

Here's this week's news email for the Parish of Medstead and Four Marks.

Church Events and Notices

Sunday 29th March 2026

8am at COGS - Communion Service

9.30am at COGS - All Age Service with sung worship, kids church & creche

11am at St Andrew's - Communion Service

3pm at COGS - Easter Tea & Praise

Electoral Roll Revision

It is that time of year again. The Electoral Roll annual revision has commenced. The Roll is now open for those who wish to join it.

If you would like to join the roll, do talk to Frank (or contact Matt in the office)

office@pmafms.co.uk



In loving memory of

Len Smith

A Service of Celebration for his life

Monday 30th March 2026, 2.00pm

The Church of the Good Shepherd

Lymington Bottom, Four Marks,

Alton, Hampshire, GU34 5AA

Please see further details here;

[Len Smith Invitation.pdf](#)

| CHURCHES OF MEDSTEAD AND FOUR MARKS | | CHURCHES OF MEDSTEAD AND FOUR MARKS | |
|---|--|---|---|
| What's on for Families in March | | What's on for youth and children | |
|  <p>Baby group Monday mornings, 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th 10:30-12 At The Good Shepherd</p> |  <p>Monthly all age Messy Church Sunday 8th March 3.45-5.45 pm At The Good Shepherd</p> |   <p>Monday youth Club(weekly) 4:15 to 6:00 pm. For Young people in year 6 onwards. Toast and Drinks provided at the beginning of the session. At The Church of The Good Shepherd in Four Marks Parents consent needed. Please scan the QR Code to complete the form.</p> |   <p>Kids Church every Sunday morning. During the 9.30am Church Service Aimed for children aged 3-11 At The Church of The Good Shepherd in Four Marks Please scan the QR code for more information.</p> |
|  <p>Monthly Stay and play Toddler Group Tuesday 10th March 9-11 am At The Good Shepherd</p> |  <p>Monthly all age Family Church Sunday 22nd March 4-5 pm At St. Andrews Church hall</p> |   <p>Contact Virginia at youthandchildren@pmfam.co.uk for more information</p> | |
|  <p>Contact Jane at families@pmfam.co.uk 07711407831</p>  | | | |

Easter Trail; Friday 3rd April

Thank you to all who have volunteered to help at our Easter trail. We have a full team while the event is running, but we are still in need of a couple more helpers to clear away and reset from 12.15pm. Please let Jane know if you can assist.

Easter Trail and Craft Cafe

at The Good Shepherd, GU345AA

Friday 3rd April

open 9.30-12

Children to be accompanied by parent/carer



Chocolate
eggs

Easter
crafts
and
cafe drinks

Contact Jane
for more information
families@pmfam.co.uk
07711407831



**Medstead
fAmiLy
Church**

On 4th Sundays
in Medstead Church Hall
parishofmedsteadandfourmarks.co.uk






Dates for 2026
Sundays, 4-5pm

25th January
22nd February
22nd March
26th April



What is Family Church?
Family church is a welcoming, fun, café-style church for all ages. Each month, we explore a Bible story that engages both children and adults discovering together more about Jesus and the life and hope he offers. Everyone is invited





**HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT LIFE, FAITH, OR
WHAT THE BIBLE REALLY MEANS?**

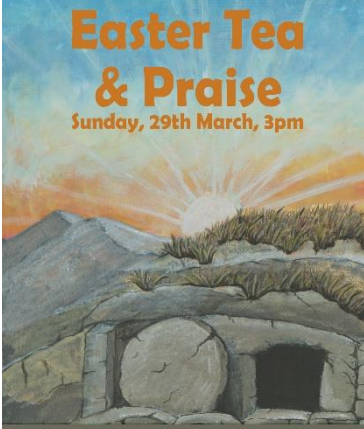
All young people aged 12 and above are invited to join us to explore the Bible together in a friendly, welcoming space and get to know and connect with Jesus more closely.

Join us every Tuesday from 4:00–5:30pm at the Church of The Good Shepherd, Four Marks.

*Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.
Psalm 119:105*



For more details please contact Virginia at youthandchildren@pmafm.co.uk



**Easter Tea
& Praise**
Sunday, 29th March, 3pm

This popular service will be held at the Church of the Good Shepherd
It will have traditional Easter hymns followed by
delicious cakes and refreshments
Please invite your neighbours and friends and bring them along
We look forward to seeing you

Easter Tea & Praise, Sunday 29th March, 3pm

Help Needed

If anyone is able to help with providing cakes and savouries, or by serving on the day please do speak to Anne Shaw or to Debbie Norgate.

Easter Services in the Parish



Easter in Medstead & Four Marks

Holy Week Services

Monday 30th March, Tuesday 31st March & Wednesday 1st April - Compline at St Andrew's, 7pm

Maundy Thursday - 2nd April

Maundy Thursday Communion at St Andrew's, 7pm

Good Friday - 3rd April

Good Friday Reflection at St Andrew's, 2pm
Good Friday Meditation at the Good Shepherd, 7pm

Easter Sunday - 5th April

Easter Day Communion at the Good Shepherd, 8am
Easter Day Celebration at the Good Shepherd, 9.30am
Easter Day Communion at St Andrew's, 11am

Messy Church - Sunday 12th April



**Sunday 12th
April**
3:45-5:45pm



Showing God's love in everything we do



Scan the code or visit:
<https://pmafmc.churchsuite.com/events/losqnoa9>
to book your space

COGS Tots Nearly New Sale - Saturday 18th April



Nearly New Sale



Saturday 18th April
9.30–11.30 am
The Good Shepherd church, GU34 5AA
Free entrance for buyers

Cafe open for tea, coffee and cake
Raffle and play space for littleones

Tombola Play space Cafe

Help us to fundraise and support our weekly baby group and monthly toddler group and at the same time find new homes for your baby and toddler clothes, toys and equipment, from bump to age 8 years.



Sellers from 8.30am.
Tables from £5, payable at time of booking

Scan the QR code to book a sellers table
or Contact Jane for more information
07711407831 families@pmfam.co.uk

St Andrew's Jumble Sale - Saturday 25th April



St Andrew's Church, Medstead



JUMBLE SALE!

Saturday 25th April 2026

Donations: 10:00 – 12:00

Sale: 1:30 – 3:30 pm

For further details contact
07709 553804

Find a Bargain!
All Welcome!

Donations of Good Quality Items Wanted!

Alton Deanery's Overseas Link serving the Church of Uganda in Karamoja

Diocesan Training College - Lotome Project

Our funds have;

Enabled training for new ministers.

Supported the Bishops and existing ministers in their ministry including responding to famine need among their parishioners.

And, (as shown below) enabled the construction of a new house for the Ministry Training College Principal (the old one had collapsed)



Child Sponsorship

If you responded to the appeal on Compassion Sunday or sponsor a child through any other charity, please may we have a photo for our revised sponsorship notice board?



We can scan the photos and return them to you. Please ensure your name, the child's name, and their home country are on the reverse, and give them to Matt or Chris McGrath, thank you

Re-Ordering of St Andrew's

St Andrew's LCG (Local Church Group) are moving forward with various options that will provide a much improved and up to date environment for our regular services, for the school, and for weddings, baptisms and funerals.

For more information, please visit:

<https://parishofmedsteadandfourmarks.co.uk/joining-with-medstead/st-andrews/reordering-of-st-andrews-church/>

Do speak to the LCG members (John Lofthouse, Ann Lofthouse, Ian Jurd, Sharon Blackshaw, Ian Trotter, Jeremy Griggs, and Howard Wright) if you have any comments.



Our current teaching series at COGS is Revelation Part 2: The King & The Wedding Day. Catch up on previous sermons on our website or YouTube channel. Click the image to view the series card. (Paper copies available at COGS) Look out for the new series coming soon!

Other events and notices

An event notice for Archie taking on the London Marathon. The top part features a photo of Archie and his supporters with the text 'InFocus The vision impairment & complex needs charity' and 'Archie takes on the London Marathon'. Below the photo is a QR code and the text 'Scan the QR code to read my story'. The bottom section contains a personal message from Archie, social media handles for 'archie.runs' and 'archie.rice.runs', and a JustGiving link: 'https://www.justgiving.com/page/archie-runs'.

InFocus
The vision impairment & complex needs charity

Archie takes on the London Marathon

Scan the QR code to read my story

Hello, I'm Archie 🇬🇧
I'm DeafBlind and I've got a wheelchair place in the London Marathon 2026! My sisters and brother-in-law will push me the whole way!
I'm raising money for InFocus, the amazing charity that has supported me for the last 14 years.
Please check out my JustGiving page and donate if you can!
Thank you from
Team Archie

Follow along...
archie.runs @
archie.rice.runs 📺

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/archie-runs>



Alton Climate Action Network Registered charity no 1189431

PATRICK BUSBY'S BRIGHTON MARATHON FUNDRAISER for

ACAN's GUMBI MALAWI HOMESTEAD FARM IRRIGATION PROJECT

Help a village feed itself with a solar-powered water pump

Malawi in Africa is the 4th poorest country in the world, responsible for only 0.1% of global greenhouse gas emissions. Two thirds of the population live in food poverty.



ACAN's environmental justice initiative supports a permaculture demonstration farm and training centre in sustainable farming methods for homestead farmers in 22 villages around Gumbi in central Malawi.

The 525 farmers are organised into co-operatives of 20-25 homesteads. Irrigation is urgently needed to greatly improve crop yields, enable two harvests a year – and end hunger despite severe ongoing drought. We are fundraising for £26,000 to purchase a solar-powered water pump + 100m of hosepipe for each village (£1,200), to replace watering with buckets.



The Permaculture Community Training Centre is registered in Malawi as a social enterprise company. It is managed and delivered by Malawians who were beneficiaries of the Gumbi Education Fund <https://gumbieducationfund.org.uk>. We work with the Gumbi Chief, who links with the Group Village Headmen in each village. We have no overhead costs.

Donate through [JustGiving Link](#) [Patrick Busby is fundraising for Alton Climate Action Network](#)

Or Scan the QR Code Opposite:



[Click for sponsorship link](#)

C.A.P. Seeking Volunteer Befrienders

We are looking to expand our team of befrienders, both men and women, who accompany our Debt Coaches on visits to clients. Befrienders are essential members of our team, without whom, we cannot operate effectively. Over the past 12 years C.A.P. has helped 128 families to become debt free and we are currently helping 20+ families through our three-home visit process on their journey out of debt.


For more befriender information please read here;

[Befriender Letter Mar26.docx](#)

C.A.P. Money Budgeting One Day Course

christiana against poverty CAP **CAP Money Budgeting Course**

A free one-day course to give you the knowledge, budgeting skills and confidence to better manage your finances.




Expert teaching and guidance through a series of videos, with activities and discussions to help you build a budget, keep track of what you spend, and save regularly.

What are the key benefits of the course?

- Learn how to structure your finances
- Learn how to use credit wisely
- Spot the difference between essential and optional expenses
- Find ways to cut costs
- Free access to a mobile-friendly budget worksheet

Please select either Saturday 25th April 2026 or Saturday 13th June 2026 10 am – 4 pm at Alton Maltings

To book a place, please email christiana@capuk.org or phone 07501 911563



For more information about the CAP Money Course visit: <https://capuk.org/get-help/money-coaching>

London Marathon

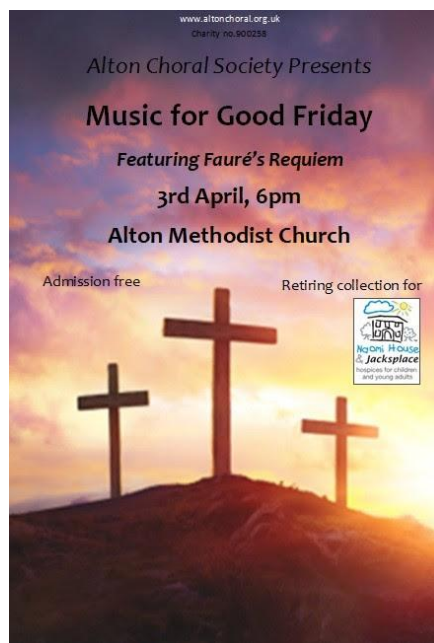
Andy Short is running the London Marathon on Sunday 26th April 2026 for the charity International Needs UK. They work in some of the most desperate situations worldwide with projects including water, sanitation and hygiene, children's access to education, farming techniques and disaster response.



<https://www.givey.com/andrewslondonmarathonfundraiser>

Bookstall

Easter Cards and other items are available for sale from the Church Bookstall



Alton Concert Band
and
The Lydian Singers
Musical Director for both
Jeremy Hilton Morrish

**"Thank You For
The Music"**

Saturday 18th April 2026
Alton Maltings: 7:00pm

Tickets : Adult - £12.00
12-18 - £6.00 (Under 12 free)

Available from Ticketsource
or at the door

For more information please contact :
altonconcertband@outlook.com or www.altonconcertband.co.uk
lydiansinfo@gmail.com or www.lydiansingersfarnborough.co.uk



The concert starts at 7.00 pm. Tickets will be available on the door or
via www.ticketsource.co.uk/alton-concert-band

Vicar: Howard Wright

Tel: 07746 066046 | Email: vicar@pmafam.co.uk

Family Worker: Jane Hughes

Tel: 07711 407831 | Email: families@pmafam.co.uk

Youth & Children's Minister: Virginia

Tel: 07724 141267 | Email: youthandchildren@pmafam.co.uk

Church Office: Matt Senior

Tel: 01420 560622 | Email: office@pmafam.co.uk