## Parish Magazine

## for The Benefice of Lower Beeding and Cowfold

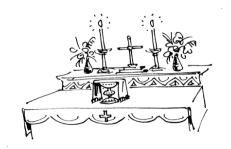
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Take care of yourselves and stay safe this Christmas.

December 2020

### For the Benefice Readings & Worship Services December 2020



### December 6th - 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40: 1-11.

Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13.

2 Peter 3: 8-15.

Mark 1: 1-8.

### December 13th - 3rd Sunday of Advent

Isiah 61: 1-4, 8-11.

Psalm 126.

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24.

John 1: 6-8, 19-28.

### December 20th – 4th Sunday of Advent

2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16.

Psalm 89: 1-4, 19-26.

Romans 16: 25-27.

Luke 1: 26-38.

### December 27th - 1st Sunday of Christmas

Isiah 61: 10-62: 3.

Psalm 148.

Galatians 4: 4-7.

Luke 2: 15-21.

### 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 Peters has an 8 o'clock on the 2nd, 3rd and 5th Sunday

SUBJECT TO THE LOCKDOWN ENDING ON 2ND DECEMBER, the normal non- Christmas services at St. Peter's, Cowfold, should be 6th Dec: 8am BCP Holy Communion, 10am Common Worship

13th Dec: 10am Short & Sweet

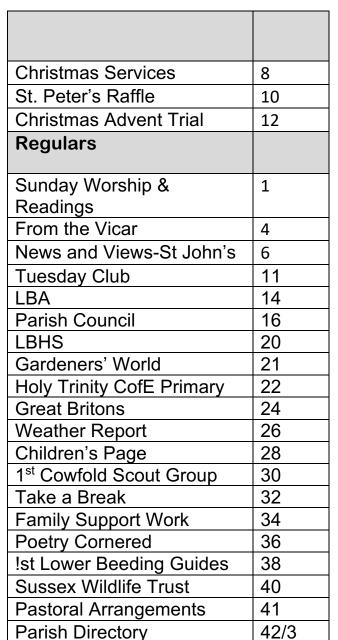
20th Dec: 8am BCP Holy Communion, 11.15am Common Worship

Eucharist

27th Dec: 10am Short & Sweet.

Please note that from December the 8am services move to 1st and 3rd Sundays (from 2nd and 3rd Sundays) to give a more even spacing.

### **CONTENTS**





December 2020

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

We come to the end of the most unexpected year I can call to mind. We must remember the 50,000+ lives that have been lost in the last 12 months.

This is a Christmas like no other that any of us can recall. At the time of writing, we are in a second full lockdown and whether we can spend Christmas with our families and friends is still uncertain.

However, Lower Beeding are organising an Advent Trail (p.12) which sounds exciting and St. Peter's Raffle has gone on line (p.10)

Kay Croll asks us not to forget the children of the Diocese. We are collecting for Family Support Work again on Sunday December 13<sup>th</sup> (FSW pages 34-35). Please help if you can.

Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and I would like to thank the contributors and advertisers for all their support this year.

Copy date for next magazine
Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December

Submissions should be sent to lesleyhendy6@gmail.com

Lesley Hendy
Acting Editor

lesleyhendy6@gmail.com
Please stay safe.

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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## Reader's Ramblings



When I was planning what to write for this month's magazine letter, I thought I had it all planned out, but writing this in Mid-November just after Remembrance Sunday, when we remember those who have died in wars past. This set me thinking how November is normally a month of Remembrance and I also feel one of hope, for the future, so here goes, I hope you will find some inspiration, some faith, some love, and hope.

A tale of Four Candles (no! not the Two Ronnies' sketch) but a poem, I saw posted on Facebook, so I am grateful to the friend who posted it.

The Four Candles burned slowly. Their Ambiance was so soft you could hear them speak...

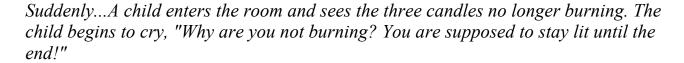
The First Candle said, "I Am Peace, but these days, nobody wants to keep me lit." Then Peace's flame slowly diminishes and goes out completely.

The Second Candle said, "I Am Faith, but these days, I am no longer indispensable." Then Faith's flame slowly diminishes and goes out completely.

Sadly, The Third Candle Speaks, "I Am Love and I haven't the

strength to stay lit any longer. People put me aside and don't understand my importance. They even forget

to love those who are nearest to them." Waiting no longer, Love goes out completely.



Then, The Fourth Candle speaks gently to the little child, "Don't be afraid, for I Am Hope, and while I still burn, we can re-light the other candles."

With Shining Eyes, the child took the Candle of Hope and lit the other three candles.

Never let the Flame of Hope go out of your life. With Hope, no matter how bad things look and are...Peace, Faith and Love can Shine Brightly in our lives.

So let us, despite the darkness of this year, keep the flames of Peace, Faith, Love and above all Hope burning brightly.

With every blessing, Geoff







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



#### December 2020 Serena Soames Writes:

Please forgive me for referring to the 'Journey of the Magi' the wrong side of Christmas; I feel that the first line of T S Eliot's poem is so very apt for what we have all been going through: 'A hard coming we had of it'.

Was that journey of the three kings the very earliest pilgrimage? Here in the Sussex Weald, we can feel the history of pilgrimage at our backs, not only in the South Downs Way but also the Old Way, the pilgrim route from Southampton to Canterbury.

The contemporary notion of secular pilgrimage is that it allows us to connect physically and spiritually with the landscape, to 'own' that land over which we walk, step by step. By simply being open to what is around us, we can feel how the centuries have shaped and formed the landscape, and sense the generations that have walked the same way before.

I recently joined the British Pilgrimage Trust on a circular pilgrimage centred on Avebury in Wiltshire. Twenty of us were led in a socially distanced group by Guy Hayward who in his gentle, and often singing, voice, made us aware of the surrounding proliferation of 5,000 year old burial sites. The tumuli like warts on the landscape, often protected by roundels of beech trees. The extraordinary West Kennett long barrow: a series of interconnecting stone chambers built underground. The mysterious Silbury Hill, looking like something out of Close Encounters of the Third Kind, with the sun streaming through clouds in a perfect circle behind it. And of course the standing stones of Avebury, placed there in concentric circles roughly five thousand years ago, whose purpose we know not.

In the very challenging time of lockdown and restricted movement that we have all been going through, many seem to have needed that reconnection with the land and the natural world. I feel that those of us who can are very fortunate to be able to walk through places such as Warnham Nature Reserve, as we did on our Parish sponsored walk, and Knepp where from the footpath you might come across a nobly posing red deer or a Tamworth pig guzzling acorns. These Close Encounters in nature are balm to the soul.

Jeremy Irons has recorded all of T S Eliot's poems, which I can heartily recommend.









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# Christmas Services 2020

## Benefice Christmas Services Notice

At the time of the printing of the magazine, we are unable to confirm the Christmas services as the lifting of the lockdown as well as any possible regulations and restrictions are yet to be announced by the Government and the Church.

We are confident that by the time of the distribution of the magazine that the situation will be clearer, and it is intended to include with the magazine a flyer containing details of the Christmastide services we are able to hold, paying due regards to the guidance and regulations applicable at the time.

These details will also be published via the websites, the church Facebooks pages and notices displayed at the churches.









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### St Peter's Christmas Raffle 2020



St Peter's Christmas Raffle will be a bit different this year with no Christmas fair and no person-to-person selling of raffle tickets. Undeterred, we have set up an online page for you to buy your tickets! A numbered ticket will be allocated for every £1 donated at <a href="mailto:uk.virginmoneygiving.com/HelenStanfield1">uk.virginmoneygiving.com/HelenStanfield1</a> so, for example, if you donate £10 you will be allocated 10 numbers in the draw. If you are unable to get online, you can donate by cash to Helen Stanfield and the numbered tickets will still be allocated to you.

Please do join in, we have secured some lovely prizes including a Festive Hamper, a Cocoa Loco gift box, a hamper/fruit basket from Swains Farm Shop and Jeremy's 2 and more. It would be great to end such a difficult year with a successful fundraiser!

If we are able to gather for worship by 13th December, the draw will be made in St Peter's church after the Short & Sweet service. Otherwise, the draw will broadcast online via the St Peter's Facebook page. Any questions contact Helen on 01403 865038.

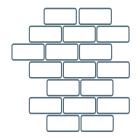


## **Tuesday Club**

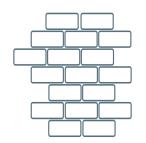


Sadly, as with all other events during this difficult period, The Tuesday Club will not be able to meet again until the lockdown is lifted.

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 <a href="mailto:rjwarwick12@hotmail.com">rjwarwick12@hotmail.com</a>







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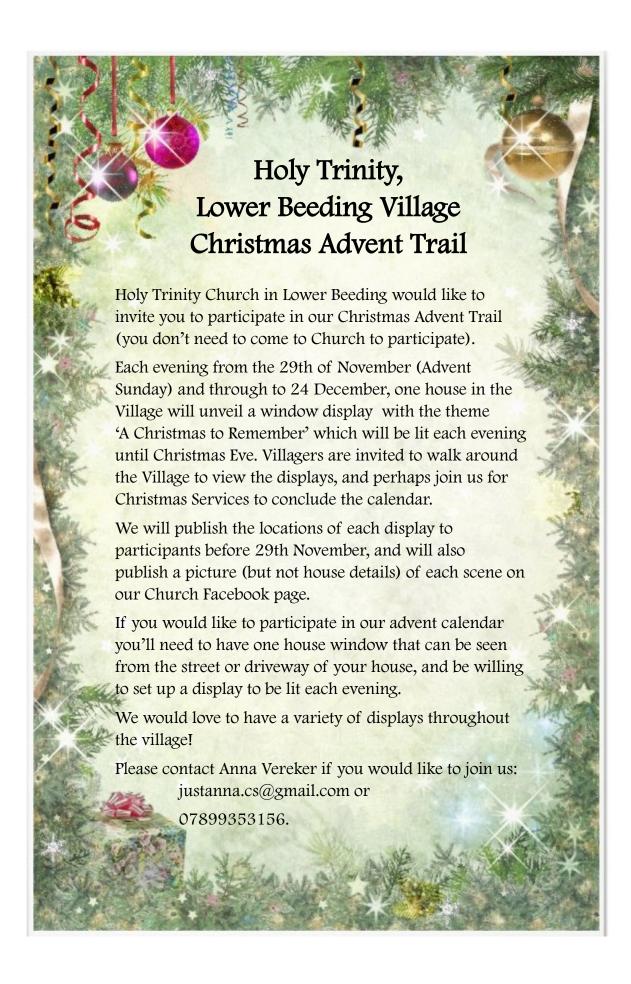
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## Lower Beeding Association News Charity No. 267433

At the time of writing it is anticipated the 250 Club Draw will be held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December at the Village Hall and unfortunately the numbers will be limited. It all depends on the lockdown situation nearer the time whether or not we have to postpone it to 2021. To find out more nearer the time please contact promoter, Paul Smith on 01403 891293 or Jean Black 01403 891523.

Prizes will be £100 x 3; £50 x £50; £30 x 3 and a whopping £1000 for the lucky person just before Christmas.

Here are another couple of wells – good example of the one from Hop Gardens and two from Goodyers which unfortunately has lost the pulley pole. I remember my grandfather pulling up water with bucket.











With best wishes for Christmas 2020 and hope the New Year will be brighter for everyone

**Other info:** Jean Black 01403 891523



### LOWER BEEDING PARISH COUNCIL

### **Lower Beeding Parish Council News**

### December 2020

**Dear Parishioners** 

Following feedback from some residents I have included some highlights of the October Parish Council (PC) meeting.

First of all, I will be starting a weekly update of information that is passed onto the PC which may be of interest to some residents. This may include County, Sussex Police, Horsham District Council, Road Closures and relevant information from your Parish. To join the mailing list please send me an email with your name and address and I will add you to the listing. The information you send me will be kept private and will comply to all GDPR regulations.

For those who may need support over the festive period please contact me for advice and assistance.

We are still holding regular Parish Council meetings via Zoon. The details of the log codes are published on the website in the meeting agenda's

### **Community Speedwatch (CSW)**

Unfortunately, the CSW team was not permitted to operate during the second lockdown but will be back in action in December. The Parish Council has also initiated a team to implement some further traffic calming and related issues. The group will be headed up by Roger Warwick if anyone would like to volunteer to be part of this important project please let me know.

### **Recent Planning Applications:**

DC/20/1842 Woodland Cottage Brighton Road Lower Beeding Horsham RH13 6NQ

Replacement of pitched roof with a flat roof to create an additional first floor habitable space. Erection of a first-floor extension, rear balcony and the addition of a new ground floor porch at the front.

Application form now posted on the website.

The Lower Beeding Parish Council were against this development on the following

grounds: -

The immediate neighbours objected to the change to the building and the PC concurs

that the extended height of the proposed building could affect them. The Planning

Officer should review if the height difference (increase) is appropriate.

However, the PC did not object on planning grounds.

DC/20/1997 Brandywell Handcross Road Plummers Plain Horsham

Erection of a single storey front extension with a gabled roof extending to the rear to

replace the existing area of flat roof.

The Lower Beeding Parish Council were in support of the proposed application.

DC/20/1979 Rabbit Patch Day Nursery Willow Cottage Handcross Road Plummers Plain

Change of use of land adjacent to Rabbit Patch Nursery from woodland and open land

with no use, to woodland and open land in use as part of the adjacent nursery. Erection

of a small timber building and pig pen.

The Lower Beeding Parish Council unanimously voted against the application on the

grounds that the proposal is contrary to the Neighbourhood Plan currently waiting

approval by Horsham Planning Dept. The PC would also prefer to retain the current

woodland appearance.

Finally on behalf of the Parish Council we would like to wish you and your families a very

happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Hopefully next year will be an

improvement on this one!

**Peter Knox** 

**Clerk to Lower Beeding Parish Council** 

clerk@lowerbeeding.com

Our website: www.lowerbeeding.com

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### On Seeing St. John's - Poem by Charlie Armstrong

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Awake first light Cold water jolts me forth Walk



Horse chestnut tree
Conkers
I'm a child again
Where's that string of my



Childhood days.
Onward a different path
An ancient church
Secrets held with the stones

And surrounding graves at rest
Onwards
The lake placid and still
Fishermen at peace
A young deer alone
Dances in a field

Sun awakening from its slumber
Misty
As the deer dances
Joyfully
Onward



Squirrels busy
As they always are
Onward

The horses in their stable
Greet me kindly
Yearning for the dewy morning grass

Homeward now
Birds singing
A woodpecker loud and hidden
Tuneful.
Home now
My heart full.





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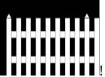




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### Lower Beeding Horticultural Society Report

Like our gardens, the society is in its dormant season at the moment so far as events are concerned. We are, though, planning our schedule for next year and aim to distribute to members at the start of 2021. We are trying to add a couple of events to this year's calendar, with an extra talk and with the reintroduction of our spring plant sale. There'll be more on both these in future updates.

Have as good a Christmas as the restrictions on movements will allow. Tom.

### Gardeners' World

As the days grow ever-shorter and as the second lockdown continues into the early part of December we are presented with mixed fortunes. We have little else to focus on at this time other than the garden and, that said, the amount of time we can spend gardening is reducing rapidly. The benefit for me at least is that the autumn preparation is at an advanced stage, and both



the vegetable beds and the borders are looking better at this time than they have done in previous years. This will give time for a good run at the winter projects this year, whereas normally it's well into the New Year before these get underway. With the winter solstice just a few weeks away its fortunate that December means that there shouldn't be too much to do in the garden during the short days, once the preparation has been completed then it's more just a matter of keeping an eye on things. Let's all hope that the announcement this week of a vaccine means that we might enjoy more freedom in 2021.

If the preparation of the vegetable plot for next year hasn't yet been completed then check out earlier articles for what needs doing. Consider the three-group crop rotation system and compost/manure accordingly. Planning the layout of the plot will direct some of this activity, and we should aim to have the composting/manuring completed by the end of this month. Keep a check on any winter protection that you are going to rely on as the temperatures cool down, and check that everything is still serviceable. There's nothing worse than finding that the heater you need isn't coming on, or that you don't have fuel for the heater in the greenhouse. Having the mower serviced this month, if required, will save you getting into a longer queue next spring when the rush to ATS to get the mower working

will mean delays. And if you want something more energetic then clear away any remaining fallen leaves, especially from those late-shedding trees. These can be composted with other material or can be left to form leaf mould if space permits. I'm starting to use leaf mould from beech leaves that have been in an old one-ton bag from the builders merchant, these have been rotting down now for three years and are ideal for the composting work.

Pruning can be carried out this month, to wisteria, climbing roses, dormant shrubs, and apple & pear trees that are grown on open ground — not against a wall. For fruit trees in particular, December pruning to maintain a good structure will encourage fruit production. Jobs that will keep you warm include creating new beds and borders and collecting up the last of the leaves. Take hardwood cuttings from shrubs, most deciduous shrubs can be propagated in this manner, and cuttings can be brought-on in pots or containers quite successfully. Select this year's growth and remove the soft growing tip of the healthiest-looking shoots, cut the shoot straight across and below a bud, taking 15cm or so of the shoot for the cutting. Then cut the top of the cutting above the top bud, and at an angle, before dipping in rooting powder and insert into a pot containing an equal mix of general purpose compost and grit. Then make sure they don't dry out and you should have young plants ready to pot-on next year.

### **Charming Cottage in historic Pump Alley**



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## First half term back at Holy Trinity



This is our first half term back and it has not quite been the same so far. We have to sanitise and wash our hands regularly, so we keep the teachers and all the pupils safe.

When the school pupils arrived back from their long break, we were separated into different bubbles, juniors and infants. Also, we have now divided our field in half so the bubbles don't mix. Another difference is that, for lunch times, years 5 &6 eat outside their class room, years 3&4 eat on the field or in their class room, and finally, the infants eat in the hall.

Year 6 were very lucky because, despite Coronavirus, bike ability was able to take place this year. But this time it's been slightly different as the pupils had to be driven there by their family, as we could not share a car together. When we got there, we met our instructor and our partner as we did it in pairs and not in a big group.

As most people know, every year we hold a harvest service at Holy Trinity Church. But this year, unfortunately, we weren't able to do so. Instead, we came up with a great idea. On Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> of September we made a video call with Rev'd Sue and said a prayer about harvest. Then, after school, we walked to the church and donated tinned or dried food that wouldn't go out of date to homes that needed it more than us.

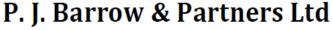
On Friday 23 October the PTA arranged for the students to have a 'super-hero' themed mufti-day, since everyone, through lockdown, has been a super hero by playing their part and staying inside to protect the public. Everyone really loved the day and it was a great way to end the half term.



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### **GREAT BRITONS**

#### kpeglinton@aol.com

18<sup>th</sup> century Britain prospered from growing trade and her industrial revolution. British ships dominated global trade, including 40% of the shocking trade in slaves from Africa to the Americas. From the dawn of civilisation the institution of slavery continued through the ages. In Africa, many societies depended on slaves and huge numbers were exported to the Middle East from the 7<sup>th</sup> century onwards. When Europeans established colonies in the Americas, they imported African slaves. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, advances in ship technology led to a trans-Atlantic slave trade on an industrial scale, reaching new levels of brutality. In 300 years, 12-14 million people were exported from Africa to the Americas. 10-20% of those died en route. Even after they arrived, death rates were so high that new cargoes of slaves were wanted every year. Many African societies were utterly destabilised by this level of slaving. For every 100 slaves exported, 30-40 had already died in Africa.

In 1772 in a famous legal case, Lord Chief Justice Mansfield declared that the institution of slavery was inconsistent with English law. English law however did not apply in the colonies, which had their own rules. Nor did English law apply on the high seas, where slaves continued to be transported in appalling conditions. Following Mansfield's judgement, an anti-slavery movement was launched by a group of Quakers, but they lacked parliamentary influence and made little progress.

### 71. William Wilberforce

1759 - 1833

Part 1: The Great Cause



Wilberforce was born in Hull, the only son of a wealthy merchant, and was educated at Cambridge. Witty and generous, he made many friends including William Pitt the Younger. They entered parliament together, where Wilberforce proved to be a dazzling orator.

Inheriting considerable wealth, Wilberforce pursued a hedonistic lifestyle until undergoing an evangelical conversion. He then abandoned his past lifestyle and committed his future life to the service of God. At the time, religious enthusiasm was scoffed at in polite society.

Wilberforce joined a group of anti-slavery activists that included Thomas Clarkson, with whom he would collaborate for nearly fifty years. Horrified by the brutality of slavery and the slave trade, Wilberforce, Clarkson and others were convinced by their Christian faith to devote their lives to the abolition of slavery. Clarkson urged Wilberforce to introduce an anti-slavery bill in parliament. Wilberforce hesitated to do so until encouraged by Pitt, who was by

now prime minister, and Pitt's friend, the future prime minister, Lord Grenville.

Wilberforce and Clarkson decided to focus first on the utter brutality of the trans-Atlantic slave trade rather than on slavery itself. They were highly successful in raising public awareness and support. Anti-slave trade groups sprang up throughout Britain. The campaign pioneered techniques such as lobbying, public meetings, cultivating press attention, and organising boycotts. Hundreds of thousands signed petitions against the slave trade. This was the politics of the future.



When the time came, Wilberforce was too ill to introduce his bill for the abolition of the slave trade. In his absence, Pitt himself brought forward the bill and ordered a Privy Council investigation into the slave trade.

With the publication of the Privy Council report, providing many details of the abhorrent nature of the trade, Wilberforce made a celebrated speech in the House of Commons, drawing on a mass of evidence assembled by Clarkson over many years.

Wilberforce described in detail the appalling conditions in which slaves were transported from Africa. Abolishing the trade would, he said, also bring

improvement to the conditions of existing slaves. He made no reference to abolishing slavery itself, instead dwelling on the potential for reproduction in the existing slave population should the trade be abolished. Without the brutalising slave trade, slave owners would treat their slaves better as they would be hard to replace. This would make the slaves more contented and reduce the risk of a major slave revolt – dreaded by the Caribbean slave-owners and British politicians alike.

The Caribbean slave-owners were a rich and powerful lobby. Their allies in parliament feared defeat and so, to delay the vote, proposed that the Commons hear their evidence also. Despite this merely being a repeat of what the Privy Council had already done, parliament agreed. In the meantime, with Pitt's support, the Slave Trade Act of 1788 introduced regulation of the trade. This reduced some of its horrors, resulting in a significant decline in levels of slave mortality aboard British ships. It was not enough, but it was something.

The hearings were drawn out for two years until Wilberforce succeeded in getting them moved to a select committee, which finally completed its work in 1791. Despite a closely reasoned four-hour speech, Wilberforce's bill to abolish the slave trade was defeated by 163 votes to 88. The political climate had swung in a conservative direction in the wake of the French Revolution and the consequent increase in the activities of British radicals.

Wilberforce commenced a protracted parliamentary campaign, including a new motion against the slave trade each year. Despite frustrations and hostility from vested interests, his commitment never wavered. He was supported in his work by the "Clapham Sect", who shared a commitment to practical Christianity and opposition to slavery.

Pro-slavery advocates claimed that Africans were lesser human beings. The Clapham Sect wanted to demonstrate that freed slaves were capable of sustaining a well-ordered society. They established a colony in Sierra Leone with freed slaves, as well as native Africans and some whites. Wilberforce gave substantial support in money and time. Sadly the colony was fraught with tension, crop failures, disease, war, and defections to the slave trade. Initially a commercial venture, the government eventually assumed responsibility for Sierra Leone, Britain's first colony in Africa.

In 1792, Wilberforce again brought a Bill for abolition of the slave trade. A compromise solution of gradual abolition over a number of years was passed by the Commons, but was rejected by the Lords. Undaunted, Wilberforce and Clarkson merely became more determined in their great cause.

Next month I will tell how abolition of both the slave trade and slavery was finally achieved.

### WEATHER REPORT

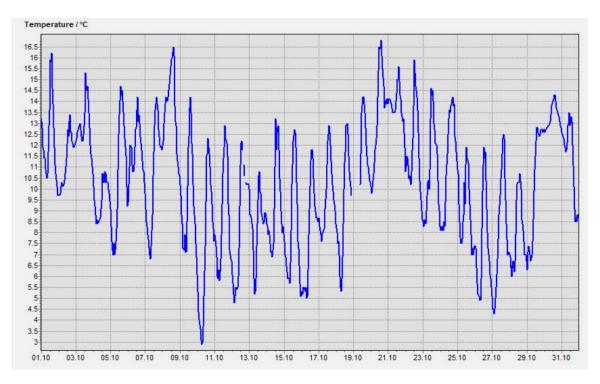
### **WEATHER FOR October 2020**

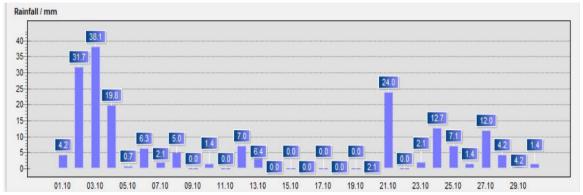


Rainfall in October 2020	8.47"	215mm
Rainfall in October2019	6.5"	165mm
Rainfall for 2020	30.82"	783mm
Rainfall for 2019	28.53"	725mm

Warmest day 16.8°C on 20<sup>th</sup>
Warmest night 16.8°C on the 20<sup>th</sup>

Coldest day 10.7°C on the 28<sup>th</sup>
Coldest night 2.9°C on the 10<sup>th</sup>





A very wet October, with the highest recorded rainfall on my records (since 2004). Only 2012 and 2014 had higher year to date rainfalls at 33.7" and 35.9".

Following on from the information on storm names last month, Storm Alex hit us hard at the beginning of the month, with nearly 3" in a 48hr period.

#### From the MetOffice

"The provisional UK mean temperature was 9.4 °C, which is 0.1 °C below the 1981-2010 long-term average. Mean maximum temperatures were around 0.5 °C below average in many places, while mean minimum temperatures were mostly up to 0.5 °C above average. For most of the UK it was a wet and dull month, with 142% of average rainfall and 72% of average sunshine – provisionally the fifth wettest October in a series from 1862, and also the fifth dullest since 1919. Rainfall was near average in some western areas, but well above average further east, with over 200% of normal for London and the south-east and also parts of Aberdeenshire and Moray. Sunshine was particularly low for much of England and Wales, with only the south of Northern Ireland and the Isle of Man having above average sunshine."

As forecasted last month, long-range prediction systems from prediction centres around the world generally show increased chances of north westerly winds from November to January, consistent with the effect of La Nina. For November -January as a whole, the La Nina influence counterbalances the increased probabilities of above-average temperatures associated with the warming of UK climate. As a result, the likelihood of above-average temperatures only moderately exceeds that of below-average temperatures. Nevertheless, the chances of cold spells are higher for this season than has typically been the case in recent years. So a milder than average period is likely overall but the chance of a colder period are increased compared to recent years especially early in the winter.

The forecasts for precipitation levels over this period are not showing strongly for either a wetter or dryer than normal period. So, if the cold spells do arrive, they probably will not be accompanied by huge amounts of snow.

#### Elizabeth Ogg

Solution to Sudoku (p.32)

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

## Children's Page





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## 1<sup>st</sup> Cowfold Scout Group

### We Remembered.

This year the Scout Group have been unable to take part in any face to face remembrance events due to the guidelines that have been set out by the Scout Association.

But we are still all taking part in our own act of remembrance, we invited all members to put on their uniforms and take part in the doorstep 2 minute silence. All members have painted stones and they will be places around local war memorials and villages to show their remembrance.

Members have taken part in learning, watching and hearing about remembrance.



The youngest members have also made poppy tea light holders as well.

The wreath has been laid at Cowfold on behalf of the whole group.

Ellen Barker Group Scout Leader

1st Cowfold Scout Group, Horsham District, West Sussex

Tel: 01403 865791 or 07876 564951

Email: gsl1cowfold@HORSHAMSCOUTS.COM Web: http://1stcowfoldscouting.org.uk

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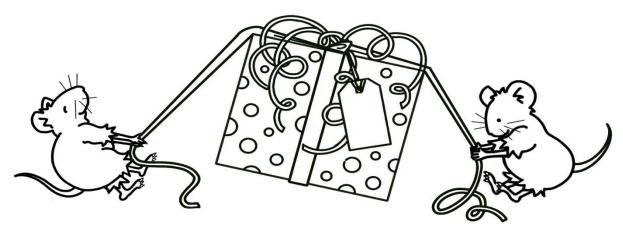
emily.vowels@gol.co.uk

## Take a break!



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

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### **FAMILY SUPPORT WORK**



Thank you!

Yet again our supporters have been amazing and have provided so many donations to our Harvest Appeal. This means we can confidently look to support our current families and more in the coming months.

Like every charity, we have had to review what we do and look at our running costs. Sadly, this has meant we have had to say good-bye to five members of staff. They made a great contribution to our work over the years and we wish them all well in the future.

With the cold weather now arrived, fuel bills are a real worry for most of our families, and during this second lockdown are likely to significantly increase as people stay at home most of the time. If anybody in receipt of a winter fuel payment feels able to donate this to us so that we can help families who aren't eligible for this support, then we would be extremely grateful. Donations can be made on our website (please leave a message after your donation to let us know that this is a winter fuel gift) or by sending a

cheque (payable to Family Support Work) to our office at Garton House, 22 Stanford Avenue, Brighton BN1 6AA. Thank you for your help in sharing the warmth.



Christmas is not far away and we know that many of you will be wondering about our plans for collection and delivery of hampers and toys to our families.

Although we won't be able to hold our usual Christmas parties, we will still be distributing toys and food hampers (including fresh turkeys) to our families as we normally do on the last working day before the Christmas break.

After a Harvest season where we were extremely fortunate to receive significant amounts of food that have fully restocked our foodbank, our main needs prior to Christmas are for Christmas-specific food items (such as *sharing boxes of chocolates or biscuits; family packs of crisps or snacks; Christmas puddings; stuffing; gravy; cranberry and bread sauce). We would also welcome donations of gift vouchers that can be given to older children; new toys for children aged 5 and over (but please no soft toys this year)* or financial donations that can be directed at supporting the families most in need over the Christmas period.

We are hoping to make another Christmas Collection at Lower Beeding Churches on

### **DECEMBER 13th**

Should churches are still closed please ring Kay Croll: 01403 275967 for collection



# Poetry Cornered

## Mistletoe WALTER DE LA MARE

Sitting under the mistletoe
(Pale-green, fairy mistletoe),
One last candle burning low,
All the sleepy dancers gone,
Just one candle burning on,
Shadows lurking everywhere:
Some one came, and kissed me there.

Tired I was; my head would go
Nodding under the mistletoe
(Pale-green, fairy mistletoe),
No footsteps came, no voice, but only,
Just as I sat there, sleepy, lonely,
Stooped in the still and shadowy air
Lips unseen—and kissed me there.





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## 1st Lower Beeding Guides

After just over 5 months of no face to face meetings, the Lower Beeding Guides arranged to have outdoor meetings for the 6 weeks leading up to the October half-term.

On Tuesday 15 September we met on the field at the Village Hall. It was lovely to see everyone and following lots of chatting after such a long time, the girls played games and outdoor activities at a distance! On the 22 September we went for a lovely hike at Roosthole in Mannings Heath. On the 29 September we were back at the hall for a sketching evening and outdoor activities. On 6 October we had an outdoor quiz in the churchyard at Lower Beeding. On 13 October it was too wet to meet and on 20 October we did an alphabet scavenge on the field at the hall followed by a numbers activity around the field using glowsticks – great fun was had by everyone.

As leaders we met during half term to plan our indoor meetings up until Christmas. We had come up with ideas where we could social distance — Crafts, Christmas Activities, Christmas Cards for Homelands, Film Evening and a Night Hike at Leechpool Woods — weather permitting. Unfortunately with the second lockdown announced plans had to change again. We hope to be able to meet up in December for a couple of meetings, but if not the individual craft packs are all set up and we will hopefully deliver these to the girls and then meet up on zoom to work on them.

On behalf of the 1<sup>st</sup> Lower Beeding Guides we hope you all have a Happy Christmas and best wishes for 2021.



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**Long-tailed tits** by Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust **The ties that bind** 

"Who are these people?" You've hardly seen them all year yet here you are, paper hat askew,

squashed between them on the sofa at Christmas. On a branch out in the cold darkness of the garden, also sandwiched between aunts, brothers, cousins and daughters, a tiny bird is asking a similar question.

Long-tailed tits and humans are two of Britain's most social species. And just like a visit from your relatives, the arrival of a long-tailed tit flock in your garden can turn tranquillity into chaos. It's like someone has emptied a box of feathered fireworks over the fence. They manically bicker on the bird feeder and swing acrobatically upside-down on the fat balls, all the while trilling, rattling and screaming 'eee-heee-heee' like a troupe of Michael Jackson impersonators. What you're witnessing is a group of roving relatives, roaming the neighbourhood to pillage your peanuts. This posse of outlaws consists of in-laws, brothers, sons and daughters. With their gorgeous pink, black and white plumage and those ridiculously long tails, these flying lollypops must qualify for Britain's cutest bird. Then, suddenly they're gone and the pulse rate of the garden returns to normal.

By late winter the extended family will drift apart to find new partners, ready to start new families. In March, the foundations are laid for an epic construction. Moss building bricks are lashed together with ropes of sticky spider's webs. The walls rise, a camouflage cladding of lichen is added to the roof and a cosy filling of a thousand feathers lines the interior. The end result looks a crocheted stomach and soon there will be plenty of rumbling from inside as eight hungry chicks demand to be fed. But raising a large family can take its toll. The constant hunt for insects can exhaust a parent almost to breaking point. And that's when something unusual and wonderful happens. Their family arrives to save them. Aunties and uncles who have not been successful raising their own family that year will selflessly help the parents and feed their nephews and nieces.

Once the children have flown the nest the whole gang remains together and joins with other siblings to form your chaotic neighbourhood feeding flock. But the biggest

challenge of the year still awaits: winter. Freezing night-time temperatures exact a heavy toll on our garden birds. And that's why at Christmas, hidden deep in a hedge, you'll find the extended family of long-tailed tits huddled together on a frosty branch, sharing their warmth and surviving. Like them, we can all extend a warm wing to surround and support our family and friends this Christmas, whether near or far. Because none of us can get through this on our own.



Long Tailed Tit® Alan Price, Gatehouse Studio Sussex Wildlife Trust.jpg

### 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	4 Brick Kiln Close, RH13 6TB	01403 891 739
Mr Geoff Peckham Church Warden (LP)	peckham50@gmail.com stephanie.shaw1@hotmail.com	
Church Warden (LB) Mrs Stephanie Shaw	stephame.shaw1@nothlan.com	
Church Warden(LB)	18 Trinity Fields, RH13 6GH	07799 433434
Mark Bamford	mtb198@hotmail.com	07777 100 10 1
Church Warden (CF) Aidan Favell	aidan@favellfinch.co	07973195137
Church Warden (CF) Mary Chamberlin	m.chamberlin@btinternet.com	01403864405
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Treasurer (CF) Helen Stanfield	hstanfield4@gmail.com	01403865038
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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
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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	<u>Jasebailey72@gmail.com</u> 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
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