

Parish Magazine

for

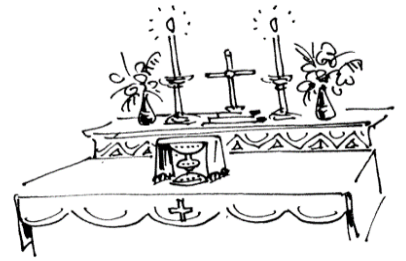
The Benefice of Lower Beeding and Cowfold

50p – To arrange an annual subscription (£6) ring 01403 891710



August 2020

For the Benefice Readings & Worship Services August 2020



August 2nd, Eighth Sunday after Trinity

Isaiah 55:1-5:
Psalm 145:8-9, 15-end.
Romans 9:1-5.
Matthew 14: 13-21

August 9th, Ninth Sunday after Trinity

1 Kings 19: 9-18.
Psalm 85:8-13.
Romans 10: 5-15
Matthew 14: 22-23.

August 16th Tenth Sunday after Trinity

Isaiah 56: 1 & 6-8.
Psalm 67.
Romans 11:1-2, 29-32.
Matthew 15: 10-28

August 23rd Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Isaiah 51: 1-6.
Psalm 138.
Romans 12: 1 -8.
Matthew 16:13-20.

August 30th Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Jeremiah 15: 15-21.
Psalm 26: 1-8.
Romans 12: 9-end.
Matthew 16:21-end.

From the Registers

~~~~~

## ***Times of services – Sundays***

### **Lower Beeding**

Eucharist: 8.30 at St. Johns

Eucharist: 10.00 at Holy Trinity

### **St. Peter's, Cowfold**

St Peter's has an 8 o'clock on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday

10.00am Eucharist on Aug 2<sup>nd</sup>

10.00 am Short and Sweet on Aug 9<sup>th</sup>

11.15 am Eucharist on August 16<sup>th</sup>

11.15 am Short and Sweet on August 23<sup>rd</sup>

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Welcome to the August 2020 edition of the Parish Magazine for the Benefice.

This month we are again producing a printed version and one online that can be found on the websites of Holy Trinity Church and St.Peter's, Cowfold.

This month we have the 1<sup>st</sup> Lower Beeding Guides telling us about their experiences in Lockdown.(p.8)

Lisa Rainier, Chaplain and Lead for Spiritual Support at St Catherine's Hospice, shares what it's been like working on the front line supporting local terminally ill people and their families during the pandemic.(p.10)

Kay Croll has been in touch with the Family Support Work office to ascertain which goods are needed for the food bank. Support and extra food is needed during the school holidays. She hopes we can respond by providing food and necessities during August (p.34)

Covid-19 has not gone away. We all need to stay vigilant when we are out and about. Please stay safe.

Lesley Hendy  
Acting Editor

[lesleyhendy6@gmail.com](mailto:lesleyhendy6@gmail.com)

Copy date for next magazine-

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August**

Submissions should be sent to  
[lesleyhendy6@gmail.com](mailto:lesleyhendy6@gmail.com)

The views and opinions within this publication are not necessarily those of the editor or the Parochial Church Councils' of the Benefice.



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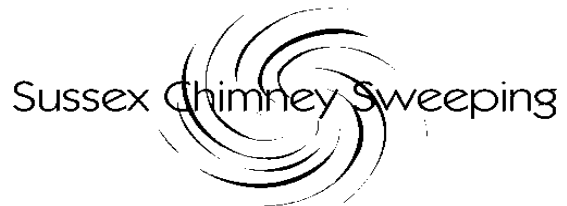


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# The Vicar's Letter



Dear Friends,

We are back in church!

On the 12<sup>th</sup> July we were able with much joy to hold services in all three of the churches in our parishes. For those who attend Holy Trinity or St John's we are now back to our normal pattern except that there is no evensong.

St Peter's has not one but two changes so I will explain the thinking. There has not recently (i.e post my arrival but pre lockdown) been a service on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in the month at Cowfold. This is for historic reasons to do with the previous link with Bolney. Bolney is still in interregnum and Fr Martin has been helping out so hasn't been available to these parishes to take a service mid-morning on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in the month. So as a temporary measure I did suggest the Cowfold congregation joined Lower Beeding then with a view to whenever there was a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday everyone going to Cowfold until the interregnum at Bolney was over. There were two or three services where this happened.

At this point in time, coming out of the lockdown, I feel that Cowfold needs its own service on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. The first Sunday back in church fell on a Short and Sweet Sunday, and Short and Sweet is a very precious part of the church family. So much so that the PCC voted to have a second Short and Sweet service each month at their last meeting, logically this would be on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in the month. In order to have more than one Eucharist a month I am offering one on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. However for staffing reasons this will have to be at 11.15 am. At some point, the interregnum at Bolney will come to an end and we will be able to sort out a permanent service pattern. However supporting Fr Martin as he has continued to lead some of the worship in Bolney has been a very practical way of loving our neighbour through this odd time.

On the Sunday we came back into church our gospel reading was that of the sower whose seed fell on various types of ground. During the lockdown a quarter of the adult population watched or listened in to religious broadcasting. That seems to

me to be quite close to that ancient image of the sower, broadcasting – that's where we get the word from- the seed.

We don't know yet whether we can build on this interest. It feels to me that something is emerging which is important. I also think we need to consider whether we can use streaming a service as one way of keeping in touch with folk who were regulars and have become housebound or are continuing to shield themselves. Both the national church and the Diocese are very keen that if a parish has been livestreaming we continue to do so.

In a healthy plant there is of course a time lag before you see the growth above ground it is developing a good root system. We won't know for a while what is going on about livestreaming and the national picture. Here I will need to discuss with the PCCs how we progress things. We can find out which building is easiest to broadcast from. In the meantime I am going to livestream a service on Tuesday mornings at 10.00.am on Facebook which can then be put on the website. I wonder if there will come at time when people who are wondering about coming to church will naturally look up a service on the website so that by the time they actually put a foot across the threshold they imagine they 'know' the priest and the type of service they are going to. If you are not used to church that might be very reassuring.

As a nation, and across the world, we have been through a dreadful time. We are not out of the woods yet. However we trust in a God who specialises in bringing resurrection out of crucifixion. This parable is set in a chapter in Matthew's gospel all about the organic growth of the kingdom. It may be that out of the horror of the pandemic Almighty God brings great spiritual growth.

We might well be used to thinking of the parable of the sower in terms of individual spiritual growth, and that is important. Now that we are able to be in church together we can be grateful that the roots we have put down as individuals over the years that have enabled us to survive spiritually in a time when we haven't been able to meet together. God has continued to nourish us. It is precisely because this is all so precious to us that we wish to share it in any way we can. May God guide us into the best way to produce a high yield for him in our individual lives and in our churches.

God bless,

Sue

## Music in our churches and cathedrals

The Church of England, together with the Royal School of Church Music, has encouraged the Government to be proactive in ensuring music-making can resume in church buildings, once it is safe to do so.

Responding to the latest guidance, **the Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally**, said: “We are encouraging the Government to be alert to the consequences of our choirs’ continued silence - and to take a proactive approach to allowing singing to return to our churches and cathedrals as soon as it is possible to do so safely.

“We look forward to a time where worship and music can once again be combined, in all their different expressions, as they have for centuries, turning our hearts to God.”

During the Coronavirus pandemic, the Church of England partnered with the RSCM to provide free hymns for parishes for use in streamed worship, which have been downloaded more than 45,000 times.

### HYMN: The story behind ... JUST AS I AM

The hymn ‘Just As I Am’ must be one of the most famous in the world. It has been sung by tens of millions of Christians at Billy Graham Crusades the world over, just for starters! Yet it was not written by a professional who was ‘aiming’ at a specific market, as many songs seem to be written today. Instead, it was written by an artist in Victorian times.

Her name was Charlotte Elliott, and she was born in Clapham in 1789. She grew up in a well to do home, and became a portrait artist and also a writer of humorous verse. All was well until Charlotte fell ill in her early 30s, and slid into a black depression. A minister, Dr Caesar Malan of Switzerland, came to visit her. Instead of sympathising, he asked her an unexpected question: did she have peace with God? Charlotte deeply resented the question and told him to mind his own business.

But after he left, his question haunted her. *Did* she have peace with God? She knew that she did not, that she had done some very wrong things. So, she invited Dr Malan to return. She told him that she would like to become a Christian, but would have to sort out her life first.

Dr Malan again said the unexpected: “Come just as you are.” The words were a revelation to Charlotte. She had assumed that she would have to put her life in order before she could hope to be accepted by God. Instead, she realised that Jesus wanted her just as she was - and He would take care of the sin. Charlotte became a Christian that day.

14 years later, in 1836, Charlotte wrote some verses that summed up how it had been between her and Jesus that day. They ran:

*Just as I am, without one plea,  
But that thy blood was shed for me,  
And that thou bids't me come to Thee  
O Lamb of God, I come! I come!*

*Just as I am, tho tossed about  
With many a conflict, many a doubt  
Fightings within, and fears without,  
O Lamb of God, I come! I come!*

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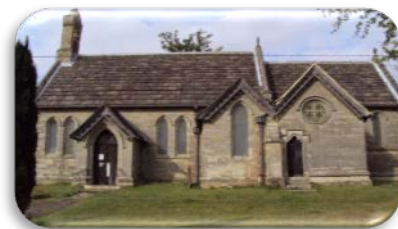
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# News and Views from St. John's, Coolhurst



**August 2020**

## **Launch of new 'Climate Sunday'**

A new campaign, Climate Sunday, has been launched by a coalition of churches and charities, as part of a call for action on climate change.

From next month, 6<sup>th</sup> September, churches throughout the UK will be encouraged to have a Sunday dedicated to the theme of climate change. This could be held at any time in the next 12 months.

The scheme was recently launched on World Environment Day, by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland. It supported charities that range from CAFOD to Christian Aid, from Operation Noah to Tearfund.

The campaign Climate Sunday will offer free resources to encourage churches to hold a climate-focused service, to make a commitment as a community to reducing greenhouse-gas emissions in the long term, or to join with other churches and groups before the 26<sup>th</sup> UN climate-change conference (COP26) in November, in urging the Government to do more about climate change.

The campaign will conclude on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2021 with a national Climate Sunday event to pray for action on global warming.

The Bishop of Salisbury, the Rt Revd Nicholas Holtam, the C of E's lead bishop on environmental issues, said: "Although our focus has been shifted from climate changes in recent months by the challenges of responding to Covid-19, the climate crisis has not gone away.

"Climate Sunday will be a brilliant resource to help Church of England parishes understand and respond to the climate crisis."

*Editor: This news story looks FORWARD – to a new venture. This could be something that our new Benefice could and should embrace .*



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# 1<sup>st</sup> Lower Beeding Guides

It seems very strange that after 40 years of running Guide Meetings in Lower Beeding, I have not been at a meeting since 10 March and we have no idea when we will be able to resume again. We were sad to not have our annual Senior Citizens Tea Party, which has happened every year for a very long time, but we are looking forward to next year's party! Our Summer Camp, which was due to be at Monks Gate on 17 July will obviously not be going ahead. I have done a camp or residential with the Guides for the last 48 years and just feel I just cannot miss a year!! I am hoping to have a night in my tent during the summer but it definitely will not be the same as Summer Camp!!

I asked the girls if they would like to write something about their experiences in Lockdown and this is what Ambrin, Isla and Madeleine had to say:

*Mandy Wicking*

## **My Lockdown Experience**

For me, lockdown has been an experience of mixed emotions. My life hasn't really changed much at all; my dad still goes to work everyday and we still do school work albeit virtually. The downside has been not being able to see loved ones and friends. Schooling has been more enjoyable because I've been able to listen to music at the same time, work in comfy clothes, get my work done quicker and I've been able to wake up later in the morning.

I have still been able to play my clarinet and have online lessons however I have not been able to play in my orchestra.

We have instead been recording ourselves playing a certain piece of music and then the conductor has been putting it all together so everyone is playing at the right time. We've been able to spend more time together, as a family, learning how to play new card games. In addition, the house has been smelling of baking because we've had more time to trial new recipes.

Also I think that we have actually become fitter during lockdown because we have been doing one piece of exercise each day, mostly either a bike ride or a family

walk. In the evenings we have taken to doing yoga to relax us before bed. When the government announced on the 15th June that one single person could join another family and form a 'bubble', we were really pleased because this enabled us to go and see my Grandma on the Isle of Wight.

On the ferry it felt really strange because we had to all wear face masks. Because we have remained in our 'bubble' for so long we actually feel a little bit scared when we go anywhere or see other people out and about. I feel pleased though that everything is slowly returning to normal so that we're able to see our friends and loved ones again.

**Ambrin**

### **My lockdown**

We've been on lots of dog walks. We discovered some new walks we can do from the house (though some of them are a bit long). We even found a wild cockerel on one of them. I've been on some bike rides with Ebanie.

I've been surprised that I've actually missed school and seeing all my friends and can't wait to get back in September.

**Isla**

### **LOCKDOWN 2020**

During the lockdown, I have been homeschooling which has been challenging at times. We get sent work daily and we then do the work and submit it to school. Once I have completed my schooling, we do lots of family walks and explore the woods nearest to us. We have found so many new routes and our dog loves it. I also like to run and ride my bike with my sister and Mum. We go for long bike rides - the furthest we rode was from North Horsham to Warnham Nature Reserve and through Rookwood. It was great fun we saw lots of Deer quite close up. I have baked a lot too - made some cakes/brownies and much more.

I have also really enjoyed learning calligraphy. I have taught myself through Youtube videos and also been colouring calming picture books which are very therapeutic.

**Madeleine**

~~~~~

ST CATHERINE'S HOSPICE

Confessions of a Hospice Chaplain during the Corona Crisis

Lisa Rainier is Chaplain and Lead for Spiritual Support at St Catherine's Hospice in Crawley. Here she shares what it's been like working on the front line supporting local terminally ill people and their families.



“Early on, I joined my local neighbourhood isolation support group, purchased seed to grow my own vegetables, thought I would read the Hilary Mantel novels on my bookshelves, get fitter with Joe Wicks, run further, rescue a few people and generally be a cross between a hero and an angel.

Later on, any kind of hero status or angelic ambition was seriously compromised by the reality: I was unable to concentrate for long enough to read anything, physically hauling my increasingly heavy body out of bed for a short run round the park took Herculean effort and I wrestled with run-rage (why is it always me who has to give way on the path and go into the undergrowth?). I also had to accept that I couldn't do much extra for my neighbours because it took me so long to shop for me and mine.

There have been too many male humans in my house and the churlish chore-wars are getting me down. I sorely miss my alone time on retreat and my going out time with girlfriends, and I'm sad that my mother-in-law with Alzheimer's will no longer recognise me if, or when, I do see her again.

Being 'only human' at St Catherine's Hospice has got to me too: I have felt my own anxieties in caring for people with COVID-19, and wearied at the challenges of communication: with patients through plastic PPE, with relatives whilst maintaining social distance, with colleagues internally and externally, variously and vicariously via Zoom, Teams, WhatsApp, Vsee and Lifesize. And oh, how I

have missed the support of many of my in-the-flesh colleague-friends who are currently furloughed or working from home.

But, being human at the hospice in this time has also been precious; with less meetings to attend and less time taken up with travelling and training, I have had longer to listen; to hear and honour life stories, and more opportunities to stand in the gap when a patient's own priest or minister has not been able to be present; special moments have been the sharing of communion and the privilege of planning and conducting intimate and meaningful committals with the closest family of those who have died.

In and through all of this has come the realisation that even when a mask muffles some of your words, the hand you offer is clothed in a glove, and the calm in your voice is only heard over the phone, compassion can still be communicated, and what we are still able to do is to remind and reassure our fellow humans that we are still here for them: they are not alone."

Lisa Rainier, Chaplain and Lead for Spiritual Support at St Catherine's Hospice.

To make a donation to support St Catherine's Hospice and help Lisa and her colleagues continue to provide care and support when it's needed most please visit: www.stch.org.uk/donate

St Catherine's Hospice provides end of life care and support to terminally ill people and their families across Crawley, Horsham, East Surrey and Mid Sussex.



For more information/images please contact Laura Mitchell, Senior Marketing and Communications Executive at St Catherine's Hospice on 01293 447324 or email lauramitchell@stch.org.uk

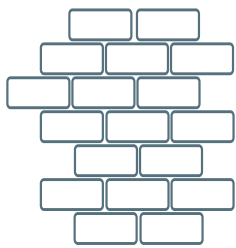


Tuesday Club



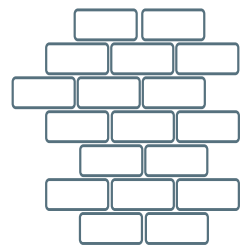
Sadly, as with all other events during this difficult period, The Tuesday Club will not be able to meet again until the lockdown is lifted.

At the moment, the date for this is not known. However, if you wish to have any information concerning the Club for further details please contact Janet Warwick 01403891789 or rjwarwick12@hotmail.com



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Lower Beeding Association News

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Changes in Mill Lane -

Congratulations to Charlie and Sam on the birth of their son Teddy on the 23rd May –

They live in Violets Cottages, Mill Lane.

Farewell to Paul and Carol Davis from The Oaks, Mill Lane who, after many years,

have moved to Swanage.

And welcome to Alex, Mark and Reuben Davis who have just moved into The Oaks.

All the very best to you all.

(The above went into last month's magazine but only the on-line version.)

If you have neighbours or other information around the village that you would like share

under village comings and goings please let the editor or me know.

The LBA 250 Club

The 250 Club as most of you know has been running for many years and funds raised go towards the upkeep of your village hall and sportsfield.

Paul Smith has kindly volunteered (!) to run the Club which is already gaining new

members. Only £20 a year membership.

As we cannot run the Club during Covid-19 it is planned to accumulate the 2020 prize

money and run a Grand Draw on the 15th December (venue to be decided) with prizes of

£100 x 3, £50 x 3, £30 x 3 and £1000 top prize - yes £1000 !

For 2021 we hope to go back to near normal but only having draws twice a year (June and December) instead of quarterly.

If you are already a member all subs must be in by end August/September otherwise you will not be in. And as Paul says you have to be in it, to win it.
To find out more about joining please contact Paul on 01403 891293 em: Smiffy.Clan@btinternet.com - there are still a few spares (going fast).

Village Hall:

Unfortunately, the village hall is still closed but we hope to open it in the near future. At the moment the cleaners are in doing a deep clean. I will update you all next month.

Jean Black 01403 891523



TIME to SMILE

- No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationary!
- I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.
- I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.
- When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.
- When chemists die, they barium.
- I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.
- I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.
- England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.
- Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.
- I know a guy who's addicted to drinking brake fluid, but he says he can stop any time.
- A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.
- When the smog lifts in Los Angeles, U.C.L.A.
- I got some batteries that were given out free of charge.

LOWER BEEDING PARISH COUNCIL

August 2020

Lower Beeding Parish Council News

Dear Residents,

As the end of lockdown has finally arrived, we can hopefully try to return to normality in our lives.

But we must remember the virus is still out there and remain as vigilant as possible, by keeping social distancing, wearing a face mask where appropriate and continue to keep washing our hands regularly.

One part of life that has returned is we were given permission by Sussex Police to continue our Community Speed Watch (CSW) team and not unsurprisingly we have had a high volume of cars, vans and lorries transgressing driving through the Parish. On each CSW session we have a constant 10% of vehicles breaking the set speed limit. But we still have a high rate of motorbikes travelling at very high speeds at unsociable times that are extremely noisy. Sussex Police are aware of this problem and we hope that a solution will be found soon. I have also received several complaints from residents regarding the reduced service of the No 89 bus that travels between Horsham and Haywards Heath. This vital service is under threat following the lack of passengers travelling during the Corona virus. Both Horsham and West Sussex Councils are aware of this predicament and trying to work together with Compass Bus Company to come to a resolution.

If you have any issues that need attention, please contact me on the email address below.

STAY SAFE AND WELL

Peter Knox

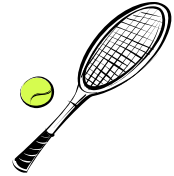
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Lower Beeding Horticultural Society Report

There has been no activity in the society to report on since Covid-19 took its hold. With events through to the summer show now cancelled we have just the garden visit to West Dene, the talk on Knepp Rewilding, and the AGM to look forward to, and we are keeping our fingers crossed that one or more of these can take place.

Renewals for Leonardslee Gardens annual passes are falling due and any members wishing to take advantage of the 20% discount on this should contact Tom – tom@plimmers.co.uk – for more information.

All the best, Tom.

+++++

Gardeners' World

Well, the Covid-19 pandemic is still with us, that said as of mid-July most retail outlets are now opening and gyms and other sporting venues are about to open, all with adherence to the guidance for protection of both staff and customers. Aside from the garden centres being closed for the first part of the lockdown none of this has deterred, nor prevented, us from enjoying our gardens this year. And it might be that, like me, you have embarked on a few major projects in the garden, be they changing the overall shape of the garden (perhaps inspired by the many TV programmes on the topic), major pruning and cutting back of overgrown or shading areas that need to see a little more sun, or changing the layout of beds and borders. Whatever you've been working on August is the time when the borders are at their most colourful and when the vegetable harvest is in full swing. Much of the gardening effort during this month is concerned with maintaining these borders and vegetable beds, with very little of the hard work to come later in the year.



Courgettes, runner and French beans, cucumbers, summer cabbages, lettuces, early tomatoes, and many more besides, are all coming in now and providing the satisfaction of home-grown produce in the kitchen. During August continue to water wisely during dry periods. Keep weeds under control (somehow!) and put them on the compost heap if you

have one, taking flowers and flower heads off before doing so. Perennial weeds can be dried for few weeks to kill them before adding to the heap. As an alternative, put weeds into a bucket of water, allow them to rot before then using the liquid as a feed. Fruit trees and bushes can be summer pruned, this applies to raspberries and gooseberries. For raspberries tie in new canes to supports and cut down the canes that have borne fruit this year. Once spare areas of the plot appear it is possible to sow overwintering onions for next year. The most popular of these are the Japanese varieties, the Senshyu onions. Likewise spring cabbages and cauliflowers can be planted out during August, you might be lucky and find these as plants in the garden centre, alternatively get the seed going early in the month either in trays or else directly into the plot.

The annuals are now in their element and are thriving in the warm and occasionally wet conditions, providing a fine exhibition of colour in the containers and in beds, where their presence at the front of larger herbaceous plants provides a pleasing contrast of foliage and colour. Dead-heading these will maintain the blooming season and provide successive flowering. The sweet peas are worth picking and bringing indoors to provide both colour and fragrance. Roses have been in fine bloom for a few months now, and dead-heading these will maintain the flowering period for a while yet. Unfortunately for some (myself included) the removal of the flowers has become a nocturnal task for deer straying into the garden, requiring the use of fleece laid over the plants to protect them overnight.

Herbaceous plants continue to be in colour, especially if you've planted to ensure flowering throughout the spring, summer, and autumn by planting varieties with different flowering periods, for example with the paeonies in May/June and Crocosmia coming into flower in July and August among many others. There are so many herbaceous plants to choose from it's very easy to combine the plants that you like with the goal of seasonal flowering and colourful foliage.

Finally, be on the lookout for signs of damage to crops and plants from the multitude of creatures taking advantage of your hard work, and use whatever means works for you to keep them at bay. And, first and foremost, be sure to enjoy the fruits of your labours earlier in the year.

Hortulanus.



*"A weed is a plant that has mastered every survival skill except for learning how to grow in rows." – **Doug Larson***

9th August: Mary Sumner – founder of the Mothers' Union



The Mothers' Union is now nearly 145 years old. It has accomplished a staggering amount in that time, and nowadays numbers more than four million members, doing good work in 83 countries. That is a far cry from the modest circle of prayer for mothers who cared about family life, which is how it all began with a rector's wife, Mary Sumner.

Mary was born in late 1828 in Swinton, near Manchester. When she was four, her family moved to Herefordshire. Mary's father, Thomas Heywood, was a banker and historian. Her mother has been described as a woman of "faith, charm and sympathy" – qualities which Mary certainly inherited. Mrs Heywood also held informal 'mothers' meetings' at her home, to encourage local women. Those meetings may well have inspired Mary's later work.

Mary was educated at home, spoke three foreign languages, and sang well. While in her late teens, on a visit to Rome she met George Sumner, a son of the Bishop of Winchester. It was a well-connected family: George's uncle became Archbishop of Canterbury, and his second cousin was William Wilberforce. Mary and George married in July 1848, soon after his ordination. They moved to Old Alresford in 1851 and had three children: Margaret, Louise and George. Mary dedicated herself to raising her children and supporting her husband's ministry by providing music and Bible classes.

When in 1876 Mary's eldest daughter Margaret, gave birth, Mary was reminded how difficult she had found the burden of motherhood. Soon she decided to hold a meeting to which she invited the local women not only of her own class, but also all the village mothers. Her aim was to find out if women could be brought together to offer each other prayer and mutual support in their roles as wives and mothers. That meeting at Old Alresford Rectory was the inaugural meeting of the Mothers' Union.

For 11 years, the Mothers' Union was limited to Old Alresford. Then in 1885 the Bishop of Newcastle invited Mary to address the women churchgoers of the Portsmouth Church Congress, some 20 miles away. Mary gave a passionate speech about the poor state of national morality, and the vital need for women to use their vocation as mothers to change the nation for the better. A number of the women present went back to their parishes to found mothers' meetings on Sumner's pattern. Soon, the Mothers' Union spread to the dioceses of Ely, Exeter, Hereford, Lichfield and Newcastle.

By 1892, there were already 60,000 members in 28 dioceses, and by 1900 there were 169,000 members. By the time Mary died in 1921, she had seen MU cross the seas and become an international organisation of prayer and good purpose.



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Date for the Diary

Annual Christmas Market on Saturday November 28th 2020



JIGSAW PUZZLES and OTHER TREASURES



I am aware that many of you have been doing a lot of jigsaws during lockdown to pass the time.

PLEASE will you hang onto them in case we are able to hold the

Christmas Market on Saturday November 28th.

Should storage be a problem please call or e-mail me and we can arrange a mutually convenient time for me to pick them up.

Equally, should you have any gifts, jewellery, tombola items, children's toys or collectable items all in good condition to sell on our stalls,

please keep us in mind.

Very many thanks, keep safe and well.

Jan McKinnell

janmckinnell@btinternet.com

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This event like many others is dependent on the state of the Covid-19 pandemic.



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Protestantism began as a movement to end certain non-biblical practices from the Roman Catholic Church. Towards the end of Henry VIII's reign this had led to much change in England: the king, rather than the pope, was head of the Church; English language Bibles were permitted; and the monasteries were dissolved. However, Henry remained conservative on Church doctrine. Being too outspoken a Protestant could lead to jail, or worse.

11. Anne Askew 1521-1546

Anne Askew's father, a wealthy Lincolnshire landowner, was courtier to Henry VIII. Anne received a good education from her brothers' tutors. Her father arranged a marriage between his eldest daughter, Martha, and a rich neighbour's son, Thomas Kyme. But when Martha died before the marriage took place, her father substituted Anne, at the age of 15.

The marriage was unhappy, and Anne was eventually turned out of her husband's household because of her Protestant convictions. She left behind her husband's name and their two children and travelled to London where she sought a divorce on scriptural grounds that her marriage was invalid because Kyme was an unbeliever. Although unsuccessful, she was the first Englishwoman to so demand a divorce.

Askew became a Protestant preacher. When Kyme had her arrested and brought back to Lincolnshire, Anne escaped back to London where she became associated with the covert Protestant circle around Catherine Parr, Henry VIII's sixth wife. Seeking to undermine the queen, church traditionalists persuaded the king to arrest some Protestant preachers, including Askew. Askew was brought before the Privy Council together with Kyme. She shocked the Council by refusing to acknowledge him as husband. The Council let Kyme go, but Askew was examined by two traditionalists; the Lord Chancellor, Thomas Wriothesley, plus a bishop. Well read in the law as well as the Bible, Askew brilliantly deflected her examiners' questions. She was nevertheless sent to Newgate prison, although released after 12 days, when the queen obtained a pardon for her.



While in Newgate, Anne wrote protest songs and poems, becoming one of the first female poets in English. She presented herself as a Christian knight using faith as both a shield and a weapon against injustice. She described the king as cruel, but she also asked God's forgiveness for the men who persecuted her. These poems are a valuable window on a bloody and momentous era in English history. *The Ballad Which Anne Askew Made and Sang When She Was in Newgate* remained popular through much of the next 150 years.

A few months after her pardon, Askew was arrested again. In the Tower of London she was subjected to a two-day intimidating examination by Wriothesley, two bishops, and the king's principal secretary. They threatened her with execution, but she refused to renounce her beliefs or to implicate any fellow Protestants, least of all the queen. Instead she refuted the charges laid against her by exposing the theological errors within them. Using Biblical chapter references, without bothering to quote or explain,

she repeatedly turned the tables on her accusers, challenging them by demonstrating the Biblical basis for Protestant theology.



The usual custom was that women were not tortured, but Askew became the only woman recorded to have been tortured in the Tower. She fainted from the pain on the rack, but still refused to name anyone. The Constable of the Tower tried to put a stop to the torture, but Wriothesley and an associate continued to operate the rack themselves, causing great injury to Askew, but securing no names. Askew was then laid on the bare floor, and Wriothesley continued for some hours to interrogate her about her heresy and her suspected involvement with the royal household.

When someone sent Askew money and comforts, she was promptly tortured again to reveal who her

benefactor was. Still she said nothing.

Due to the torture she had endured, Askew had to be carried to the stake on a chair, where she was to be burned to death along with three other Protestants. Prior to their death, the prisoners were offered one last chance at pardon. A bishop preached to them. When he spoke anything Askew considered to be true, she audibly expressed agreement; but when he said anything contrary to what she believed the Bible stated, she exclaimed: "There he misseth, and speaketh without the book." Wriothesley went up to her and offered her the king's pardon if she recanted. She merely shook her head with scorn. She was 25 years old.

Askew's written account of her ordeal and her beliefs was published after her death at the stake as *Examinations*. This is a remarkable account of Askew's interrogations and her spirited refutations of the charges against her. She represented herself arguing forcefully, learnedly, and wittily with her accusers, continually demonstrating their theological errors and her own deep faith. She refused to be the traditional silent woman in public debate on religion, instead depicting her confrontations with male authority figures.

The text of *Examinations* grasps the attention with the immediacy of its impact. Askew's sense of drama and literary effect were highly evolved and she made skilful use of Biblical language and metaphor. The dramatic impact is enhanced by the brevity of her style. As a spiritual autobiography, a historical document, and a carefully crafted and forcefully argued polemic, this work gives personal insight into both politics and women's status in sixteenth century England. With the verbal skills and depth of theological knowledge revealed in the text, not to mention her physical and mental endurance, Askew repudiated conventional notions of a woman's physical and moral frailty and intellectual inferiority.

Examinations was quickly embraced by Protestants, who soon revered Askew as a martyr. Her unique and vivid first-person account sold so well that several editions were printed throughout the next 100 years.

Anne Askew was a brilliant and deeply religious poet and writer. Not only was she able to write down her experiences, she was also able to correspond with select learned men of the time. Throughout her interrogation, she repeatedly outwitted bishops and lawyers with her verbal skills and knowledge of Bible and law, demonstrating considerable courage, education, intelligence, and devout faith.

WEATHER REPORT

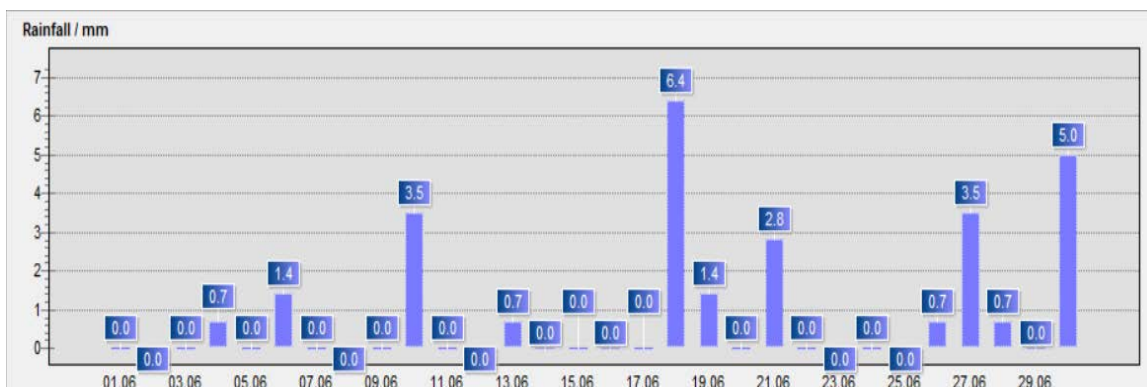
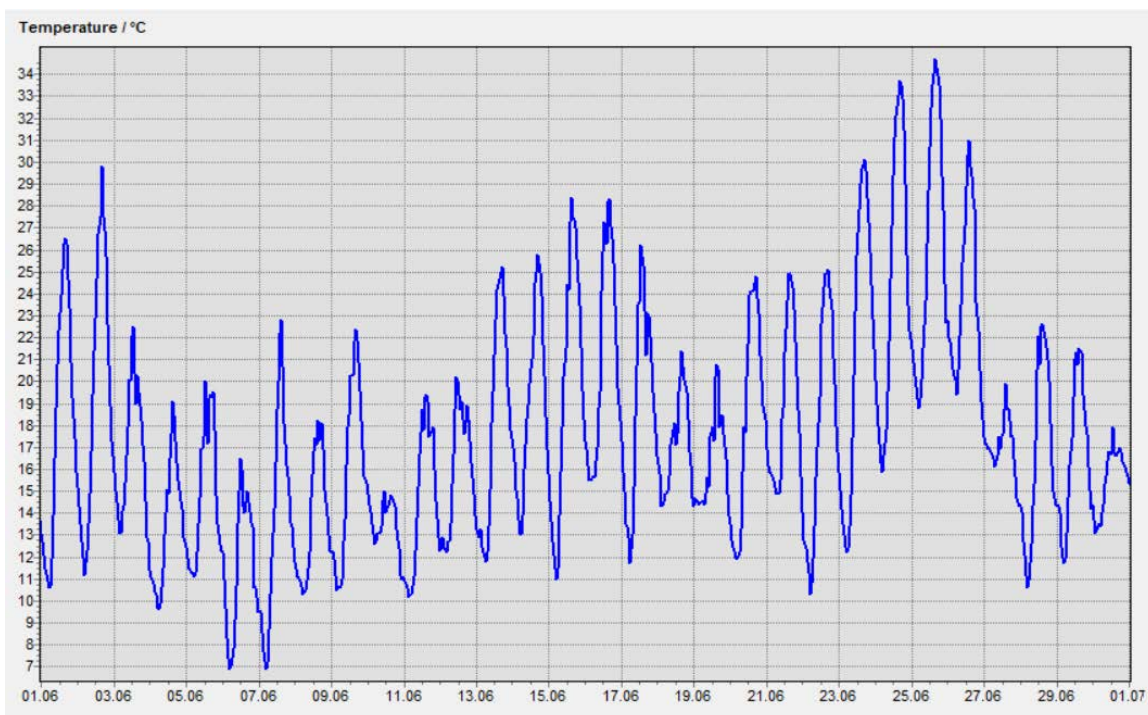


WEATHER FOR JUNE 2020

Rainfall in June 2020	1.06"	27mm
Rainfall in June 2019	2.44"	62mm
Rainfall for 2020	17.10"	434mm
Rainfall for 2019	15.32"	389mm

Warmest day 34.7°C on 25th
 Warmest night 18.8°C on the 24th

Coldest day 15°C on the 10th
 Coldest night 6.9°C on the 6th and 7th



A below average June rainfall. I recorded 1mm (tiny amount of inch) in 2018 and 0.8" and 0.7" in 2009 and 2005 respectively.

As expected, the dominance of high pressure systems was not as prevalent, however the South East of England missed the worst of the torrential rainfall. From the MetOffice:

“The very sunny and warm weather of late May continued into the start of June, but a cool northerly type became established from the 3rd to 7th, bringing showers and some longer spells of rain. After a brief settled interlude, it turned wet almost everywhere by the 10th. Around mid-month there was a spell of warm, humid, showery weather with thunderstorms especially in central, western and southern areas, and persistent low cloud along the north-east coast. There was a hot sunny spell especially over England from the 23rd to 25th, which triggered a thundery breakdown in places. The last few days were cloudy and windy with showers and longer spells of rain, with especially persistent and heavy rain in parts of Cumbria.”

Looking at the MetOffice regional summaries, the rainfall that I recorded was substantially less than that shown for the Central South East Region which was reflected by the localised thunderstorms and rainfall. The more recent average for the region for June has been 52mm, with a 2020 figure of 51mm, while I only recorded about half of that.

Looking forward to the rest of the summer months. For July and July-August-September as a whole, the Met Office seasonal prediction system and other systems from prediction centres around the world show that the chances of settled weather being more prevalent are about the same as the chances of unsettled weather. In spite of this, changes in UK climate increase the likelihood of warmer-than-average conditions and lead to an increased chance of impacts from heatwaves in settled spells.

While the relatively high probability of our warmest forecast category does suggest that the chance of spells of very hot weather is increased compared to usual, it does not imply extreme weather throughout the whole 3-month period. The increased likelihood of this category could mean more days with temperatures that are above average to a more modest degree. Above-average temperatures can also arise from a range of types of weather, not just sunny and dry conditions.

For both July and July-August-September as a whole, signals from long-range prediction systems are weak, and show relatively little agreement. As a result, the chances of greater than normal rainfall are similar to the chances of less than normal rainfall, with only a small shift in the likelihood towards wetter conditions.

So overall there are very clear signals for temperatures to be very warm or hot at times but rainfall signals are much weaker as is often the case in summer. (due to the weak weather drivers). Let us hope that the increased chance of rain happens at night and that we have nice dry, warm days for the school holidays.

Elizabeth Ogg

Great Green Bush Cricket by Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

The sound of silence

Great Green Bush Cricket © Derek Middleton-Sussex Wildlife



Sussex
Wildlife Trust

I'm a huge fan of sci-fi B-movies and they don't come any better (or worse) than 1957's *Beginning of the End*. It's the usual story; overeager government scientists intent on increasing crop yield inadvertently create giant irradiated grasshoppers the size of doubler decker buses, which set about destroying Chicago. There are some similar creatures lurking around Sussex. OK, they're not going to come stomping around Sompting any day soon but they're still mighty impressive.



The Great Green Bush Cricket can claim to be Britain's biggest insect. Yet this Godzilla of the undergrowth is surprisingly hard to see. Its long, leaf-like body blends in amongst the brambles rendering it almost invisible. Bug eyes, impressive jaws and twirling antennae give it some monster movie credentials but there's nothing to fear from this harmless native.

There are about 35 species of crickets and grasshoppers (Orthoptera) in Britain. Crickets differ from grasshoppers by having much longer, thread-like antennae and they 'sing' by rubbing their wings together (while grasshoppers rub their legs against their wings). This song, or stridulation, is the male's way of romancing a female – who, if interested, will reply. The best chance of finding the Great Green Bush Cricket is to head out on a warm August evening and listen for their downland duets – a loud, incessant rattle. Imagine an enthusiastic maraca player.

I recently went for a walk through the flower-rich meadows of Sussex Wildlife Trust's Southerham reserve. I was blown away by the wall of sound created by hundreds of crickets and grasshoppers but it became apparent that not everyone could hear this orthopteran orchestra. The sad truth is that as we get older our ears can't tune in to the higher frequencies produced by these insects and species by species they fall silent. I have a compilation CD of the chirps and buzzes of Britain's crickets and grasshoppers – a sort of 'Now That's What I Call Stridulation'. I played it this morning and track 24 had gone. It was there a few years ago but now... silence. I've started to lose my crickets. The beginning of the end.

It isn't just me who will be hearing less wildlife in the future. Our countryside is becoming quieter as crickets, bees and birds vanish. Wildflower meadows, the home to crickets and grasshoppers, have been lost and the wildlife that depends on them have silently disappeared. The 'Silent Spring' predicted by Rachel Carson in 1962 has seeped across every season. This August, get out and listen to the sounds of summer before they fade.

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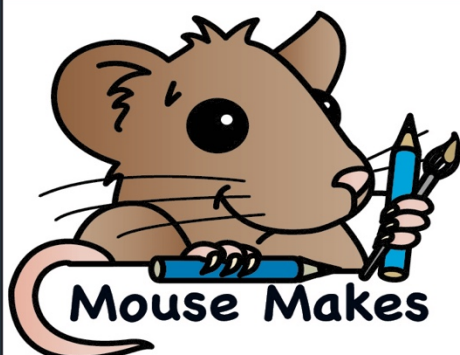
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*"I will proclaim your greatness, my God and king; I will **thank you**: I will **praise you** for ever and ever."*

Psalm 145:1-2

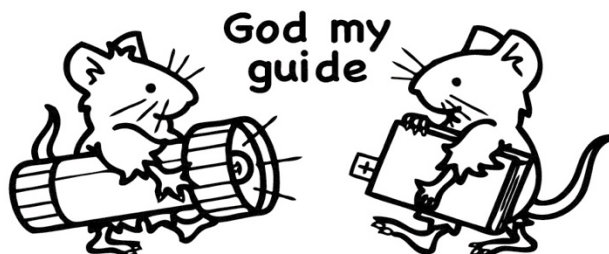
Glory to God



"How clearly the sky reveals God's glory! How plainly it shows what He has done."

Psalm 19:1

Cut out and colour these cards to help you to **thank** and **praise** God.



"Your word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path." Psalm 119:105

God's World

"The world and all that is in it belong to the Lord: the earth and all who live on it are His."

Psalm 24:1



Praise the Lord!

*"Let everything that has breath, **praise the Lord.**"*

Psalm 150:6



Give thanks!

*"Your constant love is better than life itself, and so I will **praise** you. I will give You **thanks** as long as I live; I will raise my hands to you in prayer."*

Psalm 63:3-4





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FAMILY SUPPORT WORK

COVID-19 Announcement

In these difficult times for everybody, we have been deciding how best to keep our staff safe whilst also continuing to provide support to our families. Whilst we are no longer able to visit families in their homes we are continuing to provide support by phone and other means.



I have been in touch with the Family Support Work office to ascertain which goods are needed for the food bank to ensure ongoing support and extra needs during the school holidays. I do not have the food parcel delivery numbers in June, but over 350 were delivered in May.

Key needs :-

- tins of fruit,
- vegetables,
- meat (ham, chicken curry, chilli con carne, Fray Bentos etc),
- breakfast cereals,
- tea & coffee,
- cook in and pasta sauces,
- snacks (crisps etc),
- toiletries and cleaning products.

Please could items be bought to church on the 9th and 16th August, arrangements will be made to have them picked up to be taken to the food bank.

Thank you
Kay Croll

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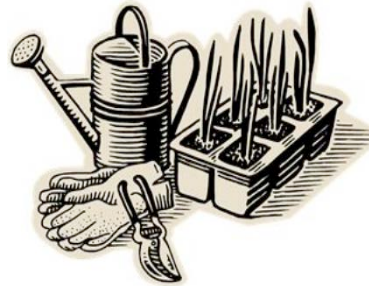
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Poetry Cornered

An August Midnight

Thomas Hardy - 1840-1928

I

A shaded lamp and a waving blind,
And the beat of a clock from a distant floor:
On this scene enter—winged, horned, and spined—
A longlegs, a moth, and a dumbledore;
While 'mid my page there idly stands
A sleepy fly, that rubs its hands...

II

Thus meet we five, in this still place,
At this point of time, at this point in space.
—My guests besmear my new-penned line,
Or bang at the lamp and fall supine.
"God's humblest, they!" I muse. Yet why?
They know Earth-secrets that know not I





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How did your churchyard grow?

Since the 1940s over 97% of flower-rich grassland, that was once widespread in the countryside, has vanished. The beautiful ancient grassland found in a churchyard is a relic of that once common meadow and the community of meadow plants, fungi and creatures is very special.



By August, any areas of grass that were left to flower in the summer should have been cut and raked off. Since the flowers we are looking to encourage are perennials, we do not need to wait until they all set seed, and the grassland should be cut whilst still green and vigorous. If left uncut for too long the grass dies back which looks unsightly and also allows nutrients to go into the roots, increasing fertility and encouraging lush grass growth next year (at the expense of more delicate flowers and finer grasses). Wildflowers thrive in low fertility soil so removing nutrient-rich cuttings is vital.

A good trick to reduce grass growth is to introduce the wildflower Yellow Rattle which is partly parasitic, drawing nutrients from grasses. This is the time of year to purchase seed which needs to be sown before the winter. Please have a look at 'News and Blog' on our website for more information about Yellow Rattle. Not only will this pretty flower assist you in encouraging other wildflowers, it may also save you from cutting so often!

Andrea Gilpin

andrea@cfga.org.uk

www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk

Another date for your diary



Saturday September 19th
Annual Holy Trinity
Sponsored Walk -
Details to follow

Covid-19 permitting

7	5	9	4	2	1	8	6	3
6	2	8	3	5	7	9	4	1
1	3	4	6	8	9	2	7	5
2	9	1	5	7	4	3	8	6
8	6	5	9	1	3	4	2	7
4	7	3	8	6	2	1	5	9
9	1	2	7	4	5	6	3	8
5	4	6	1	3	8	7	9	2
3	8	7	2	9	6	5	1	4

Solution to Sudoku (p.32)

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Reopening of the churches

Reopening of church buildings for public worship

Following the recent Government announcement that church buildings were able to reopen for public worship from 4th July, the Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, who leads the Church of England's Recovery Group, said that the months since lockdown began "have been an extraordinary time - the first period without public worship and the sacraments in England in more than 800 years."

She said also that there will have been "real joy" as people began "to come together again – if even at a physical distance – but I also know that many will be understandably cautious at this news.

"We will not be returning to normality overnight - this is the next step on a journey. We've been planning carefully, making detailed advice available for parishes to enable them to prepare to hold services when it is safe and practical to do so. It is important to say that the change in Government guidance is permissive, not prescriptive.

"I would particularly like to thank clergy and lay leaders for all they have done during the time our buildings have been closed."

Bishop Sarah warned that there will still be restrictions, "and we must all still do everything we can to limit the spread of the virus... The online services and dial-in worship offerings we have become used to will continue.

This has been an incredibly difficult time for the whole country, especially for those who have been ill, who have suffered financial hardship, the loss of livelihoods and indeed, for many, those they love. We know that is not over and the Church has a task ahead to bring consolation and hope.

"Churches and cathedrals have risen to the recent challenges, finding new ways of meeting for worship, of serving our neighbours, and of reaching new people with the love of God. The challenge before us now is to take the next steps carefully and safely, without forgetting all that we've discovered about God and ourselves on the way."

PASTORAL ARRANGEMENTS

Although Revd. Sue Wharton works part-time there is an answer machine which is checked regularly, although Friday is always a day off.

HOLY BAPTISM

Enquiries about Baptism are welcome for those of all ages who live within the parish or who have a family connection with it.

In the baptism of your child, you as parents are: thanking God for his gift of life, making a decision to start your child on the journey of faith and asking for the Church's support.

Making a decision later in life to be baptised is a commitment to a life of faith, which is completed by being Confirmed in the Church.

Being baptised at any age you become part of the worshipping community of the church and we look forward to welcoming you at our services.

HOLY MATRIMONY

Marriages are celebrated between couples, one of whom is resident in the parish, who have a family connection to it, or whose name is on the Electoral Roll.

Enquiries are welcome subject to the regulations of the Church of England, more information on which and on getting married in church can be found at the following website: www.yourchurchwedding.org

MINISTRY TO THE SICK

Holy Communion can be brought by members of the church to any who are sick or housebound, regularly if desired.

Relatives, friends or neighbours should feel able to pass on information about those known to be sick or in any other need. As well as receiving Holy Communion, those in need can be anointed with Holy Oil as a sign of the prayer of the Church for the Grace of the Holy Spirit.

Please contact us immediately where anyone is in danger of death.

MINISTRY OF ABSOLUTION

Advice and counsel can be requested and Absolution can be given by the priest to those wishing to make a special confession of sins. The Sacrament of Forgiveness and Reconciliation is an established part of the life and teaching of the Church of England.

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Priest Revd Sue Wharton	The Vicarage, Handcross Road RH13 6NU sue@whartons.org.uk	01403 891 352
Assistant Curate, Rev'd. Martin Mills,	19 Honeywood Road, Horsham, RH13 6AE. mmills.southdown@gmail.com	07983 109245
Assistant Minister Mr Geoff Peckham	4 Brick Kiln Close, RH13 6TB Geoff.Peckham@Chichester.Anglican.Org	01403 891 739
Church Warden (LB) Mrs Stephanie Shaw	stephanie.shaw1@hotmail.com	
Church Warden (LB) Mark Bamford	18 Trinity Fields, RH13 6GH mtb198@hotmail.com	07799 433434
Church Warden (CF) Aidan Favell	aidan@favellfinch.co	07973195137
Church Warden (CF) Mary Chamberlin	m.chamberlin@btinternet.com	01403864405
Acting Treasurer (LB) Mrs Janet Haswell	The Isis Granary, 3 Church Farm Cottages Sandygate Lane, RH13 6LR janet3isisgranary@btinternet.com	01403 891119
Treasurer (CF) Helen Stanfield	hstandfield4@gmail.com	01403865038
Secretary to the PCC (LB) Ms Elizabeth Ogg	lizzieogg@gmail.com	01403 891 225
Organist (LB) Dr Peter J Worthington		01403 260 816
Captain of Bellringers (LB) Mr Graham Burling	2 Bakehouse Barn Close, Pondtail Road, Horsham RH12 5JE	01403 253 404
Tower Captain (CF) Stella Bianco	scb@biancoteam.com	01403740010
Sec. of Bellringers (LB) Mrs Mandy Wicking	Two Oaks, Brighton Road, RH13 6JD mandywicking@gmail.com	01403 891 710
Holy Trinity School (LB) Head Teacher Mrs Tracey Bishop	Holy Trinity CE Primary School, Church Close, Lower Beeding RH13 6NS office@htlb.school	01403 891 263
St Peter's School (CF) Headteacher Giles Kolter	St Peter's C of E (aided) Primary School Potters Green, Cowfold, RH13 8QZ office@st-peters-cowfold.w-sussex.sch.uk	01403 864365
Parish Council (LB) Clerk Peter Knox	clerk@lowerbeeding.com	

Cowfold Parish Council Clerk Jan Wright And the Allmond Centre	clerk@cowfold-pc.gov.uk	01403864806
Cowfold Village Hall Chairman Jason Bailey	jasebailey72@gmail.com For Bookings contact the Caretaker	01403740010
Lower Beeding Village Hall	LBA Secretary	01403 891 748
Cowfold Village History Society Secretary Stella Bianco	scb@biancoteam.com	01403740010
Tuesday Club Janet Warwick	rjwarwick12@hotmail.com	01403 891789
Horticultural Society Tom Plimmer	tom@plimmers.co.uk	01293 851319
Lower Beeding Assn. Jean Black		01403 891 523
Rainbows, Brownies and Girl Guides	www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested	08001 69 59 01
Parish Magazine Editor Lesley Hendy (Acting)	lesleyhendy6@gmail.com	01403 256 752
Parish Magazine Adverts Mandy Wicking	mandywicking@gmail.com	01403 891 710

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