

ISSUE 54

MAY 2021

FREE

# Three Parishes

*Serving the Communities of Tillington, Duncton & Upwaltham*

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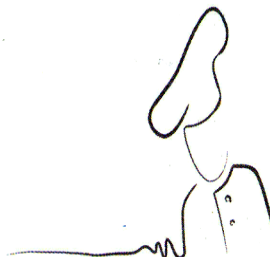
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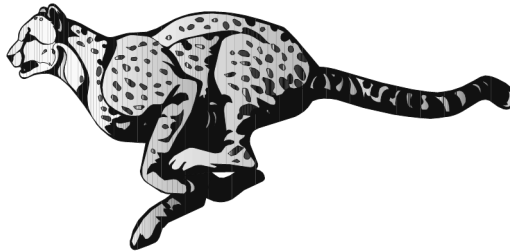
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## EDITORIAL

Perhaps it is a generational thing, but the death of Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, leaves a void in the national landscape that we've always known. He was a man of great character and huge dignity in an extremely challenging role. To have been so influential and positive in so many settings is rare - almost unique - but the part he played in serving the people of the United Kingdom for over 70 years is extraordinary, as was the support he unstintingly gave to the Queen. His interest in young people, the environment and scientific progress was constant. Images of his handsome features, bedecked in a dashing uniform or enthusiastically playing polo, gave little indication of this 'servant mentality'. He is reported by many to have taken enormous interest in whatever they were talking about, putting them at ease and giving them a sense of significance. Who knows how many lives have been encouraged and uplifted by his initiatives?

We have much to learn from the attitude and mindset of the Queen and her consort. All of us have gifts to use, and to use them in the service of others, as they have, is inspirational. We are grateful for his life and join with the nation in our thoughts and prayers for his family, particularly the Queen, as they grieve.

The editorial team would love you to tell us any short stories of your encounters with Prince Philip so that we can put them together as a tribute to his memory in the magazine.

Other tales of service and kindness of a more local nature appear in the magazine this month. Mary Connor's piece on Christopher's Angels is a joy!

Conway Churchill has written us an article on Charcoal - how little we know about so many things! School reports have an impact on children's lives, and ours, very likely. We include a little trawl through historic and well-remembered examples.

May brings more than blossom and the Dawn Chorus. To many of us it will bring eating and drinking with friends, shopping, holidays, and more light at the end of the dark Covid19 tunnel. We also hope for time to appreciate all the many and varied things that make life fun and worthwhile.

There will be a confirmation service taking place in next few months; if you are interested in being confirmed into the Church of England, please contact Rev'd David on 01798 865473.

*Cover photograph by Zoe Schaeffer*

## **FROM CHURCH COTTAGE, 532D TILLINGTON**

Our joyful, and well-attended, Easter services are behind us, our gardens are looking inviting and the merry, merry month of May beckons. I have heard no news of a May Queen, nor of socially distanced Morris dancing or a May pole, but we have some weddings fast approaching. Hurrah!

I like burying vegetable seeds in compost on these longer and lighter evenings and am always cheered by the start of the domestic cricket season. A creature of habit, I have already been studying my 2021 Playfair Annual in anticipation of spending some of my days off this summer watching from under my sun hat (or umbrella) at Lords or The Oval, Hove or even Arundel, provided the fixtures and weather are favourable. Call me Billy No-Mates if you wish – I can take it - but I have never minded watching county cricket on my own. Sandwiches in a Tupperware box, a flask of coffee and a newspaper are all I need for a good day out these days. Living the dream, eh?

The Duke of Edinburgh's death was marked properly in our villages, with flags at half-mast, opportunities for quiet prayers of thanksgiving for a long life lived well, and hearing the National Anthem at the church services on 11 April. Over the years, I imagine that we have all smiled at the odd gaffe or two, but, as I tried to reflect in my sermons on that day, which of us would have traded our lives for Prince Philip's? He was always in the public eye, with schedules defined much more by duty than by choice. Not me, for sure. If you are the praying sort, please keep him, the Queen and the Royal Family in your prayers.

During May, we celebrate three key Christian festivals: first, we have Ascension Day on 13 May, followed by Pentecost – better known as Whit Sunday by those of a certain vintage – on 23 May. And then we have Trinity Sunday on 30 May, to be celebrated in a five-parish service outside at Holy Trinity Duncton (where else would we gather on Trinity Sunday?), at 10.30am.

You are warmly invited to all the services listed elsewhere in the magazine, but especially to our Trinity Sunday service. By that time, we should be able to car-share and I will provide some suggestions for Duncton parking in my weekly email – please contact me if you would like to receive this – ahead of the service. It is a great chance for folk from the five churches to get together for worship, followed by a natter and coffee. Bring picnic chairs, rugs etc and we shall enjoy the sense of being one church family across five beautiful villages.

We are holding our Annual Parochial Church Meetings this month. Please can any current worshippers feeling drawn to more active involvement in church life let me know? More labourers in the vineyard are always needed. And if you are not sure whether church is for you or not, why not give it a try this month? (In case you are wondering, yes, I am speaking to you!). The invitation of Jesus to his disciples is an invitation to all: 'Come and see'.

In friendship, *David*

## **NOTICE BOARD**

*Send your notices to  
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The Tillington and Duncton Facebook pages have proved useful  
for some of us - use these as well.*

### **All Hallows, Tillington**

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Our All-Age Service**

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At 9.30**

**Bacon Butties from 9am**



*You may be pleased to know that there are now bathroom and kitchen  
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### **TILLINGTON MEN'S (& LADIES') BREAKFAST**

**Open to All**

**SATURDAY, 1ST MAY  
9 a.m. by Zoom**

**Rebecca Stephens MBE**

**(first lady Brit. to climb Everest)**

**On Saturday 1st May her subject is just as exciting:**

***Flying, Sailing, and Climbing in Antarctica.***

***For Zoom details, apply Gerald 01798 32151.***



## **HORSE GUARDS INN RE-OPENING**

Hi, strangers!

Well, it's been 5 months since we closed the doors and in between then and now we have had Christmas and Easter, suffered home schooling and domestic job lists ... we are most definitely ready to throw open the doors once again and welcome everyone back in with (distanced) open arms. We will be re-opening on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 11 am and, with sun in the sky and beer in the pumps, cannot wait to be back in the bosom of the community.

Opening days and times can be found on the website ([www.thehorseguardsinn.co.uk](http://www.thehorseguardsinn.co.uk)) and news will pop up on our Instagram page (@horseguardsinn). For now, any questions or bookings can be made via email to [info@thehorseguardsinn.co.uk](mailto:info@thehorseguardsinn.co.uk).

See you all very soon!

*Sam, Misha, Ben and the team.*

### **MAY WALKS**

**Monday 17 May at 10.30**

**Petworth Park: Ancient Tree Walk Part 2**



Leader: Gerald Time: 1 hour 30 minutes.

A fascinating walk through Park trees ranging from 350 to 800 years old. Petworth's ancient trees walk is dotted with magnificent oaks, limes, beeches and chestnuts. The fallow deer, long views and great trees make for a compelling walk. Meet: The Horse Guards Inn, Tillington.

**Monday 24th May – 10.30am**

**Petworth Park – Dog's Face**

**Leader:** Gerald Time: 1 hour 30 minutes Distance: 3 miles.

Come and see the fallow deer, The Monument & a surprise Dog's Face.

Meet: The Horse Guards Inn, Tillington.

Contact Gerald if uncertain on 07748 597 568. Dogs welcome on both walks.

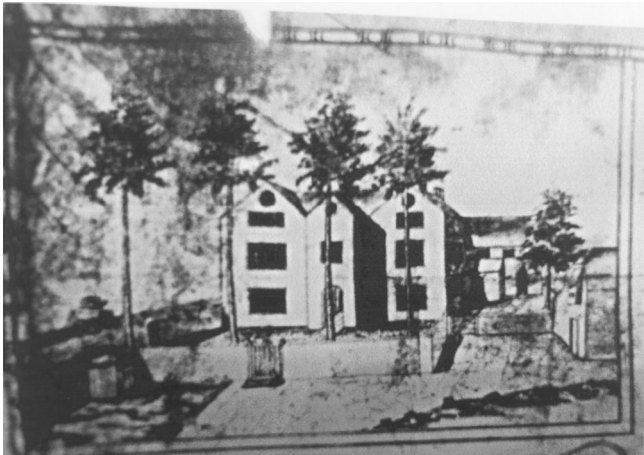
## A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE MANOR OF DEAN

The Manor of Dean stands on the outskirts of Tillington just north of the A272 and faces due west, with its Jacobean front and hints of its Tudor past at the back.

Earliest records show that a John Aske of Yorkshire paid 25 shillings to the Dean and Chapter of Chichester from the Manor of Dean in 1411. There is an early 13th Century reference to a 'Boskage' (grove or thicket) in 'la Dine' and this might be the origin of the name.

The earliest surviving fabric of the house comprises three bays of an early 16th century building - possibly a half-floored open hall house: the smoke-blackened rafters in the loft suggest a smoke bay. In 1541, the Manor was passed to John Kyme and passed through the family to John Taylor in 1611 – it is John Taylor who built the stone front of the house in 1615 and replaced much of the earlier house.

Shortly after, in 1618, it was sold to Nicholas Hardham, who became Lord of the Manor. He was succeeded by various family members until it was mortgaged to John Jewkes MP in 1737. Having passed through several owners, it was sold in 1782 to the then Earl of Egremont.



*1764 vignette in estate map*

It is only in 1800 that it became part of the Pitshill Mitford estate when there was an exchange of property between the Petworth Estate and the Pitshill Estate. For the next 150 years, the house was used by the estate, including as a laundry, four cottages, dairy and even a hay barn.



*Early 20th century photograph*

William Slade Mitford and his wife undertook extensive renovations from 1944-1948 in order to make it a home for themselves and their youngest daughter Sophie. Walls and fireplaces were removed, original features uncovered, doorways opened up and others closed, converting the house from its many functions to one single dwelling.

William was a keen gardener and worked hard to create a garden, which has been open under the National Garden Scheme for 70 years this year. Some of you will fondly remember Sophie with her many animals, visits by the Girl Guides and Evenings at the Manor.

In 2005, the house passed to James, and following fairly major repair and renovation of the house we moved in in 2010 with our three daughters. We continue slowly to repair and restore the buildings, walls and gardens, hopefully for generations to come.

The Manor of Dean today is Grade 2\* listed – largely for its historical architectural features, including the Horsham-tiled roof on the front of the house. Much of the internal house has been changed over hundreds of years but today there remains the ‘Well Hall’ with its oak panelling, a suspected priest hole and little oak-panelled room bearing the initials WMH 1659, believed to be for William and Mary Hardham. It is a quirky house with rooms off rooms, steps up, steps down, tall doors and short 4ft doors but that is all part of its charm and why we love it.

*Emma Mitford*

## THE BLACK MAGIC OF CHARCOAL

Some years ago, I swapped my business suit and laptop for chainsaw and helmet and learnt how to make charcoal during time as a volunteer for a conservation charity. Why mention this? Well, people are turning their thoughts to having barbecues with family and friends when restrictions are lifted and we are living in a post-Covid age.

Charcoal is not a recent invention and has been in use for thousands of years. It is mentioned in the Bible (John 21:1-9) and the method of production has changed very little since then. The basic principle is to extract all the water and oils from the wood in a controlled manner; shutting the kiln down by closing off air inlets and outlets before the dehydration becomes an actual burn. Choosing the correct time to shut down the kiln comes with experience but as a rule of thumb when the white smoke (mainly steam) starts to turn blue the wood in the kiln is burning and if left the kiln, when opened, will contain nothing but a pile of ash.

In the early stages of making charcoal I, along with fellow volunteers, built a kiln from an old diesel tank. It failed spectacularly when the lid warped during a burn and it became an incinerator rather than a kiln. I was told at the time that I had invented a whole new subset of expletives.

The raw material for making charcoal is pretty much any species of wood apart from pine which burns too quickly. Charcoal making is a great way to use the waste wood from coppicing and firewood production and is far more environmentally friendly than buying charcoal from your local garden centre as this is often made using endangered wood species such as mangrove, the harvesting of which in turn destroys precious natural habitat.

Charcoal is also used in the production of black powder\* as part of the corning process during which powder is graded into various particle sizes according to the use to which it will be put. I hasten to add that black powder is now used predominantly by firework producers and re-enactors. I once owned (entirely legally!) a muzzle-loading Colt .44. It was a big boy's toy and great fun to use on the Bisley ranges but it gave Flo (my wife) rather a surprise when she found it in bits in the top tray of the dishwasher!

Don't forget that, if making loud bangs is not your thing, artists use charcoal made from willow twigs and medics use activated charcoal for the treatment of alcohol poisoning, drug overdoses and insect bites. You will also find it in beauty products. Charcoal is also used in the production of silicon, a vital ingredient for our various electronic gadgets. Finally, for all the dog owners in the Parishes, give your companions charcoal biscuits, as they help deal with various digestive issues, including the emission of noxious fumes!!

*Conway Churchill*

\*Black powder and gun powder are terms that are often used interchangeably. Modern guns do use gun powder but it is smokeless and the chemical composition differs from that of black powder.



## EASTER SUNDAY

A day to mark Christ's Resurrection and what a day it proved to be. After weeks of careful discussions an outdoor service was planned with all the Covid restrictions in place - face masks, hand sanitiser and attendance list. We could but put our faith in the hope of good weather, a congregation and technical good behaviour. We were not disappointed! The sun shone, our friends and neighbours showed up, the music played and we even sang through our masks.

What a joyous occasion! The relief of holding a service and being among a congregation was emotional and exciting and provided a wonderful atmosphere. All the usual traditions were acknowledged, aided by a drama encouraging the congregation to use their imagination (necessary, as the props were minimal!) and was much appreciated by all. The well-known hymns were sung lustily and with immaculate organisation, Communion was taken without incident.

It was a delight to hear Brian Knowles playing the opening and closing music for which we thank him. Covid-friendly refreshments were served after the service, the children went on an Easter Egg/Dolly Mixture hunt and friends and neighbours were able to exchange Easter greetings.

Very well behaved children made the event a real pleasure - the adults weren't bad either! Thanks must go to David for leading us through the service so seamlessly, to Annie for linking it together, to Shelley, the actors (will the Royal Shakespeare Company be looking to recruit?) and all who helped in the setting up and organisation.

We were truly blessed and were delighted that 104 people supported this service. Their heartwarming reaction made all the hard work and organisation worthwhile. We hope to welcome many of them back for our service on 11th April, which we plan to hold in church.

*Viv Blunt*



## MY DIFFERENT HOMES

As well as living in Tillington, we also have a Dutch barge on the River Thames.

I grew up in Sussex, on Blackdown, enjoying the freedom of a rural upbringing. I spent the first part of my childhood in Blackdown House, now Blackdown Park, playing in the historic features of this spacious house and gardens. Maybe because of this experience I chose a different sort of adult home! Certainly not so spacious!

Carl and I started our married life living on a small Dutch barge, bringing her over from north Holland to our mooring near Chertsey on the Thames. As the family grew, so did the barges! Our next one was bigger, to accommodate three daughters. Finally, we have stuck to number three barge, being one hundred feet long by sixteen feet wide, with four sleeping cabins, one bathroom and two large living spaces. We also have a wheelhouse for comfortable steering in all weather conditions.

We have been living aboard Spaarnestroom for over thirty years, now just the two of us as the girls have married and made their own homes elsewhere. Spaarnestroom means "flow of the river Spaarne", which is in north Holland. She was built in approximately 1921, a purpose cargo vessel for use on canals and inland waterways on the continent. She is an engine powered boat, never sailing, with a flat bottom and no keel. We have a Daimler Benz engine, approximately eighty horse power. The cargo area is now converted to living accommodation, with all the comforts we need: an Aga for cooking and heating the water and radiators, electricity either from land power or our generator when we are moving. We own our residential mooring near Windsor with a small garden.

Spaarnestroom is a particularly beautiful Dutch barge with sweeping lines and a shapely bow and stern. She is steel built. We take her to dry dock every ten years to maintain her hull and get surveyed for insurance needs.

Our family have had a wonderful time on her, growing up and enjoying river fun activities with dinghies and trips up and down the Thames. We can take her as far upstream as Oxford and obviously out of the Thames Estuary for coastal trips. We have enjoyed a summer in France.

Carl has based his career around boats, managing a boat yard, having a barge brokerage business and navigating barges to and from British and continental places. He now, for the last twenty seven years is running a charity for people who have mental health concerns, also on a Dutch barge on the Thames at Isleworth, London.

I think it is correct to say that these historic Dutch barges can be altered to extend their existence from work to live-aboard purpose for the pleasure of their owners.

*Caroline Kirby-Turner.*



*David Miles ringing the Tenor bell at All Hallows, Tillington for HRH the Duke of Edinburgh's funeral on Saturday, 17th April.*

*In keeping with tradition, the bell was tolled 9 times, then a further 99 times, one for each year of life.*



## PET PORTRAIT



This is Ellie, who is 9 years old. She's my hairy best friend. Ellie loves morning snuggles with me, especially when I rub her tummy. She is rather cheeky and likes me to throw her sticks in the garden. Her favourite toys are her bones - she will run around showing them off to everyone!.

*Alfie Moore, aged 6*



*Certain Tillingtonians encounter Spring.* By Lee Lavington (with reference to Botticelli)

**Excerpt from Richard II**  
**by William Shakespeare**

‘ This royal throne of kings, this sceptred isle,  
This earth of majesty, this seat of Mars,  
This other Eden, demi-paradise,  
This fortress built by Nature for herself  
Against infection and the hand of war,  
This happy breed of men, this little world,  
This precious stone set in the silver sea  
Which serves it in the office of a wall  
Or as a moat defensive to a house,  
Against the envy of less happier lands -  
This blessed plot, this earth, this realm, this England.’



Socially-distanced Coffee Mornings have resumed at the Recreation Ground, Upper-ton. 11 o'clock each Wednesday, weather permitting. Bring your own chair and flask.

## REMEMBERING JEAN

My beloved wife Jean may be best remembered for her many years as Head of Art at the Herbert Shiner School. We were still surrounded at home by examples of her works of art, especially the line drawings and cartoons in which she excelled. The memories of our life together in this beautiful part of the country include taking part every year in the Sussex Historic Churches Trust's annual walk or bike rides, volunteering at the Weald and Downland Museum, which we both loved so much, and then becoming prison visitors in the 1990's.



Tillington has been so kind to us in our friendships and neighbours. Coming to Sussex from Devon after spending our honeymoon in Petworth all those years ago, Jean especially enjoyed many stage roles during our involvement with the Graffham Rustics for over 53 years. Always with cats at home and part of our lives, Tillington has been our home since 1980. The children she taught at Herbert Shiner were as family to Jean and the happy memories of volunteering, whether it was the wonderful camping trips on Herbert Shiner school expeditions which we enjoyed, or prison visiting, Jean was always happy to use her wide talents and training to good effect in the community she loved. She will be so greatly missed.

## THANK YOU

I am more grateful than I can express for the help, love and sympathy that I have received in the last three very difficult months.

After my accident on January 8<sup>th</sup> I was unaware of anything that was happening for the next four weeks or so – including Jean's death. Gradually with Fr. Mark's and other caring people's help I was able to come to terms with the loss of my wife, although this was very difficult. When I came home I had to work on my mobility before I could concentrate on Jean's funeral on March 10<sup>th</sup>. I felt the love and willingness to help me through that event from family, friends and all who were around me. I want to thank all those who helped to make the Mass worthy of the memory of Jean.

So many friends and members of St Mary's congregation – also people in Petworth and Tillington – have been so kind, looking out for me, making sure I want for nothing, and being willing to do anything to make life easier for me.

Thank you all, and I promise that I will work hard at getting better and being able to get about among you to express my gratitude personally.

*Vic Constable*

## GARDEN NOTES FOR MAY 2021

SO much to do! With no Chelsea Flower Show until September, we must remember to do the 'Chelsea Chop'. About the third week of the month cut back tall stemmed flowers about two thirds to keep them in manageable clumps, e.g. **campanulas, heleniums, catmint, sedums, phloxes and anthemis**. The phloxes will flower in early September and the catmint should not flop so much. Stake tall plants, e.g. **delphiniums**, before the soil gets too hard and the plants too leafy. Spray **roses** with a systemic fungicide to deter black spot etc. Dig deep trenches and fill with compost when you plant **sweet peas**, they are hungry plants and also need lots of water. I put stakes in a pyramid for them to climb up with pea sticks tied in halfway that Rotherhill usually sell - it saves hours of tying in those leggy shoots as they grow up the stakes.

Don't put out **bedding plants** until about the third week of this month. Put them in a sheltered place for a week to harden them off and don't forget to add water granules and fertiliser when you finally put them outside. Rule of thumb has it that any **shrubs** that flower before the end of June can be cut back after flowering as they flower on new wood. **Hibiscus** and **hydrangeas** such as 'Limelight' should be cut back only this month as they are susceptible to late frosts.

I must recommend our **Japanese quince**, *Chaemoneles x superba Cameo*. This has peach-coloured flowers and has been allowed to grow as a bush against a south-facing wall. As the flowers appear I then cut back the non-flowering new shoots as these will flower next year. They of course should be trained horizontally to show off the flowers, but I like the slightly wild look which ours has as a bush. It has been a joy to put the branches in a vase with white 'pheasant eye' narcissus. The fruit I will leave to the birds and any late butterflies in the autumn - too hard to make jelly, I always think! What a joy, too, the **early flowering cherries** have been.

Apologies for no mention of **vegetables**. There are such helpful websites, particularly on the *Gardeners World* site - my limited knowledge is a waste of time.

I would like to mention a **book** 'Rhubarb Rhubarb' by Mary Jane Paterson and Jo Thompson. Two girls go dog walking, one a cook and one a gardener. This is a fun book of them exchanging their individual ideas, which over the years has produced their wonderful assortment of gardening tips and delicious recipes. Enjoy!

*Gillie Ross.*

## FORAGER'S SEASONAL RISOTTO

If you are out walking, it is hard to miss the spikes of wild garlic leaves at the edge of woodland and on the lower slopes of the Downs. This recipe can be made with wild garlic leaves and the young, fresh tops of stinging nettles (wear gloves when picking the nettles). You need to collect around 200 grams of the leaves – a half-and-half nettles and wild garlic leaves combination works best. This emerald-bright fresh seasonal risotto makes an accompaniment to a meat dish for 4 people or would serve 2 as a lunch on its own.

### *Ingredients*

Around 200 grams of roughly chopped young nettle tops and wild garlic leaves (avoiding any stalks)  
1 tablespoon of olive oil  
A good knob of butter  
Half a medium onion, finely chopped  
1 garlic clove crushed and finely chopped  
400 grams of bomba, arborio or carnaroli rice  
1 glass of dry white wine  
1 litre of chicken or vegetable stock  
30 grams of Parmesan cheese finely grated plus extra shavings to top the risotto  
Salt and black pepper

*Signature Recipe*

### *Method*

Blanch the nettle tops in boiling water for half a minute (takes away the sting), then drain and plunge into cold water to keep the brilliant green colour, drain again and squeeze out all the water.

Puree all the leaves (nettle and wild garlic) to a paste with half of the olive oil in a food processor and set aside. Melt the butter in a large frying pan together with the rest of the olive oil and cook the onion and garlic gently until translucent and soft. Add the rice to the frying pan, stirring it well to coat with the oil. Pour in the glass of white wine and slowly add the stock, stirring the risotto and adding stock gradually as it is absorbed by the rice until the rice is cooked soft through and the risotto is thick and slightly sticky.

Finally add the nettle and garlic leaf paste, stirring it in well to produce a lovely green colour, and remove at once from the heat. Season with salt and ground black pepper and add in the grated Parmesan.

Spoon onto warmed serving bowls or plates and then garnish each with a couple of the pretty white wild garlic flowers or buds and some Parmesan shavings before serving.

*Guy Shepherd*



## MY DESERT ISLAND DISCS

by  
*Angela Gresham Cooke*

1. **Berliner Luft:** A Germanic marching song which takes me back to being a teenager in Berlin. I heard it again on the car radio four years after my parents had died and was overwhelmed with grief.
2. **Kalinka (The Red Army Choir):** A wonderful reminder of my brothers and I trying to do the Russian dance and failing!
3. **Rachmaninov 2<sup>nd</sup> Piano Concerto:** A piece which which when I listen takes me to deep places - I just love it.
4. **Caccini, Ave Maria:** A wonderful piece that we sing with the Leconfield Choir, very often as an encore. Many happy memories of tours and the people in the Choir.
5. **‘Lacrimosa’ from Mozart’s Requiem:** actually, almost anything from the Requiem, as it reminds me of a wonderful week in Vienna singing this piece at midnight in a very cold Karlskirche.
6. **Dusty Springfield, You Don’t Have to Say You Love Me:** The first time I heard this was in the HMV shop in Oxford Street - even now I can recognize it after the first two chords.
7. **10,000 Reasons (Matt Redman):** Almost too much to say, the words sum up my life.
8. **Elgar, Dream of Gerontius** – “Go forth upon your journey Christian soul.” This says it all for me and I would very much like it played at my funeral!!

Luxury item: A fishing rod that doesn’t mind salt water and is strong enough to land what I can catch!

My book would need to be Matthew Henry’s commentary on the Bible, which hopefully will contain a concordance.



**TILLINGTON, DUNCTON AND UPWALTHAM CHURCH SERVICES**  
**DURING MAY 2021**

	<b>All Hallows Church, Tillington</b>	<b>Holy Trinity Church, Dunton</b>	<b>St Mary's Church, Upwaltham</b>
<b>Fifth Sunday of Easter, 2 May</b> 9am	Breakfast Church, followed by All-age Service at 9.30am		
<b>Sixth Sunday of Easter, 9 May</b> 9.30am	Parish Communion		
11am		Family Communion	
<b>Ascension Day, 13 May, 7.30pm,</b> Festal Eucharist at St Mary's, Fittleworth			
<b>Sunday after Ascension Day, 16 May</b> 9.30am	BCP Holy Communion		
11.30am			Country Service, <u>followed by APCM</u>
6pm	Evening Prayer, online. <u>Followed by Tillington APCM at 6.45pm on Zoom.</u> Please contact David to register for his weekly email with Zoom links.		
<b>Pentecost/Whit Sunday, 23 May</b> 9.30am	Morning Prayer and Praise		
10.30am		BCP Holy Communion	
<b>Trinity Sunday, 30 May</b> 10.30am		Five-parish <u>out-door</u> Communion service	

# Kids' Pages

# MAY



## May

©DESIGNALIKE



All these pictures are connected with the word May

Do you think you can work out what word goes with which picture ?

Mayflower,

May fly,

May pole,

May ball,

May bug,

May Day,

Mayday– mayday

What is the name of this ship? It carried 102 passengers across the Atlantic



Mayday!!  
Mayday!!  
Mayday!..



Why is he saying, Mayday, Mayday? See if you can find out.



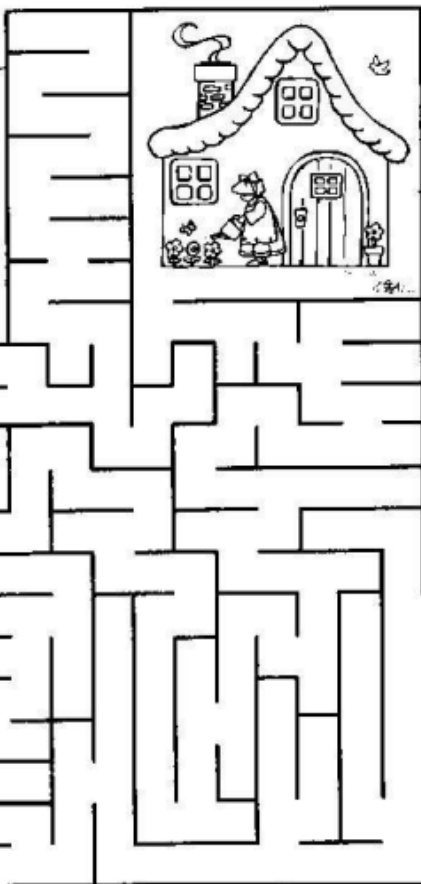
Why is the 4th of May Star Wars day?

May the fourth be with you.





Help Mary find the way home.



## ADDITIONAL SERVICES IN OUR GROUP DURING MAY

**2 May:** 9.30am Parish Communion at Fittleworth; 11am BCP Holy Communion at Stopham, followed by APCM at 12 noon

**9 May:** 8am BCP Holy Communion at Fittleworth; 9.30am Family Service at Fittleworth, followed by APCM at 10.45am; 6pm BCP Evensong at Stopham

**16 May:** 9.30am Parish Communion at Fittleworth; 11am BCP Holy Communion at Stopham

**23 May:** 9.30am Parish Communion at Fittleworth; 11am BCP Matins at Stopham

**30 May:** 6pm BCP Evensong at Stopham

NB Duncton APCM will be held on **26 May** at 6pm, via Zoom

David Crook, Priest-in-Charge  
(david.crook15@btinternet.com; 01798 865473)

*NB: It is proposed that details of Sidesmen and Readers as well as Flower and Cleaning rotas be resumed next month.*

### RAINFALL for March 2021

<b>Year</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Year Total</b>
2021	36mms	226mms
2020	47mms	245mms
2019	74mms	176mms
2018	142mms	288mms
2017	61mms	238mms
2016	95mms	348mms

So far this month we have had no significant amount of rain.

*John Mayes, Haymarsh 01798 368345*

## CHRISTOPHER'S ANGELS

For us all the past 12 months have been unprecedented. Whether as parents with young children doing home schooling, those living alone (no matter their age), anyone with far flung friends and family, those with nearest and dearest requiring care or living in care homes (and these are just some examples); every situation has presented its own unique challenges and difficulties. A by-product of these times has been hearing how so many people nationwide have been supporting others. Tillington is a great example of this. It's a community "rowing in" to support others with greater needs than themselves. These people are "Christopher's Angels": I will explain.

A lot of people in Tillington know George Warren and Gerry Castle, brothers-in-law aged 97 and 98 respectively. At the start of the lockdown, their good friends got together to figure out how to support them during this restrictive period. There is shopping, medicines to be arranged, cleaning, cooking, house repairs; just all the normal everyday things that most of us take for granted, but that very quickly required extra organisation. Leading the charge continues to be Carolyn Purnell, who keeps on top of all the requirements. Amazing. Then there are Jenny Williams and Shelley Fergusson who are Carolyn's "quarterbacks". They are always on hand to do the necessary and are always pre-empting what is required. Each of them has had their own personal situations to manage throughout but yet have somehow managed to find time for these wonderful guys, always doing everything with good heart.

Between them and many others, they have managed to maintain a normal life for George and Gerry throughout; retaining their routine which is so important at their great ages. The main daily event for George and Gerry is their evening dinner. The ritual is the same every evening. George gets to Gerry's for 18.30. The table is laid out with placemats, napkins in holders, gin and tonic at the ready (Gerry) and dry sherry (George), with red wine to accompany the dinner. Whenever anyone delivers food or indeed does anything for them, they are beyond delighted, and Gerry always says "You are one of Christopher's Angels".

Every night around 18.00, I see from my kitchen window George being escorted to Gerry's by the delightful Daisy Hodd, who ensures George is delivered to Gerry's safely. Each night I hear their voices as they pass. They are chatting, giggling and laughing, like the best of friends do. I reflected that there must be about 70+ years age difference between Daisy and George, yet that makes absolutely no difference to their camaraderie as they inch up to Gerry's. I have found this very endearing to watch and it has become a highlight of my day (and my husband Jez's too). I was relaying this vignette to a friend in Ireland, whereupon she said, "Now I am worried about how George gets home".



I replied “There is a 3-week rota where, every evening around 21.00, one of 3 fine strapping men, 22 years upwards, and ranging in height from 6’2” to 6’7”, come to escort George home” and then added, “God, I can’t wait to be 97!”. Patrick Atkins, Pat Phillips and Harry Compton are the “wing” men and more of Christopher’s Angels.

We know there are many more people in Tillington supporting and looking out for others. These people quietly and surreptitiously provide care in many, many ways e.g. shopping, taking to medical appointments and DIY. It has not gone unnoticed. You know who you are, and some of us know who you are too. You are also Christopher’s Angels.

*Mary Connor*

### **GREETINGS FROM THE CRICKETERS!**

As this edition of the newsletter goes to press, we have just thrown open the doors to our beautiful gardens and have started to welcome back our amazing customers & friends. It seems an age since Christmas Eve when we once again closed our doors, but we have busied ourselves yet again with paintbrushes & tools, in between the home-schooling and You-Tube yoga!

Our gardens and letting rooms re-opened on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April. The bar is open all day and food served 12-3 and 6-8:30 Tuesday – Friday, 12-8:30 Saturday and 12-4 Sunday. Brunch is served from 10-12pm Tuesday – Saturday and cream teas are available every afternoon, as well as our celebrated Scotch Eggs. A full menu is available with all the old favourites, such as our home-made Steak & Ale Pie and unbeatable Fish & Chips, alongside new dishes such as Maryland Chicken – sure to be a hit this summer. We are also offering take-aways if you are not keen on al fresco dining. Our rear woodland garden has plenty of well-spaced tables and a covered, heated decking area, so options are available for all weather conditions! We cannot wait to welcome old & new faces and do hope you will come and enjoy our garden - be it for a crafty pint or a full-blown meal. And finally, a massive thank you to all our customers for your continuing support in this most difficult of years.

*Martin, Ruth, Rosie, Dom & The Team at The Cricketers*

## **MICRO WEDDINGS – JUST A COVID NECESSITY OR LONG-TERM TREND?**

Since March 2020, any couples planning their wedding for 2020 or early 2021 have had a shocker of a year. The wedding season typically runs from April to early October, and when the Coronavirus pandemic first hit, weddings in April and May were the first casualties to postpone. As the first lockdown advanced, couples booked throughout the summer and into autumn anxiously, and desperately held out for the positive news that their much-anticipated, lavish weddings could go ahead as intricately planned. Most eventually succumbed to the bitter disappointment of postponing to 2021.

Then, following the 22<sup>nd</sup> February roadmap announcement, a further swathe of April, May and early June 2021 weddings jumped forward to dates post 21<sup>st</sup> June (allowing unlimited numbers). With these multiple postponements, this year the wedding industry is now frantically juggling to squeeze two wedding seasons into just over three months, from end June to early October. Sadly, for countless wedding businesses it will be too late, but for those that have weathered the Covid storm, essentially without income for 18 months, it will be a welcome, if pressurised, return.

However, rather than wait for restrictions to ease, last summer to early autumn, and in the first months of the wedding season this year, fitting around the Covid rules, some couples have opted for what is now known as a micro wedding for 15 to 30 guests. Cutting down on size does not mean holding back on style, in fact quite the opposite - a small wedding provides an abundance of opportunities for creativity and flexibility that are not possible with larger numbers.

A micro wedding needs to be considered an event in its own right, not a watered-down version of the original macro plan. Fewer heads to cater for is one of the biggest cost advantages, and extra budget could be put into a higher quality dining experience - better cuts of meat, more exciting dishes, even a finer brand of champagne. Feeding 15 people offers far more flexibility than 150. Alternatively, catering savings could be invested in larger table decorations to use the extra space released without the need for cheek by jowl seating. Perhaps consider having a videographer as well as a photographer to record the day.

Laying up tables for a smaller dining number is much less time consuming, so a last minute (weather dependent) decision to dine 'al fresco' in a garden with a stunning South Downs view could be taken on the morning of the wedding. A special location could be chosen to have speeches or cut the wedding cake.

Restrictions for dancing and live bands are still unconfirmed, but for micro wedding evening entertainment, a pub quiz could be hugely amusing, or perhaps a crazy golf championship. Caricaturists and magicians often get lost in a

big wedding crowd, but at an intimate gathering could be centre stage, and are likely to be less expensive than a band. Some couples may refrain from having entertainment at their micro wedding, simply preferring to spend a relaxed evening chatting to everyone over drinks with chilled background music, as they might at the pub.

Reducing guest numbers will always be a tricky balance, but those that do make it to the guest list will be honoured to receive an invitation. For wedding couples planning a micro celebration, the guest list will be a reflection of who they feel is most important to them to make their day feel special. In addition, now that almost everyone is comfortable using Zoom (thanks to Covid), live streaming a church service or civil ceremony would help to include everyone.

The intimacy created with a beautifully crafted micro wedding generates a very special atmosphere; a small number of guests witness a couple making the biggest commitment of their lives to each other, and then celebrate with their closest family members and friends. There are plenty of wedding couples for whom an extravagant wedding celebration for 150 guests really is the ‘be all and end all’, and non-negotiable in order to impress their Instagram followers. But others, it seems, are realising that a smaller, more intimate wedding was actually all they ever really wanted.

So, perhaps micro weddings could be here to stay? Some account owners at Bank of Mum and Dad might nod sagely at this realisation, whilst letting out a (barely audible) sigh of relief....

*Louise Hartley  
Wedding Venue Manager, Bignor Park*



## APRIL 2021 IN DUNCTON

These photographs capture a snapshot of April in our lovely village during these unusual times:

From Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April to Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> April, the Union Flag flying at half mast in the churchyard to mark the death of H.R.H. Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh. May he rest in peace.

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> April, the first service held in Holy Trinity church since Christmas Eve. Rev'd Dr. David Crook has done the most amazing job in keeping everything going on Zoom during lockdown, and it was a joyous time to be back in church all together.

The Cricketers pub, which reopened on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April also having closed its doors on Christmas Eve, as we moved into Tier 4 and subsequently the third lockdown. A very welcome, much awaited scene!

Finally, the uplifting sight of swathes of new daffodil bulbs planted along the verge through the middle of our village. The inspiration came from Louise Ex-all, who thought it would be cheering for 2021 as we emerge from lockdown, and a lasting memory for future years. Duncton Parish Council bought the 1,000 'Carlton' and 'Salome' varieties of bulb, and Louise and Phil were ably helped by Adrian and Cathy Cave to plant them. They should naturalise and multiply in the years ahead.

'Where flowers bloom so does hope.'



## DUNCTON MATTERS

### **Anti-social driving**

Now some of the Covid restrictions have been relaxed, Duncton Speed Watch has restarted, the rule of 6 still applies to meetings outside. The first sessions took place on Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup>. Over a two-hour interval, 326 vehicles were recorded travelling through the Village in a southerly direction, of which 40 were speeding, with speeds up to 46 mph. Offenders will receive a letter from the police.

During the session two new volunteers were trained in the use of the radar equipment and how to record offenders. More volunteers are always welcome. If you are interested, please contact Serena Danby or me.

The South Downs Safer Roads group is working hard behind the scenes, supported by parishes north of the Downs, District and County Councillors, local MPs and the police. The police have restarted operation Downs Way to crack down on anti-social driving, with random surveillance at hot spots across the county. Noise is an issue throughout the county, but it is not easy to measure; it is often associated with other offences such as speeding and anti-social driving. Therefore, Parish Councils have been asked to notify the group of stretches of road in the Parish where safety is a concern to the local community. Duncton Parish Council has identified overtaking on double white lines and speeding along the straight and through the village as parts of the A285 where the highway code is frequently violated.

*Peter Thomas*



## SEARCHING FOR EXTINCT ANIMALS

*by Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust*

A wonderful museum lurks unassumingly on Brighton's Dyke Road, the tree-lined residential avenue that connects the city to the rolling chalk hills of the South Downs. It was here, in the illuminated cabinets and cases of the Booth Museum of Natural History that my story started. A display of the bones, eggs, fur and feathers of extinct animals reconnected me with my childhood obsession with lost species. It was the starting point for a journey which led me deep into the caves of New Zealand looking for the bones of the mighty extinct Moa – birds which stood over 12 feet tall. I hike mountain ranges in search of the South Island Kōkako, a bird known as the 'Grey Ghost'; which some believe may still exist. In San Francisco I seek the remaining sand dunes where



the diminutive Xerces Blue butterfly once flew and in a dimly-lit museum storeroom, I am granted an audience with the holiest of extinct relics – the mummified head of the legendary Dodo. Although my quest leads me to Copenhagen, Helsinki, Paris and New York I was surprised to find that, if I was searching for extinct animals, there was a story right on my doorstep.

Sussex was the last known whereabouts of Ivell's Sea Anemone, declared extinct in 1997. This delicate creature once existed in Widewater Lagoon near Shoreham and is known from nowhere else on the planet. Widewater's faded information panel contains a drawing of this mythical beast. Grey and tubular, the illustration resembles a section of somebody's small intestine or a really long sock with wiry tentacles poking out of one end.

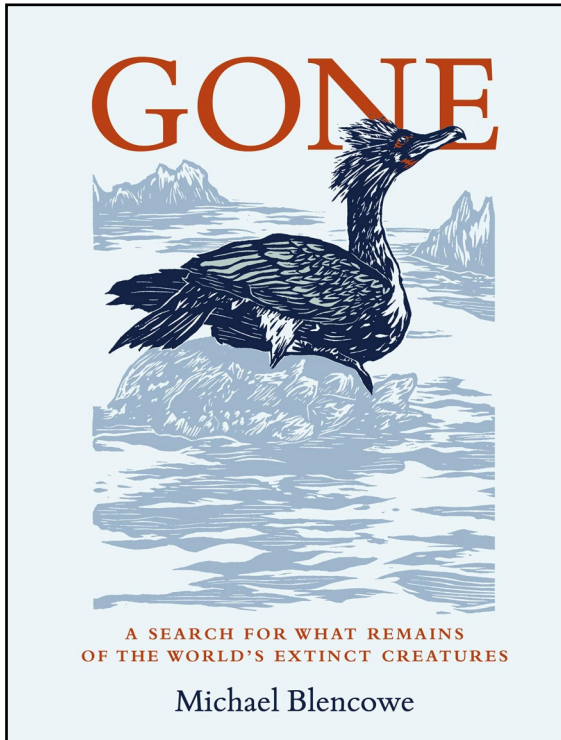
Sussex was the last known whereabouts of Ivell's Sea Anemone, declared extinct in 1997. This delicate creature once existed in Widewater Lagoon near Shoreham and is known from nowhere else on the planet. Widewater's faded information panel contains a drawing of this mythical beast. Grey and tubular, the illustration resembles a section of somebody's small intestine or a really long sock with wiry tentacles poking out of one end.

I headed off in search of the only remaining specimens of this species, stored deep in the basement of the Oxford University Museum of Natural History. Here I was handed a jar with a domed glass stopper. Inside the jar was a solution of 75% ethanol and floating in that ethanol was ...nothing. I put on my glasses and raised the jar up to the storeroom's light bulb and only then could I make out the anemone, a miniscule, thin squiggle suspended in the solution.

After giant Moa bones and mummified Dodos there was no disguising my disappointment. I had harboured a hope that maybe I could be the man to gallant-

ly re-discover Ivell's Sea Anemone in Widewater lagoon. The fact that I couldn't re-discover it in a jar two inches from my face didn't inspire me with confidence.

Undaunted, I carried on my quest and, armed with a snorkel, a faulty torch and an inflatable lilo in the shape of a crocodile I bravely waded into Widewater. You'll find the rest of this story and many more of my adventures in my new book '*Gone: A search for what remains of the world's extinct creatures*', published on 27 April and available everywhere.



**Sussex Wildlife Trust is an independent charity caring for wildlife and habitats throughout Sussex. Founded in 1961, we have worked with local people for over half a century to make Sussex richer in wildlife.**

**We rely on the support of our members to help protect our rich natural heritage. Please consider supporting our work. As a member you will be invited to join Michael Blencowe on our regular wildlife walks and also enjoy free events, discounts on wildlife courses, *Wildlife* magazine and our Sussex guide book, *Discovering Wildlife*. It's easy to join online at [sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join](http://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join)**

**SCHOOL REPORTS REMEMBERED:**  
**MUST WOKE HARDER**

The government determines that ‘Head teachers must send a written report to parents on their child’s progress for the academic year by the end of each summer term’.

Nowadays these tend to be confined to a list of achievements and blind encouragement. Political correctness denies the parents and children the direct, frank, and sometimes humorous observations which characterised the teachers’ reports in previous generations.

It is difficult to know whether painful and harsh comments spurred the recipient on to do better and to thrive in life, or acted as an eternal source of discouragement and failure.

*Here are three examples, reportedly true:*

Winston Churchill: ‘Is a constant trouble to everybody ... He cannot be trusted to behave himself anywhere’.

Gary Lineker: ‘He must devote less of his time to sport ... You can’t make a living out of football’.

Albert Einstein: ‘He will never amount to anything’.

*And three more, preferring to remain anonymous:*

Anon: ‘When the call goes out for the workers of the world to unite, James need not apply’.

Anon: ‘The tropical forests are safe when J enters the woodwork room, for his projects are small and his progress slow’.

Anon: ‘Since my last report J has reached rock bottom and has now started to dig’.

I am informed that it takes 19 commendations or words of encouragement to counteract one damning criticism. It is in our nature to remember and be hurt by the negatives, and to overlook and forget the words of praise. I carried out a random poll of local people who left school at least 40 years ago, asking for memorable school reports, good or bad. Of all the replies, only one recorded a single positive and encouraging report, and that came amid years of pessimism. It was for art and design. She is now a highly successful jewellery designer.



Here is a selection of the others, mainly negative, all written of local people, all of who have gone on to become lovely and successful members of our parish communities. Perhaps you may like to guess who they are?

‘He is a scruffy little urchin’. Now a very dapper gentleman.

‘His interests lie in the open air, not in the classroom’. He was the school goal-keeper!

‘R must learn that examination technique is no substitute for hard work’. He became a very accomplished high flyer.

‘94% in French – could have done better’. No wonder he became a doctor.

‘Your father has slipped up this week, you’ve got one wrong’. ………!

‘Either he will soon emerge from his present indiscipline or I shall take some aggressive action to curb it’. Now a highly respected entrepreneur.

‘When R sees the objective, he works. I would recommend that he sees it as soon as possible’. A very successful businessman and community leader.

In this ‘Woke’ age many other earlier school reports simply would not be allowed:

*‘This student should go far, and the sooner he starts the better’. ‘This young lady has delusions of adequacy’. ‘It would seem that he thinks that he is running the school and not me. If this attitude persists one of us will have to leave’ and ‘This student is depriving somewhere of an idiot’.*

More recently I liked the juxtaposition of two sequential reports for a grandson.

**‘Digital literacy:** He has been poor in DL throughout the year ... He didn’t achieve good marks in any of the tests ... by far the lowest mark in the whole year ... He did not grasp the basics ... His prep, if done at all, has been below par ... his behaviour in class has often been disengaged’.

**‘Religious studies:** Extremely pleased with his end of term exam result of 89%. I do hope that he was pleased. It is a real achievement’.

Maybe the Church of England will not be short of an ordinand after all.

PS. What is Digital Literacy anyway?

*Ian Fergusson*

## PETWORTH LIBRARY

West Sussex Libraries are now open for limited browsing and pre-bookable computer sessions. Our current opening hours are:

Monday: 1.00pm - 5.00pm

Friday: 9.00am - 1.00pm

Saturday: 9.00am - 1.00pm

We are still offering our "Select and Collect" service and there are two ways you can use this.

**Staff Select:** We realise that you may not know exactly what you want to borrow or may want a more general selection of books. If you feel safer staying at home, or just miss having the time to browse, why not ask one of our expert staff to choose for you by completing our **free** Staff Select form online.

**Customer Select:** You can once again use the library catalogue to reserve specific titles for **free** in the usual way online or by telephoning your nearest large library (this would be Chichester Library 01243 777351).

**Collection of Items:** Once the items are available your local library will contact you by phone or email to enable you to collect your items.

**Essential Delivery Service:** If you feel safer staying at home or are unable to get to the library, we offer an Essential Delivery Service and may be able to deliver your items to you. Please indicate on the Staff Select form or during the phone call to the library that you would like to arrange a delivery.

You can find out more on our website at: [www.westsussex.gov.uk/libraries/current-library-services/](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/libraries/current-library-services/)

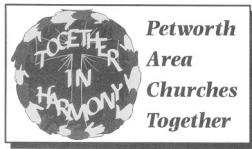
### JEAN'S DUNCTON PLANT SWOP TABLE

### COMING SOON IN MAY!

Summer annuals and bedding for pots and tubs, and some vegetables. Come and help yourself at Duncton Common Farmhouse. I will put a sign outside.

No money needed but you can bring your spare plants to swop if you like. Then make a donation to a good cause next time you have an opportunity!

*Jean Slattery*



# P A C T NEWS

## Petworth Area Churches Together

*working together in harmony*

## NEWS FOR MAY

### Festival Service 6.30pm Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July in St Mary's, Petworth.

The *Petworth Festival* remain determined that we will have a Festival this summer and it will kick off with the Festival Service. Details to be confirmed but do pop this date in the diary so you can join in, whatever form it takes!

**PACT 200<sup>th</sup> meeting** – in May we're celebrating 200 gatherings of the PACT team which serves to reinforce the great work that all of our clergy do in Petworth and the surrounding area. Our intention is to unite followers of Jesus and to work collectively to make His name known more widely. The ways we do this have included **Kids Club, Foodbank, Unity/Festival services, Spring/Autumn lectures, Palm Sunday Procession, cream tea and prayer tent at Fete in the Park**, to name a few. This is nearly one event for each month of the year. An enormous thank-you everyone who has contributed to our work over the years.

**Autumn Lecture in October** – with Nola Leach CEO of *CARE* (Christian Action Research & Education): details to follow.

**The Website for PACT** has a link to all of our churches where you can find details of how to get in touch with the clergy and access their online meetings. <https://petworthareachurchestogether.com/>

**Bob Sneller, our Chairman**, shared these two verses from the book of Jude at our last meeting:

To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy — to the only God our Saviour be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

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

[www.petworthareachurchestogether.com](http://www.petworthareachurchestogether.com)

# TILLINGTON CRICKET CLUB FIXTURES FOR 2021



2nd May	Ancient Mariners	Home
9th May	White Hunters	Home
30th May	Twineham and Wineham	Home
6th June	Amberley	Home
13th June	Ebernoe	Away
20th June	Kirdford	Away
27th June	Ferring	Away
11th July	Singleton	Away
18th July	The Saints	Home **
25th July	Grayswood	Away *
8th August	Petworth	Away
15th August	Gentlemen of Bedales	Home
5th September	Warnham	Away **
12th September	Lavant	Home *

All matches start at 2pm except those marked: + 2.30pm start; \*\* 1.30pm start  
\* 1pm start 14games in 2021; 7 home and 7 away

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# The Arts Society West Sussex

As Covid-19 restrictions remain in place we are holding our talks on Zoom

On Tuesday May 4th at 2pm, Nicola Moorby will talk on  
**Turner vs Constable :**  
**The Great British Paint Off**

At 2pm on Tuesday June 2nd, David Wright will talk on  
**A Brief Story of Wine**

A link will be sent to all members prior to the talks.  
Interested non-members are welcome, for a fee of £5  
Please contact Jackie Buckler on 01 90341 1086  
or email [westsussex@theartssociety.org](mailto:westsussex@theartssociety.org)

[www.theartssocietywestsussex.org](http://www.theartssocietywestsussex.org)

## **THE ARTS SOCIETY - SOUTH DOWNS** **CURRENTLY-VIA ZOOM**

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 10.30 am**

*Beethoven@250*

By Sandy Burnett

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2021 10.30am**

*Hampton Court*

By Jonathon Foyle

These online talks are for Members, but if you are interested in a trial lecture please contact Jane Allison on 01798 813314 or  
[jane@theallisonfamily.co.uk](mailto:jane@theallisonfamily.co.uk)

We look forward to returning to Fittleworth Hall as soon as it is safe to do so.

**[www.theartssocietysouthdowns.org.uk](http://www.theartssocietysouthdowns.org.uk)**

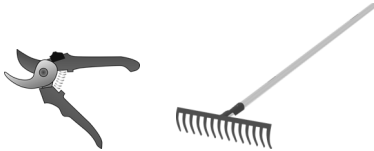
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**TILLINGTON** – See front pages for Church, Bell Ringing, Parish Council and Village Hall.

**DUNCTON** – See front pages for Church, Parish, Council and Village Hall.

**UPWALTHAM** -See front pages for Church.

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