# **Parish Magazine**

## for

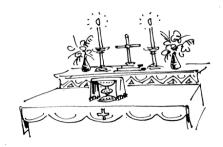
## The Benefice of Lower Beeding and Cowfold

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





## For the Benefice Worship Services July 2020



Revd. Sue will conduct services from her home until we are allowed to reopen our churches.

#### **Readings for July**

#### July 5<sup>th</sup> Fourth Sunday after Trinity

Zechariah 9: 9-12. Psalm 145: 8-15. Romans 7: 15-25a. Matthew 11: 16-19.

#### July 12<sup>th</sup> Fifth Sunday after Trinity

Isaiah 1: 11-17. Psalm 65 (1-7) 8-13. Romans 8: 1-11. Matthew 13: 1-9 & 18-23.

#### July 19th Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Wisdom 12: 13 & 16-19. Psalm 86: 11-17. Romans 8: 12-25. Matthew 13: 24-30 & 36-43.

#### July 26<sup>th</sup> Seventh Sunday after Trinity

l Kings 3: 5-2. Psalm 119: 129 -136. Roman 8: 26-39. Matthew 20: 31-33 & 44-52.

#### From the Registers

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Features



July 2020

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Copy date for next magazine- **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July** Submissions should be sent to lesleyhendy6@gmail.com Welcome to the July 2020 edition of the Parish Magazine for the Benefice.

This month we are producing our usual printed version alongside the online version. There will be a few differences in the two editions. The printed version will be in black and white whereas the online edition will be in colour. The problems with the print being too small for some will still be there as we have a printing restriction of 44 pages. The online version allows the reader to adjust the print size and will sometimes contain more pages than the printed version. [See Sue's letter on page 8] Our thanks to Steve Bartlett and Peter Knox for their assistance in putting the magazine online.

Both our local schools have welcomed back some of their children. Teachers are working extremely hard - teaching in school whilst also keeping contact virtually with lessons and advice to those children still at home, in effect teaching two classes at the same time. Some of the staff have hardly had a break since January. We send our thanks for their care and commitment.

Please stay safe. Lesley Hendy Acting Editor <u>lesleyhen</u>

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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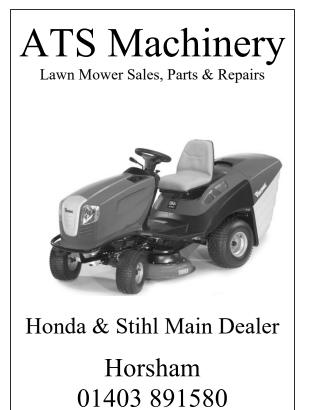
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# The Vicar's Letter



#### Dear Friends,

Last Sunday was Trinity Sunday, the day upon which we celebrate the mystery of God the three persons in one. It was also the patronal festival for Holy Trinity Church, Lower Beeding, so I hope you were all allowed some treats that day ! We now enter the long season of Trinity, which takes us up to All Saints at the beginning of November. By then, we shall, hopefully, be in a better place with regard to the Coronavirus pandemic. At the time of writing, it seems moves are afoot to allow individuals to enter church for private prayer, even though full services may still be some way off. This is a heartening sign, and we will let you have further details as soon as we can.

In the meantime, reflecting on the nature of God the Holy Trinity, I suggested on Sunday that a key element was the intimacy and unity of the three persons, such that they were effectively one, and therefore totally complete, with no need for any other. Yet the love of God is always overflowing, looking outward, seeking to include and share with others, and we, as image bearers of God, are called to imitate this behaviour, looking out for the needs of others who are beyond the natural barriers of our own groups and tribes. Over the centuries, the Christian narrative and themes have inspired some wonderful works

of art. One of the best depictions of the Holy Trinity is an ikon created by the Russian painter Andrei Rublev in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century :

The eagle- eyed among you will recognize this as the image gracing the wall of Rev'd. Sue Wharton's study last Sunday. (It is always worth keeping an eye on that wall !) The three persons are identical in appearance, yet different in their dress. Despite being obviously complete, united in their fellowship, they leave a space at the table for the onlooker, for us, to join them, to share in their meal. We think, of course, of the Eucharist, that special meal, in which we are invited to approach the Lord's table, and to receive the very life of God within us, as we receive Christ's body and blood in the bread and wine. May God grant that soon we shall be physically united round that table once more.

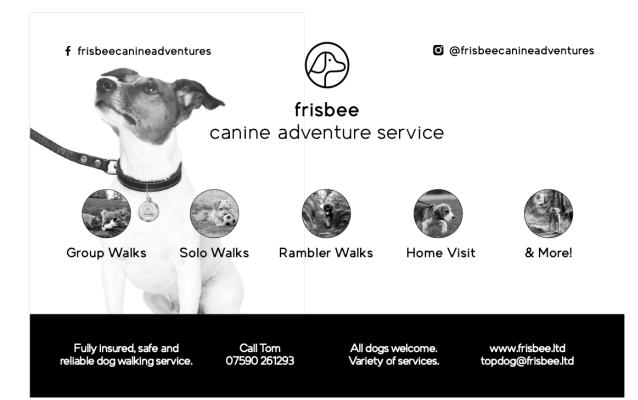


As we await that very special day, may I offer you this Trinitarian prayer of reassurance:

#### God of all compassion,

Your love never fails. Help us to listen to the tranquility of Your presence within our lives, so that we may grow in the knowledge that Your Son, Jesus Christ, walks beside us, and Your Holy Spirit comforts us at the heart of our being; for You are one God, world without end. Amen.

With our love and prayers, Fr. Martin



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



#### July 2020

I am writing this in early June. It has turned colder, a counter-balance to the mainly hot and sunny spring we have experienced.

Our lives have taken a dramatic turn of events as chaos has ensued through this microscopic deadly virus, that has ravaged around the world. The secret, silent, sinister enemy, causing devastating tragedy. Thus removing from our planet, a great migratory wave of souls, whose deaths have made them victims of a shared disaster across the globe irrespective of ethnicity and creed. Deaths not borne out of war and hatred, but of mystery and confusion. This has to be a first, as these souls have shared this tragic horrendous experience together, without separation, as one whole being.

Grief has hit thousands upon thousands of people who have lost family, friends, colleagues and loved ones. Grieving in isolation is more painful than any human ever thought they would have to bear.

We have had to come to terms with the loss of physical touching and being touched by the closeness of people who are very dear to us. Anyone could be carrying this deadly virus and our streets became deserted very quickly in the opening days of spring and imposed Lockdown. We have had to face the total fear and distrust in a stranger's eye as we have been confronted by avoidance measures from our fellow humans, whilst taking the only form of freedom allowed through our daily exercise regime. Leaving me with a greater feeling and understanding of biblical leprosy.

We have had to learn to become all things to all people in restrictive surroundings of our homes and dwellings; mixing only with the people we share our households with. We have had to adapt our homes and our lives to encompass our roles as educators, learners, home workers, technician, nurturer, scientist, statistician, physician, comforter, priest and counsellor, dealing with a myriad of tasks that previously we could never have imagined or thought possible. Expressing ourselves as multi-dimensional people to include being poets, writers, artists, musicians, craftsperson, photo-journalist, entertainers and social moguls. In this way we are the children of God and essential in his sight.

Some have been lucky to have a garden to tend and grow foods to be more self- sufficient, this has been a bonus. Gardens have been a source of solace and creativeness, tending the burgeoning variety of spring flowering delights, that our eyes have feasted upon. Sourcing plants and seeds has been a great challenge but our local Plough pub in Lower Beeding has turned up trumps to transform into a Pop -Up- Shop, supplying many of our basic needs. Thank you Mark and team.

We are lucky to live close by to the countryside and have watched the changing flora and fauna as we walk our sacred footpaths in the countryside and our noses have drawn in the changing, rich floral perfumes to our lungs, through the air that we breathe, as the season progressed.

We have gone shopping to buy food not so much with a list but finding what has been available and trying to perform magic meals with ingredients to hand and hoping we can create something edible and exciting for our taste buds, as we have become the new cooking celebrities.

Perhaps our greatest delight has been found in the world of nature. Days upon days of clear blue uninterrupted skies, whose warmth from the unfettered sun has found ways into the very cellular level of our being, feeding those cells that make up our body mass. The extraordinary sounds of the birds whose daily chorus has been exquisite as they have commenced the mating season and production of the next generation of fledglings of their own individual species.

Without the interference of mechanical noises to drown out their delicate tunes, I sat one early spring evening as the sun was setting, in the calmness that arises as day slowly turns into night and felt as though I was in a giant auditorium listening to a magical musical performance of birdsong coming from 360 degrees around me. Notes and tunes coming from differing sections of the surrounding bird populace as though a conductor were guiding when their voices were swelling and subsiding as the baton of God encouraged others to perform their duets and harmonies in due turn. It was a rapturous performance and deep and low down on the ground was the continuing drone and hum of bees as they drank up the nectar from all the flowerheads they could find. Gently observing the deepening indigo sky as the emerging vision of bright Venus shone high in the western sky.

This is the memory I want to hold of the time, when in isolation, I found what it was like to listen to the word of God; which filled my heart.

Janet Haswell

At the time of writing we have heard that Churches will be allowed to open for private prayer only. This means we will not yet be able to have Sunday Services as we know them and they will continue as streamed events on FaceBook or website. Many thanks go to our wonderful team Sue, Martin and Geoff who have kept the services going through this very difficult time.

#### Free national phoneline bringing worship and prayer

Government figures show that 2.5 million people aged 75 and above have never used the internet. And so, to help them, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, recently launched a free national phoneline to bring worship and prayer into the homes of those without access to the internet.

Daily Hope, which is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044 – offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England.

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## **Magazine and Website News**

When I arrived back in December, in what now feels like a very different far off pre-Covid era, I came to one parish that had a magazine and no website of its own plus a parish which had a website but no magazine. That is a slight simplification in that Holy Trinity, Lower Beeding did have basic information on the 'A Church Near You' site maintained by the national church.

Since then much happened. I had no idea when I arrived that I would soon be mastering how to livestream services within a lockdown. However, it has been possible to carry on some of the work of drawing the two parishes together during this very odd time. Because the lockdown occurred so quickly we were unable to deliver the April magazines. However, Lesley Hendy kindly produced a May magazine which was then distributed as best we could – namely via my

email list and two websites. The websites are the Lower Beeding Parish Council and St Peters Church, Cowfold. This has been repeated for the June magazine and will be continued. However, from July the magazine will also be printed. The easing of the restrictions means that delivery will be possible. The magazine is also posted on Holy Trinity's 'A Church Nr You site'.

What Lesley has discovered is that the electronic copy can be longer and colour can be included. The printed copy may at times be slightly shorter (it has to be in multiples of four pages) and will not contain colour. The magazine is now branded as a joint magazine and is evolving into its new broader role. Over time there will be more content from Cowfold. Current advertisers will see a greater coverage – two parishes – and I anticipate attracting advertisers from Cowfold. We will need to recruit someone to look after that side of things.

In the meantime, Steve Bartlett from Lower Beeding has very kindly volunteered to work on the website for us. You may have noticed that the services are now available on the St Peters website as well as St Peter's Facebook page. This was given priority because not everyone has Facebook or wishes to have it. So, putting the videos recorded on Facebook onto the website broadened the access to the services across the parishes. I would like to thank Steve for his work so far.

The next part of the work, which has been started, is to evolve the website from being simply a St Peters website to being for all three churches in both parishes. I have seen some mock-ups of what is being aimed for and this is most exciting.

We live in an age in which different people like to consume their information in different ways. There are those who want a paper magazine because of all the handy contact numbers as well as preferring hard copy. Others answer any question by whipping out their phone. By having both a magazine and a website we are trying to cater for different needs.

I will finish with a couple of lockdown facts. Firstly, apparently one in four adults has accessed religious broadcasting during the lockdown – a high percentage. We need to try and stay in touch with these folk. Secondly, a young woman phoned me from outside the parishes to arrange her father's funeral. I asked her if it had been easy to get hold of my number and she told me she had got it straight off the website. We need our website and magazine for the benefit of all, our regulars and those who do not come to church. With love, Sue









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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 <u>rjwarwick12@hotmail.com</u>



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## **Lower Beeding Association News**

Charity No. 267433

Carrying on from last month on the Mill Lane Lower Beeding Village Hall.....

After the closure of the Mill Lane Village Hall, Lower Beeding was without a hall for nearly ten years.

The ideal place for a new hall was an extension onto the Sports Pavilion situated half-way through the three hamlets on Leechpond Hill. After lengthy negotiations between the Sports Groups and concerned villagers it was agreed that a hall should be built pending planning permission. In May 1972 they set about obtaining planning permission which resulted in the building of the hall we have today. A number of fund raising events were held, usually at the Mannings Heath or Cowfold halls, and Gymkhanas were held at Church Farm, Cisswood and Holme Farm. It was agreed to continue with the successful fund raising 200 Club originally set up by Brian Howard one of the sports people. In May 1972 they set about obtaining planning permission which resulted in the building of the hall we have half we have today.

Four of the hall negotiators, Brian Lamplough, Bernard Bradley, John Holden and Jim Humphrey were elected as trustees of the Lower Beeding Association, with John Christian as Chairman and Mike Burgess as the Treasurer. The LBA was registered as a non-profit charity No. 267433 in 1975.

In December 1976 the West Sussex County Times sent a reporter and photographer to write a news piece on the laying of the footings for the new Lower Beeding Village Hall. The cost of the building was to be £10,000. A further £900 had to be found for furniture, fittings & fixtures and car park tarmacadam. The tables and chairs were anonymously donated and the WI generously donated and made the curtains. On 15<sup>th</sup> October 1977 Lady Loder ceremoniously cut the

ribbon on the official opening. She was presented with a bouquet by Miss Lower Beeding (Jackie Burgess) after which an Autumn Sale was held.

During the late 1970s and early 1980s the cricket, football and tug-of-war teams were all very active with sponsored walks, mini minor football tournaments, discos and so on. In 1978 a Youth Club was set up by Ken Laidler and Ian & Ann Kirkham who arranged various outings, games, table tennis, inter-club competitions etc. Ken and Ian & Ann handed over the club in April 1985 to Adrian Barraclough and Jeannie Lilywhite and they added occasional trips to Streatham Ice Rink.

The summer fete has been running annually since the mid 1960s. After a public meeting in 1985 it was agreed we should have a Club Bar and with planning permission granted the hard sell fund raising for the £20,000 began. This was promoted by Tom Tyler, Charlie Hempstead and Ken Laidler with a lot of hard selling to the villagers at £60 a ticket ! The first big draw was a Long weekend for Two in Jersey at the Chelsea Hotel and flights by British Airways. Other prizes were cameras, radios and dinners for two. The Final Draw at the hall disco was a brand new VW GTi (negotiated by Geoff Fry) – won by Daphne Poupart for a ticket of just £60 !

New Year's Eve family parties, Tramps Ball and Fancy Dress were very popular. There have been many activities put on by affiliated and non-affiliated groups include First Aid, ballroom dancing, self-defence, keep fit, fun runs, youth club, dog training, art, flower arranging classes. Whist Drives, Cheese and Wine Evenings, Mini Auctions, Horse Racing, Jumble sales and more. Successful evening outside events have been Lamb Roasts, BBQs, Barn Dances, Discos and a lovely Caribbean evening.

We do of course still have cricket, junior football and stoolball, Rainbows, Brownies and Guides, Horticultural Society, the Tuesday Club, the Fete, and the 250 Club.

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The Sports Field and Hall are maintained by volunteers of the LBA (a registered charity which is self-funded and does not, like many other village halls, put a tax on your Parish rates. The income to run the hall comes mainly from Hall Hirings, Annual Fete, Bar and 250 Club.

There are now many new residents in the Parish of Lower Beeding, which as you may know includes the three hamlets around the Crabtree, the Plough, Plummers Plain towards the Wheatsheaf, down Hampshire Hill, up towards the Warren and along Hammerpond Road! Maybe someone reading this would be interested in having a go by re-starting one of the above activities or new ones. We would really love to hear from you!

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 have moved after many years to Swanage.

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

Welcome to Lower Beeding and particularly to Mill Lane - we are sure you will be very happy here.

Jean Black 01403 891523





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## LOWER BEEDING PARISH COUNCIL

#### July 2020

Dear Residents,

#### Lower Beeding Parish Council News

First of all, I sincerely hope you are keeping safe and well.

As we come towards the end of lockdown, we can hopefully try to return to normality in our lives. Whilst walking my dog around the Parish one of the biggest issues that was very evident was the increase in speed that vehicles and especially motor bikes were travelling through our Parish. Unfortunately, the Community Speed Watch (CSW) group had been temporarily closed down by Sussex Police due to safe distancing rules, this in conjunction

with fewer vehicles on the roads led to drivers having free rein to drive unsafely. However, towards the end of June we were advised that we can restart the CSW team. This was welcome news from the police, but we now find that the CSW team has dwindled down to just five volunteers. As you can imagine this is nowhere near enough resources to try to keep on top of this major



problem, so we are asking again for volunteers. The process of joining the team is straight forward with just a short online test to pass before you can become a team member. For more details either contact me or the CSW Supervisor Roger Warwick.

#### STAY SAFE AND WELL

Contact myself on <u>clerk@lowerbeeding.com</u> or Roger on <u>pickwick2610@hotmail.com</u> if you are interested.

Peter Knox Clerk to Lower Beeding Parish Council <u>clerk@lowerbeeding.com</u>

Our website: www.lowerbeeding.com

#### **Coronavirus and our young people**

A recent survey by the Prince's Trust has found increased levels of anxiety among young people because of the crisis. Half of them say that finding a job now felt 'impossible'.

Seven out of ten young people reported feeling that their life is "on hold", and a third feel that everything they have worked for was now "going to waste".

Jonathan Townsend, UK chief executive of the Prince's Trust, says: "An alarming proportion of young people are feeling increased levels of anxiety, and fears are building about their future. We cannot allow this crisis to cripple the aspirations and prospects of our nation's young people."

#### **Coronavirus and mental health**

The mental health impact of the lockdown could be felt for years to come, in similar ways to the Grenfell Tower disaster and the Manchester Arena bomb.

So says a health chief, Claire Murdoch, who is the NHS England mental health director. She has said that the service is preparing for a surge in referrals for conditions such as anxiety and depression.

"We know from our Grenfell experience that not all need for clinical services materialises at the time and, indeed, there's a very long tail and demand in trauma."

Agoraphobia, the fear of open or crowded places, is on the rise. That is the warning from two charities who work to help those with anxiety problems.

Calls to mental health organisations such as Sane and Anxiety UK have rocketed in recent weeks. Both have extended their helpline hours in order to offer support.

Sane has reported a 200 per cent rise in calls for help, and warns that residents of tower blocks and substandard housing are going to experience 'more and more' fear of going outside.

Anxiety UK has reported more than double its normal calls and has recruited a large number of new volunteers to cope with the increased demand.

If you would like to contact either, go to: <u>http://www.sane.org.uk</u> or <u>https://www.anxietyuk.org.uk</u>



## Lower Beeding Horticultural Society Report

Sadly, our calendar has been seriously affected by the impact of Covid-19 this year, and it's difficult to foresee a time when social distancing is relaxed sufficiently to be able to participate in, and enjoy, our planned events. Reluctantly, and following the cancellation of our spring show and the LBA fete, we are cancelling our evening visit on 16 July to Prenplants and our summer show on 22 August. Neither of these events can be held whilst adhering to the social distancing guidance and so cancellation is inevitable. The last time our summer show was cancelled was during the years of WW II.

Three events remain in our calendar at this time, our trip to West Dene Garden on 29 August, the talk on Knepp Re-Wilding on 22 October, and our AGM on 30 October. We shall be liaising with both West Dene and Knepp on the likelihood of holding these events however, if social distancing remains in force it's likely that neither will be taking place. There will be a further update in the August news.

All the best, Tom.

#### 

## Gardeners' World

Writing this during the second week of June the gradual relaxation of lockdown measures in response to the Coronavirus outbreak is coinciding with the first sustained period of poor weather. I think, though, the poor weather is absolutely preferable to the effects of the outbreak. Most welcome this week has been the rain that we've been getting and the garden has certainly benefitted from this with all plants putting on quite a spurt in thanks for a good soaking. After a sustained period of dry and fine conditions that stretches back to mid-March the wetter weather has come at the right time. The lawn, usually lush and green at the end of May, has



already taken on its mid-summer look, drier, less green-looking, and the vegetables have taken a little longer to get established. One positive though has been the absence of slugs in my garden so far this year, I just hope I've not spoken too soon. To continue with succession sowing, radish, carrots, and spinach, salad leaves & lettuce, along with other crops, can be sown directly into drills this month. Take out the drills and water the bottom to provide a receptive and moist bed for the seeds to be sown onto. Then cover with dry soil to stop evaporating and to allow the seeds to germinate and to get going. Crops sown in drills for succession last month will need thinning out in July, for example lettuce and beetroot. If they weren't harvested in June (for those who sowed extra early), the early potatoes will be ready this month. If you are planning to sow seeds to produce crops next spring then the ground left available from cropping early potatoes, broad beans, peas, and other early crops will, once cleared, make good all-year-round use of the ground. Tomatoes will need regular feeding with a high potash feed, there are many alternatives available at the garden centres, an example being Tomorite. Whichever feed you choose can also be used regularly on cucumbers, courgettes, marrow, and pumpkins to maximise the yield. For the later potatoes, and the tomatoes, watch out for the early signs of blight, evidence of which is brown blotches appearing on the stems. I'll not repeat here what I've said in past years regarding blight but a good prevention on potatoes is a spraying with Dithane, also good for the treatment on tomatoes at the first signs.

In the herbaceous border, the Hostas are reaching their full growth, with flower stems starting to appear too. Along with that growth comes the perennial problem of how to maintain the fine foliage without suffering damage from slugs. Other herbaceous plants suffer a similar vulnerability, for example Lupins, Brunnera, Delphiniums, and the only advice here is to find a solution that works for you and to stick to it. Ross are susceptible to rust now, evidence of which is small orange or rust-coloured spots on the leaves Those leaves that are badly infected will fall from the plant and it's important to remove and destroy these since there remains the likelihood of cross-infection if they are left on the ground. There are plenty of commercial sprays that will deal effectively with this problem, the garden centre can help you pick one that's effective.

Keep the annuals and roses neat by dead-heading. As well as being tidy this will also encourage further blooming, just as it's important to keep the herbaceous plants tidy this month, too, through the same dead-heading process and cutting back to promote further flowering. One task common to all areas of the garden is the need to water, wisely. Do this when on inspection plants appear to be drying out. Vegetables can often go long periods without water, however container-grown flowers are not so tolerant so do keep a daily check on these and water as required. Providing regular care and maintenance at this time of year is going to pay off with the fine spread of flowers and the vegetable harvest that all our planning in the rest of the year deserves. So be sure to enjoy your garden and the gardening in July. Writing this during the second week of June the gradual relaxation of lockdown measures in response to the Coronavirus outbreak is coinciding with the first sustained period of poor weather. I think, though, the poor weather is absolutely preferable to the effects of the outbreak. Most welcome this week has been the rain that we've been getting and the garden has certainly benefitted from this with all plants putting on quite a spurt in thanks for a good soaking. After a sustained period of dry and fine conditions that stretches back to mid-March the wetter weather has come at the right time. The lawn, usually lush and green at the end of May, has already taken on its mid-summer look, drier, less green-looking, and the vegetables have taken a little longer to get established. One positive though has been the absence of slugs in my garden so far this year, I just hope I've not spoken too soon.

To continue with succession sowing, radish, carrots, and spinach, salad leaves & lettuce, along with other crops, can be sown directly into drills this month. Take out the drills and water the bottom to provide a receptive and moist bed for the seeds to be sown onto. Then cover with dry soil to stop evaporating and to allow the seeds to germinate and to get going. Crops sown in drills for succession last month will need thinning out in July, for example lettuce and beetroot. If they weren't harvested in June

(for those who sowed extra early), the early potatoes will be ready this month. If you are planning to sow seeds to produce crops next spring then the ground left available from cropping early potatoes, broad beans, peas, and other early crops will, once cleared, make good all-year-round use of the ground. Tomatoes will need regular feeding with a high potash feed, there are many alternatives available at the garden centres, an example being Tomorite. Whichever feed you choose can also be used regularly on cucumbers, courgettes, marrow, and pumpkins to maximise the yield. For the later potatoes, and the tomatoes, watch out for the early signs of blight, evidence of which is brown blotches appearing on the stems. I'll not repeat here what I've said in past years regarding blight but a good prevention on potatoes is a spraying with Dithane, also good for the treatment on tomatoes at the first signs.

In the herbaceous border, the Hostas are reaching their full growth, with flower stems starting to appear too. Along with that growth comes the perennial problem of how to maintain the fine foliage without suffering damage from slugs. Other herbaceous plants suffer a similar vulnerability, for example Lupins, Brunnera, Delphiniums, and the only advice here is to find a solution that works for you and to stick to it. Ross are susceptible to rust now, evidence of which is small orange or rust-coloured spots on the leaves Those leaves that are badly infected will fall from the plant and it's important to remove and destroy these since there remains the likelihood of cross-infection if they are left on the ground. There are plenty of commercial sprays that will deal effectively with this problem, the garden centre can help you pick one that's effective.

Keep the annuals and roses neat by dead-heading. As well as being tidy this will also encourage further blooming, just as it's important to keep the herbaceous plants tidy this month, too, through the same dead-heading process and cutting back to promote further flowering. One task common to all areas of the garden is the need to water, wisely. Do this when on inspection plants appear to be drying out. Vegetables can often go long periods without water, however container-grown flowers are not so tolerant so do keep a daily check on these and water as required. Providing regular care and maintenance at this time of year is going to pay off with the fine spread of flowers and the vegetable harvest that all our planning in the rest of the year deserves. So be sure to enjoy your garden and the gardening in July.

Hortulanus.

## <u>Date for the Diary</u> Annual Christmas Market on Saturday November 28<sup>th</sup>



Covid-19 permitting



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## **JIGSAW PUZZLES**



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

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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.

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Jan McKinnell

janmckinnell@btinternet.com

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## **COWFOLD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

We would like to introduce ourselves to readers. Lower Beeding and Cowfold villages have much in common, not least that we are on the same road to London and Gatwick Airport, and many generations have migrated between the two areas.

In normal times we hold events at 8 pm at the Allmond Centre next to the Bolney Road car park in Cowfold. Non-members charge: £3 including refreshments.



We have the following talks planned for the remainder of 2020, although we will need to follow the government's advice at the time to establish whether we are able to hold them:

**18 September** "Shepherds of the Sussex Downs". Speaker: Ian Everest

16 October "The Story of Swallowfield, Mannings Heath". Speaker: Tony Turner

**20 November** "The Veteran Car Run since the First one in 1896". Speaker: David Ralph

Please contact Stella Bianco, Hon Secretary, if you would like more information about these events:

<u>scb@biancoteam.com</u><mailto:<u>scb@biancoteam.com</u>> or 01403 740010 CVHS Website.

Our website is updated regularly, so do visit

www.cowfoldhistorysociety.org.uk<http://www.cowfoldhistorysociety.org.uk/>

[All these events sound really interesting - I hope they can take place, Editor]



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## **GREAT BRITISH WOMEN -** Ken Eglinton

kpeglinton@aol.com

My ninth great British woman is Lady Margaret Beaufort, but as she is included in my main great Britons list, I move on to number ten, the second wife of Margaret's grandson.

#### **<u>10. Anne Boleyn</u> 1501 to 1536**

Anne's parents were from two of the leading families of the land – the Boleyns and the Howards. She spent her teens as lady-in-waiting to the ruler of Flanders, and then to the queen of France. Returning to England, she became lady-in-waiting to the first wife of Henry VIII, Catherine of Aragon.

Despite a sharp tongue, Anne quickly established herself as one of the most stylish and accomplished women at the court. The king became besotted with her. Anne resisted his attempts to seduce her, refusing to become his mistress, which her sister Mary had been. Within a year, he proposed marriage. Both assumed an annulment of the King's marriage to Catherine would be a formality.

Henry had in fact already been contemplating annulment. Catherine was past child-bearing age, and they had only one surviving child, Mary. A female inheriting the throne risked a disputed succession



and civil war. A new wife to bear him sons seemed the solution. However, the pope was reluctant to agree to annulment for fear of Charles V, the Holy Roman Emperor, who dominated Italy. Charles was Catherine's nephew and was hostile to the annulment.

Thomas Cranmer, an obscure Cambridge don, argued that the annulment was a moral matter, not a legal one, and suggested that Henry canvas the views of Europe's leading universities. This Henry did, and by and large they supported annulment. The pope allowed Henry's long-serving chief minister, Cardinal Wolsey, together with papal legate Campeggio, to commence the annulment process. Campaggio drew out the proceedings, and then adjourned them. To Henry's fury, it soon became clear that Campeggio had no intention of reopening them.

Anne was now at Henry's side in policy and state, and had huge influence over him. She played a critical role in establishing an alliance with France. The French king gave only implicit support for the annulment, but it was enough to reassure Henry that France would not join an attack upon him. He appointed Cranmer as Archbishop of Canterbury.

Anne was an avid reader of heretical books. When a radical clergyman was arrested for distributing such books, Anne intervened to save him. She also brought to Henry's attention a heretical treatise by William Tyndale that stressed the authority of scripture over church. Tyndale also identified biblical references that it was kings whom God ordained to rule, not priests. "This is a book for me and all kings to read," declared Henry. At the same time Henry's new chief minister, Thomas Cromwell, was persuading him that God-given authority had been usurped from English kings over the centuries by popes. The king should be head of the church in England. As its head, he himself could approve the annulment.



After resisting Henry for five years, Anne had finally given way and was now pregnant. They married secretly even before Cranmer annulled Henry's marriage to Catherine. Anne was crowned in a magnificent ceremony, but the public's response was lukewarm. The Pope excommunicated Henry and Cranmer.

With Cranmer's reassurance, Henry broke from papal authority, making himself head of the English church. Cromwell used parliament to pass a series of acts that underpinned this. Henry required his subjects to swear an oath that rejected papal authority and recognised Anne as queen.

When Anne gave birth to the future Queen Elizabeth I, Henry was disappointed to have another daughter, but hoped a son would follow. Cromwell and Anne nudged Henry towards

further religious innovations, notably the publication of a bible in English. Anne also helped reformists into positions of power in the church.

Anne's sharp intelligence and strong will, while intriguing in a mistress became, to Henry, unacceptable in a wife. They often argued. A second pregnancy ended in the stillbirth of a son. To Henry, the failure to produce a male heir was unacceptable. He had defied the church and overturned foreign policy to marry Anne. When Catherine died, Anne, pregnant again, was aware of the danger if she failed to give birth to a son. With Catherine dead, Henry would be free to marry without any taint. Henry began paying court to Jane Seymour.

Deeply unpopular, Anne was blamed for the tyranny of her husband's rule and was referred to by many as "The king's whore". Public opinion turned further against her when, instead of the hoped for prince, she suffered yet another miscarriage. It sank even lower after the executions of Thomas More and others who refused the oath that rejected papal authority.

Meanwhile Anne fell out with her former ally, Cromwell. She advocated that the revenues from dissolved monasteries be used for the relief of the poor via a Poor Law. Cromwell insisted instead on filling the king's depleted coffers, and implemented a much diluted version of Anne's Poor Law. They also disagreed over foreign policy - she favoured a French alliance; Cromwell preferred one with the Holy Roman Emperor.

A third miscarriage doomed her. To Henry, this was a judgement of God upon their marriage. As he was certain that no fault could be found in him, it must be with her. Anne was arrested for high treason and sent to the Tower of London. Although the evidence was unconvincing, Anne was found guilty of adultery with five men, including her brother. All were condemned to death. Prior to being beheaded, Anne gracefully addressed the people from the scaffold with a prayer for her salvation, her king, and her country. She did not confess guilt, but instead subtly implied her innocence. However, Anne avoided criticising Henry to save the baby Elizabeth and her family from further consequences.

In a man's world, Ann Boleyn used her education, style, and presence to take a court and a king by storm, becoming one of the most important of Britain's royal consorts. Together with Cromwell and Cranmer, she inspired Henry VIII to make the English church independent of Rome. Never popular, she nevertheless promoted religious reform and poor relief. Cromwell's assessment of her is as good as any: "intelligence, spirit and courage".

## WEATHER REPORT

Rainfall in May 2020 Rainfall in May 2019 Rainfall for 2020 Rainfall for 2019

Warmest day Warmest night

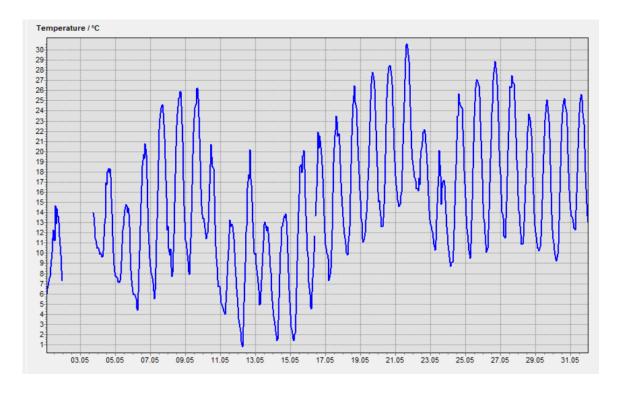
Coldest day

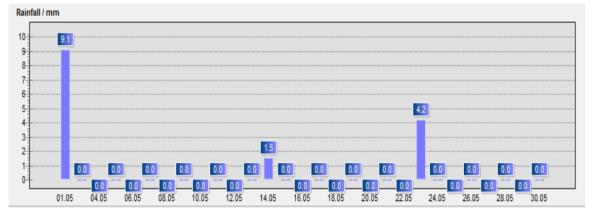
Coldest night

0.54"13mm1.11"28mm16.05"408mm8.27"210mm

30.6°C on 21st 17.1°C on the 21st

13.1°C on the  $13^{th}$  1 1°C on the  $12^{th}$ 





On the rainfall graph, please ignore the rainfall showing on the 14<sup>th</sup> May, it didn't happen but I did water my broad beans and forgot to cover the rain gauge. The figures in the summary table do not include this rainfall.

Speaking of rainfall, I only have one year with a lower May rainfall and that was 2011 when we had 8mm or 0.3". Interestingly, year to date rainfall is still almost double that of this time last year.

Once again, an accurate forecast for May, but confidence in June is slightly lower with High Pressure systems not being as dominant. Hopefully this will bring a bit of rain for our vegetable, but overall, average or drier than normal conditions should prevail. Depending on the position of the weather systems, there is a chance that at times cooler than expected temperatures will be experienced.

From the MetOffice:

"May began with a shallow area of low pressure which brought cool showery weather, but high pressure built from the north-west between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, turning the weather more settled. There was plenty of warm sunny weather for most between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 9th, but showers broke out in places from the 7<sup>th</sup> onwards. Northerly winds brought a cold snap from the 10<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, with wintry showers for the north and east of Scotland, and some overnight frost. There was a more changeable spell from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, but with plenty of warm sunshine at times in the south. High pressure dominated from the 24<sup>th</sup> bringing generally dry, sunny and warm weather.

It was the sunniest May in a series from 1929, with 143% of average sunshine. Sunshine was relatively close to average in the north of both Scotland and Northern Ireland, but it was the sunniest May on record by a wide margin for England and Wales, with numerous sites recording over 300 hours."

For June, the Met Office seasonal prediction system, along with systems from other prediction centres around the world, indicates an increased likelihood of high pressure near the UK. There is a slightly decreased confidence level in the accuracy of the forecast due to weakening weather drivers but for June-July-August as a whole there are slightly higher chances of high pressure near the UK than of other weather patterns. High pressure would lead to more settled weather and, combined with the warming climate, this means greater-than-usual chances of above-average temperatures.

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.

Likewise, if anticyclonic weather predominates, there is an increased probability of a drier than normal summer.

Looking further ahead, the indications are that there is a slightly increased likelihood that High Pressure weather systems will dominate through to Autumn leading to a slightly raised average temperature and lower than normal rainfall, but things can change.

Keep well. Elizabeth Ogg

## **My front lawn** by Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

#### Plant it and they will come

Do you remember that Kevin Costner movie, Field Of Dreams? Kev plays an Iowa farmer who, after hearing strange voices, transforms his land into a baseball pitch and summons the ghosts of a long-dead baseball team. Ridiculous. Yet, when I bought my first home eight years ago and stood on my new, perfectly manicured 15ft by 20ft suburban front lawn, all I could hear were voices in my head telling me to destroy it.

Rumours spread of my debauched gardening plans. My new neighbours eyed me with suspicion – especially when they overheard that I was planning to hire

a stripper for the weekend. The clattering of the petrol-powered turf stripper was only drowned out by my maniacal laughter as I razed the 300 square feet of lawn to mud. You could hear the house prices dropping all along the cul-de-sac. The neighbourhood watched from behind twitching curtains as I carefully broadcast native wildflower seeds over the bare soil. Through the wet winter my front lawn looked ready to host a re-enactment of The Battle of Agincourt. And then spring came.

Meadow Buttercup, Oxeye Daisy, Cowslip, Yellow Rattle, Lady's Bedstraw, Crested

Dogstail, Red Clover, Ragged Robin. The ground erupted into a riot of colour. And then the wildlife arrived. Bees,

bee-flies, beetles, burnets and butterflies. Unusual species appeared too: Wall Brown and Brown Hairstreak butterflies, Ghost Moths, Wasp Spiders and a lone Common Spotted Orchid. On summer days my mini-meadow sang to me; a choir of buzzing bumblebees and chirruping grasshoppers. My own nature reserve; beautiful, wild, endlessly fascinating and filled with life. I am genuinely bemused as I watch my neighbours struggle with their lawnmowers each week. Why go out of your way to kill

something when you can just sit back and let it live? I simply swing my scythe and mow my meadow once at the end of the summer. I imagine I look like that shirtless bloke from Poldark (although I actually resemble a chunky but cheerful Grim Reaper).

Wildflower meadows were once a widespread feature of the English countryside but since the 1930's we have tragically lost 97% of our flower-rich fields. Many have been improved with fertilisers, re-seeded with faster growing

grasses or ploughed for arable crops. This in turn has caused a massive decline in many species of wildlife that depend on them. By creating my own humble field of dreams it feels as if I am summoning the ghosts of the English countryside and giving them life. And then, last month, I turned the corner to see a deer, an actual wild Roe Deer, lost in suburbia but stood seemingly at home in my meadow. Ridiculous.

If you're interested in creating your own wildflower meadow search 'Sussex Wildlife Trust' and 'garden wildflower meadow' online.

Photos: Garden Meadow©Roger Wilmshurst, Roe Deer©John Bean, My Front Lawn and Marble White Butterfly©Michael Blencowe

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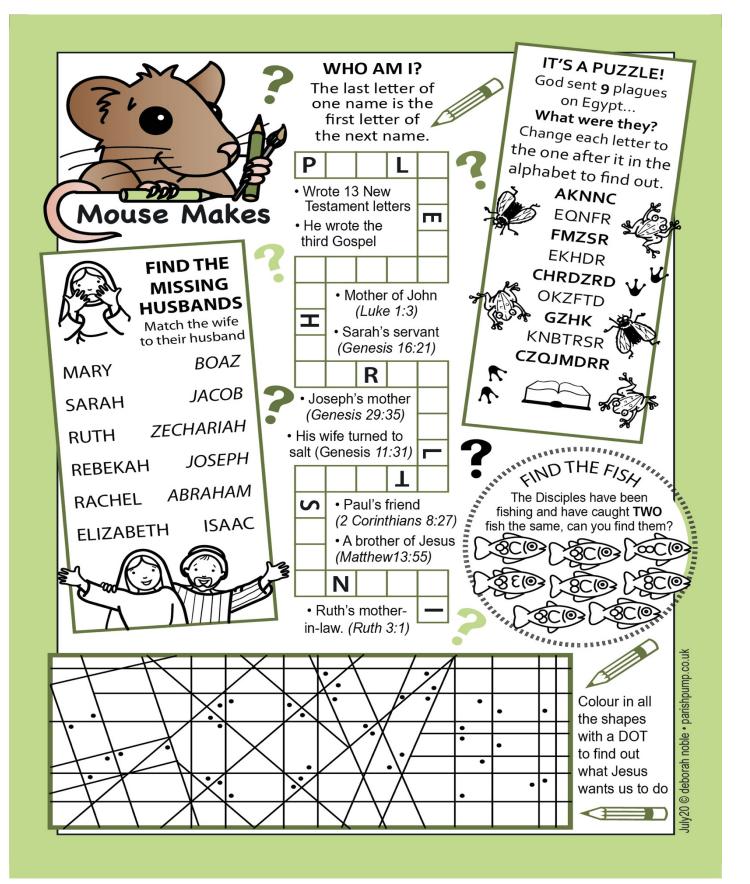
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## **Children's Page**

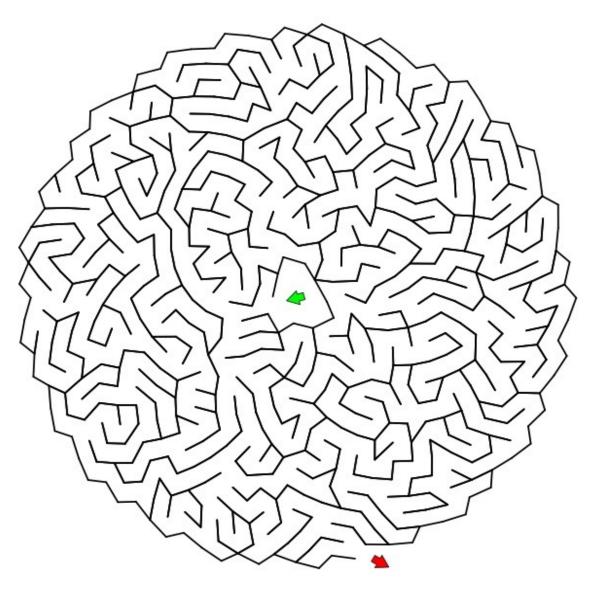


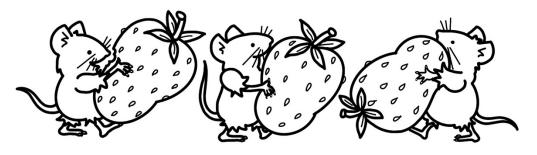












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# FAMILY SUPPORT WORK



### **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.



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. Food deliveries are being made this week to all of our families and we will be able to make emergency deliveries should the need arise in the coming weeks.

Our central office is open with a skeleton staff and will remain open but with reduced hours to ensure that the key workers are supported, and if necessary we can supply our families with food. All other staff are working remotely. We will not be able to accept any visitors at Garton House and the best way to contact us is by email <u>admin@familysupportwork.org.uk</u> or phone 01273 832963. As things progress we may close the central office completely.

Please keep checking our website and other social media sites for further news. We will update these as often as we can.

Thank you for your continued support.

Martin and the FSW team

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## From July by George Merideth

Blue July, bright July, Month of storms and gorgeous blue; Violet lightnings o'er thy sky, Heavy falls of drenching dew; Summer crown! o'er glen and glade

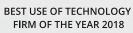
Shrinking hyacinths in their shade; I welcome thee with all thy pride, I love thee like an Eastern bride. Though all the singing days are done As in those climes that clasp the sun; Though the cuckoo in his throat Leaves to the dove his last twin note;



Come to me with thy lustrous eye, Golden-dawning oriently, Come with all thy shining blooms, Thy rich red rose and rolling glooms. Though the cuckoo doth but sing 'cuk, cuk,' And the dove alone doth coo; Though the cushat spins her coo-r-roo, r-r-roo -To the cuckoo's halting 'cuk.'



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#### **NOTES OF HOPE** ~~ Oliver Farley

These are strange and unsettling times giving us all an uncomfortable sense of unease. Yet over much of this period, the Spring weather has been breathtakingly beautiful. It's almost as if the natural world is beautiful in indifference to us humans or even in mockery at our nervous plight.

Let's not allow melancholy reflections to spoil the small but persistent joys we can get by patiently observing the natural world and indulging ourselves in it. Have you noticed how much more prominent the sounds of that world are in the absence of normal traffic and concourse? Suddenly the birds are audible, they flit across our gardens almost possessively and over a day or so their routine appearance at selected spots reveals their daily habits and their habitat.

Sparrows chirp with a manic persistence and clearly show which bushes are theirs and which roofs are their look-out posts. A handsome male insists on scrabbling over our skylight with scratchy claws and yelps of alarm as he slides on the sloping glass. The wood pigeon coos like an unanswered telephone, the cooing then cut off in mid note as if the caller hung up in disgust. A lone dunnock scuttles around under the shrubbery and many locked down householders have learnt to recognise his melodious call. Some have said it's like a squeaky trolley wheel though to my ear that's an unfeeling judgement on a clearly tuneful call. Incidentally, if the call is more melodious and goes on longer then you might be hearing a garden warbler.

While listening out for your feathered neighbours I'm sure you will have noticed what a wonderful season the rose bushes have had. Sprays of pink blooms tumble over numerous garden fences, deep red showers of rampant flowerheads surge over garden walls and many an early morning has been uplifting through their heady scent. The birds are stirring into song as early as just gone four in the morning and are still at it by well gone nine at night, while the roses lure bees to endless burrowing in their colourful folds. This profusion of song and colour is free to all whether you have a garden or not -- simply open the window for birdsong and peep over hedges for the roses.

Now that we can move about a little more, we can take advantage of the great asset of the nearby countryside. Woodland walks raise the spirits. The trees are magnificent, the birds tuneful and even a kind thought can be spared for the predatory grey squirrels. The play of light through the massed leaves and the winding pathways have made a delightful distraction from the daily morbidity. A recent walk was stopped to let a slow worm wiggle across the dry path and small blue butterflies fled over the heathland. Wrens have surely exploded in song so raucous is their falling-down-stairs call and occasional deer have moved warily on our approach.



We're lucky to have such solace so close at hand and perhaps the salve of these small events will ease the memories of these oppressing hours.

## What a Racket!



In July the sound of birdsong has diminished but it is time to listen again, this time for grasshoppers and crickets! Like birds,

each species of grasshopper has a distinctive sound and they can be identified by this, saving you going down on hands and knees to search. Churchyards can be brilliant for these and other insects which thrive in grassland, particularly when there is a combination of short, long and tussocky grassland and many churchyards have all three. So, churchyards provide grasshoppers with lots to eat and some sites can have more than three grasshoppers per square foot.



Grasshoppers 'sing' or *stridulate* by rubbing their legs against their wings; when females are present the male sings a particular courting song. Eggs are laid, buried in the soil just below the surface or at the base of tussocky plants. The young can often be seen jumping about in early summer.

Spare a thought for these amazing insects, there are 30 species of grasshopper and cricket in the UK and you can make your churchyard a refuge for them and for other insects, by having a mixture of close mown grass, wildflower meadow and leaving a margin of tussocky grassland against a wall or hedge. This provides a refuge for insects to overwintering and lay eggs, ready for next year's racket!

All the best

Andrea

Andrea Gilpin andrea@cfga.org.uk www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk

# Another date for your diary

# Saturday September 19th

# **Annual Sponsored Walk**

**Details to follow** 



Covid-19 permitting

Canon Paul Hardingham considers some comforting words from Isaiah.

#### The Frailty of Life

According to one survey, during the lockdown, a quarter of adults in the UK have watched or listened to a religious service and one in 20 have started praying. While the majority of people who contract Covid-19 survive, it reminds us that we are much more frail and weak than we like to think. As the prophet Isaiah says:



'All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the Lord blows on them. Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures for ever.' (Isaiah 40:6-8).

Isaiah's words really resonate at this time. In more normal times we can avoid facing up to our vulnerability, but this pandemic has forced us to recognise our weakness and fragility.

However, this shouldn't lead us to despair or fear; rather it is an opportunity to worship and praise for His constancy and care. In Peter's first letter he quotes this passage from Isaiah and says, 'For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God' (1 Peter 1:23). Peter contrasts our mortality with the eternal Word of God, which bring us new birth and life through the power of the Spirit. Jesus died for our sins and rose again to make us right with God, so that trough faith in Him we can know eternal life. We don't need to be afraid of our frailty, for God is a dependable foundation on which to build our lives and face eternity.

'We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree. And wither and perish, but nought changeth Thee.' (Immortal, invisible, Walter C Smith).



# **Reopening of the churches for private prayer**

As you will be aware the Government has now agreed to lift the ban on people being allowed in church for private prayer. The lifting of the ban on public worship is still under review and an announcement on this will be made in due course. The Standing committee has discussed this development and after reviewing the diocesan guidelines has proposed the following as the way forward and to remain compliant to the regulations.

Holy Trinity will be open for <u>two days a week, on a Saturday</u> <u>between 2pm and 5pm and on a Wednesday between 10am and</u> <u>2pm</u>. This will allow a minimum period of 72 hours between openings, the minimum time the new guidance gives, so as not to require a complete clean between openings. The entrance/exit will be via the rear door (Red door) and will be into the church by the back porch. Notices will be displayed to encourage the use of the use of hand sanitiser, upon entry and exit and this will be available in the rear porch and guidance notices on social distancing will also be on display.

The candle stand in the Lady Chapel, will be available as an aid for private prayer and devotion. Please note-books such as prayer/hymns books will not be on show or available. (The toilets will be available, in the Parish Room but the use of these will not be encouraged.) To enable a through flow of air, the door from the church to the rear porch will latched open and the doors to the front porch, from the south aisle and the font area will be left open. Notices will be posted on all the exterior doors and the notice board to advise of the arrangements. We are also making arrangements for a clean to take place before the <u>first</u> <u>opening on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June</u> and it hoped that we will be also be able to reinstate the weekly cleaning rota.

St Peter's Cowfold are opening **10.00 am to 2.00 pm on Thursdays and 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm on Sundays.** This harmonises with Lower Beeding and means that parishioners will have a choice of four times a week when they can go into church for private prayer.

Please note that as before St John's at Coolhurst, will not be open for private prayer due to security concerns and as previously, it will not be possible to open St John's until public services resume. Please note that as the organs in both churches require to be played to assist in the maintenance and general upkeep, it is possible that you may hear the organs being played but it will be for this reason only and not because of a service being held.

#### Please keep safe and well.

# 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: <u>www.yourchurchwedding.org</u>

## 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

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