

ISSUE 79

NOVEMBER 2023

FREE

# Three Parishes

*Serving the Communities of Tillington, Duncton & Upwaltham*



Remembrance

Becoming 40

KIDS PAGES

Ken Adsett

Harvest Festival

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In the  
middle

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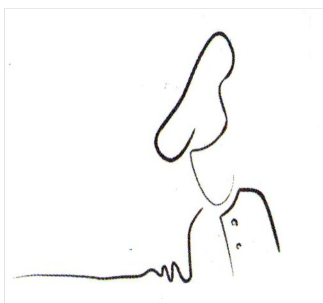
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## EDITORIAL

For many years now the Sussex Wildlife Trust has contributed one of the highlights of every issue of the Three Parishes magazine in the entertaining and informative articles written by Michael Blencowe. This month, his piece may not be quite so well received, as few of us will share his enthusiasm for slugs, especially those of us who have suffered nibbled hostas and runner beans. Sorry, Michael.

The children's pages in this issue are contributed by Sarah Francis, giving our editor in chief one less task but what with laying out the pages and piecing together all the content for the magazine to say nothing of chasing up contributions to fill the pages, Angela deserves a round of applause for her years of hard work without which the Three Parishes magazine would not be dropping on our doormats. Thank you, Angela, and thank you Sarah, for lifting some of the burden.

We have a wonderfully motivating piece from Lucy Dixon urging us not to regret the passing years, our greying hair or thickening waistlines, but to live life to the full and enjoy each day. Even as Winter approaches, we are reminded that it has a beauty of its own to enjoy. Dorothy Wordsworth wrote, "What a beautiful thing God has made Winter to be, by stripping the trees and letting us see their shapes and forms."

Winter has a lot to offer – not least two of the most important celebrations, Christmas and New Year's Day. But if you are Scots, St Andrew's Day on 30<sup>th</sup> November and Burns Night on 25<sup>th</sup> January might present a special occasion to wear your kilt. No surprise then to hear Ian Fergusson will be wearing his kilt (page 20) and recalls its purchase in Edinburgh back in his youth. Are there any other Scots in our parishes with a story to tell about buying or wearing the kilt? We would love to hear from you.

Maybe just worth a mention – there will be no bonfire and fireworks in Duncton this November.

And finally, for Remembrance Day, there are some thoughts on the origins of the hymn "I Vow to Thee My Country" and from Commodore Nick Cooke-Priest OBE ret'd, a reminder of the losses of the Royal Sussex Regiment at the Battle of Boar's Head in 1916. His poignant words remind us we must all pray for peace.

## FROM THE REGISTERS

**St Mary the Virgin Church, Upwaltham**  
Funeral, followed by burial in the churchyard  
17 October: Timothy Kearsey



## **FROM THE UPPER ROOM OF ALL HALLOWS**

I want to share with you a wonderful story. I recently spoke to a man, in his 60s, who told me that his older sister had died in infancy, but that the churchyard burial location was unmarked. Thanks to good and complete church records, within a couple of hours of speaking to this man I was able to send him three photographs: the first of the 1957 burials book entry for his sister (who died aged two months), the second of the section of the plan which identified the grave location, and, finally, a photograph of the spot where his sister was laid to rest. It was touching, the next day, to see a bouquet of flowers laid at that site.

Harvest is now done and dusted for another year. We had some great community events and services, including at Duncton, Tillington and Upwaltham, even though the celebrations in the latter village were muted, following the awful news of Tim Kearsay's death. Rest in peace, Tim, and please keep his family in your prayers. You can read more about the work of Stonepillow, which our villagers and churches supported with donations, elsewhere in this magazine.

As usual, during November, on Remembrance Sunday we shall honour those from our villages who lost their lives in both world wars. We also give thanks for all who served – and today serve – our country. On Sunday 12 November, Duncton's 10.30am service (NB a change from the usual second-Sunday time) will incorporate an Act of Remembrance, while at Tillington we shall gather 10.50am, ahead of a service in church. The 19 November service at Upwaltham will embrace Remembrance in general and commemorate the Lancaster bomber and Dakota airmen listed on the plaque inside the church.

Say it quietly, but Christmas is coming. For those who appreciate a prayerful build-up to the madness, there will be a five-parishes Advent course on the first three Tuesday evenings of December, with full details to follow next month. Before that, the Tillington Christmas Fair welcomes your support. It is on Saturday 25 November at the Village Hall, from 10am to 12.30pm, and is the last to be co-ordinated by the brilliant Angela Gresham-Cooke, so we hope to identify a person to take this on from 2024. There will be stalls for bric-a-brac, a bottlebola, cakes and good-condition children's toys, as well as a silent auction, bacon butties and mulled wine.

On the evening of the same day, at the Herbert Shiner Hall, the wonderful UK Forces Veterans Show Band are performing to raise funds for the Petworth Foodbank, which is busier than ever in these challenging times. Tickets are available via Austens. Please support these events if you can.

In friendship, David

# NOTICE BOARD

*Send your notices to  
3parishesmagazine@gmail.com, headed Notice Board.  
The Tillington and Duncton Facebook pages have proved useful  
for some of us—use these as well*

## PRE-LOVED AND VINTAGE CLOTHES

The inaugural (and last) Pre-loved and Vintage Clothes sale was held in Tillington Village Hall on the 30<sup>th</sup> September. Within days of the announcement clothes started to arrive, all of them splendid, (well almost all) Soon my house had four rails and very many bags of clothes. It looked dreadful but the workers came and sorted it!



The selection was amazing, prom dresses, unworn evening dresses, a Christian Dior dressing gown, Jimmy Choo shoes, beautiful handbags, man's black-tie suit, shall I go on?

I will probably leave someone out but I have to give a huge shout out to Jenny Lowe, Andrina Lunt, Nicky Reed, Viv Bailey, Erica and Colin Leigh,, Sarah Francis, Bob Sneller, Elaine Adams, Jo Leadbetter. Harriet Wilson, Carmen Woodhatch, Lizzie Ring, Shelley Fergusson, Penny Johnson, Gill Pye. The 'A team'!!! THANK YOU EVERYONE.

As expected we were left with a lot of lovely things and wonderfully, most of which have gone to fit out the new Macmillan shop in Midhurst who had very little stock, so that was a perfect end to a truly vintage affair!

Oh, and how much money did we raise? Amazingly, around £1,600.

Angela Gresham Cooke

## ALL HALLOWS, TILLINGTON

Come and join us for  
Our All Age Service  
On Sunday 5th November  
At 10.15. Bacon butties from 9.45.



**Esther: for such a time as this**

## TILLINGTON MENS' BREAKFAST



Saturday 4th November:

Tillington Village Hall. 8.15 for 8.30. £7 on the door. No booking necessary. Malcolm Reynolds from Petworth has stepped in with a Talk on "My Constructive Career". Malcolm has had a distinguished career in Chartered Surveying and we look forward to hearing from him. Gerald at [Geraldgreshamcooke@gmail.com](mailto:Geraldgreshamcooke@gmail.com)

## HEARTSMART WALK

**Wednesday November. 29** 10.30am PETWORTH PARK - TO SEE THE DEER and HEAR THE HISTORY OF THE HOUSE AND THE PARK.

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## STONEPILLOW

Once again Christmas approaches- I know 8 weeks to go but at Stonepillow plans are already underway. For those unfamiliar with Stonepillow it is the charity that covers the homeless and their allied problems in the Chichester, Bognor and Littlehampton areas. They look to be well heeled areas but that is not a true picture. Stonepillow runs two day centres, two 24 hour hostels, a rehabilitation unit, a women only hostel and several houses of accommodation. It is now providing beds for over 150 clients, has teams dedicated to re-housing, mental health, street work (out every night to seek rough sleepers), a hospital team in A and E to spot the frequent attenders (who are rough sleepers and therefore not on a doctor's list- no address no help), prevention of eviction, financial help and more.

At Christmas I am one of a team that helps make Christmas a more enjoyable occasion for the clients even if they have been on the streets all night. The 18 kilo turkey has been ordered – I have no idea how it managed to walk when it had guts and feathers. Helpers are coming forward to help prepare meals for several units. Every year one local church has donated the collection from their carol service in December, for which we are very grateful indeed.

However, many more donations and goodies will be needed to ensure we can provide all the things that you or I would expect to see in our fridges for the festive season. This year has seen such a rise in the cost of living that donations of food have fallen off the edge of a cliff. If you could manage to help it would be so appreciated. I am very happy to collect both goodies and financial offerings and I can be contacted on 01730 813586. Please do look at the Stonepillow website to see all the current news. Katherine Minchin.

		<b>TILLINGTON LUNCHES</b>	
		<b>NO LUNCH IN NOVEMBER</b>	
		<b>CHRISTMAS LUNCH</b>	
		<b>WILL BE HELD ON</b>	
		<b>FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER</b>	



## REMEMBRANCE

On 11 November 2010, whilst in Command of the Frigate HMS IRON DUKE, a name synonymous with numerous Naval Battle Honours, including Jutland in 1916 as Admiral Jellicoe's Flagship, I had the extraordinary privilege to be at sea over the exact spot where HMS ROYAL OAK and her lost sailors lie at rest on the cold sea-bed at Scapa Flow. Having read the lesson at our Remembrance Service, my youngest sailor and I cast a wreath into the grey sea on that cold morning.



I have been honoured to have carried out numerous commemorations on land and sea, across the globe from the Falkland Islands to Sweden and Washington DC to Gallipoli. This year, as always, similar acts will take place across the globe, in known and remote spots where extraordinary displays of heroism, courage and selfless endeavour took place, and where memorials pay tribute to the fallen, on both sides of many conflicts.

The well catalogued Battle of Jutland was instrumental in WW1 but the little-known Battle of the Boars Head in June 1916 devastated a small Sussex community here on our doorstep. The 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Battalions of the Royal Sussex Regiment, part of the 116th Southdowns Brigade were directed to occupy the Boar's Head, a salient position in the German front line. Despite good preparation and strong leadership, disaster ensued and whilst an astonishing list of

awards for bravery emerged - 1 Victoria Cross, 20 Military Medals, 8 Distinguished Conduct Medals, 4 Military Crosses and 1 Distinguished Service Order, a whole community was devastated, including 12 sets of brothers from the hills, lanes and hamlets of this beautiful corner of England.

A wise man once said that the only thing required for evil to prosper, is for good men to do nothing. Over 30 years in the Royal Navy, I had the great fortune to serve with thousands of men and women who were utterly prepared to put others before themselves. So, on Remembrance Day I reflect on the willingness and selfless nature of people all over the world who give themselves for the love of country and fellow man, to take a stance against evil or in fighting for a good cause, and for the belief in freedom; I thank the fallen and I pray for peace in our world.

**Commodore Nick Cooke-Priest OBE Ret'd  
Tillington Resident**

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them*

**Everyone sang by Siegfried Sassoon**

Everyone suddenly burst out singing;  
And I was filled with such delight  
As prisoned birds must find in freedom,  
Winging wildly across the white  
Orchards and dark-green fields; on - on - and out of sight.

Everyone's voice was suddenly lifted;  
And beauty came like the setting sun:  
My heart was shaken with tears; and horror  
Drifted away.... O, but Everyone  
Was a bird; and the song was wordless; the singing  
Will never be done.



WWI British Soldier

## I VOW TO THEE MY COUNTRY

I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above.  
Entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love;  
The love that asks no questions, the love that stands the test,  
That lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;  
The love that never falters, the love that pays the price,  
The love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

And there's another country, I've heard of long ago,  
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;  
We may not count her armies, we may not see her king;  
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;  
And soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,  
And her ways are ways of gentleness, and all her paths are  
peace

-----

*Original first verse, 1908, replaced in 1918 and never set to music:*

I heard my country calling, away across the sea,  
Across the waste of waters, she calls and calls to me.  
Her sword is girded at her side, her helmet on her head,  
And around her feet are lying the dying and the dead;  
I hear the noise of battle, the thunder of the guns;  
I haste to thee, my mother, a son among thy sons.

The original poem was written by the diplomat, one time ambassador to USA, Sir Cecil Spring Rice in 1908. In 1918 he rewrote the first verse in order to replace the original, concentrating on 'love' and 'sacrifice' rather than 'the noise of battle' and 'the thunder of the guns'. The second version, now a well-loved hymn, was set to music by Gustav Holst in 1921. It is associated with Remembrance Day services and many funerals including Sir Winston Churchill, Diana, Princess of Wales, and Baroness Thatcher.

It has been criticised as being too nationalistic, and in the original version as being jingoistic and a call to combat.

But for us as Christians it is the second verse that so beautifully and incisively confirms the most basic tenet of our faith. That is the certainty of heaven and an eternal resting place full of gentleness, love and peace, 'another country...most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know'

So on this Remembrance Day we can muse on this eternal resting place, not only for those killed in action, but for all those loved and gone before us. Indeed we can be reassured for ourselves that 'there is another country'....and from Proverbs 3:17: 'Her ways are pleasant ways, and all her paths are peace'.

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## TILLINGTON SALUTES ... GEORGE WARREN

George Warren reaches the great age of 100 on 3<sup>rd</sup> November. George has lived in Tillington for some forty years, after venturing to the area as a visitor from his family home in north London. George was swiftly followed by his sister and brother-in-law Joan and Gerry Castle, and together those three musketeers have played a major part in the life of the village, the church and the Horse Guards!

As many readers will know, George served in the RAF in the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War, as a Navigator in Coastal Command, keeping the seas around us safe from U-boats. After his war service, George trained as a teacher and then enjoyed a long and illustrious career, culminating in his headship of a Tottenham primary school.

Alongside this busy working life, George has always enjoyed the countryside, walking, painting and literature. He combined many of these interests together, on walking holidays in the footsteps of Laurie Lee – of Cider with Rosie fame – or capturing the scenes of fishing villages in Cornwall and Devon. George spent many happy times with his great friend, the artist Reg Lloyd, in Devon – and George was instrumental in commissioning a design from Reg for the Millenium window in the church. This beautiful design, which under George's guidance captured so many characteristics of the South Downs, brings continual pleasure to all visitors to the church.

Informed by his enjoyment of so many books about rural life, George has been a great supporter of village activities. For many years, he was the go-to doorman for every and any event in the Village Hall, and latterly has enjoyed many a coffee morning and monthly lunch. George served for many years on the church council, and was pivotal in ensuring that traditional events continued to be marked. One of his greatest achievements was to rescue and develop the Parish Magazine. Arriving to find that what passed for a magazine was in fact a couple of sheets of paper stapled together, George set about creating the publication we still enjoy today. George wrote, edited and organised printing in those early days ... the quality further enhanced as time went on, with the support of George's great friend Trevor Purnell. George retired as Editor aged 90, and the flourishing Magazine which we see today, owes much to his efforts and energy.

In recent years, George has been enjoying life in his cottage, still gazing on those beautiful views of the Downs. He is supported by very many good friends and neighbours and by a flight of daily angels who have provided exemplary care.

**George – we thank you for all your contributions to our community and wish you a very Happy Birthday!**





## THE KILT AND THE ROYAL FAMILY A PERSONAL REFLECTION FOR ST ANDREW'S DAY

King Charles wears the kilt with a special tartan designed for him at his coronation based on the Balmoral tartan sett. It is rumoured that Prince William is not so keen. The Balmoral tartan dates from Queen Victoria's reign and has been worn by members of the Royal family ever since.

Originally Scottish highlanders wore a long woven chequered or tartan plaid around the waist and draped over one shoulder. This had the advantage of warmth and freedom of leg movements in difficult terrains. It could also conceal a weapon, and allowed for wees and poos without undressing, both assets useful in combat. Original tartan plaid from the 1500s has been recovered from peat bogs in Glen Afric.

Following the unsuccessful Jacobite rebellions of 1715 and 1745, when the Scots joined forces to try to depose the Hanoverians, King George II brought in the Dress Act in 1746. This made it illegal for Highland Regiments to wear any form of highland dress including the kilt. Wearing the modern kilt was reinstated at the end of the C19<sup>th</sup>, mainly inspired by the various royal residences at Balmoral, Castle of Mey and Birkhall. Queen Victoria renewed interest in all things Scottish and had her trusty servant John Brown wear the kilt.

The royal kilt makers, William Anderson, was founded at 15, George Street, Edinburgh in 1868. They made a kilt for King Edward VII in 1903, and gained their first Royal Warrant from George V in 1934. As Kinloch Andersons they have made kilts for the royal family ever since, holding the unparalleled three Royal Warrants for the late Queen Elizabeth, the Duke of Edinburgh and Charles as Prince of Wales.

On a personal level, in 1956 as an unworldly teenager, I was taken to Andersons, the very dauntingly old fashioned, discrete and personal outfitters in George Street by my quite formidable (but very lovely and generous) Edinburgh aunt. I was introduced to the owner William Anderson, a friend of hers, who treated me as his most honoured client. He fitted me for my first kilt. "Would the gentleman like the ancient or modern tartan, and the heavier full pleated or lighter version?". He guided me to a suitable leather sporran, and sgian dhu (pronounced skian do), the small knife worn in the stocking. That same William Anderson had two sons, Eric, who became headmaster of Eton College, and Douglas who took over the outfitters. I often wonder who enjoyed life better

Meanwhile I went to an all-boys boarding school where the large Scottish contingent were allowed to wear the kilt every Sunday, including all three chapel services! The kilt can be worn informally with a singlet or open shirt, or with tweed waistcoat and jacket for formal day wear, say at the Braemar Highland games. For evening dress it is worn with black jacket and silver buttons, plus an ornate fur and silver sporran. It remains very versatile and still requires no underwear....

My original kilt has been let out once at the waist, but I still wear it to this day with some real pride on special occasions. For what it is worth, may I, very humbly, encourage Prince William to visit Kinloch Andersons?

## 40 IS THE NEW 40!

As I approached my 40th year on planet earth, I had begun to feel that “getting older” was something that perhaps I didn’t really want to do too much more of. As women, society instils in us a sense that as we age we become irrelevant, redundant, invisible. And perish the thought we be allowed to show our age! Smile lines?

Why on earth hasn’t she had Botox yet? Pregnancy stretch marks? No more bikinis for you, young (not so young) lady! Grey hairs? A death sentence. These thoughts rattled through my mind until, one day, I found myself thinking about what it might actually be like to be invisible, and it felt rather freeing.

Pondering this, I began to query why society cripples women with a fear of ageing.-something so natural, so normal, so inevitable, and with benefits rarely spoken of. And then I remembered something an old friend once told me when I was too young to appreciate it. “Ageing is a privilege denied to many”. And this is the mantra I have chosen to live the rest of my life by, no matter how long or short it may be. The perspective this has given me has fundamentally changed my outlook on life.

Ageing is more life experiences. More time to taste the food, drink the wine, dance in the rain. More time to kiss our loved ones. More time to explore this beautiful and miraculous planet we find ourselves on. Ageing is not a public humiliation. Ageing is living. And what could we women achieve if we didn’t spend so much time feeling so bad about it?!

Fuelled by this, I immediately booked a 4 day holiday to Ibiza with 10 of my greatest friends, with my 40th birthday falling bang in the middle. “Totes Cheugy!!”\* I hear Gen Z cry from behind their smartphone screens. Perhaps. But what was I doing at the exact moment the clock struck midnight, ringing in the end of my 30s? I don’t know, I can’t remember. I was too busy living.

\*Totes = Totally

\*Cheugy = Uncool/Trying too Hard



Lucy Dixon

## HIGH SHERIFF VISITS TILLINGTON

The High Sheriff of West Sussex for 2023, Andy Bliss QPM, visited Tillington in July to thank TLC (Tillington Local Care) for all their voluntary help in the village.

The Office of High Sheriff is an independent non-political Royal appointment for a single year. Last year the King, in one of his first acts of his reign, announced Andy Bliss' appointment.

The origins of the Office date back to Saxon times, when the 'Shire Reeve' was responsible to the king for the maintenance of law and order within the shire, or county, and for the collection and return of taxes due to the Crown.

The sheriff as a tax collector was not a popular position, and thus the legend of Robin Hood and the Sheriff of Nottingham may well correspond quite closely to the example of a sheriff of the day.

In July, our High Sheriff visited Tillington, and met the TLC committee and other TLC drivers. He thanked all the drivers of TLC for the stupendous voluntary work that is carried out here.

In September two of us were invited to his Annual Reception, which was being held at Fishbourne Palace. As our Chairman, Carmen Woodhatch was unable to attend, Mike Wheller (Committee member) and I went along.

Besides being with many members of other voluntary organisations throughout West Sussex, the High Sheriff encouraged Mike and me to have a photo with the East Sussex High Sheriff, who was not "dressed up".

Photo shows from l to r: Mike Wheller, Gerald G-C, High Sheriff of West Sussex, and High Sheriff of East Sussex, Mr Richard Bickersteth.



## GARDEN NOTES

I was raised in rural areas (Petworth and Chithurst) and my Dad was a gardener (at Petworth House, Aylings & Manor of Dean). Plants, wildlife, trees, home grown fruit and vegetables have all been part of my life-long experience. I love nature, I respect nature and I NEED nature. We all do, even those who don't recognise that fact. Healthy soil, pollination, carbon-capturing trees, food production and meat production all DEPEND on us having a good balance of insects, fungi, bacteria, worms etc to support nature's food chain.

We CAN HELP in our gardens. Over the last few months, I have mentioned many things we can do: making dead hedges, leaving some grass long, chopping and dropping plant material and making compost heaps. All of these provide shelter and food for beetles and other small insects, which then provide food for higher up the food chain. We have to have the little guys, in our gardens, in fields that grow our food and in woodlands. No little guys, no bigger guys, no pollination, no food. Anyway and anywhere that you can, squeeze more wildlife habitats into your garden and you will improve your plants, vegetables and soil so much.

Here are some more ways that you can do this in your garden. Make a log pile. Make a brick pile. Stack waste roof tiles, piping, large stones or just about anything else into a loose pile and it will house woodlice, milli and centipedes, beetles etc. Leave any dead wood standing that you can, we have a deficit of this and it provides so much for wildlife. If making a brash pile/dead hedge, bury the lower section in soil to provide a home for the stag beetle. Erect bird, bat even owl boxes if you can. Plant to feed birds rather than buy in food, such as holly, rowan, elder etc. Leave some brambles in your hedges or edges.

This month my *Allow a Wildflower* has to be the common Ivy (*Hedera helix*) because it's SUCH an important source of pollen going into the winter and supports at least 50 species of wildlife. It's evergreen and provides shelter for insects, birds and bats. The berries are a valuable food resource for many birds. Contrary to popular belief, it does NO HARM to trees. If you have it in your garden, your wildlife are very lucky! Until next month...

Bev Exall



**TILLINGTON, DUNCTON AND UPWALTHAM CHURCH SERVICES**  
**DURING NOVEMBER 2023**

	<b>All Hallows Church, Tillington</b>	<b>Holy Trinity Church, Duncton</b>	<b>St Mary's Church, Upwaltham</b>
<b>Wednesday 4 October</b>	BCP Holy Communion at 10am		
<b>Fourth Sunday before Advent, 5 November</b>	Breakfast Church 9.45am/ All-Age Service at 10.15am		
<b>Remembrance Sunday, 12 November</b>	Act of Remembrance at 10.50am,	Act of Remembrance, at 10.30am We welcome Annie Sneller, LLR	
<b>Wednesday 15 November</b>	BCP Holy Communion at 10am		
<b>Second Sunday before Advent, 19 November</b>	BCP Holy Communion at 9.30am		Remembrance and Airmen's Service at 11.30am
	Five-parish Evening Prayer online via Zoom at 6pm. Please contact David to register for his weekly email with Zoom links.		
<b>Christ the King/ Sunday Next before Advent, 26 November</b>	Morning Prayer and Praise at 9.30am	BCP Holy Communion at 10.30am We welcome Revd Canon John Bundock	

Additional services in our group during November:

**5 November:** Parish Communion at Fittleworth; 11am BCP Holy Communion at Stopham

**12 November:** 8am BCP Holy Communion with Act of Remembrance at Fittleworth; 10.50am Act of Remembrance at the Fittleworth War Memorial, followed by church service; 10.50am Act of Remembrance at the Stopham War Memorial, followed by church service.

**19 November:** 9.30am Parish Communion at Fittleworth; 11am BCP Holy Communion at Stopham.

**26 November:** 9.30am Parish Communion at Fittleworth; 11am BCP Matins at Stopham

**5 November:** 9.30am Parish Communion at Fittleworth; 11am BCP Holy Communion at Stopham

David Crook, Priest-in-Charge

(david.crook15@btinternet.com; 01798 865473)

# Kids' Pages

## Fascinating Firework Facts!

Another word for fireworks is pyrotechnics. In ancient Greek 'pyro' means fire and 'technic' means art or craft.

Fireworks started in China around 2000 years ago! Some people think that a Chinese cook invented fireworks by mistake, when he mixed up kitchen ingredients!

Italy made fireworks pretty by adding metallic powders to create different colours.



Today, China makes around 90% of the world's fireworks.

Fireworks were first used in England at the wedding of King Henry VII and Elizabeth of York, in 1486.



The World's largest fireworks display was in The Philippines in 2016. It lasted over an hour and 810,904 fireworks were set off.

A firework that sends out a perfect circle of stars, which grow brighter, is called a "chrysanthemum". A lot of small chrysanthemums is called a "bouquet".



## Quiz



1. What places use the most fireworks in the world?
2. What colour fireworks are the hardest to make?
3. Which firework can travel at 150mph?
4. How hot does a sparkler get?
5. Which country makes chocolate fireworks?
6. Which monarch loved fireworks the most?



## Bonfire Night Spot the Difference Game

There are eight differences in the pictures below. Can you spot them all?



Quiz answers: 1. Disney theme parks. 2. Blue. 3. A rocket. 4. 1000-1500°C. 5. Switzerland. 6. Queen Elizabeth I.

What do you call a duck that loves fireworks?  
A firequacker!

What do you get when  
you cross a dinosaur  
with a firework?  
Dinomite!

What is a firework's  
favourite food?  
Bangers and mash!

What did the dog say when it saw a firework go off?  
Nothing! Dogs can't talk!



### A message to help keep you safe!

Fireworks are exciting, but they can be very dangerous and can hurt you.

- ★ Listen to your grown-up about where is a safe place to stand.
- ★ Never touch a firework. Don't pick up a firework after it has been used.
- ★ Wear gloves when you hold your sparkler and keep it away from your body.
- ★ Hold one sparkler at a time and don't run around with it.
- ★ Keep your sparkler away from other people and don't throw it in case it hits someone.
- ★ Once your sparkler is finished, put it into a bucket of water, don't pick it back up. It stays hot for a long time and can burn you.
- ★ Stand well away from the bonfire and stay close to the grown-ups.
- ★ Remember to keep pets indoors.

# Colouring page





## RAINFALL FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

Recorded by Fran Trimming in River  
(previous years recorded by John Mayes in Haymarsh)

<b>Year</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>Year-to-date</b>
2023	73ml	595ml
2022	95ml	402ml
2021	80ml	725ml
2020	20ml	492ml
2019	98ml	519ml
2018	41ml	660ml

### PETWORTH & DISTRICT OVER 60S CENTRE – THE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE - NOVEMBER 2023

We are delighted that we now have a smooth and easily accessible route to the Friendship Centre and our thanks to Petworth Town Council for making it possible.

In November there will be bingo sessions on Wednesday 1st and 15th at 2.00pm, and a Beetle Session on 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please come and find out how to play, if this is new to you – there are prizes! The minibus will be available to bring members to the Centre to all of these activities.

Make a note in your diary for the Christmas Tea on 3<sup>rd</sup> December at the URC, and there will be a Christmas Raffle in the Centre later in the month.

*Caroline Stoneman* – House Committee Chairman (01798) 342942

### HEDGEHOGS—A FEW FACTS

**When do hedgehogs hibernate?** Typically, hedgehogs hibernate from late December / early January until late March time. However, this is very dependent on the weather and the individual hedgehog, as some will hibernate earlier or later and some not at all!

**What should I do if I disturb a hibernating hedgehog by accident?** A hedgehog that has gone into hibernation uses up valuable body fats if they are disturbed. If you do accidentally disturb a hibernation nest, cover it back over with a thick layer of dry leaves and perhaps leave some dog food and water nearby, so if the hedgehog does wake up, he can easily find something to eat before he goes to find a new hibernation spot and rebuilds his nest.

## DUNCTON VILLAGE HALL

At the AGM on October 4, Tom Cole, chairman, reported on another busy year for the Village Hall, with it being used for weddings, family parties, funeral receptions, Rother Valley Croquet Club functions, camping, cycling events, and First Aid courses. Plus weekly art, qigong, choir, and yoga.

The Macmillan Coffee morning on September 29 raised a splendid £580 – many thanks to all who helped and supported. The touring Rude Mechanical Show will return on July 4 – after a record attendance of 110 for their show this year on a lovely July evening. Truly, a welcome treat. Next summer a Fun Dog Show is planned to raise funds for Holy Trinity church.

We remain in a healthy financial position which has allowed us to continue to improve facilities. Acoustic panels installed in October 2022 have very much improved the sound quality. The very recognisable red chairs had served us well, but were showing their age, so we have invested in smart new grey chairs and round tables for larger events. Feedback from hirers has been very positive. The new 5G wi-fi hub has improved internet and mobile phone reception.

This ongoing improvement programme will benefit the local community for years to come. If you haven't visited for a while, you will surely like what you see - new floor, windows and doors, curtains, and a heating system upgrade, plus new crockery, glassware, portable electrical appliances – and an endless supply of teaspoons to replace those that go 'missing'. The new Community orchard is developing well, and the balcony area has been tidied to improve the view across to the South Downs.

We must thank Rob Knight for his excellent work in managing the Hall, dealing with hirers, and undertaking most of our maintenance work. Also, Becky Francois for cleaning and housekeeping; Andy Gadd for mowing the recreation ground; and Sioux Allen for gardening. And of course, all the Committee (Andy Beadsley, Alison Pindell, Tom Cole, Peter Thomas, Hilary O'Sullivan, Helen Clifford, Sue Thomas) who freely give so much time to ensure our valuable community asset is kept in good order and the business managed properly. We offer generous discounts for locals and can help with community and charity events – please contact Rob on enquiry@dunctonvillagehall.org. It's a great venue with wonderful views, easy access, and a large car park, and we wish to see the Hall used and enjoyed by everyone in the local community.

Tom Cole

cole.tom1111@gmail.com

## SLUGS

by Michael Blencowe for Sussex Wildlife Trust

I've had a strange fascination with slugs since I was a little boy. Back then I believed that they were homeless snails that had lost their shells. It turns out I was right. Sort of. The whole eviction process had started as far back as the murky Mesozoic when some land snails cast off the shackles of a shell and evolved into slugs for some truly independent living. Sure, shells are great for protection and will help you to avoid drying out but they're clunky and require calcium to construct. Without them you can roam anywhere and (to name-check another mollusc) the world's your oyster.

The slug's shell has never been completely lost — a fragment remains hidden under their skin, a tiny, shrunken souvenir of their snail ancestry. Another link to their slimy dynasty is that all slugs, like all snails, are both male and female. As hermaphrodites, they possess both sets of sexual organs and this means that, if the situation dictates, they can go it alone and simply self-fertilise to produce their offspring. A true state of independence. Self-fertilisation creates a clone - or in a slug's case hundreds of clones – but the problem with inbreeding is a lack of genetic variability. Clones all possess the same weaknesses. An entire slug population can be wiped out by the same parasites and pathogens. To produce varied and resilient offspring, most slugs go in for the more old-fashioned approach of finding a partner for a quick rustle in the undergrowth.

But one garden slug species has turned this chore into art - a flamboyant celebration of a lack of independence. The spotted and striped Leopard Slugs start their performance by chasing each other around a tree, giving each other sonic, sensuous strokes and cheeky nibbles. Then they climb, shimmy along a branch, and descend on a rope made of their own mucous. Here, hanging in mid-air, the slugs evert their sexual organs, entwining them to create a moonlit globe. This graceful, balletic trapeze performance must be one of the most mesmerising sights on our planet. If you search hard enough, you can find beauty in the strangest places. Still, if I was strolling through the woods at night, I'd hate to walk into it face-first.

*Sussex Wildlife Trust is a conservation charity for everyone who cares about nature in 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. Please consider joining us. Your membership will help us challenge decisions that threaten wildlife, care for more than 30 nature reserves, and inspire the next generation about the wonders of the natural world. It's easy to join online at [sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join](http://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join).*

## REMEMBERING LIFE AS THE VILLAGE POLICE OFFICER IN DUNCTON

Within living memory, Duncton had a police house and a village bobby. One of the last was Ken Adsett, who moved here from Crawley in 1966, when a call went out for volunteers for a country detachment. A dream job for a Sussex countryman. His early days on the beat were covered on a pushbike until it was replaced with a Velocette, a motorcycle hand-built in Birmingham in the 60's, which later gave way to a Morris Minor van.

Policing was "hands on" in those days and the police house was a port of call for anyone with a problem. Cans of fuel were kept at the house to help those who ran out - usually on Duncton Hill. Ken patrolled at night, sometimes in the company of the special constable, Mr MacPherson, who lived in West Lodge at the top of Burton Park drive and was the head gardener at St. Michael's School.

Here is Ken in the early 1970's, really pleased with his new police van.



It fell to the local bobby to patrol the grounds of both St. Michael's and Seaford College. Coming across four young lads hiding in the bushes one night, PC Ken loaded them into the back of his van and returned them back to Seaford College from St Michael's, where a tryst had been arranged with some of the girls. No names were taken and no report was made to the headmaster. They were allowed to slip back to their dormitories.

As a country policeman, it was easier to sort out minor matters on a personal basis rather than through the courts. When a handbag was lost in the village but known to be in the possession of another villager, Ken made a visit to ask if he could return the bag to its owner. "Yes, Mr Adsett, of course", came the answer.

For a keen naturalist, being out on the beat afforded some wonderful sightings of flora and fauna such as bitterns and black terns on the Burton Park lakes, woodlarks and tree pipits (the latter now on the red list of endangered British birds) on Lavington Common as well as a rare sighting of crossbills in Selham. The police house garden grew an abundance of vegetables and cups of tea were on offer all around the village.

There were a few excitements in the mostly gentle life. During the floods of 1968, the owner of Lilac Cottage had to be rescued from her flooded home and the police station in Petworth then sent Ken to investigate cries for help coming from near Isling Bridge. By torchlight, a man could be seen standing in the river on the roof of his car. Wading into the strong current but keeping a tight hold on bushes and branches, PC Ken reached the car and persuaded the man to climb onto his back landing him safely back on the bank and earning an award from the Humane Society.

There were occasional break-ins at more remote properties and assisting the coroner could be stressful, but for Ken and his wife, their days in Duncton were the happiest of times.

Footnote: Police houses were sold off during the 1970's due to changes in policing methods such as use of panda cars.

Sue Laker in conversation with Ken Adsett

*What's a policeman's favourite sweater?*

*A pullover!*

## DUNCTON HARVEST FESTIVAL

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October, we held a Harvest Supper and Pub Quiz, kindly hosted at The Cricketers by Ruth and Martin Boulton. 29 enthusiastic quizzers comprising 7 teams came along to enjoy a hearty pub supper and challenging quiz, which was expertly led by our brilliant quizmaster Rev'd David. The competition was fierce, quiz questions taxing, and a great time was had by all. The subtle differences between a Bain Marie and a Sous Vide will be hotly contested for some time!



As well as getting our village community together it was a fundraising event for Holy Trinity Church, and from ticket sales and proceeds from a raffle held on the night, we raised a total of £650.00. This will go towards the restoration of our lovely church organ.

Our church needs to fundraise every year to keep covering the running and maintenance costs so that it can be available not only for our bimonthly services, but also for weddings, funerals and christenings. This was a really fun evening that all those who attended much enjoyed, with the added benefit of raising this amount for our lovely church.

Two days later on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October we had our Harvest Festival service at Holy Trinity, led by Rev'd David. On a glorious warm autumnal morning, the church looked fabulous – beautifully decorated by Penny Sanders and Bente Darley, and we all enjoyed the fellowship and traditional harvest hymns with music from Neil Perrow.

Louise Hartley

## DESERT ISLAND DISCS – JEAN SLATTERY

1. **Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D Minor**, played on a huge church organ. When I was 11, the new Coventry Cathedral was consecrated, the old gothic one having been destroyed by Nazi bombing. Dad took us to a celebratory organ concert there and I remember being amazed by the intense colours of the stained glass by John Piper and, when this was played, it blew my socks off!

2... **Here Comes the Sun by the Beatles**. Anything by the Beatles brings back my teens. It is redolent of summer and was memorably used as the theme tune for the BBC's holiday programme on winter Sunday teatimes- log fire, the kids' toys all over the floor and crumpets for tea.

3. **Jumping Jack Flash by the Rolling Stones**. I was crouched around a transistor radio with schoolfriends in a Welsh field when we first heard this played on Radio 1. To this day I play it full blast on long drives in the car. Having read Keith Richards's autobiography, I found it was named after his gardener, Jack at West Wittering!

4. **River Deep, Mountain High by Tina Turner**. A wall of sound by an amazing woman - we saw her perform this live at Wembley Arena in the '90s - a staggering performer. Another one for playing loud in the car when my daughters were small - Ruth could belt out Steamy Windows, aged 3.

5. **Cecilia by Paul Simon**. Memories of art student days in a shared house playing the Bridge Over Troubled Water LP, while working on photography or painting. We often cycled to our studios dressed in flared jeans or Laura Ashley dresses..

6. **Baker Street by Gerry Rafferty**. Terry Wogan once called this " the greatest record in the history of the Universe" - I agree! I can't play any musical instrument but this makes me wish I could play the saxophone.

7. **Let's Stick Together**. by **Bryan Ferry** Another old favourite which Ellen, Ruth and I saw him perform live in Leicester in March 2020 - in the nick of time just before the first lockdown - we didn't catch Coronavirus!

8. **Zorba's Dance by Mikis Theodorakis**. A very recent memory from our holiday in Crete this September - it was played live in the street in Chania, and everyone was dancing and clapping along as it gets faster and faster. It would remind me of many happy holidays in Greece, in tavernas by harbours, eating feta and pork souvlaki, courgette fritters, baklava, and fruit with yoghurt and honey!

My luxury would have to be a huge sketch book and pencils, which could serve as a diary too and for designing some sort of shelter!

With the whole of the Bard to go at, I think I'd have to take a sensible book by Ray Mears or Bear Grylls on how to survive on a desert island!

Jean Slattery and her husband Dan, have lived in Duncton for many, many years.



# **CHRISTMAS TREVE**

**Welcome to our  
Annual Winter Art Exhibition**

**Saturday 11th November  
11-5pm**

**Treve Cottage,  
River Common GU28 9BH  
[www.trevefestival.weebly.com](http://www.trevefestival.weebly.com)**

**A selling exhibition of prints, paintings, glass, jewellery,  
weaving, cards, wood carving and ceramics by local artists**

**Demonstrations of  
Spinning, Weaving, Willow work  
and Wood Carving**

**Visit the Printmaking Studio  
Meet the artists**



**Enjoy a glass of Mulled wine and a mince pie from the pop  
up cafe around the log fire and listen to festive music  
performed around the cottage.**

**Free Festive Art Activity outside (weather permitting)**

**Free Parking Free Entry  
Donations to WaterAid welcomed**

## RECIPE

### PUMPKIN SOUP

Here's an autumn recipe to use up any leftover Halloween pumpkin.

#### **Ingredients**

One and a half pounds of pumpkin, deseeded, peeled and cubed  
4 tablespoons of olive oil  
2 tablespoons of honey  
1 banana  
1 small to medium onion, finely chopped  
1 carrot finely chopped  
1 stick of celery, finely chopped  
1 clove of garlic, finely chopped  
1 teaspoon medium curry powder  
Half a teaspoon of ground coriander  
Quarter teaspoon of ground nutmeg  
Quarter teaspoon of ground cinnamon  
1 cup of coconut milk  
1 cup of chicken stock  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper  
Juice of one lime

#### **Method**

Pre-heat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C)  
Combine the pumpkin cubes with two tablespoonfuls of the olive oil and the honey in a bowl and place in a baking dish.

Put the unpeeled banana in a separate baking dish. Bake both the pumpkin and the banana in the oven until the pumpkin is soft (around 20-30 minutes).

Heat the remaining two tablespoonful's of olive oil in a large saucepan and fry the onion, carrot and celery over low to medium heat until soft.

Add the garlic, curry powder, coriander, nutmeg and cinnamon, mix to combine and cook for another 3-5 minutes.

Peel the banana and add the flesh together with the pumpkin, coconut milk and chicken stock to the saucepan and simmer the contents for 10 minutes.

Puree the soup with a stick blender and season to taste with salt, pepper and lime juice. Sweeten with additional honey or brown sugar, if desired.

Sue Laker

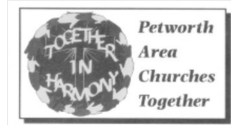
## MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

It was a beautiful sunny day when we held the Macmillan Coffee morning in the village hall. A steady stream of people came throughout the morning who were very bountiful in their giving. We received very generous prizes for the raffle and this all meant £580 was raised. Macmillan is a charity that has touched many people's lives and it is held in high esteem.

Thank you so much for those who gave of their time to help set up and work in the kitchen and we were grateful to the ladies from Tillington, Sheila Davis and Viv Blunt, who ran the raffle. We also had a lovely assortment of cakes including gluten free and dairy free which ensured everyone was catered for. As well as a fund raising activity, it was a good social event.

Helen Clifford

## PACT PETWORTH FOOD BANK FUNDRAISING CONCERT



At 7pm on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November** PACT is organising a Concert with the UK Forces Veterans Show Band in aid of the Petworth Food Bank. The Band, which is under the Musical Directorship of Petworth resident Ian Young, will be appearing at the Herbert Shiner Hall, South Grove, Petworth GU28 0ED

The band consists of personnel who have served as musicians in the armed forces' bands, the army, the band of HM Majesty's Royal Marines and The Central Band of the Royal Air Force and all are now active professional musicians and will display their versatility with the styles of music that creates a party atmosphere, including tributes to:

Earth Wind & Fire, Chic, The Drifters, Tina Turner, Tony Bennett and many more. The programme will also include an ABBA singalong. The evening would not be complete without the sounds of Glenn Miller and the foot tapping golden age of swing.

There will also be guest appearances from local singers and musicians including Sasha Kramp, and a Christmas arrangement by Brian Knowles. So an evening not to be missed. There will be a bar, raffle and free parking for all attendees.

Listen to the Band: <https://on.soundcloud.com/kgS3a>

Free Parking Bar Raffle prizes

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and at Austens Home Hardware, Market Square, Petworth (cash only)

## GRAFFHAM CE INFANT AND DUNCTON CE JUNIOR SCHOOL



It has been a busy start to the new school year and it has been lovely to see everyone back. The School is looking fantastic after much needed refurbishments over the summer too.

We welcomed 19 new children this September at Graffham and they have settled in so well. They have been getting to know their new teachers and have made lots of new friends. We have been supporting them to get used to the daily rhythms of school life and introducing them to art, music and PE sessions throughout the week. They also enjoyed a visit from the West Sussex Book Bus where they had their first experience of selecting some books for their classroom. This brought much excitement to the children and they couldn't wait to get back into school to read the new books.

We have also been fortunate to have a visit from the Arts Society where the children took part in a poetry workshop. This was enjoyed by everyone and was a very valuable resource for us to have, so thank you to the Art Society for coming along. Our older children in Year 1 and 2 have settled back in and have been enjoying our after school club offering this term. Martial Arts is a new club for us this term and we are lucky to have one of our Parents and Governors (who is also a qualified Martial Arts instructor) to run it for us. Classes have proven very popular along with after school childcare clubs, Multi-sports, Dance and Gymnastics.

Over at Duncton, our Yr4 class started their forest school sessions and Yr6 had their first MRC taster day this month. Both schools have just enjoyed celebrating Harvest with assemblies at both schools. All donations which the children brought in have gone to Stonepillow in Chichester.

Our PTA, Friends of Graffham and Duncton, continue to fundraise on our behalf. Our weekly Friday Cake Raffle is a big success and brings much excitement to the children in our assembly on a Friday. They also held a Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan for us where we welcomed parents and friends of the school from both sites. A group of Yr 5 children are also supporting this worthwhile cause by selling cake and lemonade during school hours this week. We are very proud of their efforts masterminding this. The next big event for FGD is our Halloween Party - to be held at Graffham school after half term. This is always well attended and supported by families. It is a good opportunity for us to bring the school community together in this way.

## **SUSSEX WILDLIFE TRUST'S FOREST COPSE APPEAL, EBERNOE COMMON**

Sussex Wildlife Trust is currently in the process of trying to raise £110,000 in order to purchase three fields adjoining our nature reserve at Ebernoe Common. This is an important opportunity to make more space for wildlife, transforming this land to benefit wildlife, including nightingales and dormice.

The central field was once part of an ancient woodland called Forest Copse, which was probably felled during the last war. However, the soil of this field still has a 'memory' of that woodland, as evidenced by bluebells and oak saplings growing in the open field.

Our vision is to see the woodland regenerate in the coming years and decades. The other two fields will be managed to create species rich grasslands, which will be done by grazing and cutting to reduce nutrient levels. The hedgerows will be encouraged to spread into the fields to form dense scrub, the perfect habitat for nightingales. This will also improve flight-lines for bats and create corridors for dormice.

The purchase of these fields will further enrich a reserve that is already one of the most biodiverse in Sussex.

We are very grateful to everyone who has already donated. We're delighted to say that we are now over three-quarters of the way towards our target of £110,000.

If you would like to help us make this vision possible, you can donate today.  
<https://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/forestcopse>



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## NOVEMBER

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Thursday 9th</b>   | Noonans Valuation Day                                  |
| <b>Friday 10th</b>    | Basket Weaving Workshop                                |
| <b>Wednesday 15th</b> | Suzie Songtime - Toddler Group                         |
| <b>Thursday 16th</b>  | Christmas Block Printing Workshop with Hannah Watchorn |
| <b>Thursday 30th</b>  | Wreath Making Workshop with Karen Watson               |

## DECEMBER

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| <b>Friday 1st, 8th, 15th &amp; 22nd</b> | Late Night Shopping        |
| <b>Sunday 3rd</b>                       | Christmas Lights Switch On |
| <b>Saturday 9th</b>                     | Elf School Starts          |
| <b>Sunday 31st</b>                      | New Year's Eve Dinner      |

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By Caroline Shenton

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023

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By Christopher Bradley

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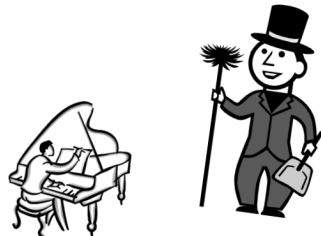
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# The Arts Society West Sussex

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On **Tuesday 5th December** Sarah Linton will give a talk on

## “Christmas: Backstage at Covent Garden”

Every year the Opera House puts on a season of Christmas shows, both ballet and opera. This talk takes us into the wings and down the traps to see how they cope with magic coaches and snow bags, plus 17 Sugar Plums and 12 Princes.

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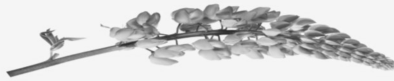
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