



Holy Trinity Church Cuckfield

**'Making
Christ
known'**

**Parish magazine
August 2017**

50 pence

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Dear Friends,

holiday /holɪdeɪ/

noun:1. an extended period of leisure and recreation, especially one spent away from home or in travelling.

"I spent my summer holidays on a farm"

2. a short period during which the payment of instalments, tax, etc. may be suspended. "a pension holiday"

It's traditional to see a message about holidays in August magazines, and, yes, I really do hope that if you go away or merely have a quieter period during the summer, that you enter September refreshed and vibrantly set for the Autumn and the approach of Christmas. Whether you holiday on a farm or rejoice in the suspension of tax I hope you will find the experience beneficial!

The word 'holiday' gives us a clue about its origins, when days were set aside from regular work to celebrate religious customs or saints' days. When I was a child, Ascension Day was always a feast to look forward to, as we had a half-day holiday. I also clearly remember a protest by church-goers in Truro when the International Stores opened on Good Friday for the first time! Unlike our nation, the United States keeps that distinction, in that 'holidays' tend to be associated with religious commemorations (so, Christmas/Diwali/Chanukah, etc.) as opposed to 'vacation', i.e., what we call holidays. We have 'bank holidays' to further complicate things!

However, it is worth remembering that much of the Christian world keeps holy days as a reminder of events marking the life of Jesus, together with commemorating different people – saints – who are examples to us within our faith journeys. So, during August we keep the Feast of The Transfiguration of Jesus (6th), the Blessed Virgin Mary (15th), St Bartholomew (24th) the Beheading of John the Baptist (29th), as well as a host of other saints including Dominic (8th), Mary Sumner (9th), Lawrence (10th), Clare of Assisi (11th) and Maximilian Kolbe (14th) - all of whom have something to enrich our understanding of faith, as well as encouraging our own journeys. Most of us will also know people whom we regard as saints.

As the great modern Methodist hymn writer Fred Pratt Green wrote:

*Rejoice in God's Saints, today and all days!
A world without saints forgets how to praise.
In loving, in living, they prove it is true:
The way of self-giving, Lord, leads us to you.*

Have a great summer!

Love,
Michael

FROM THE VICAR'S DESK

Pilgrimage to Salisbury Cathedral Last year a goodly number of us travelled by coach to Canterbury Cathedral. I hope people will agree that we had a very lovely day. We worshipped together and enjoyed exploring the cathedral and city. This year we are travelling to Salisbury Cathedral on **Monday 11th September**, leaving Cuckfield (Whitemans Green car park) at 8.00 a.m. and Salisbury at 4.00 p.m. We will have coffee on our arrival, worship together and then explore. It is also hoped to have a guided tour of the cathedral. If you would like to join us, please contact Gill in the office. The cost will be £25 per place. Do join us.

Lunchtime Recitals during August

We have two lunchtime recitals this month as a mini summer season:

Friday, 4th August at 1.00pm: The Spike Wells Trio. I have known Spike for many years, and in his other persona (The Rev. Michael Wells) he has recently retired as the Vicar of The Church of the Annunciation, Brighton! Michael is a world-class jazz drummer, and I know that you will enjoy a wonderful hour of music!

On Friday, 11th August: John Rattenbury and Brian Ashworth (Guitars)

We are so fortunate to welcome some splendid musicians to our church, and I am most grateful to Hannah Carter and all who make this possible. Please do make our Lunchtime Recital Series widely known within the locality.

Advanced notice – On Friday, September 1st the Lunchtime Recital will be given by King Henry's Consort – recorder group.

Confirmation It is my intention to hold a course of preparation for Confirmation after Easter next year (2018), the service hopefully taking place around Pentecost. Please do let Gill know if you are interested, and we will be in touch with dates

in the new year. Both adults and children will be most welcome to take this next important step on their Christian journey.

Stewardship I just wanted to say that we will be addressing Stewardship over the next few months – something every church community should do regularly. On **Sunday, September 17th** our campaign will be launched. There will be an opportunity to return pledges on **Sunday, October 22nd**, when we will celebrate the life of our church community together with that of Cuckfield in general. More details in next month's magazine!

Finally ... just few other important dates for the Autumn!

Sunday, 24th September – our 9.45 Eucharist will have a focus on our missionary outreach – particularly as we have been able to reinstate giving on this front.

Saturday, 30th September – Harvest Barn Dance in church @ 5.00pm with a live band and bring and share supper.

Saturday, October 21st – Indian Supper and entertainment in the Old School in aid of Family Support Work.

Further details to follow.

A unique perspective on membership of the Anglican Communion:

The late, lamented Robin Williams (star of many films including *Dead Poets Society*, *Good Morning, Vietnam* and *Mrs. Doubtfire*) remained a faithful member of the American Episcopal (Anglican) Church until his death in 2014. Here is a list as could only have been put together by him:

Top 10 Reasons to be an Episcopalian

10. No snake handling.
9. You can believe in dinosaurs.
8. Male and female God created them; male and female we ordain them.
7. You don't have to check your brains at the door.
6. Pew aerobics.
5. Church year is colour-coded.
4. Free wine on Sunday.
3. All of the pageantry - none of the guilt.
2. You don't have to know how to swim to get baptized.

And the Number One reason to be an Episcopalian:

1. No matter what you believe, there's bound to be at least one other Episcopalian who agrees with you.

SAINT FOR THE MONTH: ST BARTHOLOMEW

FEAST DAY 24TH AUGUST

As Michael comments in this month's Letter, there are many 'holy-days' which fall in August and one of the most important, in times of yore at least, is the Feast of St Bartholomew, someone we know very little about. He is named 'Bartholomew' in the Synoptic Gospels, but the fourth Gospel lists him as 'Nathanael'. Today's biblical scholars generally agree they are one and the same person.

Nothing is known for certain where Bartholomew exercised his calling, even less where and how he died. During the second half of the second Century, one Pantenus of Alexandria claimed to have found 'in India' a Gospel of St Matthew left there by St Bartholomew. It was written in Hebrew. The Roman Catholic calendar says he was an Apostle in 'India and Armenia', where he is supposed to have been flayed alive before being beheaded at Derbend on the Caspian Sea. His relics went via a roundabout route to Rome, where the Church of St Bartholomew-on-the-Tiber still claims to have them.

Despite this lack of information, there are many English associations with Bartholomew. We think immediately of the great church and hospital named after him in London, and Ben Jonson's play *Bartholomew Fair* reminds us of the annual fair held nearby in Smithfield Market on his feast day – 'feast' being the operative word, given the suckling pigs, cakes and ale, that were consumed in vast quantities. Including Crowland Abbey, there are 165 parishes named for Bartholomew in their dedication – one of the best known being St Bartholomew's in Brighton, also incidentally the tallest (and some might add the highest!) church in England.

Where does all this come from? Three separate and unrelated events help to explain it.

During the 11th Century, one of St Bartholomew's arms was given to Canterbury Cathedral by King Cnut's wife, Queen Emma. Records of the period hail this as a sensational acquisition, worth a fortune in pilgrim income: it undoubtedly contributed to the spread of his cult in England, as did his appearance in the *Life of Guthlac* by Felix, a worthy best-seller of the period.

The manner of his martyrdom also gives him his most usual emblem, the flaying knife. By association with his fate, he was regarded by the medieval guilds as the patron saint of tanners and all who worked with skins – a connection that helps to explain his association with Smithfield.

A second and even more significant event forever associated with Bartholomew was the massacre of Protestant Huguenots throughout France from the early hours of St Bartholomew's Day, 1572. Ordered by King Charles IX on the prompting of his infamous mother, Catherine de Medici, the massacre was meant to head off the marriage of her daughter to the Huguenot Duc de Navarre, something which would have put in jeopardy the French throne's allegiance to Rome. Many of the Huguenots who fled France as refugee migrants came to London and reinforced the Smithfield devotion to St Bartholomew.

The third reason for so many English associations with St Bartholomew is more recent: Brighton St Bartholomew's and many of the other Victorian parish churches that take his name were founded by the High Church Oxford Movement. The intention was to use saints' names that emphasised the continuity of the Anglican Church from the very earliest pre-Reformation fathers and saints. As a First Century Apostle, St Bartholomew could be rated among the oldest and the most venerable.

So well known, with so little to know about him, how best should Bartholomew be remembered today?

His association with dismembering and flaying; the unavoidable connection with the massacre in France; his later attraction to many artists as a patron saint of suffering; the uncertainty of his own death: all these things perhaps help to make him the patron saint of countless other unknown and unsung victims of religious persecution, terrorism and atrocity.

That his feast day should be on 24th August, in high summer, serves to remind us in Shakespeare's phrase to 'beware the bright day that brings forth the adder'.

David Thunder

WE'RE ALL THEOLOGAINS NOW – EVEN THE 'NONES'

In his Vicar's letter in July's magazine, Michael referred to the growing number of 'nones' in the USA – those who identify as having no religion. This is supported by the findings of a 2016 YouGov poll carried out by Lancaster University, that some 46% of the UK adult population now assert that they are 'nones'. No religion is the new religion! On the other hand, we are not becoming secular: the research suggests that only a quarter of us are confident there is no God, and most 'nones' are not atheists.

We live in an age which is increasingly suspicious of authority, shy of declarations of certainty and critical of hypocrisy, yet these may be precisely the characteristics of the institutional Church as perceived by many. But the Church as the body of Christ has always been – and will continue to be – Christ's Hospital, full of imperfect human beings on a journey in search of something or someone beyond themselves.

Few would deny the existence of experiences that they find in some sense spiritually enriching, whether through art, music, science, literature or the minutiae or grandeur of nature. Have you never marvelled at the perfectly formed fingers of a new-born baby? What impels the author of a totally secular guidebook to the Burgundy region of France to describe the small village church of Taizé as 'dense with prayer'? Why is it that when we are confronted with accident, ill-health or the death of a friend or relative we are left searching for a deeper narrative to underpin our life? And what of the many acts of kindness, love, altruism and self-sacrifice that so contradict Richard Dawkins' concept of 'the selfish gene'?

What words can we use in describing these life experiences? The 'other, the 'more', the 'beyond'? The numinous or transcendent? A mystery? Or, simply, 'God'. When we try, we're 'doing theology' – which is just 'God-talk'. And it is not only the province of the professional scholar or cleric – or even the avowed Christian.

Five hundred years ago on 31 October 1517, the scholar, priest and monk Martin Luther sent to the Archbishop of Mainz (and just maybe also nailed to the door of Wittenberg Church) his 95 theses

(continued on page 11)

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(continued from page 8)

condemning the Church's practice of offering indulgences (promises of speedy entry to heaven in exchange for a suitable cash donation). His was a visible tip of the Reformation iceberg which empowered the people (and in many cases also the clergy) by bringing them writings, sermons and ultimately the Bible in their own language.

Today, a new reformation may be lurking under the surface. We are rediscovering ancient spiritual wisdoms and practices: the Desert Fathers, medieval and modern mystics, Celtic spirituality. We are finding that alternative spiritualities previously dismissed under the heading of 'New Age' present valuable insights and challenges: the call to be 'green', the natures of community, self-awareness and tolerance. A raft of contemporary authors (Brian McLaren, Richard Rohr, Marcus Borg, John Prichard, Barbara Brown Taylor, to name but a few) are exploring new ways of imaging and imagining God and creation; of understanding the Bible in its historical context and its meaning for us now; of living an authentically Christian (or Christ-like) life in our increasingly pluralist and multicultural society. As in the 1500s, this is a grass-roots message that the institutional Church is slow to recognise.

If we accept the wisdom of the priest and philosopher Pierre Teilhard de Chardin that 'we are not human beings on a spiritual journey, but spiritual beings on a human journey', then that applies to the 'nones' also. It invites us to find new ways to do 'God-talk' beyond an hour or so on Sunday; it calls us to deepen our relationships with each other; and it draws us into the mystery that we could call the God-light within each of us.

At almost the same time as Luther was asserting his theses, a young soldier, Ignatius of Loyola, was seriously injured in battle. During his lengthy recuperation, the only reading material available to him was a series of religious texts on the life of Jesus and on the lives of the saints. These so inspired him that in his later life as a priest and founder of the religious order called the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) he developed his *Spiritual Exercises*, one of which is the *Examen*.

The *Examen* is a simple review of the day, which you can undertake alone or with a friend or partner. In a relaxed posture, first reflect on the events of the day which have enlivened you

(which you felt perhaps led you towards God). These are what Ignatius termed 'Consolations'. Having given thanks for these, consider those things which have deadened you (turned you away from God) – your 'Desolations'. With a bit of practice, it's possible to find a small Consolation even when you've had a really bad day! You might consider how those things you perceive as your Consolations and Desolations can be used to influence choices and decisions you have to make. Share any insights, or not, as you wish. Lighting a candle can be helpful – but better not to if you are doing the *Examen* in bed. Falling asleep is a distinct possibility!

Try it! Just be open to 'the other' – you might just be surprised.

Peter Hutchinson

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Saturday 23rd September 2017

for a charity concert in aid of the **RAF Association Wings Appeal**. The concert is at Holy Trinity Church in Cuckfield at 7.30pm. Tickets are £12 each, and a supper ticket will also be available at £30, (details to be announced).

Tickets are available from 1st August from the main event sponsors **P & S Gallagher Funeral Directors**, with offices in Haywards Heath and Burgess Hill; and also from Holy Trinity Cuckfield church office, Wealden Stores in Whiteman's Green, Burgess Hill Town Council Help Point and Cottage Flowers, Sussex Road, Haywards Heath.

For further information please contact Matthew Gallagher on 01444 239869

About the band

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For additional information please visit

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/rafmusic/aboutus/shadesofbluebigband.cfm>



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- With support from the RAF Benevolent Fund we provide much needed respite care breaks for around 3,000 people
- We give 2,400 separated RAF families the chance to enjoy quality time together
- Our Miles More Minutes campaign allows over 1,600 families of RAF personnel who are serving in Afghanistan more time to talk
- Our Storybook Wings initiative helps to ease the pain of separation for over 500 children with parents serving overseas
- We assist around 46 RAF veterans or their widows/ widowers to lead safe, independent lives in our sheltered and supported housing
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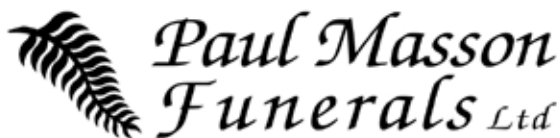
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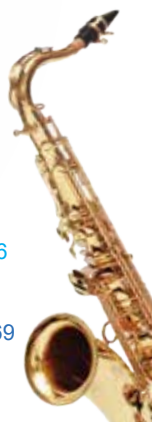
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IN MEMORIAM: ROSEMARY BAXTER

Esther Featherstone writes ...

I helped raise the money to buy a bench in memory of the lovely Rosemary Baxter. It's positioned at the top of Lindfield Common, just by where she used to walk from her home into the village.

We held a dedication on a beautiful sunny Tuesday, 4th July. I read the poem below and we talked about our dear friend - and mum (both her boys Anthony and Peter were there). The photo is one we took of the gathering ...



If we could write a story
It would be the greatest ever told
Of a kind and loving lady
Who had a heart of gold

We could write a million pages
But still be unable to say
Just how much we love and miss her
Every single day

Rosemary, we know you're nearby
And will enjoy sitting here enjoying the view
We promise to keep the natter lively
Full of laughter and love, but never blue

We love you Rosemary xxxx



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The Mother's Union summer garden party, held as ever in the lovely surroundings of Valerie Poxon's estate, is never complete with just sandwiches, tea and cake but needs the addition of one of Valerie's fiendish quizzes.

This year was no exception.

Below by way of summer entertainment for our readers is this year's version, courtesy of Valerie. Groans, inwards or audible, may be shared with Valerie in due course.

THE FAIRY TALE QUIZ

Answers may be found at the foot of the page!

1. Be careful what you wish for
2. Perpetual winter
3. Good things come in small packages
4. A century of oblivion
5. A Soviet criminal jockey
6. Sensitive and green
7. Gullible ruler
8. Vertically challenged miners
9. Royal amphibian
10. Hairdresser needed

In other news, please do join us for the **Parish Pilgrimage to Salisbury Cathedral** the MU and Michael have organised for **Monday, 11th September**, leaving Cuckfield from Whitemans Green car park at 8.00 a.m. (see *From the Vicar's desk* for more details).

ANSWERS

1. The Little Mermaid
2. The Snow Queen
3. Thumbelina
4. The Sleeping Beauty
5. Little Red Riding Hood
6. The Princess and the Pea
7. The Emperor's New Clothes
8. Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
9. The Frog Prince
10. Rapunzel



Cuckfield Museum's September talk will be on **Wednesday, 6th September at 2.30 pm** in the Council Chamber when John Cooper from the Booth Museum, Brighton will talk about

The Dinosaur Discoverers

looking at the early days of dinosaur discovery. Please book a place from Mike Nicholson on 457448 if you would like to come.

Our Autumn display will be remembering

The Great Storm of 1987

Do you have memories or significant photographs of that dramatic time? If so, we'd love to hear about them. Please phone Sue Burgess 454104 or Phillipa Malins 452307

MEPS BACK IRAQI CHRISTIANS' RIGHT TO RETURN HOME



The desecrated baptismal font at the Church of the Immaculate Conception in the Christian town of Qaraqosh near Mosul

At FRRME, we remember 29th June, 2014, very clearly. This was the day the IS Caliphate was declared in the Great Mosque in Mosul.

Three years of suffering followed - the persecution of religious minorities, including the indigenous Christian population of Iraq, the destruction of civil society, and the condemnation of IS genocide by the UK Parliament, US Government, and European Parliament.

Thankfully, charities have risen magnificently to the challenge of providing support to the persecuted, particularly to the Christians of Iraq, whose number has dwindled significantly. Recently, along with other NGOs and 60 representatives from the Iraqi Christian community, MEPs from the EPP group in the European Parliament invited us to attend a conference titled 'A Future for Christians in Iraq'.

The focal point was the establishment of a safe zone in the Nineveh Plain where Iraqi Christians can live free from persecution. The Kurdish Regional Government, a key player in reconstruction talks, has been hospitable and supportive, with a large displaced Christian population already residing in its territory, and with additional IDPs from Baghdad also welcomed.

With IS on the verge of defeat in Mosul, 40% of Iraqi Christians now wish to return home (up from 3% in 2016), but there are fears for their security.

After much discussion, an agreement was signed at the conference which fully supports Iraqi Christians' right to return home. This is a major political step forward.

While there is new political support for Iraq's beleaguered Christian community, their return to the Nineveh Plain will take time to implement as homes and businesses have been destroyed.

Meantime, Iraqi President, Haider al-Abadi, has since announced "total victory" over Islamic State in Mosul. He further declared that the mission ahead was "to create stability". Despite similar calls by Western politicians for the establishment of a pluralist society in which Iraq's different religious groups can happily co-exist, it remains to be seen whether this can be achieved.

The Iraqi Christian refugees we are caring for in Jordan have told us that their persecution began long before the arrival of Islamic State. Like many of Iraq's minority religious groups, they lived in isolated pockets, often surrounded by Sunni and Shia populations hostile to their presence. Even the Kurds, who have provided a safe haven of sorts, have openly expressed antipathy towards the Christians.

There are some who wish to return to their homes, most vocally the Assyrian Christians who come from northern Iraq. Many of them are still languishing in IDP camps in Kurdistan. We are feeding over 6,000 of them through our relief programmes.

However, without a proper post-conflict resolution in Iraq, resettlement remains risky. Indeed, there is already talk of "Islamic State 2.0" rising from the ashes of defeat. What then for the Christians?

The fate of Iraq's Christians still hangs in the balance and we need all the support we can get to help those brothers and sisters who are relying on us for food, shelter and health care. Please join us in our mission. In the meantime, we will continue to provide for the Iraqi refugees in our care. In June, we contributed £2,710 to the Nazarene Church in Amman, which is one of four church partners with whom we are working in Jordan. This money helped feed 263 refugee families, 90% of whom are Christian. Our support also pays for activities for the refugees, including Bible study and play groups for the children.

Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East, PO Box 229, Petersfield, Hampshire GU32 9DL United Kingdom

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CUCKFIELD MAGAZINE AUGUST 1917

PARISH NOTES

The Roll of Honour – The roll of the Cuckfield men who have made the supreme sacrifice for their King and Country grows sadly long, and we have now to add five more names to that list. After a very long interval the news has been received that Private George Murrell, The Queen's, Royal West Surrey Regiment, died on January 17th, a prisoner of war in Germany. He was captured by the enemy on November 16th, and it is interesting to know that Arthur Harding was talking to him on the same evening that he "went over the top." On June 17th Arthur E. Holden, Royal Sussex Regiment, died in hospital in France. On June 16th Private Alfred Uwins Penniford, London Regiment, was killed in action; and on June 27th James Attree, R.F.A., whose parents formerly resided at the Old Mill, was killed while serving his gun. We wish to offer our sincere sympathy to the relations and friends of these brave men who have given their lives to defend us. The Vicar proposes to have another Memorial Service on the evening of the second Sunday in September, and of this due notice will be given.

Just as we are going to press the sad news has arrived that Lance-Corporal Cecil Bowell, Royal Engineers, died, on July 22nd, in hospital at Basrah, Persian Gulf. He enlisted in 1913 and served in the Expeditionary Force on the Western Front, where he was wounded at Hill 60. He was invalided home, and, after he was convalescent, he volunteered for Mesopotamia. He was with the Army which captured Baghdad, and he was slightly wounded. It would appear that while there he had a sunstroke, and was taken down to Basrah, where he died. We wish to express our great sympathy with Mr. and Mrs. Bowell in their sorrow.

We have also heard, with great regret, that Canon and Mrs. Fisher are in great anxiety about their son, 2nd Lieutenant Wilfrid Fisher, Royal Sussex Regiment, who has been reported missing since July 20th. No news has been received of him, but we may hope that he is alive and well, though possibly a prisoner in the hands of the Germans.

We are sorry to hear that Private F. Backshall has been invalided home suffering from trench fever, and is now in hospital at Colchester, but he hopes to be well enough to come home soon. Private Edward E. Dancy, who was wounded some months ago, is still in hospital in Egypt, and is now suffering from dysentery. The reports which have been received from other Cuckfield men who are sick or wounded have been, on the whole, satisfactory.

Turning to the brighter side of things we have been glad to welcome home on leave several of our Cuckfield men, including 2nd Lieutenant Gilbert Denman, R.F.C., and Private Arthur Harding, Royal Sussex Regiment, both of whom are well and in good spirits. We are pleased to hear that Frank Knight, the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Knight, of 'St. Omer', has been promoted to a Chief Motor Mechanic in the R.N. Motor Boat Reserve.

We are not likely to forget the grand part which the brave men of our merchant service are taking in this terrible war, and we have heard with great interest the account of the experiences of Walter Trill, who, though not actually a native of Cuckfield, has made it his home for the past ten years, and is well known to very many. We are not allowed to give more than a meagre account of his adventures, but we can say that he was serving as an apprentice on a great cargo boat which was torpedoed and sunk a long distance from land. Walter Trill, who had been on watch during the night, was asleep when the shock came and was very lightly clad when he had to get into the boat. There were four boats altogether, and they managed to keep together for three days and they got separated. For six days and five nights they were exposed to the mercy of the seas before they were picked up by a patrol boat and landed at a port in the west of Ireland, where they were treated with great kindness. When they were rescued they were in a state of great exhaustion from exposure and want of food and water. We are glad to say that Walter Trill has now quite recovered and is only anxious to get another ship to go to sea again.

Mr. R. A. Bevan – The long continued and serious illness of Mr. R. A. Bevan is causing grave concern and anxiety to his many friends in Cuckfield, and he certainly has our earnest prayers and good wishes for his recovery.

The Great Anniversary – We need not again specify the services which will be held at the Parish Church on this day, but we sincerely hope that the day will be observed in Cuckfield, as it will be in all parts of the country and of the Empire, and that, although it will be a Saturday, very many will be able to attend the services.

St. John's, Ansty – We cannot speak too highly of the good work which has been done for so many years by **Miss Louisa Best** in connection with the Mission Church at Ansty. Among other good works she has acted as organist, but she now finds that she cannot keep it on, especially during the summer months, as well as her Sunday School Class. We are glad to take this opportunity of saying how grateful we are to her for her valuable help. Mrs. Lampson and Mrs. F. Hounsell have kindly undertaken to play on alternate Sundays at the evening services, and we are very glad to have their assistance.

The Day Schools – The Day Schools will close on Wednesday, August 1st, for the summer holidays, which will last until Tuesday, Sept. 4th.

The Managers have received, with great regret, the resignation of Mrs. Claude Rowland, who is leaving us in order to take up National Service work. She has taught in our Schools for the long period of twenty years, and during all that time she has shewn herself a loyal and pleasant worker and also a painstaking and conscientious teacher, who has done her best for the little ones put under her care. She has the best wishes of us all for her happiness in her new work.

The Sunday School – The Sunday School will not meet during August, nor will there be any Children's Service, but both will recommence on the first Sunday in September. Children who attend either the morning or evening service on the Sundays can obtain the stamps for their albums.

According to the system which we have now adopted, prizes are given to the children whenever they obtain a certain fixed number of marks.

The Church Army – By request of the Chief Secretary of the Church Army a leaflet will be issued with this Magazine, giving an account of the work which is being done by that organization on the Western Front. We have no doubt that it will be of great interest to our readers.

Missions to Seamen – The Rev. G. F. Wilson, the General Superintendent of the Missions to Seamen, wishes to express his sincere gratitude for the generous response which was made to his appeal on July 8th, and also for the sum of £14-3s. which has been received since then in gifts from members of the congregation.



Sussex
Wildlife Trust

MARSH FROGS:

LAUGHING ALL THE WAY TO THE RIVERBANK

A summer evening stroll past the damper areas in the east of our county is not for the paranoid or insecure. You could be mistaken for thinking that the very marshes, ditches and ponds are mocking you as an incredible quacking, cackling chorus fills the air growing more and more hysterical. This is the song of the marsh frog.

The frogs, hidden from sight, inflate two vocal sacs making them look like they are blowing bubble-gum out of their ears. Guttural guffaws are amplified by these sacs and broadcast. Their loud laughter is contagious. Once one frog proudly proclaims his

(continued on page 35)



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place in the pond with a raucous whoa-aa-aa-aa his neighbour is compelled to respond and soon the entire marsh is whoa-aa-aa-aa-ing like a bawdy comedy night at a working man's club. Holding the title of Europe's largest frog, the marsh frog is 50% bigger than Britain's native common frogs. Full grown adults are a reassuringly Kermit-like green.

Unlike our native frogs they never stray too far from water. Marsh frogs are either in it, on it, or sat close to it. They are alert and wary and, as you approach, these acrobatic amphibians will launch themselves into the air and belly flop with a plop into the water. But sit still by the water's edge and inquisitive bulging eyes will soon reappear at the surface. Their wariness is warranted. Herons, egrets and grass snakes prowl the ditches hoping for a frog in their throat.

Marsh frogs are only found in a few places in Britain, and East Sussex is a hot spot for this cold-blooded animal. But they shouldn't be here. These green-skinned aliens have been introduced by man. Or, to be more precise, Mr E.P Smith of Stone-in-Oxney, Kent. Mr Smith, Conservative MP for Ashford, seems to have had a very tolerant and progressive view towards immigration and released twelve of these Hungarian marsh frogs into his garden pond in 1935. It wasn't long before the warty dozen had multiplied and, by the 1960s, all of neighbouring Romney Marsh rang with the sound of laughter.

From there it was just a short hop into Sussex and over the decades the march of the marsh frog has continued, sometimes 'helpfully' assisted by humans. One Sussex herpetologist, in order to study them more closely, moved some marsh frogs one Friday afternoon from Lewes to his suburban Burgess Hill garden pond. On Monday morning, he was served a noise abatement order by the council. They don't tolerate laughter in Burgess Hill. Marsh frogs will also respond to human laughter so, if you fancy a laugh, head to the marshes. Smile and the world smiles with you. Laugh and a marsh frog laughs at you.

Michael Blencowe Sussex Wildlife Trust
www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk

AUGUST GARDEN NOTES

Traditionally a holiday month - but plenty to do if you are at home or not away for long.

Pruning jobs include those you may not have done last month -Deutzia, Philadelphus, Kerria, Weigelia, Escallonia and some Spiraeas, removing any very old wood, diseased or crossing over branches and reducing new growth by as much as 2/3rds depending on the size you wish to keep your bushes.

Also, Wisteria, tying in branches to extend the framework and shortening side shoots to 4 or 5 leaves. Rambling roses need pruning, too. For those that produce strong, long new basal shoots, tie those in as near to horizontal as possible and cut out the old ones that have flowered. If there are too few new canes, keep one or two of the strongest old ones and cut back their side shoots to 4-6 inches. Some varieties like Albertine produce very few new shoots from the base. Most arise from the old wood. Cut out one or two of the oldest shoots and tie in any new ones. Other old stems should be cut back to a point where a strong new shoot originates.

Continue dead heading blooms of bush roses and keep watered in dry conditions to reduce the incidence of mildew (some varieties are more prone than others).

Dead head herbaceous plants as they finish flowering including pond reeds and rushes where you have them to prevent seeding.

Propagation for the green-fingered includes pelargoniums, heathers and many shrubs, choosing semi-ripe wood, and placing in sand or grit-based compost for rooting. Rhododendrons, Azaleas and Hydrangeas can be layered, bending down flexible young shoots to soil level, securing with a hooped peg, and covering with a little soil. Do not disturb until late spring!

For those with vegetable gardens, lift onions once the tops have died down, dig first and second early potatoes, and watch for blight on any main crop foliage. Sow spring cabbage, winter spinach, winter radish and turnips. Fruit-wise, strawberries will have produced runners which need either removing or cutting off and replanting to form a new bed (advisable where the old plants are 3 or more years old). Prune black and redcurrants, also summer raspberries when they have finished cropping, cutting out the old fruiting wood and tying in the new.

Spring bulb catalogues will be out so peruse and purchase ready for autumn planting!

Some plants to enjoy this month and consider if you want more colour in August are *Caryopteris clandonensis*, *Ceratostigma willmottianum*, *Clerodendrum trichotomum*, *Agapanthus*, *Aster frikartii* “wonder of Staffa”, *Cimicifuga cordifolia*, *Tropaeolum speciosum* and *Tricyrtis formosana*.

Lindsay Shurvell

WHAT'S ON AT THE CATHEDRAL



CONCERT:

Friday 11th August 1.10pm - Lunchtime Concert: **Eton Choral Courses**

EXHIBITION IN THE NORTH TRANSEPT:

Until Thursday 17th August, open daily with free entry:

‘400 Days’ and ‘Alternative Values’

An exhibition by poet and artist, Frieda Hughes. A unique opportunity to see 400 paintings created over 400 Days.

OTHER EVENTS:

Until Sunday 13th August, open daily

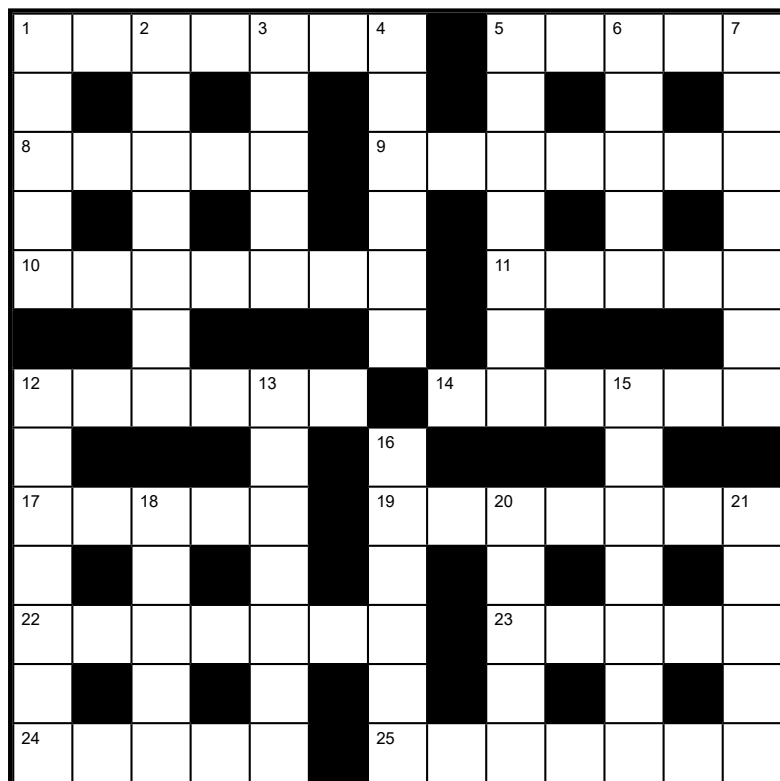
Southern Ceramic Group – Exhibition in the Bishop’s Kitchen

Tuesday 22nd August, 10.00am – 3.00pm

Family Activities: Beside the Seaside!

Join us to create your own shark hat, fish mask, seahorse, octopus or jellyfish. Track down some of the many things linked to the seaside in the Cathedral by following a trail before collecting a prize on completion from the shop. £2.50 per child. no need to **book just drop in.**

August Crossword



CLUES ACROSS:

1. CONSTITUTION (7)
5. HAUL (5)
8. UNIT OF WEIGHT FOR PRECIOUS STONES (5)
9. FORETELLER OF THE FUTURE (7)
10. THE OFFICE OF A CHURCH OFFICIAL (7)
11. CRIMINAL OFFENCE (5)
12. OT BOOK (6)
14. CLIMB (6)
17. PRAISE (5)
19. REPLIES (7)
22. RUSHES IN (7)
23. FOR THE PRESENT (5)
24. FEUDAL LORD (5)
25. PIERCED WITH MANY HOLES (7)

CLUES DOWN:

1. COVERED (5)
2. TWO ALONGSIDE (7)
3. CHURCH TRIBUTE (5)
4. RETURNS (6)
5. EASTERN PIPES (7)
6. GREENFLY (5)
7. DIED OUT (7)
12. ANOTHER BOOK FROM THE BIBLE (7)
13. OBSCURE (7)
15. EVERLASTING (7)
16. EMPEROR (6)
18. '-----' IN ONE (5)
20. CHURCHES GOVERNING BODY (5)
21. RATE (5)

(Answers on page 41)

MAP OF CUCKFIELD

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**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
30 August
Ansty Garden Club**

The Native Orchids of Sussex, Surrey, Kent and Sutherland by Peter Lovett 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: Amanda Hulejczuk 01273970183

ANSWERS TO AUGUST CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 1. CHARTER 5. HEAVE 8. KARAT 9. PROPHET 10. DEANERY 11. ARSON 12. ESTHER 14. ASCENT 17. EXTOL 19. ANSWERS 22. IRRUPTS 23. NONCE 24. LIEGE 25. RIDDLED

DOWN: 1. CAKED 2. ABREAST 3. TITHE 4. REPAYS 5. HOOKAHS 6. APHIS 7. EXTINCT 12. EZEKIEL 13. ECLIPSE 15. ETERNAL 16. CAESER 18. THREE 20. SYNOD 21. SPEED

Regular Events

Bellringers	Friday evenings 7.45–9.15pm.
Choir	Choir practice Friday evenings 7.30 for 7.45-9pm. (There are no practices during August)
Holy Trinity Mens Group	August – No Meeting For more information contact Clive Simmonds 01444 454481 or email: clivesimmonds@btinternet.com
Home Groups	<i>Alternate Thursday Evenings (2 groups), 8pm</i> call Clive & Isobel Simmonds 01444 454481 Tuesday, 8.00pm (in term time). David and Ros Thunder, Wayfarers, South Street, Tel. 417103.
Prayer Group	15 August 10am in the Lady Chapel Tel. Margaret Walker 454272.
Mothers' Union	Wednesday August 9 th 10.30am in Church Mary Sumner Day Eucharist followed by planning meeting Please contact Ros Thunder 417103 for more details
Little Ones Church Service	First Tuesday of the month at 11am. Come for a story, some songs and a prayer. All welcome. Please contact Catherine Snashall for more details 01444 454712 or 07775932823.

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 (continued)

Royal British Legion (Women's Section)	<i>August – No meeting Meetings take place at 2.30pm in The Old School, Cuckfield</i>
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. (Monthly)
Cuckfield Evening Flower Club	11 August - Outing
Cuckfield Ladies Group	August – No meeting
Solo Tea	The next Solo Lunch will be on 10 September. Tickets £5 available from the Church office
Cuckfield Evening WI	August – Meal & Golf Fashion at Haywards Heath Golf Club Meetings from September take place at 7.30pm at the Cuckfield Baptist Church, Polestub Lane



HOLY BAPTISM

Phoebe Matilda Redfern HOWELLS
Kieran Robert DILLON

HOLY MATRIMONY

Dean John PULLEN & Jemma Louise WHITE

WEDDING BLESSING

Todd William & Laura jane SCHAPERKOTTER

IN MEMORIAM

Winifred Jill DANT Aged 91

August 2017 Calendar & Readings for Sunday Services

SUNDAY 6 AUGUST – TRANSFIGURATION

- 8.00am Holy Communion
*Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14; 2 Peter 1: 16-19;
Luke 9: 28-36*
- 9.45am Family Service
- 11.00am Holy Communion (Traditional Language)
2 Peter 1: 16-19; Luke 9: 28-36
- 6.00pm Sung Evensong
Exodus 34: 29-end; 2 Corinthians Chapter 3

SUNDAY 13 AUGUST – NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- 8.00am Holy Communion (Traditional Language)
As 9.45am
- 9.45am Parish Eucharist
*1 Kings 19: 9-18; Romans 10: 5-15;
Matthew 14: 22-33*
- 6.00pm Evening Communion

SUNDAY 20 AUGUST – TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- 8.00am Holy Communion
As 9.45am
- 9.45am Parish Eucharist
*Isaiah 56: 1, 6-8; Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15: 21-28*
- 6.00pm Sung Evensong
2 Kings 4: 1-37; Acts 16: 1-15

SUNDAY 27 AUGUST – ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- 8.00am Holy Communion (Traditional Language)
As 9.45am
- 9.45am Parish Eucharist
*Isaiah 51: 1-6; Romans 12: 1-8;
Matthew 16: 13-20*
- 6.00pm Sung Evensong
2 Kings 6: 8-23; Acts 17: 15-end

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	10.30am	Holy Communion followed by Coffee & Cake
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer
Thursday	9.00am	Holy Communion
Friday	11.00am	Holy Communion, BCP
Saturday	8.45am	Morning Prayer

FOR CHILDREN - IN THE OLD SCHOOL – SUNDAYS

Noah's Ark	ages 0 to 3
Children's Church	ages 3 to 10
Xplorers	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