

Three Parishes

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TAWNY OWL—photo Sussex Wildlife Trust

Masks

Tawny Owl

Kids' Pages

Farming Life

Venison
Meatballs

p.17

p.20-21

In the
middle

p.28

p.35

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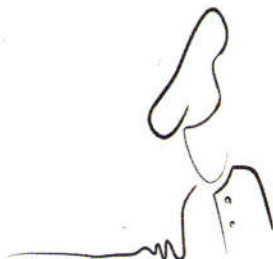
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EDITORIAL

The skillsets and abilities of others, and many of the things that recur on a regular or seasonal basis, happily remain a mystery to me. The talented artist who has been painting exquisite flowers in our garden, the cardiac surgeon busy on one of our parishioners, the autumn spider constructing her intricate webs, the salmon homing after thousands of miles at sea to the river where it started life, the migrational instincts of the swallows - all are outwith my schooling ,or my memory, or both.

One of the recurrent and eagerly awaited pleasures of each month in this magazine are the articles written by Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust which cast light on some of the wonderful obscurities of nature, (this month on page 21).

Then there are the monthly gardening tips from Gillie Ross, the delightful choice of poems from Carolyn Purnell, ‘news from the valley’ (Upwaltham) from Sue Kearsey, the Duncton school updates, the kids pages and more. This month the God message (page 9) is contributed by the Canon John Bundock who has helped us all out during the interregnum.

The considerable infrastructure and effort required to produce this magazine not only depends on the editorial team and the management committee, but also the compilation skills of Angela Gresham-Cooke and Barbara Neighbour. It depends also on the magnificent distribution leadership of Bill Creasey and the army of deliverers (see page 10).

The magazine team are also grateful for the continued loyal support of the advertisers, who keep it afloat financially, and of course, especially, to you the readers and contributors.

Please, please, continue to use the services of those local firms who advertise in the magazine remembering to mention where you saw their advertisement. And please unleash your own very talented skillsets and abilities by sending in your very own contributions.

NEXT MONTH

We would particularly welcome articles on your favourite wedding present, and what is it that makes it your favourite?

Also, your pet portrait and stories about your pet. We have a lovely story on page 30 to start you off!

AS FROM THE RECTORY by Canon John Bundock

*Then to the new eyes of thee
All things by immortal power,
Near and far,
Hiddenly
To each other linked are
Thou canst not stir a flower without troubling a star.*

These words from a poem by Francis Thompson have a particular relevance to the two different but related environmental challenges we face, upon which the future well-being, perhaps survival, of the human race depends; global warming and pollution. We live in a vast interconnecting universe and our choices and decisions can have unintended consequences, perhaps unknown to us.

An article in a recent newspaper was headed, “Blue jeans rocked the world, now they’re polluting its lakes.” Denim jeans are the world’s most popular article of clothing. Every time a pair is put into a washing machine they release between about 50,000 and 60,000 microfibrils. These have been found in the digestive tracts of rainbow smelt in the Canadian Great Lakes. They could take months to break down and we don’t know what effect they could have on fish or other aquatic wild-life.

There is a link between my driving a diesel car and the possible extinction in the wild of polar bears by the end of this century. The exhaust fumes contribute to the depletion of the Ozone Layer, with consequent rising temperatures that melt the polar ice cap with large pieces breaking away. Polar bears are now losing their fishing platforms and access to the main item on their diet, seals.

It’s particularly disturbing that creation is being exploited with full knowledge of the effects of the action being taken. There are examples of this almost every day in our newspaper. These are a few I have seen during in the course of just two weeks. “Amazon forests ravaged by 6,600 blazes in a month”. Much of the land cleared is used to grow soya to feed to pigs, cattle and poultry, the products of which are part of our diet. “Protected forest opened up to loggers cutting timber for China.” This refers to the decision of the government of Cameroon to allow half of the 350,000-acre of Ebo forest, an intact eco-system for at least 160 species, to be opened up for logging. The timber will go to Europe and China. “Air pollution gives babies poorer lungs.” Two studies in Germany and Denmark highlighted the effects upon their long-term health of children being exposed to pollution.

The second account of creation in the Book of Genesis refers to God providing the Garden of Eden for Adam and Eve to “till and care for it.”

This means that God has entrusted his creation to us to till and care for it.” The Bible provides a commentary on what this means. To ‘till’ is to use God’s creation for our needs and delight and to meet the needs of others, especially the poor, the hungry and the powerless, both now and in the future. To till and to care for it, is to recognise we are to be responsible and wise stewards of what is not ours. And as we till and care for God’s world we need to be more aware of the effects of decisions we make and actions we take, conscious that *Thou canst not stir a flower without troubling a star.*

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR EFFORT.

Are you reading the Three Parishes magazine? Do you wonder how it makes its way through to your letterbox come wind, come shine? Do you know the mystery hand that brings it to your door?

Well, now is the time to join us in saying thank you to the positive army of generous minded people go around every month to deliver the magazine to your neighbourhood.

The magazine is professionally printed out of the area and then delivered to Bill Creasey in Tillington. For many years now, he has separated all 500 magazines into carefully counted piles, with the advertising Flyers, to be distributed to volunteers in each village to give to their neighbours. He then delivers them personally to each distributor. This in itself is a great labour of love.

Each distributor has a “patch” and has to post it to every household in their part of the three parishes within a few days.

The magazine costs are completely covered by the advertising (thank you Tina) and with the voluntary effort to deliver every copy, it means that each household receives this little treasure 10 times a year, packed with interest, information and amusement completely free of charge.

Thank you to all these good neighbours in the parishes of Duncton, Tillington and Upwaltham.

Arthur and Marie Bing, Hugh and Catherine Rolfe, Ken and Shirley Green, Brian and Janie Lever, Jenny Lowe, Lorna Clive, Gerald and Angela Gresham Cooke, Maggie Lewis, Tina Bahns, Maria Compton, Shelley and Ian Ferguson, Charlotte and Guy Verdon, Jez Cowley and Mary Connor, Bob and Annie Sneller in Tillington, Upperton and River; Sue Kearsey in Upwaltham; Glynis Cole, Louise Exall, Helen Clifford, Shane Blewitt, Ruth Aitchison, Penny & Andrew Crawford, Michael de Burgh, Liz Beadsley and Bente Darley in Duncton.

We appreciate what you do for the whole community. It is further proof of our good fortune to live in such a special part of the world, surrounded by so many good people.

NOTICE BOARD

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

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ON SATURDAY 3rd OCTOBER, BREAKFAST will hear Hilary Bartle Chief Executive of Stone Pillow, the charity that helped Chichester's homeless. No physical breakfast yet, but by Zoom. Details from Gerald at Geraldgreshamcooke@gmail.com. Time 9am. Women also very welcome!

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GOOD NEWS!

We are delighted to say that the Tillington Village Hall has now re-opened. The Hall has been cleaned and is ready to let again from now. Special rates for residents.

We need to book only those activities currently permitted by the Government, and thus we reserve the right to decline those which are not.

Details from the Hall's Booking Secretary, kateknight1972@btinternet.com or 07989 620 857.

VENISON – MEAT FOR KINGS AND COMMONERS

Vegetarians read no further. This is for carnivores only. Venison was at one time the meat of kings. William the Conqueror made a hunting ground of the New Forest. The punishment for stealing the King's venison was so gory that it is best not to go there. If you are-tender hearted, I have already warned you to read no further.

But venison is a low-cholesterol red meat now available to all. In Britain, producing venison is more about deer management than putting meat on the table. The U.K.'s deer population has been increasing and is now estimated at over 2 million, so culling is necessary to ensure that deer remain healthy and herds are of an appropriate size. Estate managers have to understand the deer-holding capacity of their land and have an effective cull plan to reduce deer vehicle collisions, to ensure older deer don't die of starvation and to protect planting programmes. The by-product of management of the U.K.'s six different species of deer is venison (the collective name for deer meat regardless of species). Due to Covid 19, the restaurant industry was so badly hit that prices paid to game dealers fell by about two thirds.

The Germans and New Zealanders have developed industries with massive investment in processing equipment to deal with carcasses on a larger scale and are pushing their consequently cheaper meat into Sainsbury's and Waitrose, among others. Please don't buy airmile venison burgers and further hurt those who depend on venison for their livelihood in this country. Local suppliers of British venison are desperate to find a reliable market with repeat custom in the current climate.

The MoD asks for volunteers to control the numbers on their estates. The training programme is strict and it means dusk or dawn spent out usually in the wet or cold, selecting a cull animal that conforms to the management plan. Always, though, we must respect the animal. We have to remove the entrails, check for signs of disease and carry the heavy carcass back to a vehicle – sometimes a few miles away.

We always avoid headshots but the unscrupulous will have no such qualms, their objective being less damaged meat over a more assured approach to a humane ending. Food hygiene and animal welfare regulations are strict and rightly so. Supplying meat to the public requires registration as an Approved Game Handling Establishment although our MoD culls can be kept for own consumption, or sold to a game dealer, currently at rates less than £1 per kilo.

Many a night I've hoped to visit the butcher the next day with a carcass to top up the freezer with sausages, burgers, haunch or fillet and returned disappointed. The deer smell you coming a mile off if the wind is in the wrong direction. But when things go well, I've a lot of friends looking for an invitation to a barbeque. Do buy some venison, but please buy British where possible.

Guy Shepherd

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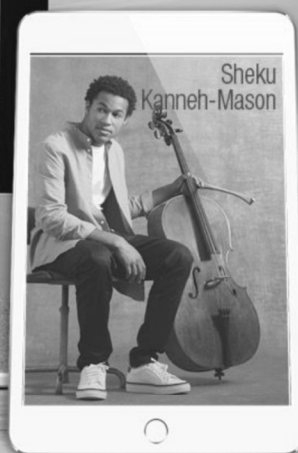
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MY DESERT ISLAND DISCS

By Mike Eyre



Mike is Honorary Consul for Malawi. Who knew we had a consulate in the Parish? Born in Hartlepool, he was an apprentice at British Steel aged 16, worked as a welder on the North Sea oil rigs and joined the UK state power company to supervise construction of nuclear reactors. Mike has an engineering career which still finds him assessing insurance claims on major power plants around the world and running his own renewable energy company focussed on providing Africans with power and water.

All Things Bright and Beautiful – Kings College Choir, Cambridge evokes memories of being sent to Sunday school at the age of 4 to be “got out from under my mother’s feet”.

The Hills are Alive from *The Sound of Music*, Julie Andrews. Accompanied mother to multiple viewings of her favourite film

Goldfinger, Shirley Bassey, (early James Bond Film) - First glimpse of what life might offer outside of West Hartlepool. Dreams of a 12 year old on his paper round.

Fog on the Tyne, Lindisfarne, reminds me always of my roots in the North East.

Fanfare for the Common Man, Emerson Lake and Palmer live at Montreal stadium, a demonstration of the awesome power and emergence of rock in the 70’s.

We Won’t be Fooled Again, The Who, Live at Leeds, as a reminder that we will be always fooled again, in life and business.

Rains of Africa, Toto - released the year of my first of many visits to Africa in 1981.

If I could only take one recording, “Rains of Africa” - so many work, and personal, memories over the last 40 years.

The Bible and works of Shakespeare will keep me occupied for a long time but a collection of Andy Capp cartoons would provide some lighter reading.

Luxury item; “a villa with swimming pool” and sea views, of course.

GARDENING NOTES

A great time in the garden, clearing up, dividing clumps in the borders, moving shrubs and lots more, while the soil is still warm. Mulch the borders with either bark chips, well rotted manure, leaf mould or mushroom compost to help insulate plant roots for the winter. Spent compost from containers can also be used. Collect leaves for making leaf mould, making a pen with wire netting if needed. Any rose leaves that have black spot or any other disease should be destroyed.

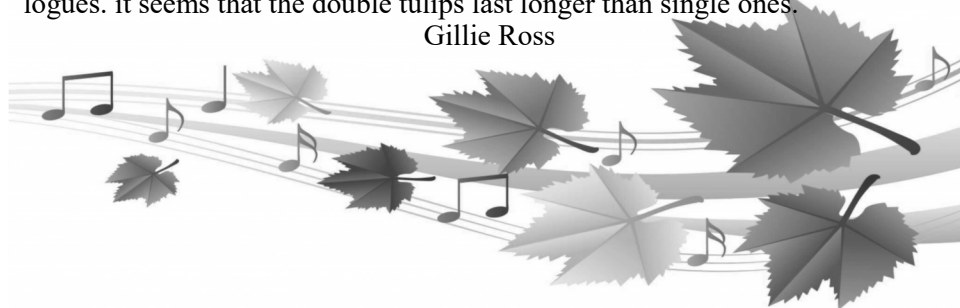
It is also such a good time to write down all those plants that have been successful this year. I planted about 50 acidantha bulbs under a tree where there are hellebores for the winter, followed by foxgloves. The spearlike leaves look so pretty with the white nodding white flowers (like very small gladioli flowers) and very refreshing for the autumn.

Sweet peas can be sown now in a cold frame or outdoors (protect them from mice and slugs). They will grow into big strong plants with early flowers next year. Now is a good time to take cuttings of regal pelargoniums. Cut non-flowering shoots off main plant, take off the bottom three or four leaves, dip into rooting gel and put into pots with cutting compost, cover with plastic bags and put them preferably into a cold greenhouse, otherwise put them on a window sill) They are excellent in containers, blooming from mid June onwards, mostly dark red and luscious.

Clear the straw from around the base of strawberry plants to increase ventilation. Divide congested clumps of rhubarb by digging up and splitting them in several pieces; replace with young shoots. Prune summer raspberries by cutting those canes that have fruited down to the ground, but leave the autumn fruiting ones until February. Apply a winter wash to the trunks and branches of fruit trees to kill off any overwintering pests. Don't forget to wait until November when the Fair comes to Petworth (hopefully this year!) to sow broad beans.

The daffodils should be planted by now; wait until November for the tulips. The RHS website shows lovely mixtures of tulips but get them as soon as possible as they are in great demand and seem cheaper than those in other catalogues. it seems that the double tulips last longer than single ones.

Gillie Ross



LET'S TALK ABOUT BREAD

Man does not live by bread alone but if you had to try, the loaves from our local SØDT Bakery would be the bread to go for. We may need more than simple necessities to make life meaningful but for Troels Bendix, bread has given meaning to his life.

Arriving in London from his native Denmark, where he was executive chef at an upcoming bakery/café, which made wonderful bread, he found nothing of the kind existed in 1999 London. Better make my own, he thought. Selling his flat in Denmark to fund the venture, his bakery in Wandsworth found ready customers in the Lanesborough, the Dorchester and even Clarence House.

Pretty fancy bread you might think, but no, this is just flour salt, water and a bit of alchemy. The secret is in the sourdough starter and the skill of the baker. Sourdough is said to have been accidentally discovered by the ancient Egyptians. Perhaps some flatbread dough was left out overnight and puffed up by absorbing wild yeasts from the atmosphere. Someone may have decided to bake it anyway and the result tasted good.

Timing is everything and the sourdough starter which needs to be added to the next batch of flour and water must be kept live and frothy by the addition of just the right amount of feed to keep it active. A real baker knows if the bread needs more time, more warmth. In contrast to bread made by the Chorleywood process invented in 1961, which shaved the time it takes to make a loaf to three and a half hours, sourdough bread needs time to develop its aromas and flavours.

Bread baked using the Chorleywood method may contain up to twenty ingredients; so called improvers, additives and sugar. Sourdough is gentler on the digestive system, having an effect like probiotic yoghurt, and besides it tastes better. It does not colour up as fast in the toaster as the mass-produced pappy bread, blamed by some for the rising incidence of bowel cancer. No-one will stop you if you want to eat diacetyl tartaric and fatty acid esters of glycerol on a daily basis. When fed to laboratory rats, it tends to put them off their grub.

Moving to Petworth on expiry of his London lease, Troels' passion (other than bread) was to cycle over the Downs. He was immensely lucky to survive a near-fatal fall. By chance, walkers came across him lying badly injured, and summoned the air ambulance. During the long road to recovery, he started baking the sweet Danish treats of his childhood and SØDT (meaning "Sweet") was born. When well enough to set up the Petworth bakery, he used his grandmother's rye recipe for the rye bread – delicious sliced thin with smoked salmon. Now the wheat, rye and spelt loaves are supplied to Duncton's Heath End shop, Fittleworth village store, Cherry's Deli, Lodsworth Larder and the Farmers Market every fourth Saturday in Petworth.

We can expect even more from the SØDT Bakery as new recipes are being tested and plans are afoot for some tasty new loaves. Can't wait.

NOW YOU SEE ME – NOW YOU DON'T

Masks are not something easily ignored. They are, well, somewhat “in your face”. No doubt everyone reading this will now own a mask, the protection of all being high on the agenda for most. We’re still not used to it, and we don’t particularly like it, but we’re learning to live with it. Some are even embracing it, using a mask to make a personal statement or as a co-ordinated fashion item. It was recently reported that an Israeli jeweller had been commissioned to make a diamond encrusted mask for the cool sum of \$1.5m. There must therefore be one individual hoping the pandemic isn’t over too quickly!



Mask from Sutton Hoo

But masks certainly aren’t all about protection. They are used for disguise, performance and ceremony. They have also been used to emphasise status - in life and in death. The most famous mask in the world is probably that from the tomb of Egyptian King Tutankhamun. The death mask presents an idealised portrait of the king fashioned in precious metal, glass and semi-precious stones, its purpose being to allow the soul to recognise the mummy after its daily wanderings. As the mask is purported to look nothing like King Tut, I’m not sure quite how this was supposed to work.

Nearer home, the ornate Anglo-Saxon helmet/mask found during excavation at Sutton Hoo is a functional piece of armour but one shouting the status of its owner, probably a king. The mask shows the face of a man joined by a dragon’s head to become a soaring dragon with outstretched wings. Very impressive.

The Sutton Hoo helmet wouldn’t look out of place in Venice at Carnival time when elaborately-dressed masqueraders strut their stuff for the couple of weeks leading up to Ash Wednesday. Rather than advertising high status, the wearing of the Venetian mask was originally a way for people to hide their identity while out and about. One popular mask which can be seen in Venice pays homage to the plague doctors of the 17th century whose top-to-toe PPE featured a mask with a long beak into which was stuffed a compound of herbs, including viper flesh powder(!), cinnamon, myrrh and honey. This was believed to offer protection against “bad air”, then considered to be the cause of the plague. By comparison, today’s masks do look rather tame.

There are some who will necessarily always have to wear masks in the course of their daily work. And whilst the rest of us will hopefully keep respect for those who do, let us also hope we will once more see masks as largely the stuff of Carnival, theatre, fancy dress parties and the occasional scary (but not too scary!) film.

Barbara Neighbour

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR AREA?

WHAT AND WHERE IS THIS?

Grid reference SU 91518 23652

Answers to 3parishesmagazine@gmail.com by 12th October



ALIEN CRAFT LANDS IN TILLINGTON



Harris barked, he barked again and again, and kept on alerting us to a monstrous arrival in the field just below Tillington Church. It roared like a dragon, it bobbed about like a giant ping-pong ball and was filled with excited passengers. What on earth is this creature? implored Harris.

It was an unscheduled landing of one of the glorious hot air balloons that soar above us in the calm summer evenings, - making me dream of flight which occasioned our poor dog's desperate warnings. But we all loved the visitation from above!

Shelley Fergusson



OCTOBER

by *Christina Georgina Rossetti*

I've brought you nuts and hops;
And when the leaf drops, why, the walnut drops.
Crack your first nut and light your first fire,
Roast your first chestnut crisp on the bar;
Make the logs sparkle, stir the blaze higher,
Logs are as cheery as sun or as star,
Logs we can find wherever we are.
Spring one soft day will open the leaves,
Spring one bright day will lure back the flowers;
Never fancy my whistling wind grieves,
Never fancy I've tears in my showers:
Dance, night and days! and dance on, my hours!

TAWNY OWL

by Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust
Not what they seem

Once upon a time, we were terrified of Tawny Owls. They were a portent of evil in fairy tales, folklore and just about every scary story, film or poem that needed a creepy cliché. But in today's crowded marketplace of international terrorism, climate change and saturated fats the owl's powers to scare us are fading. Recently, it appears this spokesman of the supernatural has got itself a new publicist. Its modern image is one of a cuddly pin-up, more Harry Potter than Hammer Horror.

But stand in the woods on a moonlit night and listen for an unseen owl's ethereal call. It's an ancient, unnerving sound that still speaks to something buried deep within us and ignites a primeval fear. The Tawny Owl is the largest and commonest of our island's five owl species, typically nesting in holes in old trees in our remaining woodlands. But what is it about this bird that has given us the willies throughout history? Let's start with those huge, lifeless black eyes that seem to stare into your very soul. An owl's eyes are not spherical but tubular like two telescopes, and give amazing vision at low light levels. However, the eye's stretched shape and position on the owl's face presents a narrow field of vision. To compensate, a Tawny Owl has special bones and blood vessels in its neck so it can perform that freaky, Exorcist-like head twist. This gives the birds the ability to scan all around without having to move their bodies and arouse detection by prey.

And in the world of a nocturnal hunter, silence and stealth are everything. Special serrated feathers slice the air, allowing it to fly as silently as a phantom and aerially ambush its victims. Incredible hearing achieved by asymmetrical ears allows them to accurately pinpoint the rustle of a nervous vole below. They can hear fear.

And then there's that disembodied voice arising from the darkness. The male's far-carrying baritone 'hooo-huhuhuhooo' and the female's squawky 'kerr-wik' response are like a mis-matched duet between Johnny Cash and Janet Street-Porter. These calls help establish, maintain and defend a breeding territory and from October the birds are at their most vocal. Of course, Tawny Owls really couldn't give two hoots about scaring us but throughout history these spectral calls have provided a soundtrack to our deepest fears. In a society which is becoming increasingly detached from nature, it's time to get out into the woods this Halloween and allow ourselves to be unsettled once again by these mystical birds.

NEARLY NOT THE SOUTH DOWNS

Did you know that in 1923 that the famous 'Seven Sisters' at Beachy Head was about to be built upon? Before 1947 there were no planning restrictions and a developer purchased the Seven Sisters and was going to build a town (appropriately to be called Southbourne, next to Eastbourne) with 10,000 houses. Against the development was a group of young men (and one woman) who were given one month to raise £5 million, an enormous sum in those days, to purchase the land and amazingly, succeeded. Later these same young men formed the Society of Sussex Downsmen which in 2006 became the Friends of the South Downs Society.

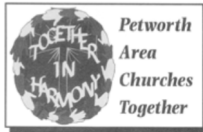
For our Men's Breakfast (now open to Tillington ladies during Zoom time) in September, we zoomed in to hear from the Chairman of the Friends of the South Downs Society (SDS). SDS still helps protect and preserve the beauty of the South Downs through campaigning and conservation, projects and walks and activities.

Looking out on to the Downs every morning from Tillington and Duncton and with Upwaltham nestled in them, we are some of the most fortunate people in the country. Others of us are familiar with walking on the Downs. Whether it is starting from the Viewpoint on Duncton Hill, or driving to the top of Bignor Hill, or starting from Cocking, we can understand that such beautiful countryside does not exist with just the farmers working the fields. In fact there are two bodies that campaign, conserve, improve and protect them - the Friends of the South Downs and the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA).

Whereas the SDNPA, being a Government body, with its HQ in North Street, Midhurst cannot campaign or raise funds for projects, the Friends can campaign for such things as doing away with stiles (50 removed at the last count and replaced with kissing gates); campaigning for better access, providing seats on the Downs, and making improvements to the South Downs Way. The Friends also arrange longer walks and shorter strolls throughout the Downs, numbering over 200 in a normal year, of which I mention some in these pages.

The Chairman spoke of the Downs' rich cultural heritage with Cissbury Ring - the second largest flint mine in England, the rolling chalk acres with 40,000 sheep and the Dew Ponds supplying water for them, the Dark Skies project and, of course, the incredible wildlife all giving recreation to many of us.

We were delighted to hear of such good things on our doorstep, and I know two of the listeners became members of the Society. Gerald Gresham Cooke



PACT Autumn Lecture

'Christian Mission in a Post-Covid World'



John Baxter-Brown

Chief Executive of Global Connections

Online from 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start

Friday 9th October 2020

via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86529015925>

Meeting ID: 865 2901 5925 [No password]

Further info: Gerald Gresham Cooke 01798 342 151; gerald-greshamcooke@gmail.com

Mary Mac's mother's making Mary Mac marry me. My mother's making me marry Mary Mac. Will I always be so merry when Mary's taking care of me? Will I always be so merry when I marry Mary Mac?

A certain young fellow named Beebee wishes to marry a lady named Phoebe. "But," he said, "I must see what the minister's fee be before Pheobe be Phoebe Beebee!"

Wunwun was a racehorse, Tutu was one, too. Wunwun won one race, Tutu won one, too.

TILLINGTON CHURCH SERVICES AND DUTIES
FOR OCTOBER 2020

Date	Day	Time	Service	Sidesmen and/or Readers
4th	17 th Sunday after Trinity	11.00 am	All Age Harvest	t.b.a.
11th	18 th Sunday after Trinity	9.30 am	Communion Service	Reader: Mr Lavington Phil. 4. 1-9
18th	Luke the Evangelist	9.30 am	Morning Service	Reader: Mrs Williams 2 Tim. 4. 5-17
25th	Last Sunday after Trinity	6.00 pm	Zoom Service	t.b.a.

**N.B. The Church is open for the services on 4th 11th and 18th October.
Otherwise it is closed.**

**All Hallows, Tillington
Come and join us for
HARVEST FESTIVAL**

**On Sunday October 4th
At 11.00am**

All ages welcome

Bring toys/food as a Harvest Gift



Kids' Pages

Susan shineth shoes and socks;
socks and shoes shines Susan.
She ceased shining shoes and
socks, for shoes and socks
shock Susan.

Betty Botter bought some
butter
But she said the butter's bitter
If I put it in my batter, it will
make my batter bitter
But a bit of better butter will
make my batter better

What did the polar bear eat after
the dentist removed his sore
tooth?

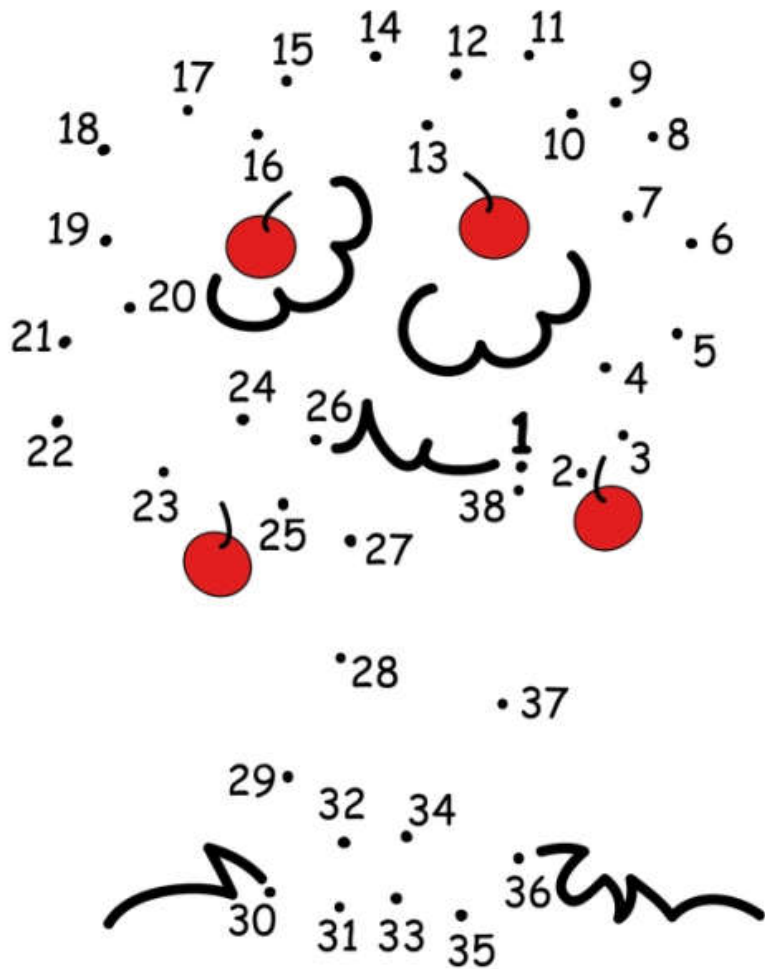
The dentist!

A flea and a fly flew up in a flue
Said the flea, "Let us fly!"
Said the fly, "let us flee!"
So they flew through a flap
in the flue.

Three thin thieves
thought a thousand
thoughts. Now if three
thin thieves thought a
thousand thoughts, how
many thoughts did
each thief think?

Whether the weather be fine,
Or whether the weather be not,
Whether the weather be cold or
Whether the weather be hot,
We'll weather the weather
Whatever the weather
Whether we like it or not

JOIN THE DOTS!



YOU CAN MAKE A FACE MASK FROM YOUR ODD SOCK



Hold a sock upside down and cut off half of the foot section.

Make sure you have an even space from the heel to both ends of the sock, then cut it open down the middle.

Fold it open flat –
it should form a rectangle with the heel area in the centre.

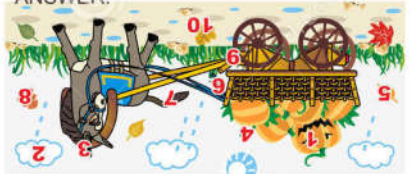
Make two incisions, two cm from both sides.
Use the slits to fasten the mask around your ears.

CAN YOU SPOT THE DIFFERENCE??



FIND 10 DIFFERENCES

ANSWER:



Holy Trinity Church Duncton Harvest Festival - Sunday 4th October at 10:30am

Our Harvest service will be taken by Canon John Bundock, with the organ being played by Malcolm Brinson.



Harvest is always such a special time in our pocket of West Sussex, and this year more than ever we have much to be thankful for.

During the service, there will be an opportunity to donate non perishable, in date, food items. These will be taken to the Stonepillow charity in Chichester, which supports homeless people.

Do come and join us - everyone is warmly invited, and it will be a lovely occasion for our village community to gather together in celebration of the harvest.

Please be aware that current Government guidelines require the congregation to wear masks for the service, and maintain social distancing.

MORE FIRST LINES (books of which are on opposite page)

Roger, aged seven, and no longer the youngest of the family, ran in wide zig-zags, to and fro, across the steep field that sloped up from the lake to Holly Howe, the farm where they were staying for part of the Summer holidays.

Gustave Aschenbach - or von Aschenbach, as he had been officially since his fiftieth birthday - had set out alone from his house in Prince Regent Street, Munich, for an extended walk.

They were not the railway children to begin with.

When a day that you happen to know is Wednesday starts off by sounding like Sunday, there is something seriously wrong somewhere.

Wars came early to Shanghai, overtaking each other like the tides that raced up the Yangtze and returned to this gaudy city all the coffins cast adrift from the funeral piers of the Chinese Bund.

Until he was four years old James Henry Trotter had a happy life.

Happy families are alike; every unhappy family is unhappy in its own way.

“The Signora had no business to do it,” said Miss Bartlett, “no business at all.”

As I walked through the wilderness of this world, I lighted on a certain place where was a den, and laid me down in that place to sleep; and as I slept, I dreamed a dream.

It was five o'clock on a winter's morning in Syria.

It seems increasingly likely that I really will undertake the expedition that has been preoccupying my imagination now for some days.

Last night I dreamt I went to Manderley again.

You are well overtaken, Gentlemen!

“So now get up”.

The first place I can well remember was a large pleasant meadow with a pond of clear water in it.

MORE BOOKS, can you connect them with their first lines?

A Room with a View - E M Forster

Anna Karenina - Leo Tolstoy

Black Beauty - Anna Sewell

Death in Venice - Thomas Mann

Empire of the Sun - J G Ballard

James and the Giant Peach - Roald Dahl

Murder on the Orient Express - Agatha Christie

Rebecca - Daphne du Maurier

Swallows and Amazons - Arthur Ransome

The Compleat Angler - Izaak Walton

The Day of the Triffids - John Wyndham

The Pilgrim's Progress - John Bunyan

The Railway Children - E Nesbit

The Remains of the Day - Kazuo Ishiguro

Wolf Hall - Hilary Mantel

RAINFALL FOR AUGUST

Year	August	Year Total
2020	93mms	472mms
2019	67mms	421mms
2018	82mms	619mms
2017	86mms	594mms
2016	33mms	561mms

Although there was a good amount of rain in the later part of August, it was probably too late to improve the yields of the cereal crops in our area. So far this month we have had just 1mm of rain and not much to come on the near horizon. 11.9.20

John Mayes, Haymarsh, 01798 368345

MY FARMING LIFE

For the farming community, October is traditionally the month of new beginnings when farmers took over new farms. My father had his first farm in 1949 at Duncton Common, a mixed farm of cows, pigs, chickens and arable. In 1961, he went into partnership with his brother John at Strood Farm, Byworth, where they continued mixed farming. During this time, I joined the Ebernoe Young Farmers Club where I first met David, marrying on 10th October 1970 at St Mary's Church, Petworth. In 1978, Mum and Dad moved back to Duncton through Dad's ill health though he still had the glebe land at Duncton, which he had farmed since the 1950's and the Towmena Farm holding.

In 1980, we decided to purchase our own stock and acquired 10 Southdown ewes from a friend at Shoreham and became members of the Southdown Sheep Society. We entered Fat Stock competitions at Swifts Meat Company, Petersfield winning the Supreme Champion one year, against all the big farming estates, making my father very proud.

Lambing time could be difficult as David liked to feed the animals well and having suffered knocks on his wrists, he could not always help the ewes so my father instructed Helen (our daughter) ON how to help with lambing.

During the Big Storm of 1987, we were without electricity for one whole month in Northchapel. David reared the milk calves in their calf-sheds. Heating was very difficult so we had a big fire pit in the garden and a big pan. Helen again helped out and, as a result, the farmer, Warwick Lynwood allowed her to choose her own calf. Hence the start of us having cattle. By rearing her own calves, Helen was able to purchase her first car. Our sheep won prizes at the South of England Show on several occasions and won the National Southdown Sheep Society fleece competition. As a result of this, Mrs Louise Spong bought some of our wool fleeces and had them spun, producing Duncton Southdown yarn.

We have had dogs attack our sheep, summer rain storms causing flash flooding in pastures where sheep graze and have even lost some to drowning. In the early 2000's we decided to purchase three Gloucester Old Spot pigs. But finding that the farmer who sold them to us also had Dexter Cattle, we also purchased two heifers.

When David took retirement in 2007, he had more time to look after the animals and, spending more time at Towmena, we meet more members of the community such as Kate Green, who started the Community Gardens in Petworth. We still supply her with manure in exchange for fallen apples and green waste for the pigs.

David was involved at the beginning of the South Down National Park. He also helps with the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution and Farming Community Network charity and restarted the Plough Sunday Service at Chichester Cathedral also attends Ebernoe. Holy Trinity Church for the farming services. The next one of course being Harvest Festival. Judy Burden (nee Dallyn)



Judy with a prize fleece

THE FARMER

Let the wealthy and great
Roll in splendour and state;
I envy them not, I declare it.
I eat my own lamb,
My chicken and ham;
I shear my own fleece and I wear it.
I have lawns, I have bowers,
I have fruits, I have flowers.
The Lark is my morning alarmer.
So, jolly boys, now
Here's God speed the plough,
Long life and health to the farmers!

(Anon)

ANNIE'S STORY

Annie is a Griffon Bruxellois. One sunny August afternoon in 2019, Annie went missing from my daughter's house in Fittleworth. She had escaped through her garage door. By the time my daughter realised she was missing, Annie had been gone for five minutes. She went looking for Annie and discovered that several people had seen Annie and were trying to catch her. Annie was last seen in Hesworth Common. When we got the message about Annie, we telephoned friends in Duncton and Fittleworth and they came and looked for her. We were out looking for Annie until it got dark. Then we came home and printed pictures of Annie to put up around Fittleworth.



We also contacted Mark Bridger-PreScott an Animal Behaviourist from Pulborough, who had helped us with Annie's behaviour. He put a message on Facebook and contacted all his dog-walking friends, who came out the next morning at 6am to look for her. The next day at about 7am a very kind lady, Amanda, was travelling from Brighton to Swindon passing through Fittleworth, when Annie shot out of the woods onto the main road. Amanda stopped the traffic and other drivers helped her catch Annie, Amanda threw a blanket over her. Amanda went into Petworth and bought Annie some food. Then she contacted a friend back in Brighton and asked her to look on Facebook for missing dogs. The friend saw Mark Bridger-PreScott's message and Amanda contacted him. He knew it was Annie and telephoned us and gave us Amanda's telephone number. We contacted her and she sent us a photo of Annie from her phone. We were so relieved we thought we would never see Annie again. Amanda is a consultant for the Probation Service and was already on her way to Swindon taking Annie with her. All the staff in the Probation Office fell in love with Annie and made her an Honorary Member of the Probation Service. Annie is featured as Miss November on the Probation Services Charity Calendar 2020. Amanda came to visit Annie earlier this year and we keep in touch with her by text. Annie was very lucky and it was a huge relief for us to get Annie back.
Sue Thomas

DUNCTON MILL FISHERY

I'm so pleased to be able to introduce myself as the new tenant owner of Duncton Mill Fishery. My journey at Duncton Mill began almost 5 yrs ago when I rented a space from the Barlavington Estate for my business .The Naked Food Company. I specialise in high-end wedding catering and exclusive private dining, so last year when the opportunity came up to take over Duncton Mill Weddings I jumped at the chance as it was a very obvious natural progression for The Naked Food Company to take.

After securing the wedding venue I gave serious thought to whether I could take over the entire fishery. I realised quickly that farming trout requires a huge amount of training and skills. Unable to take on all aspects of the fishery and farm, I approached Barlavington Estate with an offer to take over the lakes and surrounding land but not the trout farm. They agreed to sell the two businesses as separate entities and I officially took over on July 1st 2020 and on the same day,, Daniel Young took over the trout farm. We were both thrown into a sink-or-swim situation and, with a wealth of experience, hard work and pure dedication to our businesses, we are thankfully both swimming!

I started the fishery with zero members and a host of issues to deal with but after working my way through them I have injected some TLC back into the fishery and it has not gone unnoticed. My membership started at zero and is now over 100, which exceeds my 3-monthly targets. My members don't want for much - a warm welcome, fighting fit trout, great cakes with equally good coffee, and that's exactly what they get.

In the near future I plan to set up a café and cookery school on site in a lovingly restored, 200-hundred-year-old timber barn. It will be the perfect setting for local villagers, walkers and fisherman to come and relax in beautiful surroundings and be spoiled with delicious food & drinks - all locally sourced. The barn will also house the fisherman's clubhouse. A change of use has been applied for on the barn and I very much hope this will be approved before this Christmas – as we all know, things are taking a little longer in the current climate, but one can hope.

Thank you for your continued support and I hope our paths cross in the very near future.

Best wishes,
Carole

Contact: Carole Lindsay email: carole@duntonmillfishery.co.uk
Web: www.duntonmillfishery.co.uk
www.nakedfoodcompany.co.uk

VENISON MEATBALLS (SERVES FOUR)

Sue has lived in Duncton for nearly thirty years and travels extensively in Africa as an energy lawyer with partner Mike.

A recipe adapted from an Italian spicy beef meatball recipe in Gino D'Acampo's "Buonissimo" is a favourite way to cook venison brought home by my son after nights out on the Ministry of Defence estates near Tidworth – see page 12.



500 grams minced venison
50-100 grams Italian salami (one Co-op 50gm pack works, or two packs if you feel extravagant)
3 cloves garlic crushed
70 grams fresh breadcrumbs – brown or white
1 teaspoon dried chilli flakes
3 tablespoons chopped flatleaf parsley
100 grams grated Parmesan cheese
1 egg
2 x 720 gram bottles of passata – or a couple of 400 gram tins of chopped tomatoes works just as well
10 fresh basil leaves
4 tablespoons olive oil
Salt and pepper

Signature Recipe

Combine the minced venison, salami, garlic, breadcrumbs, chilli flakes, parsley and Parmesan in a large bowl and season. Add the egg. Mix the ingredients thoroughly with your hands and then shape into 8 balls. Place on a plate and leave in the fridge for 20 minutes.

Meanwhile, pour the passata, or empty the cans of tomatoes, into a large saucepan or casserole dish with lid. Season with pepper, add the basil leaves and bring to the boil then remove from heat.

Heat the oil in a frying pan and fry the meatballs until golden brown all over. Place the meatballs into the tomato sauce and continue to simmer with pan half covered or place casserole in a low heat oven for one hour. If the sauce gets too thick, add a little water.

Serve two meatballs per person with the sauce and freshly cooked pasta or rice.

Sue Laker

DUNCTON MATTERS

ASH DIEBACK – Communication from Sebastian Anstruther, Barlavington Estate

After several years waiting for the right weather conditions and getting Forestry Commission and Natural England approval, work to fell diseased ash trees and widen rides for wildlife improvement will be starting on the hangers above Duncton, Barlavington, Sutton and Bignor very shortly.

The contractors will do their best to keep disruption locally to a minimum but in any large operation like this there are bound to be problems; please don't hesitate to let me know of any and I'll try and sort them as soon as possible.

The immediate impact on the Hanger woods may be quite noticeable but as you know they will recover and thrive after a few years. These woods which we all love are designated as a European Special Area of Conservation and a UK Site of Special Scientific Interest and our objective is to make them safe for everyone to enjoy as they use the Rights of Way or go about their normal shooting, stalking or farming operations, and to improve the rides over the long term for wildlife, and for access to facilitate proper management.

Replacement tree planting may be carried out along with management of natural regeneration and these plans are currently being discussed with Forestry Commission and Natural England, with climate change very much in mind.

Fireworks 2020

The Parish Council has decided not to hold the annual Fireworks and Bonfire, usually held at the recreation ground in November. This is due to the ongoing situation with the Covid-19 pandemic. The Council regrets having to cancel but the health and safety of everyone is paramount. The Council hopes that the Fireworks can resume in 2021.

Support for Graffham CE and Duncton CE Junior Schools

The Parish Council and Duncton Village Hall Committee were delighted to support the Schools over the summer holidays by making the Hall and Recreation Ground available for a Sports Club. The Club was organised by South-coast Sports on two separate weeks during July and August. Helen Martin, Head Teacher, reported: *This was such a success! Thank you for enabling our children to benefit from coming back together again with James [Belding] and his team. It has been hugely beneficial and supportive to the children of Duncton and Graffham Schools.*

Peter Thomas
Chairman, Duncton Parish Council

DUNCTON COFFEE MORNINGS

What a change to our lives the pandemic has brought. During the months of complete lockdown some of us carried on the coffee morning using Zoom and bringing our coffee to the computer. This worked well enabling folk to communicate with each other and support one another. Since July, Ruth and Martin at the Cricketers have developed a Covid safe way of doing the coffee morning.

We sit outside on the decking on tables of 6 and Ruth takes coffee orders as we come in and serves us at the tables. Previously she set up the coffee machine and we helped ourselves but this can no longer be the way! For the last few months, we have been enjoying the coffee mornings in this way. It's proved popular with 15 villagers this month. Looking ahead, providing there are no further changes to the restrictions, we hope to keep meeting outside on tables of 6 where we don't move around.. It is usually on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

We are so grateful for the way Ruth and Martin provide this service to the village and very thankful. It is so good to have this communication with one another in these difficult times when it may not be possible to see our families.

Helen Clifford

It's also true that the person who risks nothing, does nothing; has nothing. All we know about the future is that it will be different. But, perhaps what we fear is that it will be the same. So, we must celebrate the changes. Because, as someone once said "Everything will be all right in the end. And if it's not all right, then trust me, it's not yet the end."

Exotic Marigold Hotel

DUNCTON C OF E JUNIOR SCHOOL

Thoughts about the first week back at school from Year 5/6 children at Dunton Junior School

It is fun to be back at school. A lot of things have changed, in a good way. I am happy to see my friends again. Isla-Rose

I am thrilled to be back at school and I love seeing my friends. We have to take quite a few precautions, but we manage. It is definitely worth it. Elphina

It feels good to be back in school. I missed my friends. I enjoy being in Year 5. Charlie

Coming back to school was really exciting. The moment I set foot into the school building, I was so happy to see my friends. Lawrence

I love being back at school. It feels amazing, seeing my friends. We have a lot of space, so it's lovely. Sophia

I think it is quiet weird because I've never had such a big holiday. I love being back and seeing my friends after such a long period of time. Luke

I need to get used to it. I love school it is fun. Elliot

The first week back has been a surprise, but I've enjoyed every moment. The teachers have handled everything very well and it is fun seeing my friends. I look forward to going to school every morning. Connie

It has been such a long time since I last went to school, but it is nice to see my friends again. It is obviously more complicated than that with the bubbles, but we are working out what to do pretty well. Coming back to school has been very helpful to me. I really struggled to get motivated at home. Charlotte

NEWS FROM THE VALLEY

In August Wing Commander John Bell came to visit the Lancaster Bomber Crash site, a place he loves to be.

Nick Moran leader and a group from the Bognor Air Cadets, have made and erected a large wooden bench, a wonderful place to sit with fantastic views to the sea.

John loves to sit and relive his time in 617 Squadron, the fears, the joys and the companionship that these crews lived through together every single night.

We had lunch in the walled garden, and made it another special time for him to remember.

Our other special event was Bryn Griffiths and Katie's wedding at St Mary's last year, with their reception at the Barns.

To raise money for the premature baby unit Bryn and his father Gareth rode their bicycles on one of the hottest days of the year from Ashstead in Surrey to Upwaltham Barns, and back again, a total of 100 miles in a day.

They made it here by 12.00am. Gareth is a keen cyclist, but not Bryn. He had only had a few days practise. We welcomed them with cold drinks and chocolate cake.

How Bryn had the strength and determination to get back on that bike I don't know, I was filled with admiration.

They made it home by 6.0'clock. I don't know how he managed to sit at his office desk the next day. He must have needed a pile of soft cushions.

We are all well in the valley; grand children came back from their work places and universities. They self isolated in our wedding cottage.

Now some are back to work in London, and some back to university in Edinburgh and Cardiff, as are Fiona's children.

Boris keeps changing the goalposts, but we are currently able to do weddings for 30 people. It may all change by the time you read this!

Keep safe.

Sue Kearsley, Upwaltham

THE ARTS SOCIETY - SOUTH DOWNS
CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC meetings now on line

Wednesday 7th October 10.30
The History of the Royal Academy
Caroline Knight

Wednesday 4th November 10.30
Raphael – A Master in the Making
Sian Walters

We regret these online talks are for Members only but if you are interested in joining one of these lectures please contact Hilary 01403 785302

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

www.theartssocietysouthdowns.org.uk

Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers
A peck of pickled peppers, Peter Piper picked
If Peter picked a peck of pickled peppers,
Where's the peck of pickled peppers, Peter Piper picked?

She sells sea-shells on the sea shore
The shells she sells are sea-shells, I'm sure.
For if she sells sea-shells on the sea shore,
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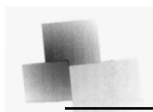
The advertisement for Great Ballard School features a dark background with three small images at the top: a person working at a desk, a school crest, and a group of people outdoors. Below these is the school's name and a slogan. A larger image shows a person sitting in a field looking at a document, with a large building in the background. Contact information and social media icons are at the bottom.

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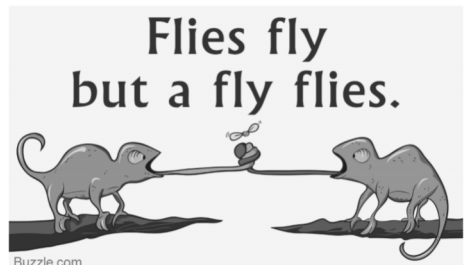
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TILLINGTON – See front pages for Church, Bell Ringing, Parish Council and Village Hall.

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