



Holy Trinity Church Cuckfield

**'Making
Christ
known'**

**Parish magazine
August 2015**

50 pence

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MAGAZINE AUGUST 2015

My dear friends,

Some time ago I was struck by a cartoon in a national paper by Christian Adams. It showed BBC Broadcasting House and a hospital both with flags (BBC and NHS) flying from their roofs. They are collapsing into a hole as the result of an earthquake, and great cracks in the ground reach towards a third building - the Elizabeth Tower (commonly known as Big Ben) of the Houses of Parliament.

Adams was, of course, drawing attention to the collapse of public regard to three institutions formerly seen by most British people as organisations which exemplified British values, and previously seen as untouchable. Alas, how wrong we appear to have been. The BBC post-Saville, which many people view as having skewed and sometimes biased reporting; the bottomless pit of the NHS (undeniably under immense pressure) where scandals have seemed to hit the headlines every other day; the Mother of Parliaments (in this year of Magna Carta), where the expenses debacle and the regular shouting match between the Prime Minister and the Acting Leader of the Opposition depress beyond measure; and yet this just seems the start. The police, education, law, local government.....you name it, they are on the list!

And then we have the emerging patterns of widespread abuse of children from the 1970s - 90s, which continues to cast a pall of shame over the Local Authorities, Social Workers, Church and other bodies, some members of whom seem to have been 'infected' by the reasonings of such bodies as the dreadful paedophile organisations which appeared following the so-called 1960s sexual revolution.

The sadness of the latter is that the dreadful behaviour of the few (and I do believe that it is a few) tarnishes the whole. When one considers the Church of England, with the ministry of tens of thousands of clergy and hundreds of thousands of lay workers over the past fifty years- vital ministry such as times of human need like bereavement - all is blighted and dulled.

How can one approach dealing with this seeming collapse of public confidence? Well, it does seem to me that HONESTY has to be a vital factor in seeking to build up public confidence. Of course, it is not possible to eradicate 'rogue' people - we **all** have flaws of some kind or other and have

done things which we are ashamed of, but I believe that honesty needs to be a vital part in building up trust and probity within our society.

Also, I believe that the Church must display a PROPHETIC VOICE - that is to comment on matters honestly informed by Scripture, Tradition and Reason - those three great pillars which are considered signs of our Anglican Tradition. This is **not** the same as what often seems like politically informed comment within the Church, which we so often seem to hear! We all hold our own political opinions, but speaking prophetically is very different.

Remember the words of Paul to the Christians of Philippi:

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2: 5-11.)

With this sort of voice - one of humility and service - society has the capacity to be built up into the spirit of a New Jerusalem - and surely this is what the Church **must** be about. We are all called to be signs of the way in which this can be brought about - a responsibility to reveal the true beauty and love found within the Christian Faith.

End of diatribe.....

With love and blessings,
Michael

FROM THE VICAR'S DESK

THE HOLIDAYS ARE (ALMOST) UPON US! If you are going away or just chilling out during August, do have a good, restful time. Likewise, if you are reading this as a visitor to our beautiful church and village - welcome! Holidays are time to relax and take stock, to recharge the batteries, so blessings to you. The Anglo-American comedian and violinist Henry Youngman joked

'I once wanted to become an atheist, but I gave up -- they have no holidays!'

DAVID & MARILYN CURTIS-BRIGNELL We shall be saying our farewells to David (our Organist and Choir Director) and his wife Marilyn after **Choral Evensong on August 30th at 6.00pm**. Please do support this occasion as a sign of our love and gratitude to David for all that he has achieved during his twelve years service - something which he could not have achieved without Marilyn's support. I very much hope that we will continue to see them both from time to time.

As yet there is little to report on the appointment of a new person to the post, but I would just like to commend all those involved in music-making within our worship. It is greatly appreciated.

ENDRE KORMOS A reminder that Endre, an ordination student at the College of the Resurrection, Mirfield, will be with us on placement from the start of September. This will be an opportunity for him to be immersed in the life of a parish as he looks forward to his own ordination. I know that you will make him welcome. Kate Berry is coordinating those who might like to offer him a meal during his stay, so please speak to her if you can help. It may be lunch or supper depending on what is on in the parish, and doesn't need to be a five course meal!

OUR WEEKDAY SERVICES You will remember that I mentioned these a couple of months ago and it has been great to see more people attending, particularly when we remember the work of the Mothers' Union on the fourth Wednesday of the month (26th August), and for the Julian Group who meet after the 11.00 service on the 28th August - and people are welcome to bring a packed lunch with them. It is encouraging to see support for these services growing - the engine house of prayer keeps the church ship afloat (too many analogies!)

I did have a mad idea that it would be good to have more chances for fellowship, so from the first Wednesday of September there will be (real) coffee and cake after the 10.15 Holy Communion service every week - so please join us for **VICAR'S COFFEE AND CAKE every Wednesday from September 2nd @ 10.45am**.

THANKS Sincere thanks to Brian Brown, who has not only made and carved super oak signs for the Vicarage, but also a beautiful candle holder for the pascal candle. Brian has carved this most attractively, and I know that people will want, with me, to thank him for such beautiful work - a great asset which enables us to have the Easter Candle at the front of the church for baptisms before we process to the font.

Beloved Father,

In whom is heaven,
hallowed be your name,
followed be your royal way,
done be your will and rule,
throughout the whole creation.

With the bread we need for today,
feed us,
In the hurts we absorb from one another,
forgive us,
in the times of temptation and test,
strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure,
spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil,
free us.

For you reign in the glory
of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.

Jim Cotter, adapted

FOR REFLECTION

DO NOT BE AFRAID

In his book, *Inventing Hell*, Jon Sweeney blames the modern Christian view of hell on Dante. The imagery that has influenced the Western psyche for 800 years is not the imagery of the Bible, but of Dante's ***Divine Comedy***. It is great Italian poetry, but not always excellent theology. It portrays a threatening God, not an inviting, alluring, or revealing God. The word "Hell" is not mentioned in the Pentateuch. Paul and John never once use the word "Hell;" It is not a part of their theology.

You can't be more loving than God; it's not possible! If you understand God as Trinity - the fountain fullness of out flowing love, relationship itself - there is no possibility of any hatred in God. Finally, God - who is Love - wins. And we're all saved by mercy. Knowing this ahead of time gives us courage, so we don't need to live out of fear, but from love. To the degree you have experienced intimacy with God, you won't be afraid of death because you're experiencing the first tastes and promises of heaven in this world.

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PILGRIMAGES AND HOLIDAYS -

Bishop Michael Langrish Writes:

I have just returned from leading a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, for the past 12 centuries visited as the final resting place of the bones of St James the Apostle. Each day we travelled over part of the route which begins at St-John-Pied-de-Port in France. The closer we came to our goal, the more pilgrims we met on the Way.

20 years ago around 1500 pilgrims a year were received at Santiago, now during the summer months there are around 2000 every day, probably more than at any time since the Middle Ages. But why? Why are so many people, of all faiths and none and of all ages, and especially the young, making this pilgrimage ?

Why commit to the physical effort and personal cost?

Partly because of the destination. George McLeod, the founder of the Iona community, described that lovely, prayer-filled island and its Abbey Church as a 'thin place', a place where the veil between time and eternity, the physical and the spiritual, this world and the other, between humanity and God, was just that: very thin, almost transparent, a place where you just **are** very close to God. Such 'thin places' are not, I suggest, natural phenomena.

Such places are created - by prayer. But prayer, real prayer, takes time. Which is where we come to the process of pilgrimage. Pilgrims were once described as *peregrini* – people free to wander abroad, and to linger; to spend time with themselves, with others, with God. So, all pilgrimages have a double rhythm. There's an outward and an inward dimension to the journey. The physical journeying to a significant spiritual place and the journey of the heart and mind spirit with companions, sharing in prayer and worship along the way.

I will soon go on holiday. Will it be different from a pilgrimage? It needn't be. Holidays can for many be a time of strain and stress - so much to fit in, so much to do. But letting them be

times when we can slow down, wander and wonder can help

them to be truly Holy-days, and so days of knowing and loving a little more deeply, both God who made us, and ourselves as the people he is making us to be.

+ *Michael Langrish*

Bishop Michael Langrish is a retired bishop living in our diocese in Warbleton - he was invited by Bishop Martin to write a letter for reproduction in August Parish Magazines, Website and Sunday Newsletters.

COMMON LIFE AT THREE TABLES

When people ask us what life at Mirfield is like, we often tell people to come and see. Not because we have secret customs of Byzantine complexity, but because at the heart of our formation (which is what we like to talk about instead of training) lies a deep engagement with the unspeakable mystery of the Risen Lord through prayer and worship, and a life shared with one another.

When new students arrive, our principal, Fr. Peter CR often tries to explain this engagement with the Mystery through the image of “three tables”, each of them based on the Rule of St. Benedict, that build up our common life.

First and foremost our formation takes place at the Lord’s table, around the altar. The whole College gathers each morning and evening for the Offices (Matins with just the College, Evensong with the Brethren), joining in the worship of the Church throughout the ages through praying the psalms. We also try to set time aside daily for contemplation. But most importantly, we celebrate the Eucharist together each day: it is the Sacrament that shapes us and binds us together. One cannot remain unchanged when daily encountering the Risen Lord at the Altar.

The second table is the dining table of the refectory: we breakfast (in silence, except on feast days, when we are allowed to talk and even get a celebratory Full English instead of cereal and toast), lunch and supper together daily at the long wooden tables where food has been shared by generations. We serve each other at the tables: each week there is a group of students whose responsibility it is to serve food, clear tables, and wash dishes. It is a very practical way of learning to be servants of one another, and to be mindful of each others' needs. A deacon or *diakonos* is primarily someone who waits at tables!

The third table is the desk in our study. Between the many tasks that our Common Life dictates (looking after guests, doing dishes, leading and participating in liturgy, making coffee, weeding, or walking Georgia, our Theology tutor's dog), just like at any other College, we have academic engagements: essays, reflections, theme weeks, placements, conferences, lectures... One has to be careful in managing time, which is great preparation for the busyness of parish life.

The whole aim of all the above is to make space in which God can shape us into what He wants us to be. Formation in a semi-monastic setting like this, lived at so close quarters, often means confronting the worst in ourselves (or indeed being confronted by the worst in those around us!), but it develops in us a keen attention to the Spirit and to each other. We soon recognize that to enable each others' growth, we have to be very mindful of our own failings and bad tendencies: we are all responsible for, and depend on each other. We are learning to love, as we have been loved. And we do love each other very much, despite our eccentricities and various differences.

I am sure I will be able to tell you a lot more in September, when I will spend a few weeks with you. But please forgive me if I will always struggle a bit to find the words: ultimately, it is really best if you come and see.

Endre Kormos, currently an Ordinand at Mirfield, who begins a short placement with us in September.

ANNE HOLLINGHURST

NEW SUFFRAGAN BISHOP OF ASTON

It is always a source of great pleasure to hear that the particular gifts of one of our own have been recognised. Anne Hollinghurst who with her husband Steve was a member of Holy Trinity, Cuckfield in the 1980s is to be the next bishop of Aston

I knew Anne when she and Steve ran a church youth group in their home in the late 80s. I expressed interest and they let me join in as a helper. We met weekly in their home on Sunday evenings. It was quite a small house in Bridgers Mill and we frequently overflowed the ground floor accommodation with some sitting up the stairs. There was a strong feeling of unity in the group and mutual support among the 20 or so young people – a wonderful atmosphere. The group might have been described as evangelical charismatic in style. Until very recently I kept a copy in my Bible of a prayer list of members of the group that Anne and Steve had produced around 1989. I wish I could find it now, as I can recall at least two young people on it who are in ordained ministry.

Anne and Steve felt called to formal youth ministry and in 1990 moved to be youth workers in inner city Nottingham. From there they both simultaneously explored a calling to ordained ministry. Their calls were recognised and unusual though it was at the time, after training together in Bristol, they shared a curacy together in Nottingham from 1996 and were priested in 1997. After that their ministries diverged. Anne became a university chaplain at Derby University and cathedral and later was chaplain to the bishop of Manchester. From there she became vicar of St Peters in St Albans near the cathedral.

Many years have passed. I haven't seen them since they returned for the funeral of Steve's mother Valerie, who had become one of our Readers after their ordination. My memory of the youth group days is that Anne and Steve seemed to be quite different and complemented each other in style – Steve a touch swarthy with leather jacket and earring and Anne gentler, more quietly spoken.

On the Birmingham diocesan website is a video where Anne says "Each step of my journey has been enormously exciting and stretching and now I take a rather large "gulp" as I look towards this next step in ministry to which I believe God is calling me." The "large gulp" sounds very much like Anne - just as she was 25 years ago.

Jonathan Berry



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FROM Diocesan Overseas Council World Mission Officer:

The Revd Canon Ian Hutchinson-Cervantes

June 2015

Dear Brothers and Sisters

HARVEST APPEAL 2015 – FOOD SECURITY: EMPOWERING WOMEN

Please help us with this year's Diocesan Harvest Appeal as a part of your parish's Harvest Thanksgiving. The horror of Ebola still disrupts communities.

Although we honoured our commitment to fund training of key personnel in our partner dioceses, we also responded with funding for church-run healthcare projects.

Our bishops endorsed a diocesan wide Advent Appeal which along with generous Harvest giving enabled us to support our partner churches in Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia in their response to Ebola. ***'Faith in Sussex' has reported our funding of a microcredit scheme to aid subsistence farmers and help for our link dioceses to get their schools back into operation after a year of closure. Ebola continues to affect ordinary people and their communities. People are going hungry where economic life has been badly damaged.***

In **Kenya**, our link dioceses tell us that **drought and crop disease have meant major food shortages** and hunger in remote areas. This has led to tribal conflicts.

Our Harvest theme this year will be **"Food Security: Empowering Women."** Bishop Martin points out that *"community transformation and stability in challenging contexts is often achieved through the ministry of women."* This year's appeal will aim to raise funds to support our link dioceses in their Food Security efforts and work with women.

Your parish's participation and generosity will make a difference to the work of our link churches and schools in



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Kenya and West Africa. Materials to support the appeal will be available and sent out in early September.

Our friendship, prayer, encouragement and generosity as a diocesan family help empower and enable our link churches to accompany those for whom life is particularly hard. Every penny that you give goes directly to our link dioceses. Administration costs are covered by the diocese. Please, join our diocesan family's effort and do what you can.

Yours in Christ's service

The Revd Canon Ian Hutchinson-Cervantes,

World Mission Officer: Diocesan Overseas Council

At its July meeting, the PCC agreed to adopt the 'Diocesan Harvest Appeal 2015-16' as our Harvest Thanksgiving Appeal 2015.

BOB MUMBRAY

We were all shocked and saddened when we heard of Bob's sudden death whilst on holiday in Canada. Bob was a loyal member of Holy Trinity Choir for many decades - he was a regular supporter and it was usually only holidays and trips abroad to visit family that kept him away; his deep bass voice was as firm and mellow as it always had been. One would have to describe Bob as a "character," and he would always let you have his opinion on certain pieces of music if they were not to his taste. But we loved having him among us and his presence will be missed enormously.

The loss of Bob to the choir highlights the fact that we really do need to recruit new members if Holy Trinity is to continue with its fine musical tradition. I do hope that my successor will persuade younger members of the congregation to consider joining. All parts are welcome (but we are particularly short of men!) Please talk to Father Michael or Eileen Macdougall if you are interested.

Below is the prayer that we used at the first choir practice after we heard the news.

David Curtis-Brignell, Organist and Choir Director

O God, your Son wept over the death of Lazarus his friend, hear those whose lives have been marked by tragedy. Console those who grieve for our colleague Bob. Comfort his family and friends in this dark hour. Raise the dead to new life that all may again sing songs of thankfulness and praise, to your honour and glory. Amen

QUIK NOTES

SEPTEMBER MAGAZINE. Please make a note that contributions for September mag will be needed by August 10th latest – as always, the sooner the better! Everybody is welcome to send in something to share with our readers - and a big “Thankyou” to all our regular contributors.

September magazines will be available for distributors August 27th and in Church the following Sunday, Aug 30th. *Joyce Donoghue, Editor.*

CAKE & QUESTIONS. No meeting in August – next meeting will be on Thursday 3rd September - topic “*How do we view the Creed?*”

SUMMER EVENING STROLLS AROUND CUCKFIELD with Museum Guide, Richard Constable on July 9th and Aug 13th at 6.30pm - Enjoy an evening walk in our beautiful village and learn about its fascinating history. To book a place and find out more, phone Phillipa Malins on 01444 452307.’

ROYAL OBSERVER CORPS - CUCKFIELD BUNKER will be open in August on Saturday August 15th from 11.0am to 5.0pm and on Sunday 16th from 10.0 am to 1.0pm. Further info on www.rocremembered.com or te. Phillipa Malins on 452307

NEW MUSEUM OPENING HOURS! Cuckfield Museum is now open on Friday afternoons so our hours are: Wed 10-12.30pm, Fri 10-4pm and Sat 10-4pm.

“THE POOR WILL ALWAYS BE WITH US” On Tuesday, 15th September, 2.30 pm in the Council Chamber, The Queens Hall, Cuckfield. by Dr. Caroline Adams, Archivist and Historian. Caroline presents a fascinating, illustrated talk on the thought provoking subject of how society viewed and responded to the plight of “the poor” from the C17th through the establishment of Workhouses and their closure in the C20th. Tickets £5 or £3 for members. Please ring Mike Nicholson on 457448 to book a place or email: events@cuckfieldmuseum.org

CUCKFIELD PRESCHOOL PLAYGROUP

Cuckfield Preschool Playgroup runs daily in term-time from the “Youth Club” building in London Lane. We provide a stimulating, happy, caring and safe environment in which children can develop to their full potential through playing and learning together, supported by experienced and well trained staff. Ofsted rated us “Outstanding” in all five areas of care and education, putting us among the very best pre-school groups in the country.

We are a committee-run playgroup; a charity run by parents. We are dedicated to providing places for 3, 4 and 5 year olds that can be accessed by all local families through their “free entitlement” of 15 hours per week.

However with government funding for “free entitlement” frozen at £3.77 per child per hour for the last six years, we rely on fundraising to close the gap between that income and our essential outgoings.

To balance our budget we rely on a committed group of parents and staff who raise £5,000 every year. We run a varied programme of fundraising activities ranging from selling refreshments at Cuckfield events, hook a duck at Cuckoo Fair, a local Abel & Cole Veg Bag scheme right through to an annual big night out at the Queen’s Hall.

We are currently fundraising to provide a large, heavy duty sunshade to increase safe summertime access to our fantastic outdoor play area!

We are delighted that Cuckfield PCC has chosen to support Cuckfield Preschool Playgroup at a Sunday collection this month.* We would like to take this opportunity both to say a heartfelt thank you and to invite you to visit us.

Sarah Moss, Volunteer, Treasurer, Cuckfield Preschool Playgroup

***On Sunday August 30th. At all services. Ed.**

I am delighted to support this as, with Jenny Whitmore, I was involved in the start of Cuckfield Pre School Playgroup back in 1967 or '68.

(We had started the Albemarle Group, the first community playgroup in the area). For many years Cuckfield Pre-school Playgroup operated in 'St Nick's' (the original Parish Room, now a private house). At a later stage Sally Williams and Marilyn Elliot, formerly parent members of the group, became joint Area Organisers of the Haywards Heath Branch of the national Pre School Playgroups Assoc. and Nancy Towner was at one time a much loved Supervisor. I'm sure others amongst us were also involved at some stage in the group's history.

Parent involvement was an essential component- in those days the mums took turns to assist the staff as well as forming the management committee. As a community association and registered charity, fund raising has always been essential to keep the fees as low as possible, and it is still necessary today, now the Government contribution has taken the place of fees, so that children can attend free of charge.

Joyce Donoghue.

CARE PACKS FOR NEW MUMS

Thanks to your generous donations, we were able to pack seven care packs for expectant and nursing mothers and new babies to send to the tented camps in Iraq and Jordan - the items were those in the lists of needs given to us by the charity *Samara's Aid Appeal*. This is the charity formerly known as '*Winter Clothes for Iraq*' for which, earlier this year, we filled nearly 80 banana boxes with clothing for the refugees- men, women and children, in these same camps.

This time, we delivered the packs to the collection warehouse in Lewes where they were loaded onto the lorries to go overland and by ferry to these devastated areas. Thank you to everyone who gave to this wonderful charity.

Ros Longfield, Ros Thunder, Hilary Turner-King.

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SAMARA'S AID APPEAL

– UPDATE JUNE 29th

Dear friends,

You will be pleased to know that we have now sent off the last of the lorries for the summer appeal to my partners in Iraq. At the end of the last winter appeal, I only envisaged sending another lorry, maybe two, before starting the next winter clothes appeal, but yesterday's lorry is the 4th in the last six weeks, bringing the running total to 14 lorries and a container since October!

Three lorries are currently in transit and the journey takes 2-3 weeks from the UK to Iraq. A significant amount of time is spent queuing at the Turkish/Iraqi border, and I have had news that the first of these three lorries has arrived at the border and is now queuing. The first of these lorries (loaded in Wellingborough) will be distributed around the Dohuk area. The second and third (*ours, from Lewes. Ed*) will unload with my partner in Erbil, and the loads of the two lorries will be shared between my partners in Erbil and Kirkuk for distribution around these areas.

The last two lorries were carrying aid in the form of new clothes, shoes and personal care items with a retail value of approximately £180,000. Working with a UK partner and some donors here in the UK that wanted to buy some new items to send on these lorries, we have been able to send a huge amount of aid that is needed, for a fraction of the amount that these items would cost to buy, even at wholesale prices or in Iraq.

The lorry loaded last night was also carrying summer clothes and shoes, as well as 170 care packs (there were more on the lorry that left Wellingborough the week before last) which have been lovingly put together by lots of you. I had no idea what the response would be like to this appeal for care packs, but it has been so encouraging to see the way that people have embraced this, and the enthusiasm that people have shown for

wanting to put together more of these boxes in the future.

The care packs from both Lewes and Wellingborough will be distributed in different places. The boxes for vulnerable women will be distributed to Yazidi women that have been released by, or who have escaped from IS, **the pregnant/post natal women boxes will be distributed around the Dohuk and Kirkuk areas in particular to women in camps and unfinished buildings, and the baby boxes will be distributed around Dohuk, Kirkuk and Erbil areas in a range of settings.** The clothes from the summer appeal will be distributed across all three of these areas, and the other new aid will be distributed around Erbil and Kirkuk.

Once again, there are just so many of you to thank, for contributing in so many different ways. I hope that you will accept this email as a huge thank you for all your hard work, time, energy and enthusiasm. None of this would be possible without the help of so many faithful and dedicated people around the UK. This aid appeal is a movement of wonderful, generous people with huge hearts and you are all such an inspiration to me, and such a blessing to work with. Thank you again,

With Love from Samara.

SUMMER SOUVENIRS

“Everyone suddenly burst out singing; and I was filled with such delight.., my heart was shaken by tears... and the song was wordless; the singing will never be done.” From Everyone sang by Siegfried Sassoon

August! Lazy, hazy Summer days: sandcastles, picnics, long walks - busy harvest time in farm or garden - anxious waiting for exam results.. All too soon this August will be “Last Summer”, then “One Summer”, and later still it will simply be part of that medley of memories which, for us, define, describe, delineate “Summer”.



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Whether going away or staying at home (or perhaps you've been away already), there will surely be some special moments that memory will file away under "August-Summer"; times when we are "surprised by joy". With friends and family, perhaps, or maybe in our own quiet company; precious moments of insight, moments to treasure, things said, things thought, things seen or sensed...

If you'd like to share some of the times when your heart sang, we'll be delighted to gather them into a verbal collage in the October magazine. (By September 7th, please) If everybody writes we'll have to be a bit selective. Or maybe print Summer memories all through the Winter! It all depends on you.

Meanwhile, Happy Holidays" and if it should rain, it surely won't be quite so bad as our Yorkshire friend "Anon" makes out in the somewhat stoical rhyme below, much quoted by fell walkers.

Edito

RAIN

It rained and it rained and rained and rained.
The average fall was well maintained
And when the tracks were simply bogs
It started raining cats and dogs.
After a drought of half an hour
We had a most refreshing shower
And then the most curious thing of all
A gentle rain began to fall.
Next day was also fairly dry
Save for the deluge from the sky
Which wetted the party to the skin
And after that the rain set in.

from THE CUCKFIELD MAGAZINE AUGUST 1915

MY DEAR FRIENDS, Farewell. Fare ye well.

With these words must end a short Vicariate amongst you. Short, however, as it has been I am sure that it was overruled by the Providence of God. The 5½ years may only prove to have been but a waiting time in which the Church of Cuckfield was gathering strength for a forward movement, which I was not strong enough to lead. I hope and pray that you may grow and increase in the Lord. I look back and am mindful of the way in which, when I was laid aside, the work of the Church was carried on by you, and so I gather hope for the future of the Church of Cuckfield.

Not only do I hope, but I thank you all who have worked with me in Christ Jesus in any capacity, and thereby helped the Church of God I give thanks. (*a long list of names and offices or duties follows*). Now in parting with you as your parish priest, I am not parting from you altogether, for my connection with you and yours is too long ever to be severed. It was 37 years ago on June 17th last that I first came to Cuckfield, but it was in 1841, seventy-four years ago, that my wife's family came to live amongst you, so although I give up the work as your Vicar, we can never cease to have your welfare at heart. Our prayers will be ever with you and with my successor, that God will give to you in large measure the abundant gifts of His Holy Spirit.

I remain your faithful servant in Christ,
Robert Fisher

P.S. Mrs. Fisher and I both wish to thank you again for the lovely presents which have given us such great joy.

THE REV. PREBENDARY FISHER From September to Easter he has agreed to live at West Grinstead Rectory and help in the parish, in the absence of the Rector, who is acting as Chaplain to His Majesty's forces.

THE REV. C. W. G. WILSON comes to Cuckfield for Sunday, August 1st, and will be instituted by the Bishop of Lewes and inducted by the Rural Dean on Monday, August 9th, at 5.45

p.m. Please note the time and keep the day disengaged. The Rev. F. G. Walker will assist the Vicar on Sundays in August.

ON TUESDAY, JULY 20th, the Vicar was the happy recipient of a most gratifying and beautiful presentation and a large number kindly came to the little ceremony which took place in the Church Room. A very beautiful large silver bowl with handles, on a pedestal, and four silver dessert spoons of antique design, together with an address and the names of the donors, exquisitely illuminated on vellum, and a cheque were the immediate gifts. Besides all this, however, a sum had been invested in a manner dear to the Vicar's heart, namely, as an endowment for divinity prizes in connection with the Elementary Schools.

The presentation was made by Mr. R. A. Bevan in a most kind and lively speech, and Mrs. Fisher was not forgotten, and was asked to share the gifts and to purchase out of part of the cheque an easy chair for herself.

RECORD OF THE WAR

Did we not believe so absolutely that victory will be ours, however long the time and however great the cost, we might well be disappointed at the result of a war which has already lasted for twelve months. Although in Flanders and France we put forth, from time to time, great efforts, our progress for many weeks has been but slow. Germany still holds possession of Belgium and some provinces of France.. Italy has joined with us and will in time make its influence felt upon the scene of battle. In the Dardanelles we are holding positions we have won by marvellous bravery and tenacity and hope that in not a long time we may win the passage of the Straits. In the East, however, our confidence seems checked. The Austro-German forces are proving too strong for Russia, whose armies have been slowly pushed back in Galicia and Poland.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made by which the trestles, forms and tables used for treats and other purposes, which were originally purchased by Archdeacon Mount, then by Canon Cooper and then by the Rev. R. Fisher, become the property of the Incumbent and Churchwardens of Cuckfield, to be used by them for such purposes, ecclesiastical or parochial, as they may wish, without any responsibility for their upkeep.

Meantime let us at home pray and work, for so only do we support those who, in the battlefield, are fighting for the cause of justice and of truth.

THE CHILDREN OF THE SCHOOL will be grateful to the subscribers for the thirty pounds invested in the War Fund, the interest (twenty-seven shillings) to be used annually for Scripture Prizes. For some years a friend has kindly given a prize to the best girl and boy. The larger amount will allow of several prizes in each department, certainly until 1945, when children yet unborn will receive the “ Robert Fisher “ Scripture prizes for proficiency in Biblical knowledge, good conduct &c.

THE COLLECTIONS IN AUGUST will be as usual: On the first Sunday, for the Sick and Poor; on the second Sunday, for the Assistant Clergy Fund; on the third Sunday, for the Organ and Choir Fund; on the fourth,



**WARDEN PARK AFTER SCHOOL CLUB
THE ART OF CONVERSATION – MAGNA
CARTA BINGO – ALICE IN WONDERLAND**

Jonathan kicked things off in June at After School Club by introducing a recently acquired game – The Art of Conversation. This involved people taking it in turns to be ‘Leader’ and asking a question chosen by them from three at random off a card – each person had a minute to provide their answer or pass if they wished to. The Leader a control as the responses went around the seated circle, no one else was allowed to speak out of turn, fidget or make any other distraction on penalty losing points.

After the answer others were invited, one at a time, to ask a related question if they wished.

Then individual answers were scored – with one vote per person. We considered – “Who is your Hero and why ?; What is your least favourite subject and why ?; Do you follow a

particular sporting team and why ?; Have you ever dressed up in fancy dress and what as ?”

This produced a number of interesting and entertaining, but also thoughtful answers – with participation growing as we progressed. Harry and Jonathan were joint third, Charlie and Georgina joint second, but Georgia way out in front as the winner. Requests were made for a repeat.

The following week we focussed on the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta and with Bingo drew out a variety of facts which led to a discussion of it’s circumstances and significance – we ran out of the chocolate prizes. A game of “Smash the Bottle” then proved so popular that a number of variations had to be quickly improvised.

Our next session took a look at the 150th anniversary of Alice in Wonderland which led to some interesting anecdotes around what made us “wonder”. In particular, Marlene led us through an impromptu mime of her visit to Buckingham Palace many years ago when she contrived to “try out the throne” !

The final session of the Summer term will be “Party Time” with various active games and refreshments.

Rod Montague

AUGUST GARDEN NOTES

In June we have enjoyed glorious sunshine, warmth and virtually no rain (here in Sharphorne that is with 1 inch in total).. Hampton Court Flower Show was sweltering especially on the Wednesday (July 1st) when humidity was high as well as the temperature; not weather for plants or humans to be packed into marquees! On July 5th 6 mm rain fell, followed by cooler conditions, so very welcome, refreshing the garden and filling up empty water butts. No doubt when the state schools break up the last week of July the weather will turn wetter - it has a habit of doing that !

Being holiday season for families, do remember if you are going away to leave pots close to a water source (i.e. tap, hose pipe or water butt) and not too spread out, so as to make life easier for the kind person watering in your absence. Pots do need a really good dose each day in hot weather. Just watering the top few inches causes plants to flag quickly for the roots at the top dry out quickest and once dry, compost is hard to re-wet: water tends to run straight down the sides and out of the bottom. A saucer or some other catching device under the pot is essential in this situation.

Because of the heat, flowering plants have gone over quicker than usual but it's been great for fruit ripening and reducing slug/snail damage (unless you've been watering in the evening!). Grass growth has slowed up tremendously and turned brown in places (unless it's full of weeds like ours) so a little respite from the mowing is welcome, especially if you're going away on holiday for a fortnight and don't want to come back to a jungle.

If, because of holidays, you hardly set foot in the garden, nothing much will spoil - unless you're a fruit/veg grower. Hedges - privet, hawthorn, leylandii, yew, holly, escallonia and general mixed ones - can be cut any time from mid July to mid September. Climbing/ rambling roses, honeysuckles and wisteria can be pruned/ tidied up and deadheaded. Self seeding types of herbaceous perennials. Alchemilla mollis, foxgloves, meconopsis, astrantia, nigella, oregano/marjoram and some geraniums are best deadheaded before they create next years' "weed" problem. Weeds have an amazing ability to flower and seed in dry conditions so keep on top of them, hoeing wherever possible before they reach flowering, as they still produce seed after being uprooted in an effort to reproduce. Keep feeding and deadheading hanging baskets and bedding plants in tubs.

In the veg/fruit garden, de-runner strawberries either chucking them or creating a new bed with them; prune black and redcurrants, gooseberries, summer raspberries and tayberries after harvesting. Summer prune trained top fruit (cordoned/ espalier apples and pears) cherries and plums if you haven't done so already. Watch for potato blight and cut off tops as soon as you see it, then start digging up the crop and if affected, outdoor tomatoes should be binned or burnt. Leek rust isn't

disastrous. Cut off outer leaves if really serious but otherwise leave. Broad bean stalks should be burnt/ binned if badly infected with rust. Harvest onions and shallots before mid August and store in a cool airy place.

In the greenhouse continue to feed tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers, removing side shoots and tying up as appropriate. Control whitefly, red spider mite and caterpillars, preferably with biological, natural control methods. Powdery mildew may appear on cucumbers, courgettes, sweet peas and ordinary peas due to hot dry conditions and slow air movement. but there is very little one can do about it other than rip out the infected plants. Enjoy the sunshine!

Lindsay Shurvell, Chilling Street Nurseries, Sharpthorne.

WILDLIFE AT THE HEART OF OUR CULTURE

By Mike Russell of the Sussex Wildlife Trust



Birdsong seems to be all over the place these days. 'Tweet of the Day' in the morning on Radio 4 has generated a great following amongst the early risers, while a recent television programme on BBC 4, part of a 'Slow Season' series, showing the dawn chorus without any commentary or intrusive music, was deemed a popular success. Contemporary folk singer Sam Lee has this summer organised live performances alongside nightingales, following on from the famous live broadcasts of the 1920s and 1930s of Beatrice Harrison accompanying a probably somewhat perplexed nightingale on her cello in a Surrey woodland.

I went to a very interesting art installation as part of this year's Brighton Festival. Composer Marcus Coates had recorded the song of a number of common bird species, slowed the speed right down to individual notes and then got human singers to sing those notes while videoing them. He then speeded up the notes to the original song of the birds, resulting in some remarkable footage of the humans not only sounding like the birds but moving a bit like them as well. In fact, nature was the

underlying theme of the whole Brighton Festival programme.

There is no doubt that wildlife has been such an inspiration for musicians, artists, authors and poets right back to when people started drawing what they saw around them in their caves, and a resurgence of interest in this is very evident today. Just think how poor our cultural heritage would be without all the nature that surrounds us in our daily lives - yet that is what faces artists (and the rest of us) in the future, as much of our wildlife is in serious decline.

To take just one example, the nightingale. Nightingales have declined by 43% in the last 40 years and there is evidence that the decline is slowing. We still do quite well in Sussex but the clear evidence is that their population is shrinking into the southeast corner of England. When John Keats was inspired to write 'Ode to a Nightingale' he was listening to nightingales on Hampstead Heath, but it's a long time since any sang there. Thomas Hardy would be hard pushed to hear one in Wessex now. An even worse scenario awaits the turtle dove, whose decline has plummeted by 90% in the same time period and is in serious danger of becoming extinct in the UK within a decade if this decline continues.

So, the need to link between that inspiration with the conservation of the landscape and species needs to be made much more apparent. Every artist who has been inspired by the natural world, every person who has enjoyed the result of that artist's inspiration should stand up and rail against those who have so much disregard for our natural world.

Wildlife is essential to life, the natural world provides everything we need to exist, but it also provides for our soul. I hope those in the future will still be able to have their soul nourished by the song of a nightingale.

www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk

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CUCKFIELD LADIES GROUP

In May, we enjoyed a quiz evening with Sarah Tapp as 'quiz master'. Sarah has an amazing choice of topics which are always good fun. Sally Williams was our hostess.

The following month was time for the annual strawberry tea, again at the home of Gill Dowley, who put on a wonderful spread of scones, cakes and desserts, each one using delicious strawberries. She very kindly seated us indoors as the weather wasn't very summery.

We are now looking forward to a 'croquet afternoon' with Lin Wood, which signifies the end of our programme.

Thank you to everyone for hosting and organising meetings.

Jan Bryan

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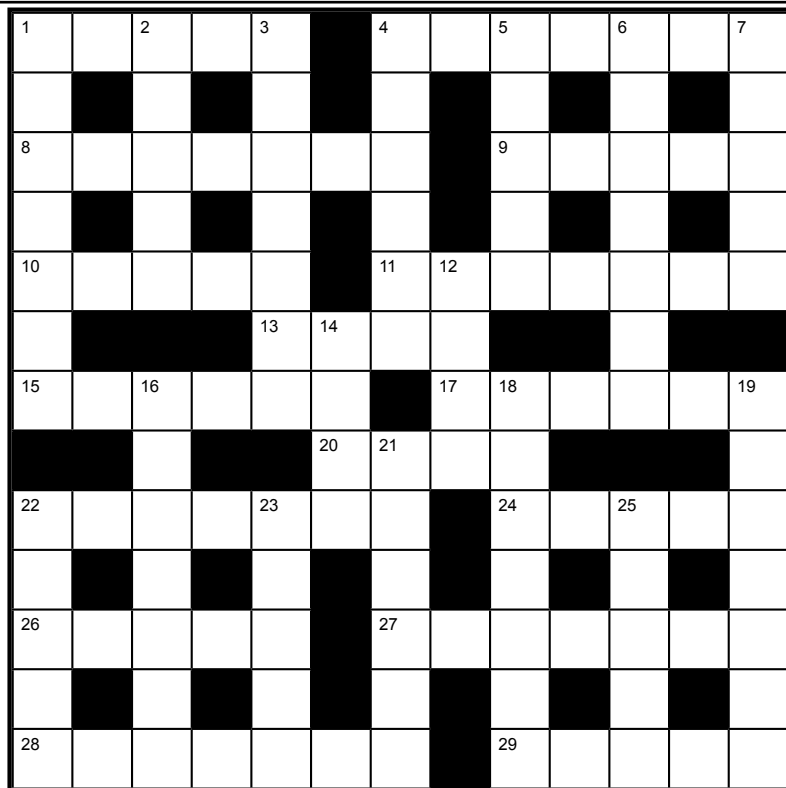
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August Crossword



CLUES ACROSS:

1. HE WAS VERY OLD WHEN HIS WIFE BORE HIM A SON (5)
4. BOUNTY (7)
8. IN A NEAT FASHION (7)
9. FIND FAULT WITH (5)
10. A FRIEND OF HAMLETS (5)
11. LETTER (7)
13. TELEPHONE CONNECTION (4)
15. A JOYFUL TIME (6)
17. UNEPECTED (6)
20. IT CAN BE NEW OR FULL (4)
22. GO BACK (7)
24. THICKENS (5)
26. KNOB ON A RADIO (5)
27. FOR EVER (7)
28. NOISES (7)
29. REQUIRES (5)

CLUES DOWN:

1. ATTENDANT (7)
2. SUPPLEMENTARY CLAUSE (5)
3. UNEXPLAINABLE EVENT (7)
4. PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY (6)
5. TEACHER (5)
6. LIFTED HIGH (7)
7. DIVISION OF A PLAY (5)
12. MONETARY UNIT OF ARGENTINA (4)
14.LA DOUCE (4)
16. DEVILISH (7)
18. DIRTY (7)
19. SNUGGLES (7)
21. THOSE REMAINING (6)
22. PART OF A HELICOPTER (5)
23. STRANGE (5)
25. WEIGHT (5)

(Answers on page 41)

CHIMNEY SWEEP

TERRY HEALY

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Web: www.actionfordeafness.org.uk



What's on Around Cuckfield...

Mid Sussex Alzheimers Support Group Carer's Monthly Meetings

1st Monday of the month from 7 to 9pm.
Held at "Age Concern" (adjacent to Clair Hall),
Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath.
For further details contact The Alzheimers Society on
01403 750485 or 01403 213017 (Monday to Friday)

Friendship Club Ansty Village Hall

2.30 to 4pm on 1st Tuesday in month. Please come, have
a cuppa and cake and a natter. Enquiries 413061.

Ansty Village Hall

CARD & TABLE GAMES. The third Thursday of the
month at Ansty Village Hall, from 2 – 4 including tea
and cake £2. Not a serious card school – much
laughter. Tel 413061

Wednesday 26 August Ansty Garden Club

Growing & Showing Daffodils by Richard Hilson
Ansty Garden Club meets in the Village Hall at 7.45pm
on the last Wednesday of the month with a varied
programme of events including speakers, outings, plant
sales etc. Members' subscription is £8 per year. Visitors
are charged £2 per evening visit. Refreshments and raffle
at small cost. New members always welcome. For more
details contact Chairperson : Derry Bailleaux or
Secretary: Suzanne Mace – 01444 459151

Items carried in the Cuckfield Parish Magazine do not necessarily represent the views of Holy Trinity PCC, the Vicar or the Editorial Team. The Editorial Team reserves the right to decline to publish any item or to amend or shorten material for that reason we do not accept copy in PDF or file formats other than Word.

We are very pleased that the parish magazine is seen as a good vehicle for advertising by local traders and others but readers must accept that the Editors do not vouch for or in any way warrant the individuals, organisations, products or services advertised here.

The master pages (including adverts) used to print this magazine can be viewed at www.holytrinitycuckfield.org/directory/parish-magazine/

Regular Events

Bellringers	Friday evenings 7.45–9.15pm.
Choir	Choir practice Friday evenings 7.30–8.45pm. (There are no practices during August)
InSpire Youth Club	<i>Friday evenings (term time only) in the Old School (South Door). Years 5-7 from 6.30 - 8.30pm. Year 8 and above from 7.30 - 9.30pm £1 subs, activities, games, friendship and much more.</i>
Holy Trinity Mens Group	No meeting in August For more information contact Clive Simmonds 01444 454481 or email: clivesimmonds@btinternet.com
Home Groups	<i>Alternate Thursday Evenings (2 groups), 8pm call Clive & Isobel Simmonds 01444 454481 Tuesday, 8.00pm (in term time). David and Ros Thunder, Wayfarers, South Street, Tel. 417103.</i>
Prayer Group	<i>18 August 10am in The Lady Chapel Tel. Margaret Walker 454272.</i>
Mothers' Union	Tuesday 11 August 10am Coffee Morning and Planning Committee Room the Old School Please contact Ros Thunder 417103 for more details
Little Ones Church Service	Come for a story, some songs and a prayer. All welcome. Please contact Catherine Snashall for more details 01444 454712 or 07775932823.

ANSWERS TO AUGUST CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 1.ABRAM 4.LARGESS 8.ORDERLY 9.BLAZE 10.YORIC 11.EPISTLE 13.LINE 15.EASTER 17.SUDDEN 20.MOON 22.RETREAT 24.CLOTS 26.TUNER 27.ETERNAL 28.RACKETS 29.NEEDS

DOWN: 1.ACOLYTE 2.RIDER 3.MIRACLE 4.LAYMEN 5.RABBI 6.EXALTED 7.SCENE 12.PESO 14.IRMA 16.SATANIC 18.UNCLEAN 19.NESTLES 21.OTHERS 22.ROTOR 23.EERIE 25.OUNCE

Regular Events (continued)

**Royal British Legion
(Women's Section)**

No meeting in August

*Meetings take place at 2.30pm in The Old School,
Cuckfield*

**Cuckfield Crafts and
Market**

For information or to book contact Beverley Smith
01444 440274 or Jane Ravell 01444 451454

**Cuckfield Local
Market**

9.30am to 12.30pm. Food Market at The Talbot, High
Street, Cuckfield

**Cuckfield Evening
Flower Club**

14 August – Christina Payne 'Simple Pleasures'

**Cuckfield Ladies
Group**

In future we shall only meet on the first Tuesday of the
month.

No meeting in August

Please contact Jan Bryan (414891) for more details.

Solo Lunch

Please Note there is no Solo Lunch in July or August.
The next Solo Lunch will be on Sunday 13 September.
Tickets will be available from the church office from
mid August. Cost £5.

**Cuckfield
Evening WI**

August Workshop

Meetings take place at 8pm in the Old School.

**HOLY BAPTISM**

Henry David SCOTT
Georgia Lily Elizabeth SCOTT
Alexander Richard FLAGG

HOLY MATRIMONY

Thomas DJAMALUDDIN & Gloria Bamidele OMISAKEN

IN MEMORIAM

John Percy WEIR	Aged 90
Agnes Mary THORNE	Aged 92
Margory COWARD	Aged 88

August 2015 Calendar & Readings for Sunday Services

SUNDAY 2 AUGUST – NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- 8.00am Holy Communion
*Exodus 16: 2-4, 9-15; Ephesians 4: 1-16;
John 6: 24-35*
- 9.45am Family Service
- 11.00am Holy Communion (Traditional Language)
Ephesians 4: 1-16; John 6: 24-35
- 6.00pm Evening Prayer
Ecclesiasticus 42: 15-end; Hebrews 11: 17-31

SUNDAY 9 AUGUST – TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- 8.00am Holy Communion
As 9.45am
- 9.45am Parish Communion
*1 Kings 19: 4-8; Ephesians 4: 25-5: 2
John 6: 35, 41-51*
- 6.00pm Evening Communion

SUNDAY 16 AUGUST – ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- 8.00am Holy Communion
As 9.45am
- 9.45am Parish Communion
*Proverbs 9: 1-6; Ephesians 5: 15-20;
John 6: 51-58*
- 6.00pm Evening Prayer
Exodus 2: 23-3: 10; Hebrews 13: 1-15

SUNDAY 23 AUGUST – TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- 8.00am Holy Communion (Traditional Language)
As 9.45am
- 9.45am Parish Communion
*Joshua 24: 1-2a, 14-18; Ephesians 6: 10-20;
John 6: 56-69*
- 6.00pm Evening Prayer
Exodus 4: 27-5: 1; Hebrews 13: 16-21

SUNDAY 30 AUGUST – THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- 8.00am Holy Communion
As 9.45am
- 9.45am Parish Communion
*Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-9; James 1: 17-end;
Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23*
- 6.00pm Evening Prayer
Exodus 12: 21-17; Matthew 4: 23-5: 20

Holy Trinity Cuckfield

SUNDAY SERVICES & MAJOR FESTIVALS FOR THE MONTH

(SEE INSIDE)

WEEKDAY SERVICES – NORMALLY IN THE LADY CHAPEL

Monday	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday	10.15am	Holy Communion
Thursday	9.00am	Holy Communion
Friday	11.00am	Holy Communion, traditional language

FOR CHILDREN - IN THE OLD SCHOOL – SUNDAYS

Noah's Arkages 0 to 3
Children's Churchages 3 to 10
Pathfinders action for 11 to 13 year olds.
*except for 1st Sunday of each month when all join the Family Service
and during the school summer holidays.*
for details of weekday youth activities see regular events

**NEWCOMERS AND VISITORS ARE MOST WELCOME
COME AND SEE!**

**JOIN US FOR COFFEE IN THE OLD SCHOOL
AFTER 9.45 SERVICES**

Michael Maine, Vicar