Club are pleased to announce the establishment of a charitable fund designed to assist the young people of Whitchurch, Oving and designated surrounding villages with single grants for educational and personal development purposes.

Applications for single grants are invited from, and on behalf of, individuals between the ages of 5 to 21 years inclusive who are resident in Whitchurch, Oving, Pitchcott, Hardwick, Weedon, Creslow and Dunton, to a maximum of £500 per award.

Applications for single grants are also invited from not-for-profit clubs, societies and organisations operating predominately for young people between the ages of 5 to 21 years and who predominately reside in Whitchurch, Oving, Pitchcott, Hardwick, Weedon, Creslow and Dunton, to a maximum of £3,000 per award.

Grant applications will be considered at the end of each February, May and October and the deadline for receipt of application forms for February 2026 grants is **20<sup>th</sup> February 2026.**

For application forms and further information please contact  
[whitchurchovingyc@gmail.com](mailto:whitchurchovingyc@gmail.com)

## FLEUR BOTANICAL



W I N S L O W

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# Louise Davis Catering

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The advertisement for Kitty's Rawr Store.co.uk features a warm orange and cream color scheme with paw print motifs. At the top, a red heart sits atop a bowl icon labeled 'Kitty's', next to the brand name 'Rawr Store.co.uk' in a cursive font. Below this, the tagline 'The Online Destination for High-Quality Raw Food for Your Feline Friends' is centered. The main body of the ad is divided into two columns of benefits, each preceded by a small icon: a heart for 'High-Quality Raw Food & Treats', a calendar for 'We Have Sourced Only the Best Products', a Union Jack for 'Stocked with Excellent UK Brands', a shopping bag for 'Convenient & Easy Online Shopping Experience', a delivery van for 'Local Delivery Direct to Your Cat Flap', and a question mark for 'Got Questions? We Have 15+ Years of Knowledge to Call Upon'. A central banner invites visitors to 'Visit us at www.kittysrawrstore.co.uk'. At the bottom, a QR code is positioned on the left, and a group of five diverse cats (black, grey, orange, white, and tabby) is featured on the right, with a small 'Kitty's Rawr Store' logo in the bottom right corner.

 **Rawr Store.co.uk**

*The Online Destination for High-Quality Raw Food for Your Feline Friends*

 High-Quality Raw Food & Treats	 Convenient & Easy Online Shopping Experience
 We Have Sourced Only the Best Products	 Local Delivery Direct to Your Cat Flap
 Stocked with Excellent UK Brands	 Got Questions? We Have 15+ Years of Knowledge to Call Upon

**Visit us at**  
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Facebook: @LittleDelightsCarterton

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**Mandy Simons, Chief Operating Officer (COO)**  
Autism Early Support  
Education, support & research for early years autism

**Rev Steve Flashman**  
Vicar, Holy Cross, St Mary  
and All Saints, Oving with  
Pitchcott

# SCHORNE TEAM OF PARISHES - SERVICES FOR FEB 2026

Date	Granborough	N. Marston	Dunton	Hoggeston	Hardwick	Whitchurch	Oving	Quainton	Vaddeston	Westcott	Vinchendon
01-Feb								8.00 BCP HC			
	11.00 Bap PE/MP	10.00 FS DH (w/C)			9.00 HC RA	11.00 FC TH	11.00 FS JV	JB 9.30 Breakf LL	11.00 FC CW	9.30 FC CW	
Epiphany								6.00 ES LL			
White											
08-Feb											
	11.00 FC PE	9.30 HC PE (w/C)	9.30 MP LL		9.30 FC RA (Weedon)	11.00 FC TH	11.00 FS SF	9.30 FS LL	11.00 MP CW	9.30 HC CW	
2nd before Lent								6.00 ES LL			
Green											
15-Feb											
	11.00 FS LL	9.30 FS LL (w/C)			9.30 FS JB	11.00 FC JB	11.00 FS SF	6.00 HC SF	11.00 Café CW		
Sunday ne bf Lent											
Green											
22-Feb											
	11.00 FC GE	9.30 HC GE (w/C)			9.00 HC RA	11.00 MP NB	11.00 FS SF	9.30 FS LL	11.00 SE CW	9.30 MP CW	
Lent 1								6.00 ES JV			
Purple								8.00 BCP HC SaF			
01-Mar								9.30 Breakf SF	11.00 FC CW	9.30 FC CW	
	11.00 FS PE	10.00 FS DH			9.00 HC RA	11.00 FC GE	11.00 FS JV	6.00 ES SF			
Lent 2											
Purple											
		WC= Wesley Centre			Rev Caroline Wainman 655069		HC	Holy Communion	BCP	Prayer Book	
RD-Richard Atkinson	07927933810				Rev Petra E more 07557(	655069	FC	Family Communion	MP	Morning Prayer	
Jane Vowles	07739 985440				Rev Steve Flashman 65523	45703	FS	Family Service	ES	Evensong	
Rev Mail Payne	7 801E+09				Rev Janet Bayly 670245	65523	LL	Lay led			
SaF Rev Sarah Flash	7.444E+09				Neil Bowles 07526 349562	670245	SE	Sung Eucharist			