



# St Margaret's Church



## St. Margaret's Church, Chipstead



History Tour and Bell Tower visit with refreshments  
Grade 1 Listed Church  
Saturday 28th June 2025  
10.30am and 2.30pm - Tickets £10  
For bookings please email [admin@smchipstead.org](mailto:admin@smchipstead.org)  
[www.stmargaretschipstead.org](http://www.stmargaretschipstead.org)

**Still time to join  
the history tour;  
and optional bell  
tower visit.**

## Week Ahead

**Tuesday 1st July**

**9.15am Morning Prayer**

**Wednesday 2nd July**

**10am Midweek Service** followed  
by refreshments

**10am to 1pm Parish Office Open**  
Please do drop in for tea, coffee,  
cake and a chat.

**Friday 4th July**

**9.30am to 11.15am**

**Maggies Song in the Orchard**

**7pm-9pm Youth BBQ outside the  
Orchard**

## Contact Us

**Rev. Hannah Gordon**

01737 552157

[rector@smchipstead.org](mailto:rector@smchipstead.org)

**Admin office**

01737 552160

[admin@smchipstead.org](mailto:admin@smchipstead.org)

**Sunday, 29th June**

**We invite you to join us  
this Sunday with  
Rev. Hannah Gordon,  
Rector**

**10.00am United Service**

## HELP SUPPORT LOCAL FAMILIES THIS SUMMER

The summer holidays can be difficult for many local families who are struggling with food poverty. You can help Loveworks feed families in need.

### WHY LOVEWORKS NEED YOUR SUPPORT

- ♥ We receive fewer donations in the summer months. Your contribution will help us provide food parcels to all families referred to us.
- ♥ Help us include extra holiday snacks for children. We would love to add a few extras to our summer parcels for families. Your donation will allow us to buy these special extras and make the holidays a little easier.

### HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- ♥ Scan the QR code to donate. Help us reach our target, so we can buy the extra food needed for our summer food parcels.
- ♥ Drop our most needed food items to a Loveworks donation point.

Tinned vegetables and fruit  
Breakfast cereals  
Tinned meats and fish  
Pasta sauces (no pasta please)  
Biscuits  
Microwave rice and noodles

Find details of our donation points at [www.loveworks.org.uk](http://www.loveworks.org.uk)



SCAN, DONATE, MAKE  
A DIFFERENCE TODAY

Loveworks.org Ltd is a registered charity no. 1196381  
and a company limited by guarantee 0506075.  
Registered address: 3a-2a Bell Street, Reigate, Surrey RH2 1BH

**Loveworks**  
improving lives through food

### DROP DONATIONS TO:

**Chipstead Food Bank Every Thursday at Chipstead  
Rugby Club from  
11.30am to 1.30pm by the Meads Car Park  
St Margaret's Church, Wednesday between 10am  
and 1pm, or Sunday between 9am and 11.30am**

**FRIDAY  
YOUTH**  
**IS ON THIS WEEK!**  
**7-9PM IN THE ORCHARD**

**Come for fun,  
food and faith  
with friends**

Email Josh to find out more:  
[youth@smchipstead.org](mailto:youth@smchipstead.org)

**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED!**

**CHIPSTEAD FLOWER SHOW  
SATURDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2025**

We need your help to keep the much loved Tea Tent running smoothly! We're looking for 5 volunteers for each of the following shifts:  
Midday - 2.30pm and  
2.30pm - 5.00pm  
Volunteers will be helping with a mix of: Serving cakes, sandwiches, teas and coffees.

There may also be a need for one volunteer per shift to handle taking payments. If everyone can be a little flexible on the day, that would be brilliant!  
What you get:  
Free entry to the Flower Show, a chance to be part of a lovely community event and our heartfelt thanks (and maybe a slice of cake!)

**NETHERNE  
FAMILY**  
*Fun Day*

Join us on Sunday, 13th July! Instead of our usual activity, we're heading up after church to join in the fun and enjoy some lunch together!

Can you help with face painting?  
Please let our administrator know if you can help out!  
See you there!

Last year, when we first introduced the History Tour with an optional visit to the Bell Tower, it proved to be very popular. You may have noticed a door to the right of the nave when you're in the church and wondered where it leads. This door provides access to the Bell Tower.

Jon Grant, our local village historian, runs a history group. Our grateful thanks to the generosity of 15 members of this group, enabling us to enlist the expertise of Dr. Andy Muir, a specialist in dendrochronology.

To reach the tower, you first climb a long ladder, then step to the left onto a set of old stone stairs. A rope is available to assist your climb...evoking the feeling of exploring something ancient, like a pyramid. At the top, you find yourself standing on the dome visible from the centre of the church. It's a fascinating experience, and the sense of tranquillity and peace up there is truly remarkable.



Dendrochronology is the scientific method of dating based on the analysis of patterns of tree rings. Each year, trees add a ring of growth, and the size of that ring reflects the growing conditions of the time. By examining these variations, scientists can date wooden objects and structures with remarkable accuracy. The process involves comparing the ring patterns of living trees with those in old timbers, gradually extending the timeline back through overlapping samples.



There are only five professional dendrochronologists in the entire UK, so having the opportunity to see Dr. Andy Muir at work feels like something straight out of Raiders of the Lost Ark. It's a rare privilege. Andy always begins by carefully examining the site. He never brings his toolkit on the first visit, considering it bad luck. There's something almost ceremonial about his process, and watching him assess centuries-old timber with such precision and reverence is truly fascinating.



Andy begins by identifying which timbers have the potential to be dated. Once it's agreed to proceed, he carefully drills 12mm core samples from the selected wood for analysis. This specialist sampling process typically takes around 3 to 4 hours. The core removal is minimally invasive and does not compromise the structural integrity of the timbers. Each core is then glued to a long wooden mount, where it will be prepared and examined in detail. The full analysis and dating results usually take between 6 to 8 weeks.



“Welcare Family Centre in Redhill have been utterly blessed by the remarkable generosity of the young people and adults who have gifted their time, skill, care and attention to restoring our outside garden area, for the children and families we serve. It is now a bright and colourful experience with a plethora of different flowers, plants and herbs to enjoy and marvel at. Welcare offer our heartfelt gratitude for the inspiration, hope and encouragement this renovation project has given us all. 'Love in action' is what we have experienced from St Margarets Church, which helps children and families feel valued and 'seen' when they visit our centre. We celebrate the power of prayer, planning and co-ordination that this project has been anchored in. We celebrate our ongoing relationship with the Church in Christ. To all the 'angels' who have been a part of making this happen: God Bless You!”

**Catherine Adjei – Welcare Family Centre Manager**





## Faith Outside the Pews – Thank you!

At our service this Sunday we will be hearing a bit about the Faith Outside the Pews from a variety of people. If you want to say something but can't be there please let me know by email or text message.

Last weekend saw the culmination of our Faith Outside the Pews project, with glorious weather, worship and midsummer weekend celebrations.

Around 20 people met at Welcare on Saturday afternoon to plant, paint and get the place ready for playing. Over the course of the project 41 people from our church family were involved in some way: the youngest was 4 (Jamie handing out Chocolate Brownies), right up to some of our Octogenarians.

11 of our young people went and shared their talents and time in a variety of ways. The outdoor space at Welcare Redhill has been transformed from a tired shabby space to something colourful, bright and full of hope. Catherine Adeji, manager at Welcare, joined us on Saturday night and shared the way she had seen God at work, and answers to prayer through the people of St Margaret's. It was a wonderful encouragement to us, and a reason to thank God for his awesomeness.

Saturday evening saw over 70 people of all ages and stages gather for a delicious bring and share supper, and in the hot weather we were able to fully use the Orchard's outside space. It was a delight to see people chatting, laughing, playing and eating. As the solstice sun began to sink we gathered around a campfire to sing songs of worship and share scripture. It was such a precious time of praise and togetherness. The night concluded with the ancient monastic office of compline in the chancel by candlelight.

On Sunday we held three services: Book of Common Prayer Eucharist, Informal worship with Peter Graystone preaching and Messy Church. It was a wonderful way to continue worshiping and thinking about how we can love and serve each other. Peter reminded us that Abraham and Rahab took risks because what they believed was so important that they had to take action. He asked us: What are you going to do? And prayed that 'The God of Rahab, Abraham, James. Our God would give us courage to protect vulnerable people regardless of who they are. That God would grant trust to go where we would rather not in answer to His call, and faith that is recognisable in everything we do.'

It's a big challenge, but one I want us at St. Margaret's to say Amen to.

I want to say a personal thank you to each and every person who was involved in the Welcare project and the weekend in any way. My favourite moment was when I sat down on the outside of the campfire circle about half way through worship and was filled with a deep sense of the Spirit's peace and joy. I was overwhelmed with a sense of God's presence and power amongst us, and I am so grateful for that.

With love, Hannah

**welcare**  
strengthening families since 1894

