



CROSS KEYS



Autumn and suddenly almost everything is again possible



Blessing of pets at Blatchington Pond

Ploughing match at Newhaven



Learning about signs and symbols

The Museum of the Moon is coming to Chichester





Leadership and leaning in

It has been rather surprising to find myself focusing on the Old Testament figure of Moses as a role model for leadership. Perhaps that shouldn't be so surprising given the challenge of leading our churches over the last eighteen months. Christian priests don't often look to the Old Testament for their leadership role models, however the emergent trials, need to adapt and then re-adapt, and the need to speak for a troubled people, have meant that the story of Moses leading the people from Sinai to Moab has had a new resonance.

I am writing this piece just as we are witnessing the latest drama in our nation, a time of an 'is-it-or-isn't-it' fuel crisis which has coincided with a run of Morning Prayer readings offering example after example of quite how good or bad leadership makes a difference. The quiet hum of queuing cars is rather drowned out by the absence of any clear leadership at the moment; from either side of the parliamentary bench and I can't help but note the additional disarray such an absence of leadership causes.

The Old Testament offers us so many examples of nations being humbled in adversity and the response of leaders to guide their people through such times. As I have looked closely at these examples over the past year or so, the thing I have observed is that the people of God move through such things most quickly, when they lean right into God and when they elect and listen to leaders who do the same.



The gathering of manna from heaven in Anton Koberger's German Bible 1483

What does it mean then to 'lean into God'? Most of us know that when things get tough - even for those with faint belief - there is an instinctive

inclination to pray. An almost visceral 'if you're up there' type plea, or a dropping to the knees. That is an individual leaning into God in extremis and for their immediate and proximate need. The Old Testament shows us often though, that the spiritual leaders of the nations lean into God for the needs of their people, and a number of the people will often draw alongside to do the same. I think this is the call upon us as the church of this place here and now. Together we must lean into God for the good of our nation, our world, and each other. We must use the energy usually used for grumbling and instead channel it towards God. As these months get darker - both figuratively and literally - we must lean into God with all our might. Indeed with all our heart, all our soul, all our mind, and all our strength.

This means *leaning into* our Sunday worship more intentionally, preparing our hearts to come before God and stepping up our diligence in our own prayers; because the Old Testament shows us that God hears, and even if the humbling hardships don't ease as quickly as we'd like, we can be reassured He will guide us through it, if we let Him. So *please come alongside and help us, as the people of God in this place, to lean right in. It is for this reason we held our day of prayer, it is for this reason I restate the invitation to you all to come and pray 9.30am Morning Prayer in St Peter's (Monday - Saturday), and for this reason that we will reintroduce Facebook Compline at 8pm on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.*

God bless you all,

Arwen

Rev'd Arwen Folkes

Rector of St Peter's, East Blatchington & St Andrew's, Bishopstone

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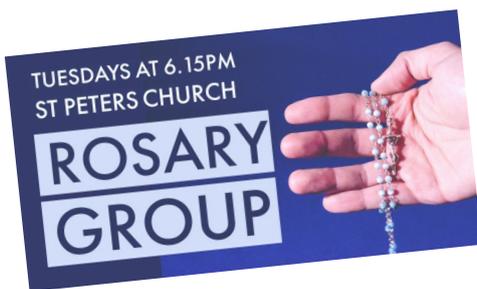
Email:- rector@ebbchurches.org.uk

Website:- www.ebbchurches.org.uk

Dates for your diary

- Sunday 3rd October **Benefice Confirmation Service** 4pm at St Peter's
 Friday 15th October **Harvest Parish Coffee Morning** 10.30 - 12.00
 Sunday October 31st **Fr Trevor's final Sunday Service** at St Andrew's 10.30am
 Sunday October 31st **Benefice Walk around Arlington Reservoir** 2.30 - 4.30pm
 Monday 1st November **Feast of All Saints** - Mass at 7pm
 Tuesday 2nd November **Requiem Mass for All Souls** at 7pm
 Sunday 7th November **Service of Remembering those we've lost** at 4pm
 Sunday 14th November **Remembrance Sunday Service** at 10am
 Sunday 21st November **Stay and Play for Baptism Families** 2.30 - 4pm
 Sunday 28th November **Advent Sunday** - Evensong and Benediction with Advent carols at 6pm

Regular social meetings



The Art & Craft Group

takes place every Thursday
10am to noon
in the Chapel Rooms

If you are interested in joining,
please contact

Kay:- 893172 or Valerie :- 897306



EBB Café Church for our Younger Church Members

Our monthly after-school café church for the younger (aged 10-13 years) members of our Benefice Churches. The EBB Café Church is a fun and creative space to explore faith and prayer, using craft, activity, and outdoor fun.

New members welcome: please contact rector@ebbchurches.org.uk for more information



CROCHET GROUP

Meets fortnightly on Mondays at 7pm in the Upper Room

Next meetings:

4th & 18th October
1st, 15th & 29th November

New members (any standard including beginners) welcome



Editorial



Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition of Cross Keys, which again contains a wide variety of articles and photos which I hope you will find informative, interesting and enjoyable. We have two articles linked to the theme of **remembrance** which is usual for this time of year, but in this edition it has happened that the common theme in several articles is the **importance of prayer**.

It is good to see so many events and special days organised for October and November as well as social groups and activities, both old and new, taking place regularly and attracting people from all over our community.

Please don't be shy. We need more volunteers for the 'Who's who' page. You just have to write about 150 words about yourself, say when you came to St Peter's and provide a photo to go with your piece. Thank you.

The next edition of Cross Keys will be published in early December so please send in your contributions by 25th November or earlier, if possible.

Send them, preferably by email as a Word document attachment or as a jpeg, if a photo, to

christinecooke.xks@gmail.com

Please continue to take care and stay safe. **Christine**



Prayers for the Sick

Please remember in your prayers:

Devon Baker, Trevor Baker, Jennifer Cartwright,
Paul Coles, Shirley Dalling, Ina Davies,
Alan Dempster, Stephen Dempster, Deanna,
the Frostick family, Katie Gould, Sara Hobro,
Gwen Huntley, June Marshall,
Barbara Prendergast, Wendy Preston,
Anne Self, Felicity Sirc, Fr Trevor Smyth,
Peter Tatham,
George Wattsford, Pauline Wilcox,
Tina Bacon, Peter Thompson, Hilary Warner,
Joanne Cooke, Beryl Henley, Annifer Hatcher,
Jessica, Sarah Read,
Harry Anderson, Pam Taggart,
Kayleigh Ivers, Carole Tidy,
Joseph Murphy,
Ian Rothery, Samuel Tomlin



If you would like your name or that of a relative or friend added to this list, then please let Kay know (893172) or leave a note in the parish prayer book in church.

All the people on this list are prayed for by name in church at the 8am Sunday Holy Communion service, at Monday's Morning Prayer and at Wednesday's 10.30am Mass

We give thanks for the successful vaccination programme roll-out leading to the lifting of Covid restrictions and for all those who have made this possible.

We pray for

- the distribution of vaccines throughout the World as rapidly and fairly as possible
- * the many in the UK and around the world, still suffering from the virus, those who have long Covid and their anxious families
- our church community as we rebuild and regroup following this past 18 months; for the merger of our congregation of and those who have joined our church during the pandemic and for the integration of old traditions and new ventures;
- the young children who were baptised at St Peter's and St Andrew's this summer and all who were confirmed or received into the Church of England by Bishop Will Hazlewood on October 3rd;
- * local businesses as both owners and staff get to grips with the end of furlough;
- * Fr Trevor as he plans his retirement and move to Devon;
- * The recently departed.

Who's who

As we start to come together again as a church, this is the page where faces of St Peter's, newer members of our congregation and those of longer standing, introduce themselves to you all - just as they might have done over coffee ...



Valerie Skues

I was born and brought up in Eastbourne with my twin sister and older brother. My parents were from long established Sussex families going back 300 years.

I left school at 15 and worked at Boots book department in Eastbourne selling new books, later I was in charge of the new record department, then I went to work at head office based near Blackfriars Bridge. Most of my time was spent travelling to Boots branches opening new record departments in old libraries that were being phased out. I organised the stock and helped train staff to prepare for the opening of the new department. I also dealt with stock control in more established branches. Some towns were not attractive to visit but many were lovely places like the Channel Islands. The aptly named Mr Angel, the manager on Guernsey always urged me to take time off for sightseeing. He'd been there during the war and told interesting tales of how they managed in the branch during that dreadful time.

When I was about 18 I joined the WRNVR for three years travelling to HMS Sussex in Hove; once a week for training plus two weeks on a naval base each year. My first was HMS Pembroke in Chatham where, on a tour of the dockyard and naval diving school, I volunteered to go into the diving tank.

Kitted out with very long wool stockings, still in my uniform, heaved into a deep sea diver suit complete with 18 pound boots I had to climb the outside of the tank. The helmet was then bolted into place and down into the water I went - quite an experience!

I left Boots when I married in 1969 and came to live in East Blatchington. Soon after I went to St Peter's and was warmly welcomed by Fr Peter Wright and the congregation I was elected to the PCC in 1972 and became a churchwarden in 1993 and with the support of the clergy, co-wardens and the people of St Peter's I stayed in that post for thirteen years enduring two interregnums and installation of two rectors. As well as all the official duties of a churchwarden there were many others that weren't on the job description!

With others I helped with our Sunday School and nursery groups. For ten years I painted scenery and made props for our young people's yearly pantomime produced and directed by Pat Crittall, wife of Fr Simon.

I was widowed in 1983 when my husband died suddenly leaving with me with two young children aged twelve and ten. I'm very proud of both of them and their achievements, Carolyn teaches infants in Bexhill and Michael six formers in Hull.

My contribution now is walking to Morning Prayer; exercise for body and soul!

Victoria Grey

My name is Victoria Grey and I joined the congregation of St Peters in Autumn 2018. My family and I moved to Seaford from St Albans in Hertfordshire in September 2018. I am married to Tom and we have two children, Louis aged 16 and Eloise aged 11.



In St Albans I was part of the Cathedral & Abbey Church of Saint Alban congregation and was a sidesman, involved in co-running the Abbey Women's group and was part of the team who taught Sunday School classes.

I work full time as a solicitor in the criminal justice system which presents its own challenges and with work and children's activities I find that 'spare moments' are few and far between! In those spare moments though, I enjoy the outdoors and the amazing countryside and seaside that we are so blessed to have on our doorstep!

Please note:-

Coffee is now being served after the 10am Sunday Eucharist on the fourth Sunday of the month



Church leaders' joint statement on climate change and the environment



The leaders of the Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox and Anglican Communion churches have in a joint statement said:-

'We stand before a harsh justice; biodiversity loss, environmental degradation and climate change are the inevitable consequences of our actions, since we have greedily consumed more of the Earth's resources than the planet can endure. But we also face a profound injustice; the people bearing the most catastrophic consequences of these abuses are the poorest on the planet and have been the least responsible for causing them. We have maximised our own interests at the expense of future generations, concentrating on wealth, including the bounty of nature. We have an opportunity to repent'. In talking about destructive consumerism, they say 'limit temptation and superfluous shopping' and as individual and collective stewards to make meaningful sacrifices.



We keep hearing about the benefit of reducing meat consumption. A gathering of climate scientists at Somerville College Oxford in June put a meaning to this. They said that only 7% of the world's land is devoted to food crops for direct human consumption, whereas 27% of the world's land is devoted to livestock grazing and their feed, resulting in deforestation, environmental destruction, and huge amounts of methane, and carbon dioxide greenhouse gases.



They also point out that peatlands and mangrove swamps, that suck up 45 times more carbon dioxide than forests, are in dangerous decline.



As the result of the decline of heavy industry in the UK there are claims that we have cut carbon emissions by 44% since 1990. This does not take into consideration the emissions from our huge consumption outside the country. The World Wildlife Fund calculates that from 1990 to 2016 emissions fell by just 15% not over 40%.

Prayers and endeavours were brought together in the National Climate Change Service, held in Glasgow Cathedral in preparation for COP 26.



It might be summed up by this quote from the Pope - 'Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain, at the expense of the poor and the Earth'.

John Creasy





A Pledge from Bishop Will

Bishop Will pledged today that communities across the Diocese of Chichester "are committed to adding our voices to those of the national church and other faith communities around the world to encourage our leaders to use COP26 to address the urgent effects of climate change."

Plans are now in an advanced stage for the UK's hosting of the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow on 31 October – 12 November 2021.

Bishop Will said: "We have a clear obligation as stewards of the earth and its resources that calls us to be responsible in caring for our common home the earth."

Outlining ways in which parishes and communities can focus on the challenge ahead, the Bishop said that starting with prayers was crucial: "Reflecting deeply in prayer, meditation and worship to discern how to care for the earth and each other, and to encourage our respective communities to do the same."

At the same time, the Bishop said that practical action was needed: "Making transformational change in our own lives and in the lives of our communities through individual and collective action" is crucial.

But with the network of parishes and communities representing the household of faith across the Diocese, Bishop Will said that voicing both our concerns and hopes was important at this time.

He added that we need to be "advocates for justice by calling on governments, businesses and others who exercise power and influence to put into effect the Paris agreement; to make the transition to a just and green economy a priority; and to commit to science-based targets that are aligned with a healthy resilient, zero emissions future. "

Ten suggested pledges for everyone from the Diocese of Truro website

1. I pledge to ring my electricity supplier over the next 24 hours and see if I can switch to green energy (if not I will find one)! **Maybe not such a good suggestion at the moment!! CC**
2. I pledge to buy local seasonal produce as much as possible – starting with at least 2 meals a week
3. I pledge to educate myself about the science and impacts of climate change
4. I pledge to contact my MP and my friends and ask them to make these pledges too
5. I pledge to walk, cycle or use public transport to travel to work or make a regular journey at least once a week.
6. I pledge to work out my own carbon footprint using one of the many easy to use carbon calculators eg, <http://footprint.wwf.org.uk>
7. I pledge to do a 'home energy check' to find out how I can save energy in my home. **Visit www.energysavingtrust.org** (If you don't have internet, ask the Energy Saving Trust on 0800 512 012)
8. I pledge to turn my thermostat down or use a thermometer to reach the lowest comfortable temperature, typically between 18-21°C & think about putting on a jumper instead.
9. I pledge to reduce my holiday air miles by 50%.
10. I pledge to research 'Driving in a greener way' by google/research or by ringing up a driving instructor and booking a lesson to learn eco-drive ideas.

The Curate's egg



At the time of writing this, I am helping to plan a day of reflection and prayer at St Peter's Church. It is planned for 30 September so will have already happened by the time you read this, but the process

of organising the day has got me thinking more deeply about prayer in general, so I thought I would take the time to share some of my thoughts with you in this column.

We might define prayer as our purposeful communication with God – not simply talking to, or at, God with our many worries and requests (though there is indeed a place for that) but rather communicating by sharing and listening. I once heard prayer described as us sending a beautiful scent up to God, which captivates him and draws us both together in love. Similarly, prayer is sometimes described as an ever-flowing stream between us and God, and between the three persons of the Trinity; the stream is always there, but conscious prayer is those times when we choose to step into it and be carried along.

The Bible gives us many examples of prayer, in particular the Psalms which Alan Richardson describes as exemplifying 'the direct approach of Israel to God: the Israelite, whether individually or corporately, poured out all his concern to God – for his safety, his harvest, his sins and failures, his joys and sorrows, his thanksgiving and praise'.¹ This personal approach to prayer would have been familiar to Jesus the Jew; as a regular attender at the synagogue his childhood would have been drenched with the words of the Psalms, and we often hear him quoting from them in the Gospels.

The clearest example of prayer in the New Testament comes from Jesus himself when the disciples ask him how to pray. The Lord's Prayer (Matt 6: 9-13) contains seven petitions which include the requirement to praise and adore, to submit to God's will, to ask forgiveness and to seek God's assistance. Jesus was quite clear that we should petition God, that we can and should put our requests before him. 'Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock and it will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives. .' (Matthew 7: 7-8). However, we should also note that when Jesus knelt and prayed in deepest anguish, when he asked God to help him, to take the cup from him, his concluding words were clear: 'Nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will' (Matthew 26: 39). For in prayer, we are not trying to bend God's will to match ours, but rather are trying to bend our will to match his, by removing that which stands in the way of his love; those steeped in a long and fruitful prayer life (members of religious orders, for example) often have great peace, for their will has become nearer to that of God through decades of prayer.

So when you next pray, remember that God loves your prayers; remember that Jesus encouraged you to pray to the Father, and that through him you have that privilege; and remember that you are stepping into the ever-flowing stream of love and prayer between you and God and between the Persons of the Trinity.

¹ Richardson, *Prayer, Theology of*, in Richardson, Alan and Bowden, John (eds), *A New Dictionary of Christian Theology*, (London: SCM Press, 1983), p 457

May your prayer life be truly blessed,

Fr Joe

Introducing Carly Taylor

Carly will be coming to join us in the benefice on a two months student placement as part of her discernment for ordination. She will be with us from 11th October until 5th December.

We look forward to welcoming her.



Preparing for confirmation the EBB Café Church way



The young confirmation candidates get to look at the altar frontals, the statues, windows, embroideries etc. and dress up in the church vestments.

August - Signs and Symbols



September - Bread of Life



On 25th September Arwen wrote:
'Everyone gathered around the altar this evening and we broke the bread that had been baked by Café Church earlier in the week. Bread of Life baked, blessed, broken, and shared for our common journey of being formed into the likeness of Christ. We are so looking forward to the Confirmation with Bishop Will next week.'



Blessing of pets service at Blatchington Pond



This was a lovely service in idyllic surroundings led by the Rector Arwen, Fr Joe and Fr Eric and much enjoyed by everyone who attended.



Many friendly dogs of all shapes, colours and sizes - just like the humans!





Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts; for the beauty of the earth and the wonder of His creation; for all creatures that breath and move, and have life and especially for the pets here today who bring us such joy and companionship. May they always be treasured and treated with loving care.



The above photo shows Cedric Trenfield, the pond manager and a prime mover in the restoration of the pond in 1980, chatting with friends.

Many thanks to East Blatchington Pond Preservation Society for permission to use the area around the pond for the service.

It is hoped to hold a Christmas carol service by the pond in December.



Who dares won

A clergyman wanted to revamp his parish magazine. It was a publication he had inherited, and he was keen to improve it. He had already decided to change its name: he wanted the magazine to be able to hammer out the issues of the day, so he called it "The Anvil".

It was about now that he had a bit of luck. The council of the town where he lived had just held a poster competition, the clergyman happened to meet the man who won it, and he agreed to supply cover illustrations for the magazine.

And so was born an all-British super space hero, the jut-jawed chap who dominated space long before Hollywood's glistening astronauts flashed their perfect white teeth and righted wrong in the Far Beyond.

His name? Lex Christian. Well, it might have been, except for an accident which led to him being re-christened Dan Dare. He was the space pilot who became the star of a publishing phenomenon, a new comic called *Eagle*.

No, for any passing football fan, that name had nothing to do with Crystal Palace Football Club: when the comic and Mr Dare first emerged that team was still being called The Glaziers (after the original all-glass Crystal Palace building, get it?) and their subsequent swooping nickname was still a couple of decades off.

The *Eagle* was the creation of that clergymen and that artist - by name, Marcus Morris and Frank Hampson. After re-vamping the church magazine with great success and being horrified at the state of the children's publications then on sale, they went further, and set about also creating a new comic, although they always called it a children's magazine.

They produced a dummy of it, and a London publisher leapt at the opportunity. "Don't approach any other publisher," he said, though adding that it would be better if Dan Dare, then a space padre, could be made something else. So he became a space pilot.

Success was immediate. The comic sold very well, and Dare became a national hero. He was even mentioned in the House of Commons. His adventures, readers of a certain age may recall, were told weekly in a cinematic storyboard style, with a cliff-hanger in the last frame to encourage the follow-

Lex Christian? Well, when the two men had originally thought of a cartoon strip for making some much-needed money for their church magazine, they chose Christian to solve the problem, and made him a chaplain in London's East End.

They had sold the idea to a newspaper, but then the editor who approved the idea was killed in a flying accident. The two men decided to change tack and instead to produce their own comic and their own new hero - Dan Dare. To give him his full title, Colonel Daniel McGregor Dare.

The stories were set in the late 1940s, but the dialogue and manner of the characters is reminiscent of British war films of the 1950s. The tremendous success of this space hero spawned all kinds of spin-offs, even including a very popular serial on Radio Luxembourg - *Dan Dare, Pilot of the Future*, who was dramatised seven times a week from 1951 to 1956.

Incidentally, Dan's voice was provided by Noel Johnson, who had also famously played the special agent Dick Barton in the famous BBC radio serial. Each episode of *Dan Dare* started with the riveting command "Spaceships Away!" and the 15-minute show was sponsored by Horlicks. Helped you rest afterwards after all the excitement, perhaps.

Now, whisper it, Dan is over 70 years old; his creators have died, *Eagle* has closed, but the spirit of the man has endured. Why, he was even fondly recalled in an exhibition at the British Cartoon Centre in London, full of memorabilia to draw nostalgic sighs from many visitors who remembered their childhood and that magazine.

The original space hero actually continued in print until 1967 and was even destined to reappear in a re-launched version of *Eagle* in 1982. It continued until 1994.

In the 1980s, the satirical publication *Private Eye* published *Dan Dire, Pilot of the Future?* Dire was based on the politician Neil Kinnock, the question being whether he'd ever become Prime Minister, i.e. Pilot of the country. Also, the radio DJ and comedian Kenny Everett created a space hero character Captain Kremmen who was inspired by Dan Dare.



All of which goes back to years past, of course, but I'm offering this delve back in history to bear in mind the fact that the theme of this time of the year is Remembrance.

This, perhaps, is a kind of humble remembrance with a difference. Perhaps it should be made clear that this is in no way a suggestion that our own

publication of *Cross Keys* should introduce a cartoon strip to bolster its sales. Unless of course someone comes up with a new kind of heroic figure . . .

Roger Bing



Museum of the Moon at Chichester



Photo by James Billings 2019

It has been announced that Chichester Cathedral is to host Luke Jerram's '*Museum of the Moon*' this autumn from 25th October - 14th November 2021. The installation which has previously been on display at Ely Cathedral, the Natural History Museum and Glastonbury Festival among other places, is 'a fusion of lunar imagery, moonlight and surround sound composition created by BAFTA and Ivor Novello award winning composer Dan Jones'.

It looks well worth a visit.

The artwork will be accompanied by a creative programme of music, talks and events, as well as activities for children and families.

For further information you need to visit the cathedral website:

Chichester.cathedral.org.uk



Photo by James Billings 2019

St Luke

The feast day of St. Luke is celebrated on 18th October.

As you all know, St. Luke is one of the four evangelists. Often in art he is identified by his attribute which is a winged ox – seen here in the beautiful carving adjacent to the Rose window in the Cathedral Church of St. Rufino in Assisi. This imagery was derived from Ezekiel (1: 5-14). The ox is a bearer of burdens and in bible times was the king of domestic animals. It is not surprising that the attribute of the winged ox was chosen for St. Luke as in his gospel Luke portrays Jesus as universally important, as the bearer of burdens who cares for all who are suffering and have burdens of various kinds and who brings universal salvation. St. Luke is not only the author of his gospel but also of The Acts of the Apostles, where he reveals that the life and work of Jesus continue in the church.



Carved image of the winged ox of St Luke
photo copyright Chis Light

Luke was a gentile and a doctor and historian, and he travelled with St. Paul to Europe and later Jerusalem and Rome. His gospel was probably written around AD57-59. He wrote in Greek and, although he was a gentile, he had knowledge of Jewish customs and writings. He places his life of Jesus in the context of world history at the time, mentioning dates, names and places, building on St. Mark's gospel. Luke saw Christianity as a true and dignified faith for the whole world in every age. He dedicated his work to Theophilus whose name means 'friend of God'. St. Luke is traditionally understood to be a physician, referred to by St. Paul as 'the beloved physician'. He was also apparently a painter, and so was adopted as the patron saint of artists, seen in the image I have selected of drawing the Virgin and Child. This was a popular theme especially in the Netherlands in the 15th and 16th centuries and was often commissioned for painters who joined a Guild of St. Luke. Even though this attractive idea has apparently no historical foundation, it's a lovely thought!

The artist of the painting 'St. Luke Drawing the Virgin' was Rogier van der Weyden, and it is believed the face of St. Luke in the painting is that of the artist, Rogier, himself! The Metropolitan Museum of Art in Boston says this beautiful painting is 'among the most important Northern European paintings in the United States'. Note the sense of concentration on St. Luke's face as he holds a very modern looking sketch book. The Christ Child is shown looking very life like, turning up his toes and opening up his hands – he is quite slim, unlike most Italian depictions of the baby Jesus, which are modelled on classical cherubs. Here Jesus looks very like a human baby with for example, no halo.

The composition is very interesting. The unidentified couple gaze out onto the river below – see how the small town has crenellated walls, and in the streets various day to day activities are going on – just like a C15 northern European town. Below the couple of townspeople, on our side of the painting, however, is a garden, with naturalistically painted flowers. This is the 'hortus conclusus' – the enclosed garden which underlines the Virgin Birth.



‘St. Luke Drawing the Virgin’, c1435 – 40, by Rogier van der Weyden (1399 -1464). Oil and Tempera on Panel, 137.5cms x 110.8cms, Museum of Fine Arts Boston.

Mary feeds the Christ child; she is relaxed in the presence of St. Luke the Evangelist. Rogier van der Weyden was noted for his naturalism and close observation of detail and here he has produced a compelling image which draws the viewer in. For me it is a joy on which to ponder and invites us to study and find comfort from the gospel of St. Luke in the context of today’s burdens, worries and uncertainties.

(Further Reading: ‘Four Gospels, One Jesus?’ By Richard A Burrige copyright 1994 Published by SPCK 1994, ‘The Bible Guide’, by Andrew Knowles, copyright 2001 published by SPCK)



Kay Blackburn

Congratulations to Kay on having her licence as Reader at St Peter’s and St Andrew’s renewed.

Here is a photo outside Chichester Cathedral after the annual Renewal of Vows Service for all the readers in the diocese. This year the service was conducted by Bishop Will on Saturday 11th September and six new readers were welcomed and formally admitted to the role of Reader in the Church of England.



Can you spot Kay?

Photo by Ian Millar

Mothers' Union



After lockdown we began meeting together again on August 10th with the annual Birthday Service and Garden Party, enjoying glorious sunshine, tea and rather decadent cream scones and cakes in Kay and Keith's lovely garden.

Our future programme for this year is:-

Tuesday 12th October: Geraldine telling us about 'Life in a Convent'

Tuesday 9th November: Juliet will talk on 'My Time in the Wrens'

All these meetings will begin at 2pm in the Chapel Rooms when, all being well, we can use the kitchen to make tea but please bring your own cup or mug.

Everyone is invited to join us.

Marilyn Haydon



MU Benefice Book Club

will begin again after in the new year.

There will be further news about this in December's Cross Keys.

Meanwhile, keep reading - there should be lots of suggestions and recommendations for books to read when we do next come together.

A remarkable 'Sir'



A schoolteacher with an artificial leg was guaranteed to make a mark among his pupils, especially in the 1950s. This particular character was a victim of the first world war, when in battle he had a leg blown off, and he's a man I particularly remember at this time of year, Remembrance Day.

Bob Greenop lay among other wounded and dead soldiers waiting for help. He must have been in the most awful agony. An ambulance did arrive but the driver took one look at him and decided he was beyond saving. However, the ambulance wouldn't start as he prepared to move off with other wounded men, and while he tried to fix the problem some of the wounded managed to help Greenop, who by this time had crawled close, onto the ambulance. When the mechanical problem was sorted, it drove off with him aboard.

When eventually he returned from the war he became a teacher, and later deputy head, at my school, Collier's in Horsham, and was a most engaging figure. I think he must have had independent means because he dressed extraordinarily well, having suits made for him. I particularly remember one jacket which appeared to have a huge number of pockets, all of which contained various items.

He was primarily the science teacher, who had a large stock of chemicals in the lab, not tiny bottles but big containers, and he would let the boys use them.

He didn't bother to hide the fact that he had a limb missing. In fact he used to explain to us how when he went to bed he would take off the artificial leg, then take his teeth out so, as he would say, there wasn't much left of him to get into bed!

He was an extraordinary character, and a very generous one. Each summer he would go on holiday in Scotland, where I think his family came from, and one time he asked me, then a sixth former, if I would like to join his family for a week with my friend. We jumped at the chance.

Although I was only 18 I already had my own car, an Austin Seven, and we set out on the long, long journey to Fort William in the west of Scotland. Yes, it took a long time, and we needed to make one or two stops on the way. Mind you, in those days three gallons of petrol cost 12s 6d, and my little car performed brilliantly.

When we arrived it was at a hotel which Mr Greenop seemed to have taken over. He and his guests, and there were many of them, occupied the place, and me and my friend were made to feel most welcome. It was memorable: the food was excellent, and we were served by fully-uniformed waiters. What a treat for two impressionable youngsters.

This astonishing generosity was displayed at other times. At Christmas Mr Greenop and his wife, who lived in what seemed to be a grand mansion near the school, would open the doors for what you could call a community party. All kinds of local people were invited - not the pupils this time, although I do remember driving one of the teachers there. He didn't have a car and must have been a little surprised to find that I was his chauffeur.

Another recollection which I cannot quite explain was that this unusual teacher took us for another course - learning shorthand. Quite why we didn't know. Looking back, surely that was an exercise that in those days was reserved for girls, not boys. But we tried our best, though I admit I can't remember any of that now.

Yes, I do, vividly, remember that schoolmaster, an engaging character who was not a disciplinarian, as many teachers were in those days, but such was his personality that he never had to deal with an unruly class.

He rarely mentioned the war, despite of all that he endured. Just imagine the agony he must have been in when that leg was blown off and he lay so badly wounded in this awful setting. I particularly remember on one occasion when a boy was moaning about something, he told him to shrug it off, saying: "I've got nothing to complain about, I've been very lucky."

Mr Greenop, Bob, was a remarkable man, to my mind a true hero of the war.

Brian Adams

St Peter's at prayer in October and December



Weekend Services in Church

Saturday 5.30pm Parish Eucharist (all Covid restrictions remain)

Sunday 8am Holy Communion BCP

10am Parish Eucharist This service is live-streamed on YouTube and on Facebook which can be accessed through our website:-
www.ebbchurches.org.uk

Sunday 6pm Evening Prayer BCP (not 1st Sunday in the month when there is Evensong at St Andrew's)

Please note that from Sunday 1st November, when Summer Time ends and we return to GMT, these evening services will be at 4pm.

Weekday Services

Monday to Saturday

9.30am Morning Prayer on *Facebook Live* and **in church** Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday

Wednesday 10.30am Mass

From 11th October

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8pm Compline

These weekday services are streamed live at www.facebook.com/StPetersEB

'BREATHING SPACE', our silent prayer meeting, takes place in the church and online ... on Zoom **6pm every Monday**.

New folk and returners are all invited to come and keep this space of contemplation and peace within our complicated and busy world.

The Zoom link is available from our website,
Meeting ID: 851 6436 0499 Passcode: letmein



PRAYER DIARY. Our bi-monthly prayer diary is available on the church website – www.ebbchurches.org.uk Printed copies are available in the church porch. This is a valuable resource for those who are currently participating in the life of daily prayer in this parish and is like throwing a lasso of prayer around the church - globally, nationally, county-wide and here in our own community. It includes the Cycle of Prayer for the Worldwide Anglican Communion, Chichester Diocesan Intercessions, names of the roads, schools and care homes in the parish and names of individuals and groups who work and worship at St Peter's.

If you would like a copy sent to you individually by email, please let me know. Christine



St Peter's Church

East Blatchington, Seaford

Open hearted, Open minded, Open to all, Open every day

RECTOR *Rev'd Arwen Folkes 892964 email: rector@ebbchurches.org.uk*

ASSISTANT CURATE *Rev'd Joe Padfield 672848 email: curate@ebbchurches.org.uk*

HONORARY ASSISTANT PRIESTS *Fr Eric Pollard 492312, Fr John Harrington 351816,
Fr Chris Collison 892364,*

READER *Kay Blackburn 893172*

CHURCHWARDENS *Juliet Mitton 893963 Geraldine Hedgecock 872398*

Website: www.ebbchurches.org.uk

Twitter: www.twitter.com/StPetersEastB **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/StPetersEB

Wedding, Baptism and Funeral enquiries: *The Rector 892964*

Pastoral care: To request prayer and seek any other support, spiritual or practical
Kay Blackburn 893172

Festivals, Holy Days, meditations, study groups and prayer vigils as announced

The church is open daily for **private prayer** 10am to 4pm Monday to Saturday
12 to 4pm Sunday

The church is open for **public worship** with social distancing restrictions removed at all except the Saturday 5.30pm Eucharist service. However, **masks must still be worn** at all services and in church and hand sanitising on entry is still required. Further details of all services in church and online are on page 18.

PCC SECRETARY: *Christine Cooke 490548 email: pccstpeters@gmail.com*

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PLANNED GIVING SCHEME: *If you would like to join this scheme please contact Elizabeth Pay 894799*

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WEEKLY BULLETIN: *Neville Chalkley 891921 email: bulletinstpeters2015@gmail.com*

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Reading Group: *Kay Blackburn 893172*

East Blatchington Lectures: *Shirley Linsell 891910*

Art and Craft Group: *Valerie Skues 897306*

St Peter's reg. charity no.: 1173506

Should you need another copy of this magazine, there are usually spares in the church porch. If you cannot get there, please let me know and I will deliver one to your door.

Christine 490548

Photos by Phil Sutters, Christine Cooke, Rev'd Arwen Folkes, Liz Pay, contributors and from the Internet (Wikipedia.org, Commons Wikimedia.org, Commons Media, Creative Commons, Clipart).

**A full colour version of this Cross Keys can be viewed on the benefice website:-
www.ebbchurches.org.uk**

And finally - enjoying the countryside around us



91st season - Laughton & District Agricultural Society Ploughing Match 15th September at Stud Farm between Newhaven and Bishopstone.



The path to Bishopstone



Get your shoes on for the next Benefice Walk!



Enjoy getting together for an autumnal walk on Sunday October 31st, 2.30 – 4.30pm. Walk around Arlington Reservoir, with a there and back detour to visit Arlington Church. The reservoir has a pay car park. It also has toilets and a cafe, subject to opening hours.
Arlington Reservoir, Berwick, Near Polegate, East Sussex, BN26 6TF

If you'd like to come, please let Jane Figgess know - 07931 319298. We may be able to organise car-sharing.



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Please remember that Covid-19 hasn't gone away - TAKE CARE AND STAY SAFE!