

FLOWER FESTIVAL & FETE

“SPORTS AND LEISURE”

CAR SHOW ♦ STALLS ♦ DOG SHOW ♦ LIVE MUSIC



FOOD & DRINK ♦ FLOWERS ♦ KIDS GAMES ♦ ART

23RD - 25TH MAY 2026

ON BEHALF OF THE MINISTERS OF THE SIX VILLAGES;
WELCOME TO OUR 2026
ST MARY'S HATFIELD BROAD OAK FLOWER FESTIVAL!

Welcome to our community! A place where energy, teamwork, and shared purpose come alive. This is a village where whether you're joining us on the field at the green, in the village hall for dancing, yoga or Japanese Calligraphy, walking, or simply enjoying the beautiful surroundings there's a place here for everyone to belong and grow and for visitors to be welcomed!

Sport and Leisure pursuits have a unique way of bringing people together. They teach us perseverance, discipline, and the joy of working toward something greater than ourselves. In every game played and every activity shared, we build not just strength and skill, but friendships and trust.

With this in mind we're reminded of the words from 1 Corinthians 9:24: "Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize." This verse encourages us to give our best in all we do—not just in competition, but in how we support one another, show kindness, and grow as a community. Here, success isn't only about winning; it's about effort, encouragement, and the spirit we bring to each moment.

So step into all that this community has to offer. Together, let's create a place where everyone can thrive—physically, socially, and spiritually and enjoy sharing this beautiful village with each other.

Be Blessed, Rev. Sophie Weller



Register your Teddy at
11.30am by the west door of the church.

The Teddies will parachute off of
the church tower at
12.30pm Saturday

The Teddy Bear Rescue team will be
on standby for Teddies who
land in trees!



ST MARY'S HATFIELD BROAD OAK FLOWER FESTIVAL 2026
PROUDLY PRESENTS:

**FUN
DOG SHOW!**

CANCELLED
due to the weather

SATURDAY 23rd MAY 2PM
(REGISTRATIONS FROM 1.45PM)
ALL DOGS WELCOME

BEHIND ST MARY'S CHURCH
Hatfield Broad Oak CM22 7HG

FLORAL EXHIBITION

SPORTS AND RECREATION THEMED
FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS & ART

Blossoms & Bells,
Hatfield Heath
Elizabeth Britton
Anne Broad
Anne Broad/Liz
Chris Golding
Sue Chapman

Samantha Scanlon
Margaret Hansford
Viv Sharples
Linda Anderson
Peggy Shelley
Molly Hunt

Katie Howe
HBO WI
Liz Webber
Ann Jones
Carole Evans
St Mary's School

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A MESSAGE

FROM THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST. MARY'S, HATFIELD BROAD OAK

**Welcome to St Mary's Church Hatfield
Broad Oak Flower Festival 2026!**

We hope you enjoy your visit and get a chance to walk around our beautiful Grade I listed church, which is filled with flower arrangements, this year the theme is "Sports & Leisure"!

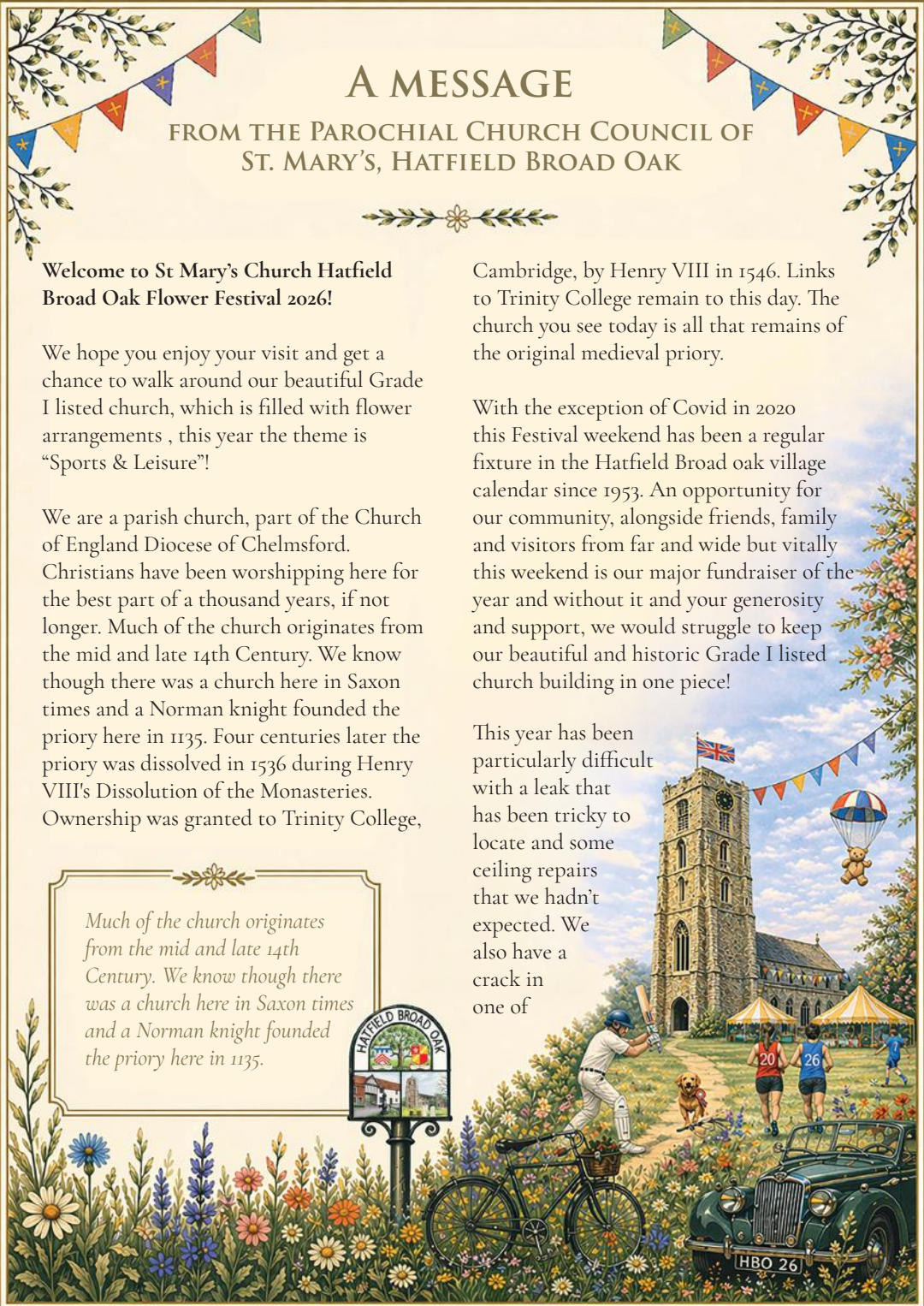
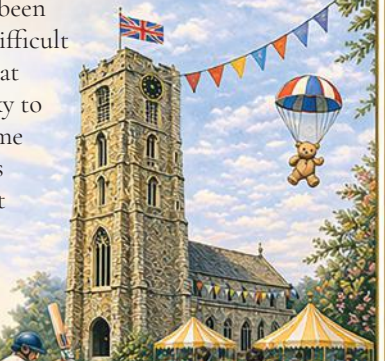
We are a parish church, part of the Church of England Diocese of Chelmsford. Christians have been worshipping here for the best part of a thousand years, if not longer. Much of the church originates from the mid and late 14th Century. We know though there was a church here in Saxon times and a Norman knight founded the priory here in 1135. Four centuries later the priory was dissolved in 1536 during Henry VIII's Dissolution of the Monasteries. Ownership was granted to Trinity College,

Cambridge, by Henry VIII in 1546. Links to Trinity College remain to this day. The church you see today is all that remains of the original medieval priory.

With the exception of Covid in 2020 this Festival weekend has been a regular fixture in the Hatfield Broad oak village calendar since 1953. An opportunity for our community, alongside friends, family and visitors from far and wide but vitally this weekend is our major fundraiser of the year and without it and your generosity and support, we would struggle to keep our beautiful and historic Grade I listed church building in one piece!

This year has been particularly difficult with a leak that has been tricky to locate and some ceiling repairs that we hadn't expected. We also have a crack in one of

Much of the church originates from the mid and late 14th Century. We know though there was a church here in Saxon times and a Norman knight founded the priory here in 1135.





our wonderful church bells that needs to be repaired as well as the huge project on our church tower all of which comes at a hefty cost.

Another important element of this weekend is to bring together groups with their own activities that run alongside us; the car show, fun dog show, the children's football tournament and the 10K road race. This is a great opportunity to meet new people, catch up with old acquaintances, and just enjoy the beautiful surroundings of our village.

Our Parish Council have again supported the community with a grant that allows us to provide free live musical entertainment and children's. Daniel Robinson & Sons have again kindly sponsored flowers in the church which allows us to financially support our

wonderful flower arrangers. Thank you to the HBO PC and Daniel Robinson & Sons for their generous and continued support.

Each year an amazing group of people come together to help ensure this event happens. To each and every one of those people, our heartfelt thanks. We literally couldn't do this without you!

Have a wonderful day and thank you for coming, we really do appreciate it.

Hatfield Broad Oak PCC

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FLOWER FESTIVAL & FETE

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SATURDAY
11AM - 4PM

FLORAL DISPLAYS - ART GALLERY - STALLS - KIDS ENTERTAINMENT
TEA TENT - BAR - BBQ & VEGAN FOOD TRUCK -
PLANTS - FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT
CAR SHOW FROM 11AM
TEDDY BEAR PARACHUTE REGISTRATION 11.30AM & JUMP 12.30PM
~~DOG SHOW REGISTRATION 1.45PM & START 2PM~~
CANCELLED DUE TO THE HOT WEATHER

SUNDAY
11AM - 4PM

TEA & CAKES FROM THE WI 2PM - 4PM
ART GALLERY 2PM - 4PM
SUNDAY IN CHURCH: 11AM MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE
12PM - 4PM CHURCH OPEN WITH MUSIC FROM FIDDLERS ELBOW

MONDAY
10AM - 3PM

FLORAL DISPLAYS - ART GALLERY - STALLS - KIDS ENTERTAINMENT
TEA TENT - BAR - BBQ & VEGAN FOOD TRUCK - PLANTS
LIVE MUSIC OUTSIDE FROM LEVINSON
11.45AM, 1PM AND 2PM

MONDAY
RACE TIMES

ROAD CLOSURE FROM 10.40AM & ROAD RE-OPENS APPROX 1.30PM
10K RACE START 11AM
FUN RUN MEET AT SCHOOL 12.20PM & STARTS 12.40PM

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ST MARY'S CHURCH, HATFIELD BROAD OAK CM22 7HG



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Hatfield Broad Oak 10k Race

It's the HBO10K 40th race this year and we have great pleasure in welcoming you to one of the most loved road races in the South East, on the 25th May 2026 with our proud Oak tree on the coveted HBO 10K Technical T-Shirt and a ruby themed heavy duty solid metal medal included.



From the HBO 10k Team



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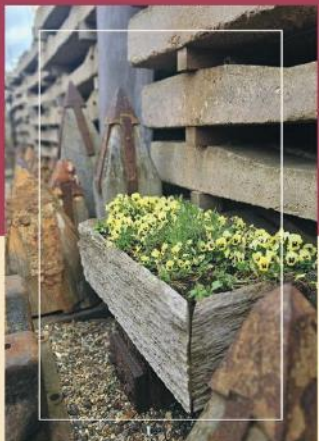
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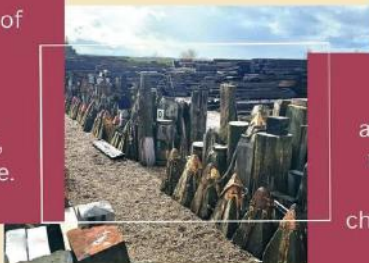
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INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

BILLY KNIGHT-WOOD FOR LEADING THE CAR SHOW

PAULINE & NATALIE FOR RUNNING THE DOG SHOW

ANDY RENALS & THE HEAVY GANG

JAN & HANNAH KIDMAN FOR THE ART EXHIBITION

KEVIN BEADLE AND HIS BAR CREW

NIKKI ROBINSON AND THE GRAND DRAW TEAM

THE WONDERFUL BBQ CREW

THE TEA TENT COMMITTEE AND ALL HELPERS AND BAKERS

SUE LAMBLE, THE PLANT STALL TEAM AND THE GROWERS

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HBO PARISH COUNCIL

HBO SPORTS & COMMUNITY CLUB

THE FLOWER FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

THANK YOU TO ALL THE FLOWER ARRANGERS

& EVERYONE ELSE WHO HAS HELPED

MAKE THIS WEEKEND SPECIAL.

SPORT & LEISURE IN HATFIELD BROAD OAK

Why is this our theme for 2026?

Well, we are proud to put the spotlight on the famous Hatfield Broad Oak 10K road race which this year celebrates its 40th anniversary. Happy 40th and congratulations on making this such a successful and beloved event. We wish all the runners a great race and thank Gemma and her team for working so hard this and every year.

Leisure in our village of Hatfield Broad Oak can include anything from being fed and watered with friends and family at our two village pubs, walking around the village and on the village green (with or without your dog), or attending groups and events held at the school, the church or village hall.

We also have community members using their leisure time to help around the village, such as keeping the planters or grass looking neat and tidy, flower arrangements in the church, helping run clubs and groups like the WI, Friday club, yoga, coffee mornings and warm spaces. This is where leisure and being active in the community combine!

HATFIELD BROAD OAK 10K ROAD RACE

40TH ANNIVERSARY



Village sports are a cornerstone of local village life. Played on greens, recreation grounds, and small courts, they bring together people of all ages and abilities. Unlike elite or professional sport, village sports emphasise participation, community spirit, and wellbeing over competition – well most of the time! From traditional team games like football and cricket to inclusive formats such as walking football, village sport continues to evolve while preserving its social roots.



FOOTBALL

Football is the most widespread village sport. Local clubs often compete in amateur leagues, while informal matches take place on village greens. This encourages teamwork and fitness and is central to community life. Village football often acts as a social hub, bringing together players, families, and spectators.

HBO has a historical association with football, with teams playing back in the early 1930's. Roy Field and other residents were involved in a very successful men's club in the 1970s and 80s, winning local leagues and cups.

In the 2010s, HBO had a successful men's veterans club run by residents Leigh Trevitt, Paul Beauchamp and Luke Chapman.

Today HBO has a youth football club with 10 of its own teams and its strength is demonstrated this weekend with the football tournament bringing nearly 50 youth teams together.



CRICKET

Cricket holds a special place in village culture, particularly in England, and HBO is no exception. Cricket here dates back at least to the 1930s. In the 1950s, the club was called the "Gentlemen's and Ladies' Cricket Club". Because this is a village, many of the players played for both football and cricket teams. This continued through the 80s and 90s and was reformed following the 2005 Ashes win and the current club has grown steadily over the last 10 years. Last year the team were champions in the local league.

Matches are typically played on village greens from early afternoon into early evening. Spectators can enjoy watching the cricket and meeting up with friends, while enjoying the fresh air and even, on occasion, basking in the sunshine! Cricket has a strong tradition of tea breaks and post-match socialising. A Reddit user captured the spirit well: "Village cricket... you have sandwiches, cake... then go to the pub with the opposition." Cricket blends sport with heritage and leisure, meaning it is closely tied to rural life.



NETBALL

Netball is widely played in villages, especially among women and mixed community groups. This sport encourages agility, coordination, and teamwork and is increasingly adapted into inclusive formats like walking netball. Village netball sessions are often friendly and accessible, welcoming players returning after time away from sport. Our HBO ladies have a strong and successful team.





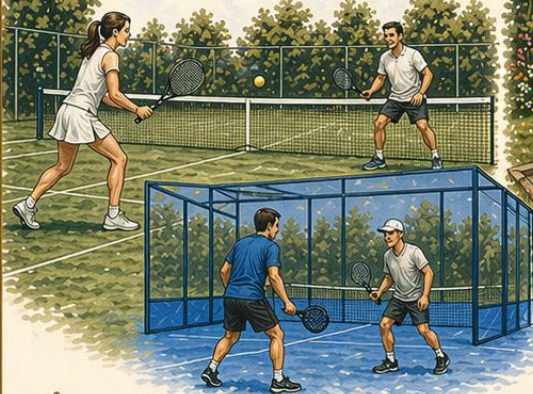
TENNIS & PADEL

Village tennis is typically played on public courts or small club facilities but in this village, we are lucky to have some local households with tennis courts who host a friendly tournament each year.

Tennis is accessible to all ages, can be casual or competitive, and promotes active lifestyles and social interaction.

Padel is a fast-growing village & community sport. A new game to this village but we are lucky to have local courts available.

This is played in doubles on a smaller enclosed court compared to tennis. There are walls which form part of the game, much like in squash. It is easier to pick up than tennis, making it idea for casual and community play.

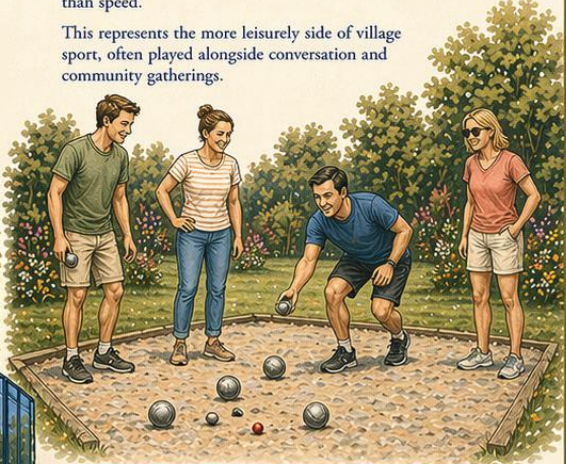


PÉTANQUE

Pétanque, a French boules game, has become popular in parks and village greens across Europe and the UK. We are lucky that our village green has a Pétanque area on the village green.

Players throw metal balls to land closest to a target. This requires skill, precision, and strategy rather than speed.

This represents the more leisurely side of village sport, often played alongside conversation and community gatherings.



THE VALUE OF VILLAGE SPORTS

Village sports offer more than just physical activity:

- Community bonding – bringing people together across generations
- Health benefits – improving fitness and mental wellbeing
- Inclusivity – welcoming all abilities and ages
- Tradition – preserving local culture and identity

They are often organised by volunteers and local clubs, making them a true reflection of grassroots participation.



WALKING FOOTBALL

Walking football is one of the fastest-growing village sports, especially among older adults.

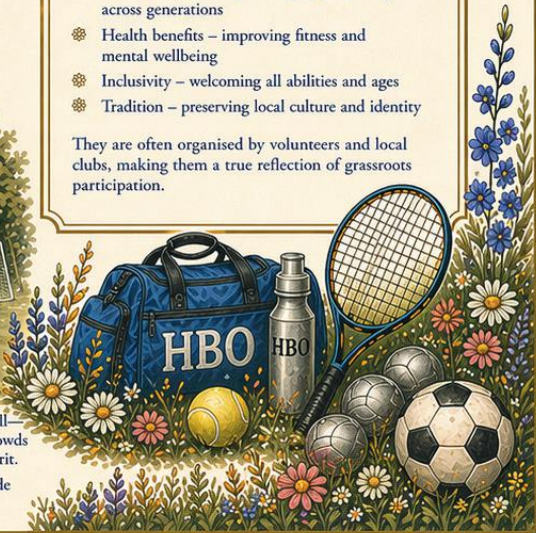
Players must walk instead of run. The game is designed for people over 50 or those with limited mobility; it is lower impact with a focus on inclusivity and safety. This is open to all fitness levels and promotes health, mobility, and social connection

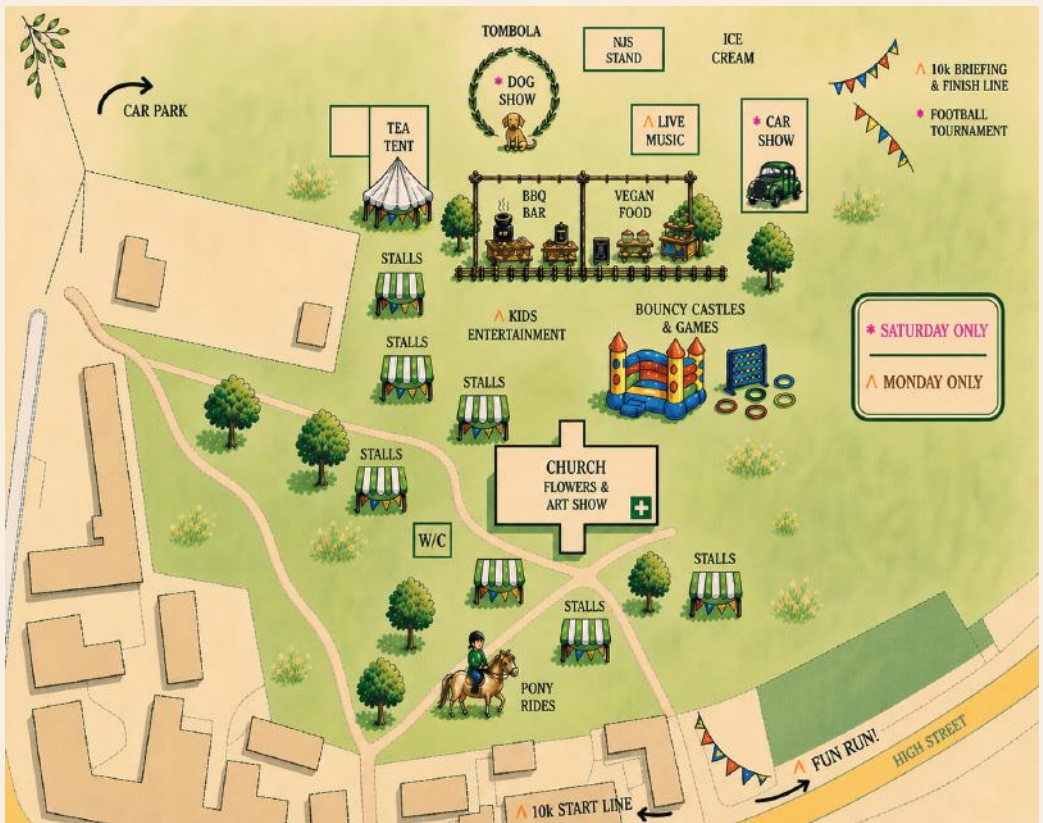
These walking formats of more active sports are increasingly important as communities look to keep people active for longer.



Village sports—from football and cricket to pétanque and walking football—represent the essence of grassroots sport. They are not defined by large crowds or professional status, but by participation, enjoyment, and community spirit.

As modern life becomes more fast-paced, village sports continue to provide something simple yet powerful: a place to play, connect, and belong.





SATURDAY 23RD

11AM TILL 4PM

CAR SHOW FROM 11AM

TEDDY BEAR PARACHUTE REGISTRATION 11.30AM

JUMP AT CHURCH TOWER 12.30PM

~~DOG SHOW REGISTRATION 1.45PM - START 2PM -~~
CANCELLED DUE TO THE HOT WEATHER

SUNDAY 24TH

11AM TILL 4PM

TEA & CAKES FROM THE WI & ART SHOW 2PM - 4PM

SUNDAY IN CHURCH 11AM MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE
 12PM - 4PM CHURCH OPEN WITH MUSIC FROM FIDDLERS ELBOW

MONDAY 25TH

10AM TILL 3PM

(BBQ FROM 9AM FOR BACON ROLLS)

ROAD CLOSURE 10:40AM

10K RACE STARTS 11AM

LIVE MUSIC OUTSIDE FROM LEVINSON

11.45AM, 1PM AND 2PM

FUN RUN MEET AT SCHOOL 12:20PM

FUN RUN STARTS 12:40PM

ROAD RE-OPENS APPROX 1:30PM

ST MARY'S CHURCH, HATFIELD BROAD OAK CM22 7HG