

Holy Trinity Church Cuckfield

'Joyfully
Serving
Jesus'

**Parish magazine
May 2020**

50 pence

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May 2020

I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you
(Acts 3: 6)

My dear friends,

It was unimaginable when I last wrote for the magazine that our lives would have been so

quickly overtaken by the pandemic associated with Covid-19. The sobering nature of the huge numbers of those succumbing to the virus, particularly the nature of its virulence amongst the elderly and those with underlying health issues, has huge consequences for society. A worldwide crisis of this nature has never arisen so quickly, and it seems extraordinary, but as I write, it is less than a month ago that I was giving an organ recital in St Mary Magdalene's Bolney!

Yet who can have failed to be moved at the selfless nature of all who are seeking to alleviate suffering and help those in need. Those who work within our NHS, staff in care homes and many other facilities, the huge number of people within the community signed up to help those who need help - all display the indwelling love of God in all that they do. All are all made in the image of the God of Love – it is part of our human DNA.

During Eastertide we continue to celebrate the fulness of life we experience as members of the Body of Christ. The words '*I have no silver or gold*' are spoken by Peter as he and John encounter a lame man at the Temple. Pentecost has taken place and Peter - Spirit-filled - offers him none other than new life in Jesus Christ: '*I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus of Nazareth, stand up and walk.*'

This is our privilege too. We are called to display the same self-giving love Jesus revealed through death which led to his resurrection; our treasure to offer the world, indeed the greatest treasure. Let us, no matter what our circumstances, call others to stand and walk in the light of the Risen Christ, who offers true life to all.

With my love and best wishes,

Michael



Charles Le Brun – The Risen Christ

FIFTY DAYS

We rejoice that we are called to celebrate the Fifty Great Days of Easter - the opportunity to reflect on the wonder of God's Love revealed in Jesus Christ. The major marker which leads us towards Pentecost (this year of the last day of May) is Ascension Day, the day we powerfully remember the words Jesus spoke to Mary Magdalene on that first Easter morn: *'Do not hold on to me.'* (John 20: 17) We celebrate this 'letting go' because, ultimately, Christians are led to the great Day of Pentecost, knowing that living life in the Spirit is our call as brother and sister in Christ. The Risen Lord cannot be contained in a neat human way – that perhaps explains why the Gospel and Acts' accounts of the Ascension are so unsatisfactory if we take them like picture book stories!

About thirty years ago, I purchased a Parian ware group in an antiques emporium (that might be a rather grand description of the business!) in Porthmadog, North Wales. It stands nearly 18" high and depicts two female figures. One stands beside the cross on which are the words 'Fount of Mercy,' whilst she helps the other out of water swirling around the base of the rock on which the cross stands.

Although a very Victorian (yet beautifully made) piece of art, it nevertheless speaks of a greater truth. It is, of course, through the cross that Jesus draws us to know his Resurrection life – a life absolutely bound up in the Spirit. However, it is up to US how we respond. God longs for us to respond to the divine call within our lives in order to overflow that grace into the world at large. Part of our call is to imitate Mary Magdalene who herself becomes an Apostle to the Apostles when she says, 'I have seen the Lord!' She doesn't hold on to the physical presence of Jesus but shares her Resurrection experience.

You know I find great inspiration in the early writings of the Church. Leo the Great summed up our Easter Faith given its full utterance to each of us through that first Pentecost thus:

Oh! How swift are the words of wisdom, and where God is the Lord, how quickly is what is taught, learned. No interpretation is required for understanding, no practice for using, no time for studying, but the Spirit of Truth blowing where God wills, the languages peculiar to each nation become common property in the mouth of the Church. And therefore

from that day the trumpet of the Gospel-preaching has sounded loud: from that day the showers of gracious gifts, the rivers of blessings, have watered every desert and all the dry land, since to renew the face of the earth the Spirit of God moved over the waters, and to drive away the old darkness flashes of new light shone forth, when by the blaze of those busy tongues was kindled the Lord's bright Word and fervent eloquence, in which to arouse the understanding, and to consume sin there lay both a capacity of enlightenment and a power of burning.

Rejoice, my friends! The Lord is risen, ascended and glorified - and the Holy Spirit dwells in us and our brothers and sisters in Christ to cover the face of the earth!



FROM THE VICAR'S DESK

An open church One of the saddest things I have had to do over the past few weeks was to lock the church. As we know, the Government suggested that services should be discontinued as a method of avoiding large gatherings. I fully support this. I can also understand the Archbishops' desire for the clergy to set an example. However, it still seems a pity that people have been unable to access a sacred building singly and safely at such a time. That said, there are many things still not understood about the virus. However, we hope that soon restrictions will start to be relaxed slightly. It will be a happy day when we are able to open the doors and worship God in a building we love. Yes, we know that God can be worshipped anywhere, but some 'anywheres' are more special than others!

Community Spirit It has been profoundly moving to see the response within the Cuckfield community to the cause of helping the elderly and those with other care needs. I must also record my sincere thanks to Ann and all at the school for enabling pupils in specific categories to still attend. This has also been the case at Warden Park, and we salute all teachers who have enabled this to happen.

Zooming I am sure that most people will know that we have been most fortunate in quickly establishing the means to carry on worship online using Zoom. We started from nothing, but within the first few days enabled over 100 hundred people to 'attend' on *Palm Sunday*. Holy Week was like no other, yet we were able to fulfil all the acts of worship for the *Three Great Days*, including a *Devotion on Good Friday* by *The Very Rev Nicholas Frayling, Dean Emeritus of Chichester*, who joined us live from Southsea. *Easter Sunday* was certainly very moving to me. One member of our congregation was thrilled that her sister had joined our worship from South Africa.

I sincerely thank Paul Johnson and David Thunder, together with all who participated in different ways. We could not have worshipped together as a community without your help! We also thank *Haywards Heath Baptist Church* for their guidance in setting our system up. Details of all services, together with the Zoom link are on the church website (www.holytrinitycuckfield.org). Please do tell people where to find us. If you click on the link a few minutes before the service time, you will enter a 'virtual' waiting room and then admitted to the assembly – a necessary security device.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals These important ministries are currently suspended in all but the most singular ways. Please do hold all those affected through cancelled markers of faith in your prayers, as well as all those affected at this time in anyway by the circumstances surrounding Covid-19.

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ONLINE EVERY WEEK:

1st Sunday	Family Service, 9.45 am Parish Eucharist (<i>Common Worship</i>), 11.00 am
2nd Sunday	Parish Eucharist (<i>Common Worship</i>), 9.45 am Evensong, 6.00 pm
Other Sundays	Parish Eucharist (<i>Common Worship</i>), 9.45 am
Wednesdays	Holy Communion (<i>Common Worship</i>), 10.30 am
Thursdays	Holy Communion (<i>Iona/Celtic</i>), 9.00 am
Fridays	Holy Communion (<i>Book of Common Prayer</i>), 11.00 am

During this time when physical gatherings cannot take place, all services are now live online via the same Zoom Link, which will be found on the home page of the church website. You can gain access by clicking on the Zoom link you will find on this web page:

<http://www.holytrinitycuckfield.org/>

Please note that after clicking on the Zoom link you will enter a ‘waiting room’ after which you will join the assembly.

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THE PARISH MAGAZINE Copy Date

While we are not currently able to distribute the hard copy edition of the magazine, the online edition is available free of charge, to read on-line or to download as a PDF, from the following link on the church website, from within the 'welcome' tab on the home page:

<http://www.holytrinitycuckfield.org/welcome/parish-magazine/>

Because we are not physically printing, collating and distributing the parish magazine, we are able to move the copy date for the online edition later in the month. As a result:

The copy date for the **JUNE 2020 Magazine is now**
MONDAY 18th MAY

Please email contributions *in WORD format (no PDFs, please)* to:
duty-editor@holytrinitycuckfield.org

GOOD FRIDAY DEVOTION

The Very Revd Nicholas Frayling, Dean Emeritus of Chichester Cathedral, joined us live from his house on the Solent to deliver the Good Friday Devotion via Zoom. In a moving series of reflections, he contemplated suffering, trust and hope. Here are some brief extracts of what he had to say.

One of the saddest aspects of the Covid-19 virus is that many families are unable to be with those whom they love before they die. Often, when we say goodbye to someone, perhaps at an airport or at a train station, we reserve the most important words until the very end: 'I love you', 'God bless you', 'Please keep in touch'. As we catch something of the poignant atmosphere of these last moments by the Cross, we can glimpse something of the loving trust of the one who hangs there, and hear his last words '*Father into your hands...*'

And not only at the hour of our death. Into your hands, every testing experience of our life. Into your hands, our loved ones, our friends, all who are afraid and perplexed at this time. Into your hands, our most difficult decisions. Into your hands, our every waking thought and every moment of our rest.

Underpinning this last word, most of all, is trust. Trust, not only that God knows best, but that God's time is best. This trust, this readiness to receive from God, has been beautifully expressed in a poem by a Benedictine nun, Sister Macrina Wiederkehr. The poet reflects that she wants to lean her head against a great tree and ask what it feels like to lose so much, to be so empty, but then to wait in trust for new life:

The Sacrament of Letting Go:

Slowly

She celebrated the sacrament of
Letting Go...

First, she surrendered her Green
Then the Orange, Yellow and Red...
Finally, she let go of her Brown...

Shedding her last leaf

She stood empty and silent, stripped bare.

Leaning against the sky she began her vigil of trust...

Shedding her last leaf

She watched its journey to the ground...

She stood in silence,

Wearing the colour of emptiness

Her branches wondering:

How do you give shade with so much gone?

And then, the sacrament of waiting began

The sunrise and sunset watched with

Tenderness; clothing her with silhouettes

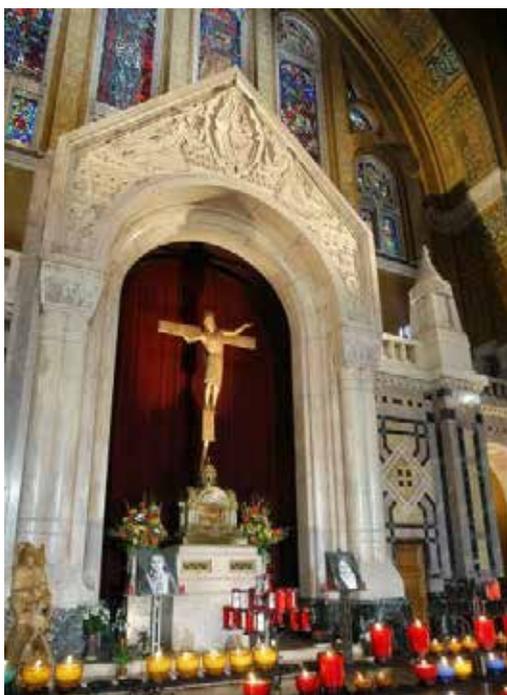
They kept her hope alive.

They helped her understand that

her vulnerability
her dependence and need
her emptiness
her readiness to receive
were giving her a new kind of beauty.
Every morning and evening she stood in silence and celebrated
the sacrament of waiting.

In the ancient Cathedral in Lisieux in Normandy, there is a striking, life-sized carved Crucifix dating from the early 17th century. It has a long inscription in French in which Jesus speaks of all that he is, and how people fail to recognise him. Charles Causley translated it. Here is an extract:

I am the great sun, but you do not see me ...
I am the truth, but you will not believe me ...
I am the victor, but you do not cheer me ...
I am your life, but if you will not name me,
seal up your soul with tears and never blame me.



The inscription is an appeal for a response to the life and teaching of Jesus. Our Lord invites us to be aware of the needs of those around us, those who have a claim on us, places where we should belong, things we should be doing. That invitation concerns our involvement in this wonderful but deeply troubled world. My dear brothers and sisters, in spite of everything, ours is a very *hopeful* Gospel, such *good news!*

The Bengali philosopher Rabindranath Tagore was once asked, ‘What is hope?’ His reply provides a wealth of inspiration, for Good Friday, and for every day of our lives:

Hope is the bird that sings for the dawn while it is still dark

The bird that sings for the dawn while it is still dark: it for us to sing the Lord’s song, even - or perhaps especially - in what is now a very strange land.

BACK TO THE FUTURE

The current COVID-19 emergency has brought social media infrastructures of one sort and another into valuable use, helping isolated members of families to stay in touch, wider society to hold together, so building resilience and developing community. Media that gets itself a bad name in normal conditions often has a habit of coming into its own at times of difficulty. Suddenly, we are all into Zoom, Facebook streaming, WhatsApp groups and YouTube.

It was not a lot different in the high and far off times of the mid-1980s, when hair was big, and lapels and ties even bigger. An evil was at large in the land, and it was called **Citizens’ Band Radio** (often shortened to **CB radio**), a system of short-distance radio, open to unmoderated communications between individuals, over short distances, on a selection of 40 channels within the 27-MHz (11 m) band.

‘Unmoderated’ and ‘citizens’: words enough to strike terror into the hearts of the authoritarian governments of the time, who, regarding it as a threat

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MAP OF CUCKFIELD AREA

Large scale, easy to read Ordnance Survey map of Cuckfield & Balcombe area with street maps & local info. On sale at **Cuckfield Pantry**, High St. and **Balcombe Stores** or online at www.parishmaps.co.uk

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to order, rather like the earlier pirate radio stations, outlawed these amateur uses of radio bandwidth as a source of corrupting language, sloppy jargon and intrusion of privacy - until, just as Radio Caroline finally spawned BBC Radio 1, CB Radio became 'regulated', 'licenced' and civilised by governments.



It is difficult to imagine that Cuckfield Church had its very own **Citizens' Band Radio** network, instigated by a bunch of subversive activists: the then Vicar, The Revd Eric Hayden, and a tightknit network of underground henchmen and women of the parish.

CB Radio had begun in the States: if you ever bombed down Route 66 at 55 mph as I did in the late 1970s in a red Pontiac Firebird (was there any other car?) with a CB Radio installed, you could listen to the squelch of channels being tuned and retuned, voices fading in and out and breaking up, as the truckers yelled to each other 'Breaker, breaker on the side!' (a sign they wanted to join a conversation – yes, the medium did have some courtesies), in order to give the latest sighting of 'Smoky Bear' (police highway patrol cars), as an aid to helping others avoid traffic law violation penalties. No wonder governments did not approve.

Our story now moves, however, to the leafy suburban setting of The Fox and Hounds in Haywards Heath, where David Spear was chairman of **The Square Weald Breakers**, not quite the Red Army Faction, but named from the CB slang 'square-wheeled', meaning 'parked-up', and 'Weald', a pun on 'wheeled' acknowledging its Sussex roots. At its peak, the club had almost a thousand members. David Spear describes their CB network as 'like an informal Yellow Pages. All skills were available, and many acts of kindness were carried out in the community by CB members'. How pale an imitation is today's Cuckfield Gossip! Open, unmoderated communication of this kind was actively discouraged, he recalls, and CB radios and 'rigs' (the name for the base station and mast) were often confiscated by the authorities. When the government finally realised they had lost the argument, 'they adopted a completely different frequency for the new licenced rigs, which meant those we had were still illegal', despite the £15 per annum licence purchased from the Post Office, explains David. 'We were obliged to get a licence and buy new rigs'.

The mid to late 1980's saw some hard winters and, as more and more villages became dormitories as a majority of women joined the workforce, a near national scandal arose with isolated elderly falling at home, breaking hips, without a means to reach their fixed and often remotely located landlines (usually 'in the hall', in the days before cordless phones, of course); and there were instances of some people not being discovered for several days. Locally, it was Horsted Keynes where CB radio was first deployed in a church parish setting as a means of keeping contact with the elderly and across the generations; and hence, when Eric Hayden decided the time was right to roll it out in Cuckfield, it was David Spear with John Challen who was dispatched to look at it in situ and to report back on this subversive medium. One Sunday morning the 'senior' members of our congregation were invited to stay on to have the benefits of the proposed CB network explained to them.

Not all were impressed or convinced ...

It might have been Heather Grant who said, 'I got through two World Wars without this stuff. Why do I need it now?'

(continued on page 21)

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(continued from page 18)

As often with these ventures, though, some funding is always useful in oiling the decision making, and the PCC's donation was joined by a community grant from **Haywards Heath Round Table** (not un-helped, one imagines, by the connections to that august organisation of the likes of Brian Cutler, Pat Gallagher and David Thunder).

David Spear recalls the trip to the local CB Radio shop in Burgess Hill and 'making their day when I bought five or six base stations.' He remembers installing the masts at the Vicarage (then on Broad Street), in the Thunders' attic in Wayfarers on Church Platt while we got to play with a tiny Carla, and other locations around the parish.

The routine was to 'call up' to a rota every morning, Christmas Day included, from the base stations to the elderly who had the 'receivers' - to make sure they were all right, to assess any needs, and to get help to them where required.

It was the nature of the medium that everyone had a 'handle' (a CB 'user name', it would more prosaically be called today): among the callers was Eric 'The Old Vic' Hayden, Daphne 'Girl Friday' Hayden, Ros 'Mrs T' Thunder, after the American TV character 'Mr T', popular at the time; and among the many receivers were Elsie 'Good Fairy' Farley, a lady in Pickwell Lane called 'Pickwick', and another housebound, very disabled lady with very tiny voice called 'Nightingale'. The receiving equipment would need to be brought to church from time to time to have its charge checked, and we can remember overhearing some visitors to the parish one morning saying one to another, 'I have just seen an elderly lady disappear into the church with what can only be described as a CB radio thing under her arm!!'.

One morning a week, a group of Year Six children from Holy Trinity School (then still in the 'old' school) would walk down Church Platt to Wayfarers, gather round the base station in our dining room, and take their turn to call up the list. The children had a collective handle of 'Little Birds', and one morning, at home from the office, I can remember the lorry drivers off the ferry on the way up the M23 from Newhaven joining in on the airwaves and saying 'there's that bird again in bendy village doing her call up' ('bendy village' being the 'handle'

for Cuckfield, as all places had: where we lived in the Midlands, Lichfield, for example, was known as 'three sticks' for its cathedral spires). When the school moved to the new building, a base station was installed there, and Elsie Farley ('Good Fairy') presented the school on its opening with a Good Fairy Rosebush, as a thank you to the children for their care.

Sometimes the 'senior' who was supposed to be receiving the call would simply forget all about it, of course, so sparking an emergency land line call, or a visit to check they were all right. Most of the time they were, or else had been 'over the fields walking the dog'. Occasionally the emergencies were more important: the mercy dash to get Seville oranges because someone was in the middle of making marmalade was one; after The Great Storm of 1987 was another, when, with landlines down for several days and Pickwell Lane inaccessible for fallen trees, the CB radio was the only means of communication (we managed to get a primus stove to 'Pickwick' on that occasion, so she could do some cooking). But one morning call from the 'Little Birds' to Jill Castle on Whiteman's Green did not elicit a response, and on that occasion the scheme paid for itself. She had indeed had a fall, and we were able to call an ambulance.

For six or seven years from about 1985 it was a welcome scheme and a routine, a support community on the airwaves for the less mobile and the lonely. Slowly, of course, landlines became cordless, Life Line call buttons round the neck were introduced, mobile phones arrived, we finally emerged out of the scandals of the mid-eighties, as 'care in the community', 'personal independence plans', improvement in pensions, and better levels of NHS investment all helped to alleviate the plight of the lone elderly.

David Spear still has, buried six fathoms deep in a secret location, the mobile rig from his car, the top of the range luxury base station he used (everyone's envy!), plus useful wiring, connectors, gauges, etc. When Armageddon finally comes, the internet melts, and you are all trying to squeeze into Cuckfield's nuclear bunker, some of us will instead, I hope, be allowed to hole up with David, helping to blow the dust off a base station, while shouting into a mouth piece 'Breaker, breaker! Breaker on the side ...!!' If there is help to be had, it may yet find us.

David Thunder - with help from the David Spear Archive

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS (APCM)

The Annual Parochial Church meetings were scheduled for Sunday April 26th (for the Election of Churchwardens, the election of members of Deanery Synod and of the PCC, the opportunity to hear the report of the past year, and to review the accounts).

When the church nationally decided that all parishes were required to close their churches, these meetings were postponed, to be re-scheduled sometime in October. Under the same ruling, churchwardens, PCC Officers, Deanery and PCC members all had their current terms extended until elections can safely be held.

When the ruling came out, our own *Annual Report and Accounts for 2019* had just gone into Independent Examination, which is where they currently remain until they can emerge blinking into the light of autumn. In the meantime, the PCC has the necessary powers to take decisions by electronic means and to meet remotely if required, although, in the current emergency, most significant decisions are being taken for us by the Diocese in the form of Bishop Martin's periodic *Ad Clerum* pronouncements, by way of implementing the decisions of The Archbishops' Council.

David Thunder- PCC Secretary

EXTERNAL CHURCH STONEMWORK REPAIR

COVID 19 is having an impact on all our lives and forcing us to change the way we do things. Normally when we are planning to do work on the church for which we need permission we post a notice both outside and inside the building; but with the church now closed that would not be very effective!

We have therefore been directed to post the following notice on our website, to advertise the proposed works on social media. We reproduce it here more for your information and interest, because if you intend commenting to the Diocesan Registrar's office, comments must be received by the Registry by **4th May 2020**:

We are currently applying for permission to carry out some extensive repairs to the external stonework of the church. The formal notice can be seen at:

<http://www.holytrinitycuckfield.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Stonework-Refurbishment-Notice.pdf>.

If you would like to know more please contact me at:

churchwarden@holytrinitycuckfield.org

and if you would like to comment you can do so by writing to the Chichester Diocesan Registry (ChichesterRegistry@wslaw.co.uk) by 4th May 2020.

Brian Cutler - *Churchwarden*



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FSW April Update

Dear Friends,

I am writing this from home, as the events of the last few weeks have dramatically altered all of our plans. We would normally be looking forward to the upcoming Easter weekend with our sponsored walk, a weekend visit to Dalesdown for our families and lots of fundraising events to kick off our busy calendar. But instead, our office is closed, our events are cancelled, and we are trying new ways of working to make sure that our families, who need us now more than ever, can continue to be supported.

Our practitioners are no longer able to visit families at home so are staying in touch regularly by phone, text and social media. We are offering an enhanced food bank service with more deliveries to ensure that families do not go hungry over the coming weeks, and helping them navigate the problems that can arise for families cooped up for a long time in small spaces. This can be challenging at the best of times, but for families already trying to cope with extremely complex situations it is a really scary situation and the support that we are able to give, albeit remotely, is crucial for the next few weeks and beyond.

We know that many of you are regular donors to our food bank under normal circumstances, and for that we thank you enormously. A number of people have been in touch to ask how they can support us in other ways at this time. Our biggest need at the moment is for funds to help us continue the foodbank operation and the day to day work of our practitioners, as all our groups and activities have been suspended for now.

Should anybody feel able to support us in this way, donations can be made online via our Justgiving page

<https://www.justgiving.com/chichesterdiocesan>

or by direct transfer into our bank account. Details of our account can be obtained from our website by clicking the *Get Involved* link from our homepage and then selecting *Become a Friend* from the menu.

Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers, and wishing you all a peaceful and healthy Easter.

Nikki Kerr - FSW Director of Fundraising and Marketing

IN MEMORIAM

One of the consequences of the current emergency will be the inability to mark the passing of lives in the usual way. Claire Humphries, whose father John had just died, rang the church office to pass on the news. John Humphries was a singer, on occasions had sung with Holy Trinity Choir, although he lived in Bolney, and we are delighted to publish the following at Claire's request.

John Willis Humphries

2nd March 1934-11th March 2020

ARIBA, baritone

A loving caring father to Claire and Alison, he leaves his two daughters and two grandchildren, Toby and Annabel. Educated at Merchant Taylors' School, qualified as a Chartered Architect, working for Surrey County Council and commissioned in the Royal Engineers before taking up singing seriously, John Humphries studied with Fabian Smith, FGSM, of the Guildhall of Music.

Subsequently, he made many hundreds of stage and concert appearances, varying from grand opera and *Lieder* recitals, to talks and popular song programmes. Early choral experience included membership of Ashted Choral Society, Goldsmiths' Choral Union, and the CODA Singers of Croydon, with whom he extended his solo repertoire and both broadcast and made several records. Later he joined *Pro Musica* Chorus of London, visiting many cities of

Western Europe and singing, on occasion, with the Philharmonia Chorus.

John appeared with many operatic societies and tended to specialise in comic parts, particularly in Gilbert and Sullivan, and he also acted in straight drama, where it is impossible to hide behind the singing voice! Of late, he concentrated on song selection programmes and talks, which he often illustrated with appropriate songs, and was involved in music hall and oratorio.

Although like most Britons, John was a baritone, he had a very wide vocal range which enabled him to ally the standard concert repertoire with the lyricism of the tenor and songs normally associated with the bass voice. John sung regularly in the large London concert halls, and especially enjoyed taking part in performances immediately after completion of a number of London Marathons.

His post retirement talks were on a variety of subjects, songs and monologues from an extensive repertoire of over 1,500 items, and included: selections of well-loved songs; a choice of Victorian ballads; opera; show music; Gilbert and Sullivan; folk and other popular songs; oratorios; The London Marathon (the often humorous and exhausting experiences of a many times competitor); *The Variety of the Baritone Voice*, illustrating the flexibility of the baritone voice; *Modern Architecture? Surely not!* (a light-hearted look at design from over 50 years experience of the building industry); *Lieder* and recitals (Schubert, Schumann, Beethoven cycles, and songs by some of the best C 20th British composers); and other talks, including the lives of the best of the C 19th ballad composers.

A particular love of John's was the missing musical heritage of William Yeates Hurlstone (1876-1906), Croydon's unsung genius, who studied in the 1890's at the RCM with Vaughan Williams, Holst, Ireland, Bridge and Coleridge Taylor, under Charles Villiers Stanford, who thought him the most outstandingly gifted of them all. During his lifetime Hurlstone won all the composition competitions open to him, but died young with his music still in manuscript, and the juxtaposition of two World Wars has ensured his near obscurity.

Claire, knowing her father's passion for promoting this music, was able to play some of Hurlstone's music for John when he passed away in Croydon Hospital.

The Covid Winter

It started slowly,
Like the first leaves in autumn,
First one, then two, then three at once,
And then a flurry.

Suddenly all the plans I had made
were gone.
The calendar stood bare,
Like a winter tree.
The people I loved – isolated.
The routine I knew – decimated.
The pattern of my life – changed,
almost unrecognisable.
'I know the plans I have for you,' says
the Lord.
But I want my plans.
I want what I thought I would have,
The meetings, the people and the
places.

Spring is in the air,
But it feels like winter.
An eerie, quiet winter,
A frightening, Narnian winter,
With no Christmas to brighten the
days.
But a stopping, waiting,
Worrying, questioning winter:
When will this end?
Will the world be the same after?
Who will I be when it is over?

Then I remember
That despite appearances
Winter is not just waiting,
It is re-charging,
Strengthening,
Preparing
For new life, and abundant growth,
For the beauty of flowers
And the miracle of birth.

And I remember that in the darkness
of Good Friday
The disciples despaired
Believing that the world as they knew it
was over.
And it was.
But what came next was joy, Transformation,
A new life,
A new mission.
The old and familiar was gone,
And the new was infinitely better.

This 'winter' feels hard,
But I will give it to God
Trusting in His promise
Of hope and renewal,
Looking to Easter, whenever it comes
Believing that in God's time, not my
time
Life will be renewed.

Katie Smith – 17th March 2020



PEREGRINE FALCON - *You say you want a Revolution*

Circling high in the blue skies above Sussex is one of the world's deadliest predators. Peregrines are hunting above us. Scanning the avian traffic in the Sussex airspace, their incredible vision locks on to an unsuspecting bird passing below and the Peregrine instantly negotiates one of the most sophisticated aerial manoeuvres possible. They stop flying. With wings and feet tucked in tightly, peregrines drop from the sky at an unbelievable speed - hurtling earthwards at up to 200 mph - the fastest creature on our planet. Everything, even the eyelids and nostrils on this bird are built for speed. Like a bomb made out of muscle and feathers, it will decimate any victim in its path.

We are fortunate to still have these amazing birds here in Sussex. During WW2, their taste for pigeons (including those carrying wartime messages) saw Peregrines treated as if they were on the payroll of Herr Hitler himself. The Secretary of State for Air declared war on these falcons and issued the *Destruction of Peregrine Falcons Order*. The birds were slaughtered, their nests destroyed. After the war, Peregrines were left alone, and numbers began to recover. But they were to face an even more deadly threat than the British Government: *Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane* (or DDT to its friends).

(continued on page 35)



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BRUSH



(continued from page 32)

Farmers worldwide had started spraying a variety of wonderful new chemical insecticides all over the countryside to improve yields. These invisible poisons hit the bird at the top of the food chain the hardest. In 1958 there were 650 pairs of Peregrines in Britain. Six years later there were 68. Concerns over their decline sparked an investigation that led back to the source of the Peregrine poisoning and the world's eyes were opened to the reality of the damage that these chemicals could cause to our environment and to us. Rachel Carson wrote *Silent Spring*, the environmental movement was born, and green was upgraded from a sort of yellowy-blue colour to an entire way of life.

Today, perched on our cliffs and cathedrals, high above the organic food-filled shelves in kitchens across Sussex, the killer that kick-started the environmental uprising, stands defiantly overlooking us all like a beaked Che Guevara. A feathered testament to revolution, strength, and tofu veggie burgers.

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

MAY GARDEN NOTES

In these unprecedented times with Covid-19 turning our world proverbially 'upside down', there have been plusses and minuses for gardeners and the horticultural industry.

Many people now find they have more time for their gardens but are struggling to source seeds, plants and compost with garden centres closed and only a few offering delivery or online purchases. Green waste bins are not being collected by Wealden and Mid Sussex District councils, council refuse sites are closed, and ALL burning of rubbish and bonfires have been banned, so we have to compost what we can and pile up

the rest somewhere for when waste disposal resumes. Online seed and plug/kinder plant companies are doing a roaring trade, as are companies selling outdoor games equipment like table tennis tables and trampolines. Wholesale growers supplying garden centres have had to throw away so much stock at the peak time of the growing season, so I fear many will not survive or weather the Covid-19 storm unless the government bails them out.

April has turned out to be the most gloriously sunny month, such a welcome after the incessant rain, even though clay soils have turned from bogs to concrete in 3-4 weeks! The Easter weekend was so warm and wonderful for woodland walks (one a day!) enjoying the bluebells which burst forth in the warmth.

There are some jobs most of us, hopefully, can do in May and that is to mow the grass, pull up or hoe off the weeds, and prune deciduous shrubs such as hardy fuchsias, Azaleas, Acers and Caryopteris now that you can see what is live wood and what is dead that needs cutting out.

If you've been able to source seeds or plants of bedding plants, runner and French beans, sweetcorn, squashes and other frost tender plants, they are usually safe to go out the second or third week of May, along with (a week or two earlier) the hanging baskets, being off the ground and often sheltered by buildings. Plant up tubs/pots and clothe trellis/fences with annual climbers like sweet peas, Cobea scandens, Ipomea, Mina (Ipomea) lobata, Rhodochiton, Eccremocarpus scaber and even the humble and edible nasturtium though watch for caterpillars (they are the cabbage family).

Plant out brassicas, leeks, lettuce and sow more carrots, beetroot and spinach. Maincrop potatoes should be in the ground by May and the first 'earlies' showing signs of emerging. Remember to rotate crops for best results and less disease (e.g., potatoes, onions, leeks, legumes, brassicas), with salads and squashes fitted in here and there, is our system. Pull out

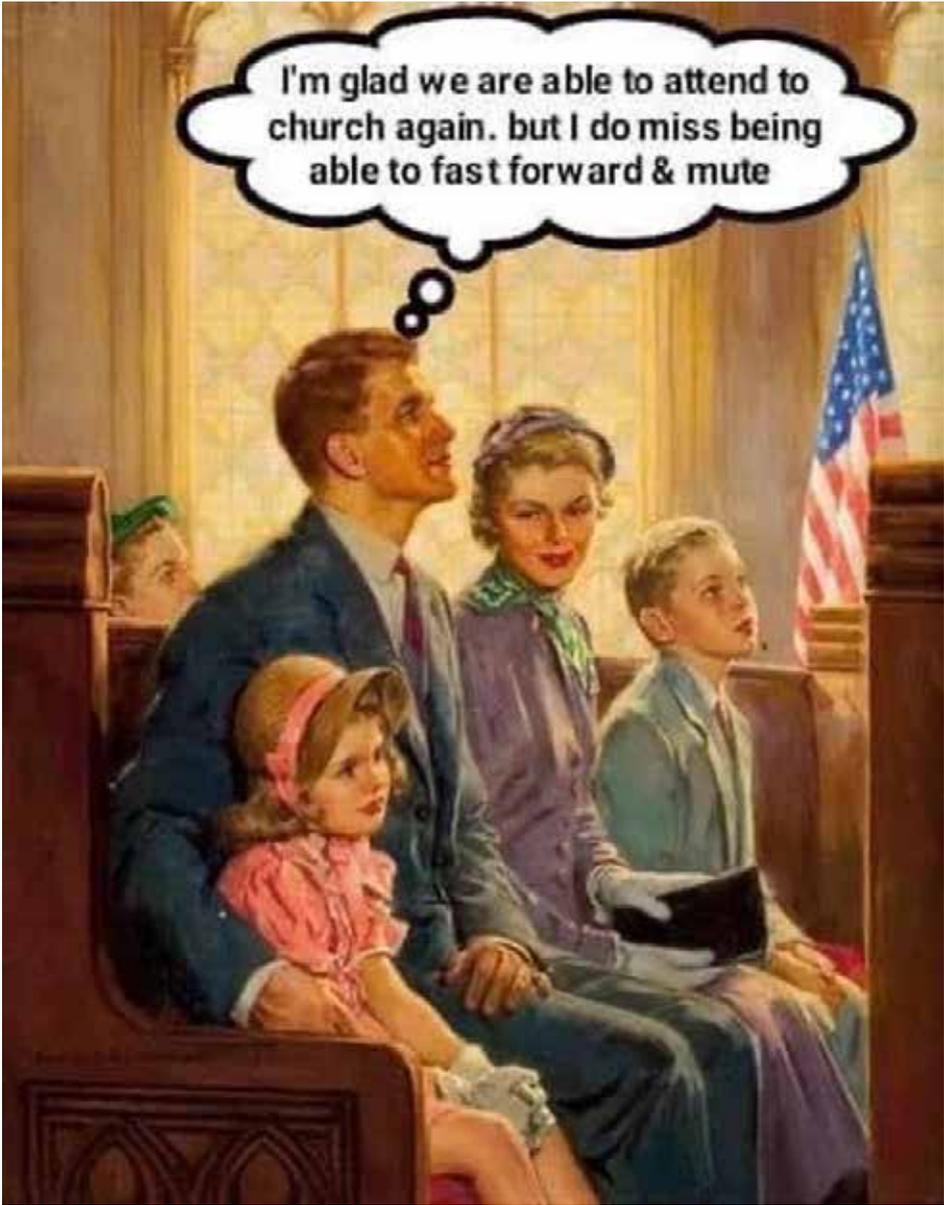
old sprouting broccoli plants and bolted leeks by the beginning of May and ensure fruit cage netting is intact before the soft fruit season is underway. Pigeons are particularly troublesome in our garden so, if you suffer with same problem, net peas, brassicas and even young beetroot and spinach seedlings.

In the greenhouse when tomato and cucumber plants are established, remove side shoots (unless they are bush varieties). Don't feed until the first truss has set, as too much fertiliser/nutrients encourage lots of leaf at the expense of flower and fruit formation. Once set however, feed well and regularly with a well-balanced NPK fertiliser (e.g., Tomorite or maxicrop/seaweed-based ones). Lawns can still be treated for weeds in early May but granular treatments need watering in if there's no rain after 3-4 days to avoid scorch (read manufacturers' instructions!).

Those fortunate enough to have an Asparagus bed will be cutting (and eating) spears regularly, but watch for asparagus beetle and pick off swiftly. Keep a vigilant eye out for other pests and diseases - aphids on roses, sweet peas, broad beans etc and treat as organically as possible.

Keep safe and enjoy your garden

Lindsay Shurvell



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May Crossword

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24									25			

ACROSS

- 1 'Therefore let us — passing judgment on one another' (Romans 14:13) (4)
- 3 'I — — these persons here present' (Marriage service) (4,4)
- 9 According to a prearranged timetable (Numbers 28:3) (7)
- 10 Group of eight (5)
- 11 The cell into which the Philippian jailer put Paul and Silas (Acts 16:24) (5)
- 12 — Taylor, pioneer missionary to China (6)

- 14 Otherwise known as the Eucharist, Breaking of Bread, the Lord's Table (4,9)
- 17 'So that after I have preached to others, I — will not be disqualified for the prize' (1 Corinthians 9:27) (6)
- 19 Attend to (3,2)
- 22 Approximately (Acts 4:4) (5)
- 23 Tea rite (anag.) (7)
- 24 Rule of sovereign (8)
- 25 Test (anag.) (4)

DOWN

- 1 The name of the street where Judas lived in Damascus and where Saul of Tarsus stayed (Acts 9:11) (8)
- 2 'The playing of the merry — , sweet singing in the choir' (5)
- 4 'We have been saying that — — was credited to him as righteous' (Romans 4:9) (8,5)
- 5 Dr Martyn — Jones, famous for his ministry at Westminster Chapel (5)
- 6 Port at which Paul landed on his way to Rome (Acts 28:13) (7)
- 7 Observe (Ruth 3:4) (4)
- 8 Minister of religion (6)
- 13 'I am — of this man's blood. It is your responsibility' (Matthew 27:24) (8)
- 15 'Greater love has no one than this, that he — — his life for his friends' (John 15:13) (3,4)
- 16 Archbishop who calculated that the world began in 4004BC (6)
- 18 'No one can — the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit' (John 3:5) (5)
- 20 Establish by law (5)
- 21 Product of Gilead noted for its healing properties (Jeremiah 46:11) (4)

(Answers on page 43)

May 2020 Calendar & Readings for Sunday Services

SUNDAY 3 MAY – FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 8.00am Holy Communion
Acts 2: 42-end; 1 Peter 2: 19-end;
John 10: 1-10
- 9.45am Parish Eucharist
- 11.00am Holy Communion
1 Peter 2: 19-end;
John 10: 1-10
- 6.00pm Choral Evensong
Ezra 3: 1-13; Ephesians 2: 11-end

SUNDAY 10 MAY – FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 8.00am Holy Communion
As 9.45am
- 9.45am Parish Eucharist
Acts 7:55-end; 1 Peter 2: 2-10;
John 14: 1-14
- 6.00pm Evening Communion

SUNDAY 17 MAY – SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 8.00am Holy Communion
As 9.45am
- 9.45am Parish Eucharist
Acts 17: 32-21; 1 Peter 3: 13-end;
John 14: 15-21
- 6.00pm Sung Evensong
Zechariah 8: 1-13 Revelations 21: 22- 22: 5

SUNDAY 24 MAY – SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 8.00am Holy Communion (Traditional Language)
As 9.45am

- 9.45am Parish Eucharist
Acts 1: 6-14; 1 Peter 4: 12-14, 5: 6-11
John 17: 1-11
- 6.00pm Sung Evensong
2 Samuel 23: 1-5; Ephesians 1: 15-end

SUNDAY 30 MAY – PENTECOST

- 8.00am Holy Communion
As 9.45am
- 9.45am Parish Eucharist
Acts 2: 1-21; 1 Corinthians 12: 3b-13;
John 7: 37-39
- 6.00pm Sung Evensong
Joel 2: 21-end; Acts 2: 14-21

CROSSWORD CLUES AND ANSWERS FOR MAY 2020

ACROSS: 1, Stop. 3, Call upon. 9, Regular. 10, Octet. 11, Inner. 12, Hudson. 14, Holy Communion. 17, Myself. 19, See to. 22, About. 23, Iterate. 24, Monarchy. 25, Stet.

DOWN: 1, Straight. 2, Organ. 4, Abraham's faith. 5, Lloyd. 6, Puteoli. 7, Note. 8, Cleric. 13, Innocent. 15, Lay down. 16, Ussher. 18, Enter. 20, Enact. 21, Balm.

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

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Other Sundays	Parish Eucharist (<i>Common Worship</i>), 9.45 am
Wednesdays	Holy Communion (<i>Common Worship</i>), 10.30 am
Thursdays	Holy Communion (<i>Iona/Celtic</i>), 9.00 am
Fridays	Holy Communion (<i>Book of Common Prayer</i>), 11.00 am

During this time when physical gatherings cannot take place, all services are now live online via the same Zoom Link, which will be found on the home page of the church website. You can gain access by clicking on the Zoom link you will find on this web page:

<http://www.holytrinitycuckfield.org/>

Please note that after clicking on the Zoom link you will enter a 'waiting room' after which you will join the assembly.