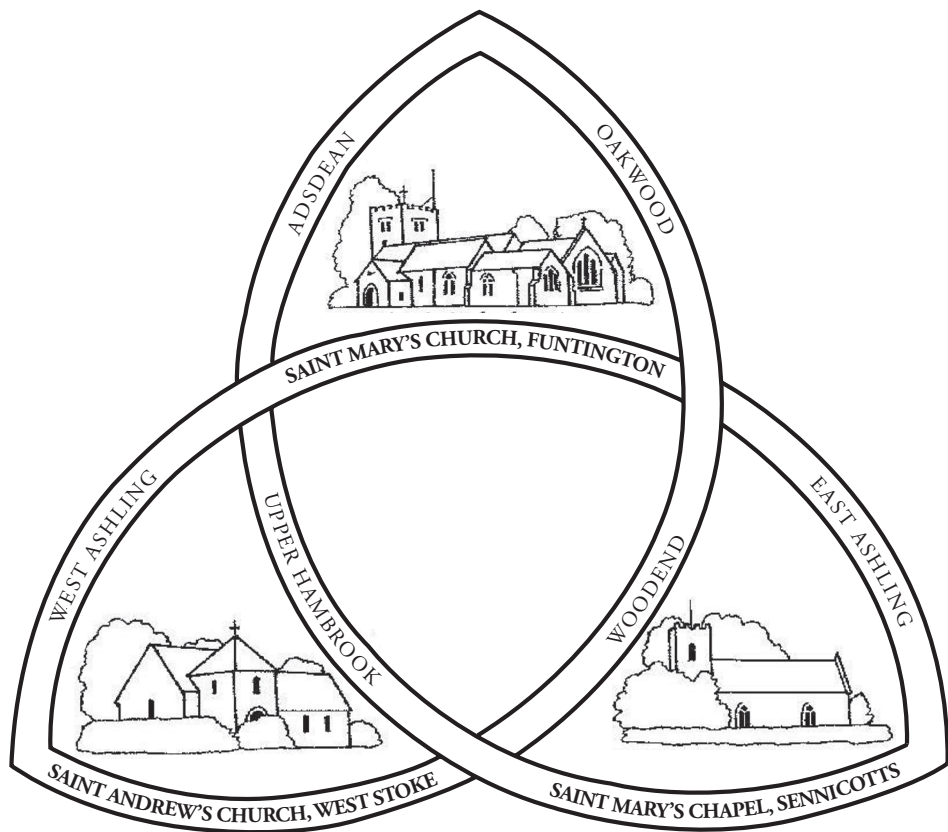


FUNTINGTON

Parish Magazine



APRIL 2023

£1

Funtington and West Stoke with Sennicotts: Who's Who

St Mary, Funtington; St Andrew, West Stoke; St Mary, Sennicotts www.funtingtonweststoke.com

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Letter from Father Andrew, Priest in Charge

In the days following Easter morning. Mary Magdalene and the other disciples get a huge surprise. Having seen Jesus placed in the tomb, they see only darkness ahead. Their hopes are dashed. All that remains is to see that Jesus' body is properly looked after. The mourning is all the harder because of their expectations about Jesus' purpose on earth.

Sometimes, those close to a person who has died still see that person in the days afterwards, as they struggle to cope with what has happened. But the risen Jesus is no ghost or creation of a distressed imagination. He speaks and makes plans. He has more to do before he departs.

For us, Easter morning brings no surprises. We know what to expect as we say together, 'Alleluia, Christ is risen. He is risen indeed, alleluia!'. We hear the story as we always do. We 'know' that the resurrection is a good thing. We know it brings hope.

Yet in the accounts of Jesus' death each person who saw the empty tomb must have thought that all hope had gone. They had already seen the Messiah carted off under arrest, tried and effectively convicted like the robbers He hung with; they'd seen the agony of Him on the cross, dying, and then dead. Placed behind the large stone, in the tomb they must have thought it was all over. And yet the discovery of the empty tomb doesn't raise hope for everyone, they think the body has been stolen. However, in the midst of it all, Jesus appears and hope is restored.

Mary has seen Jesus. We don't know what they think about it. Do they think she has imagined it all. They may assume that extreme grief is causing her to hallucinate. As they struggle to come to terms with their own grief, Mary's story might have been unwelcomed. On the other hand, they might have believed her straight away! After all, in John's account, Peter saw the empty tomb.

The resurrection changes everything and it can change us too if we let it. Can we look more closely and find the God who isn't bound by our fixed interpretation of the same old stories? Do we have the courage to accept a life where God

constantly surprises us? If we can, we may be able to say, with Mary Magdalene, 'I have seen the Lord'.

This Easter, as we hear the story again, let us step back and take a fresh look at the accounts given in the Gospel messages. Let us also stop and wait for Jesus' voice to call out our name and remind us that hope is restored and Jesus is very much with us in our life journey.

With Prayers and Blessing for Eastertide

Fr. Andrew

Services in the Parish this Easter

Thursday 6th April, Maundy Thursday

19.00 hrs **Eucharist**, St. Mary's Funtington

Friday 7th April, Good Friday

10.00 am **Stations of the Cross**, St. Mary's Funtington followed by **Walk of Witness** to St. Wilfred's Nutbourne for lunch at 12.00 and then on to Chidham
14.00 **Veneration of the Cross**, St. Mary's Chidham

Sunday 9th April, Easter Day

7.00 am **Lighting of the Paschal Candle**, Cobnor Beach – All Welcome
9.00 am **Holy Communion** BCP, Sennicotts
10.00 am **Eucharist**, St. Andrews West Stoke
10.00 am **Eucharist**, St. Mary's Funtington

Editor's Note : Jane Gummer is taking a break this month , it is hoped that she will be back with us again next month.

A Prayer for Peace

*May today there be peace within.
May you trust that you are exactly
where you are meant to be.
May you not forget the infinite possibilities
that are born of faith in yourself and others.
May you use the gifts that you have received,
and pass on the love that has been given to you.
May you be content with yourself
just the way you are.
Let this knowledge settle into your bones,
and allow your soul the freedom to sing,
dance, praise and love.
It is there for each and every one of us.
~~ St. Therese of Lisieux*

News from the PCC

At the recent PCC meeting it was reported that the appeal to our three churches for the Turkey-Syria earthquake appeal raised over £2,000. We are very grateful both to all those who agreed that their weekly donation could go to the appeal and to those who gave in addition to that. It was noted that the card reader, installed at Funtington, had been much used for the appeal.

It is gratifying to know that the PV panels are generating well and that, although much of the electricity generated goes back to the grid, we are able to utilise any power generated on Sunday mornings and other occasions when the church and church room are in use.

In view of the Parish King's Coronation Party being held at West Ashling on Sunday May 7th, it was agreed to cancel our proposed celebration on May 6th and support the Parish Party instead.

Carolyn Watt

Reminder! Subscriptions now due for the Parish Mag

Thank you very much to all those who have already paid their subscriptions. You have been brilliant. By completing the forms and letting your distributor know, it has proved very much easier for them. So thank you again for doing this.

If you haven't paid yet, please don't forget!

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Thank you!

Anna D'Alton

FUNTINGTON PARISH MAGAZINE COPY DEADLINE FOR MAY 2023

The copy deadline for the May 2023 edition is Friday 19th May 2023

Please send copy to editorfuntingtonmag@gmail.com

Books to Read

Why You Should Read Children's Books, Even Though You Are So Old and Wise, Katharine Rundell.

This little book (it's only 62 pages and measures 15 x 11cms...roughly 6 x 4 inches for those who must) contains Ms Rundell's views on the virtues of reading children's literature at any age. It evokes that wonderful feeling of abandonment to imagination and confidence that good will prevail over evil prevalent in much children's literature. And it contains some healthy swipes at some of the 'Literarti', most notably a well-deserved one at Martin Amis. She also provides us with a rundown of the history of children's literature – and it has clearly improved over the centuries!

Katharine Rundell is a successful children's author having published several children's books as well as being a Fellow of All Souls College (Renaissance literature). She says, rather refreshingly, that 'She begins each day with a cartwheel and believes that reading is almost exactly the same as cartwheeling: it turns the world upside down and leaves you breathless.'

She also wrote *Super Infinite* (about John Donne – her specialty), which is in my queue of 'books I want to read next'. And she's not yet 40!

Island of Dreams, Dan Boothby.

As a 15-year-old, Dan Boothby began a journey through the books of Gavin Maxwell which describe Maxwell's life in the Highlands and his love of otters.

Much later, and when Maxwell is no longer, Dan finds himself a caretaker, tour guide and all round Helpful Person living free of charge (and salary) in one of Maxwell's former homes in Kyleakin Lighthouse Island. This island is alongside the bridge linking the Isle of Skye to the mainland.

This is part guide book to the area: its wildlife, the changing seasons, the people (including the 'Natives, Locals, Incomers, White Settlers and Blow Ins') as well as describing Dan's journeys and research into Maxwell and why Dan is so absorbed by him.

It's a very enjoyable read, especially if you have a soft spot for the Highlands. And I think I'll also be reading *Bright Ring of Water* (Maxwell).

Anita Fulton

A Tribute to Elisabeth Allen – Born 14th September 1939 Died 19th February 2023

Elisabeth moved to Hillside Cottages in West Stoke in 1978 with her husband Terry and two young sons. She was to stay for over 40 years and threw herself into village life. Born a Catholic, she pragmatically decided that it made more sense join the West Stoke congregation than to trek to a distant Catholic church.

For many years Elisabeth was a member of the church flower rota and with her dear friend Barbara Burgess was a regular contributor to West Stoke Village Hall's famous cream teas. Many will remember her ability to conjure scones from nowhere.

Elisabeth was born in a nunnery in 1939 in Zrenjanin, a small town in former Yugoslavia, now Serbia, to parents Katharina and Johann Braun. They were part of a large community of 18th Century German settlers in the region, and lived in the small village of Cestereg. However, after the Second World War ended, the villagers – along with thousands of others – were rounded up by the Communist regime and moved into prison camps. It was an unimaginably harsh start in life for Elisabeth and her newly-born sister Annie. By the time their camp closed in 1948, of the estimated 23,000 who had been held captive there, only half are thought to have survived.

Things slowly improved, and they were moved to a communal farm, where they kept cows, pigs and chickens. Elisabeth's job was to look after the pigs. Her mother asked permission for her to go to school where she was an eager learner. Still officially stateless, Katharina was eventually allowed to move the family to Germany and a few years later they settled in the village of Herdecke in the Ruhr Valley. Elisabeth was finally able to catch up on her education properly and trained to become a chef.

Although late to start school, and taught in different countries, she showed a talent for learning languages. She had a good smattering of French and Russian, as well as being fluent in Serbian, German and English. It was these skills that brought her to England, travelling with another friend. She decided to stay and took up a position at Shotton Hall in Shropshire, a school for disadvantaged children. There she met Edwin Thorpe – who was to become a life-long friend of the family – and her future husband Terry.

Terry and Elisabeth married in September 1966 in Germany, but soon moved back to the UK. They found work with the Drewitt family in the hamlet of Colworth, between Chichester and Bognor, and lived in a tied cottage. Elisabeth cooked for the family while Terry worked on the farm.

When Mr Drewitt died, the farm was sold and the family moved to West Stoke. Elisabeth started work making curtains at Doman's in Chichester and a Saturday job cooking at Beggar's Roost nursing home. She continued working for nursing homes around Chichester, and became a self-employed seamstress, creating the increasingly extravagant soft furnishing styles of the eighties and nineties, all from a bedroom in her house! At one point she even made a set of curtains for the late Queen. At least, for one of her many residences - dark blue velvet, in case you're interested! She was a very creative person and enjoyed spinning, knitting and sewing. She wasn't too bothered about achieving perfect results, just enjoying the experience.



She and Terry enjoyed many holidays, walking and cycling with Terry, or exploring the country in their Land Rover. Together they were members of the West Sussex Guild of Weavers Spinners and Dyers, and a Folk Dancing Club which met at the Fishbourne Centre and danced in venues across West Sussex. She had a great sense of fun, and despite numerous health issues over the years, her positivity and perseverance meant she always made the best of things.

That fighting spirit was put to the test in 2002, when Terry passed away from cancer, within the same six months that Elisabeth lost her sister Annie and friend Barbara, also to cancer. Elisabeth is buried in the churchyard with Terry and next to Barbara.

Elisabeth stayed in West Stoke and continued to look after Terry's mother. She also enjoyed many adventures, travelling with a group from this parish to visit the Holy Lands, and with her friend from college to explore Africa, Italy, Spain, Morocco and the Baltics.

She finally moved from the family home to a flat in Pegasus Court in Chichester in 2019, where she got stuck into community life again, joining the U3A, Friends of the Cathedral, and the Jazz Club. She sadly suffered a stroke in September 2021 and cared for initially at Tenchley Manor, Selsey and then by the wonderful staff at Donnington House Care Home. She bore an impossible situation with great dignity and maintained her positive spirit and sense of humour until the end.

Elisabeth had a unique ability to connect with people and put them at ease. No doubt mindful of her own background, she had a particular interest in other cultures and did anything she could to help strangers and make them feel welcome.



Bluebell Native

Funtington Flora

April means bluebell season. West Stoke Woods become a sea of blue with native bluebells this month. The UK has more than 50% of the world’s bluebell population. There has been concern in the past about the risk of dilution of native bluebells due to interbreeding with the garden variety which is a hybrid between the native bluebell and Spanish bluebell. However the offspring of hybrid x native pollination are less fertile than the native bluebell, so the danger is less than first thought.



Hybrid Bluebell

The hybrid bluebell likes sunny verges, the native form grows in woodland. The Spanish Bluebell is the other parent of the hybrid, but is virtually unknown in the wild in the UK. Beware that some garden centres sell “English bluebells” which are the hybrid, not native. The native plant is legally protected from picking or digging up bulbs. The native bluebell, as found in West Stoke Woods, has an arching, drooping stem, with flowers on just one side of the stem, and narrow, parallel-sided flowers, with cream pollen. The hybrid bluebell has a straight stem, with flowers all round the stem, bell-shaped, more open flowers and blue pollen.

Helen Dignum

The Garden Shows are ready to bloom again for 2023 !



Firle Place 21 – 23 April 2023

Stansted Park 9 – 11 June 2023

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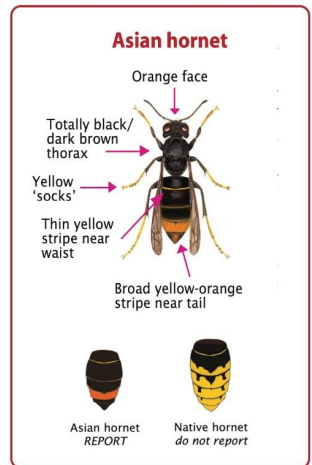
Don't tell him, Pike!

If there's one topic that really gets the old beekeeper's blood boiling then it's immigrants. Whether it's swarms of them from Europe or stow-aways from the east, we're straight onto our MP and forming action groups to track them down.

At the risk of raising alarm bells in the parish office, I'm not referring to those poor souls from war-torn countries and those who just seek a better life for themselves. No, what us beeks worry about is the influx of imported honey bees and the emergence of non-native predators on these shores.

It's a sad fact that many bee-keepers resort to buying queen bees to increase their colonies or replace those they have lost. Typically these are imported from colonies reared from the Italian honey bee, *Apis mellifera ligustica*, which are far better honey makers than our native northern European honey bee, *Apis mellifera mellifera*. Which sounds like a no-brainer – a strain of bees that can make more honey? what's not to like? – but Italian bees just aren't cut out for our longer winters; they consume their stores quicker and aren't able to cluster tightly enough to maintain enough heat, and so have a propensity to perish when the going gets cold. Whereas our native bee, much darker in colour, has all the traits to take winter in her stride. There's now a renewed enthusiasm to rear our bees in greater numbers so we rely less on imports from sunnier climes.

Even less welcome is the Asian hornet. Not to be confused with the native European hornet, which now seems rather benign and cuddly by comparison, the Asian hornet is causing havoc across Europe and has a Dad's Army of bee-keepers stationed along our coast on high alert. The Asian hornet predaes on honey bees, flying around in the vicinity of the colony entrance picking off the bees as they return. In late summer a hornet can take 30 honey bees a day to feed to their larvae, so once a nest of hornets has identified a bee hive this can quickly lead to a very distressed colony and a likelihood that it will die out.



Apparently, the Asian hornet first arrived in France 20 years ago and has quickly spread to the rest of mainland Europe. The first sighting in the UK was in 2016 and since then there have been repeated sightings along the south coast, including Portsmouth. Fortunately, it might be that the UK winters are just too cold for the queens to hibernate, but we do need to stay vigilant and call in any sightings. Actually, the best thing to do if you do spot an Asian hornet is to not kill it but let the local Asian Hornet Action Team track down the nest.

The accompanying picture shows how to tell the Asian and European hornet apart, and if you do spot an Asian hornet then please, please follow the links on the BBKA website to report it: <https://www.bbka.org.uk>

Right, back to bees next month, promise!

Jason & Kate Boswell

Bosham Chidham and District Horticultural Society have their next Monthly Meeting on **Thursday April 2023 at 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. at the Bosham Village Hall**. The Speaker is Michael Joseph who will be talking about **Wild Flower Meadows**.



There will be a raffle, competitions coffee and tea.

Visitors are made most welcome!

Local Royalty



Wren

Many people erroneously think the Wren is our smallest bird. This characterful dumpy little brown bird is a common sight in our gardens. It will inconspicuously hunt for little insects amongst the bushes, low vegetation and the crevices in the walls. Every now and again it will pop up and show itself, its short tail cocked above its back. It flies low and fast between feeding stations and if you see a small bird zipping low across your path from one hedge

to hedge another with a very rapid wing beat it is almost certainly a wren. Measuring just 10cm it is one of our smallest birds, but what it lacks in size it certainly makes up in noise. It has a very loud distinctive call which is a *tic tic tic* rattled out. Its song is also very loud and is composed of a cascade of notes that ends in a distinctive trill.

However we do have two other British birds which are smaller than the Wren and they both belong to the family of Kinglets. The Goldcrest and Firecrest measure only 9cm, the Goldcrest is marginally smaller and has the distinction of being the smallest bird in Europe. The family name, along with the Latin family designation 'Regulus', refers to the very visual crown colouring that both birds have, alluding to the impression that both bird species appear to be wearing crowns. The males of both species have their crowns decorated by a bright yellow strip which is bisected in the middle with an orangey-red stripe; the females have just the yellow stripe. They are small warbler shaped birds with fine bills indicative of their insect diet. Both species of bird are a similar looking dull green but the facial markings on the Firecrest, its dark eye line and the broad white line above its eye make it easy to identify when seen. There are also



Goldcrest (female)

slight differences in the body colouring; most notably the Firecrest has the bronze splash at the base of the neck on top of the upper part of the wing.

Although two extremely similar looking birds, they have carved out slightly different niches in which to feed. Both are woodland birds, preferring conifer woodlands but are found also in areas of other mature trees. The Goldcrest can be found scampering up trunks, often high in the tree, picking off insects as it goes. It runs along branches, often turning upside down to catch its food. While the Firecrest is found up trees, it tends to be happier foraging on bushes and shrubs nearer the ground for its food. Feeding in these different niches



Firecrest

is explained by a few slight morphological differences. The Goldcrest's hind claw is longer than that of the Firecrest. The Goldcrest uses its longer claw to help it cling to the tree trunks, enabling it to scamper up the trunk very much like the woodpeckers do and feed on the smaller higher branches and twigs. It also has a finer bill which it can use to wheedle out the insects from within the bark. The Firecrest however has a shorter broader bill which is more useful for catching the larger insects generally associated with the lower margins of the woodland, and lacking the longer hind claw is not so agile scampering around the high trees branches.



Firecrest (male)

Goldcrest are widespread in Britain and love conifer woodlands, but also can be seen in gardens and parks where there are evergreen trees. Firecrests tend to be found in the South and East of England and there is a small number that breed in Britain, mainly in these areas. They love holly trees and there are some residing in the holly around the pond in West Ashling. There is cautious optimism about this little bird. Southern England is on the edge of its European range, but recently the bird seems to have been expanding the area as to where it breeds, and numbers have slowly increased in Britain. It was only in 1962

when the Firecrest was first recorded nesting in the UK down in the New Forest. Since then, numbers have slowly increased and it's now believed there are up to 2000 pairs breeding in Britain. It is thought large commercial conifer plantations and milder winters have benefited the bird. Interestingly numbers fluctuate throughout the year because we get some summer migrants, in the autumn some passage migrants will arrive, and we also get a few winter migrants particularly if the weather is bad in Eastern Europe.

Both birds emit different very high pitched squeaks when calling which can often be heard coming from a stand of conifers, but to locate these tiny birds is another matter. Patience and watching for a movement amongst the foliage can sometimes bring success at finding them but they are constantly on the move and thus are quite difficult to spot, and they are tiny!

Kevin Tarrant

Village Spring Clean – East Ashling

Despite the chilly weather, a large group of public-spirited neighbours in East Ashling recently collected roadside litter from around the village.



Their efforts filled a dozen bags with rubbish, mostly food and drink containers but also hubcaps, car parts and even odd bits of furniture.

Everyone agreed that this Spring clean-up brought the community together to keep this beautiful part of the country looking at its best.

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THERE WILL BE AN ADULTS AND CHILDREN'S CORONATION CAKE COMPETITION

ALL TO BE EATEN AFTER THE JUDGING

THERE WILL BE MUSIC, CHILDREN'S GAMES, ADULT'S GAMES, CRICKET NET

PRACTICE AND LOTS OF FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

TABLES, CHAIRS, AND MARQUEES WILL BE PROVIDED.

On Monday May 8th we will be organising a volunteer's day, including litter picking and tidying up around the parish, please contact Jane Mottershead for further details - jbmottershead@aol.com

A 'Life Enhancing' Charity

Breaking news on TV and radio, endless Tweets, 24-hour social media – sometimes it seems that we're already bombarded with way too much information. With so many media outlets competing for our attention, why should a Chichester charity provide regular audio recordings from our local newspapers?

The key is local. If you're blind or partially-sighted you can access the global and national news as well as anyone, but what about really local news: the village fetes, readers' letters, planning applications, farmers' markets, school sports days, forthcoming events and the like? If you're unable to read your local paper you're cut off from these day-to-day happenings in your local community and could feel isolated and out of touch.



Chichester Area Talking News helps to restore independence and creates opportunities to take an active interest in local affairs by providing regular one-hour audio recordings, mostly taken from the Chichester, Bognor and Midhurst & Petworth editions of the *Observer* newspapers. There's also an Information Desk highlighting material of particular interest to blind people, Sussex Village News, readers' letters, audio book recommendations and

much more. You can listen to the latest edition on our website: www.catn.org.uk There's also **Insight** - a quarterly magazine with articles and information of local and general interest, again available online. The service is completely free to blind or partially sighted people as well as any other disabled people who are not able to read.

Talking Newspapers have been around in UK since 1970, when the idea of providing audio recordings of local news for visually impaired people was introduced from Sweden. Thanks to recognition by the then Head Postmaster, the convention was agreed that articles labelled 'For the Blind' would be treated as first-class mail but wouldn't need a stamp. That convention still exists and saves Talking Newspapers a small fortune every year. Today there are around 400

local Talking Newspaper groups in UK, mostly charities, run by 9,000 volunteers and serving 25,000 listeners. Most rely on fundraising and donations for their survival and owe a great deal of their success to the goodwill and generosity of an army of volunteers, some of whom have been with 'their' charity for 30 years or more.

CATN was started in 1975 with just a handful of listeners and volunteers – and very little money – recording on borrowed equipment in a makeshift studio. Today, there are several hundred listeners all over West Sussex and the service is run entirely by around 70 volunteers. There's a modern studio in the grounds of St Richard's Hospital, with hi-tech equipment used by experienced technicians, producers and readers. The programmes are recorded and copied on to hundreds of memory sticks which are then sent out, free of charge, by first-class post. The memory sticks are played on specially designed 'boom boxes', which are also provided at no cost to the listeners. As mentioned, programmes are also available on our website and in addition on a mobile phone or tablet using the British Wireless for the Blind App, on Chichester Hospital Radio and on smart speakers like Alexa.



In a recent ceremony, Chichester City Council presented CATN with a Community Award, describing the service as a 'life-enhancing experience' for a large number of people with sight problems who enjoy staying current with truly local news from West Sussex. If you know of anyone who could benefit from hearing local news, or if you feel you would like to help people with sight problems please call CATN on 01243 775050 or online at www.catn.org.uk. We'd be delighted to hear from you!

Bob Money

Bee's Birthday party

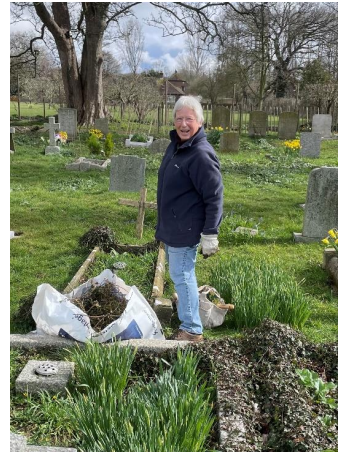
Bee Kenchington celebrated her 100th birthday on February 24th with an Open House. More than 65 of her friends in the Parish came to wish her a happy birthday!



His Majesty's card arrived by Special Delivery



St Mary's Churchyard Working Party in the glorious spring sunshine!



Thanks to Nigel, Debs, Andrew, Anne, Stewart, Neil, Carolyn, Paul, Pippa and Tony for giving their time to spruce up and, in some cases, reset the graves of St Mary's FUNTINGTON Church Yard. The lemon drizzle cake and the Simnel Cake were a delicious and welcome reward!

News from the WI

Our March meeting was our annual meeting, so not much to report. Our President Sue presented us with a couple of quizzes. One was about nursery rhymes and it was very amusing listening to everyone singing along to all the different ones. It was a fun evening and Sue rounded it off with an excellent poem written by her husband. Well done Dick! As usual it was followed by our tea and cakes. Our next meeting is on Wednesday 19th April at 7pm. Our speaker will be Richard Mornay on 'Scams'.

Jan Dunnett

Funtington Parish in the Past

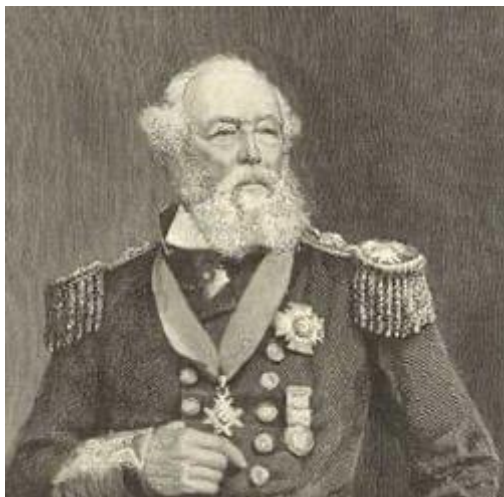
Admiral Sir Provo Wallis and some Funtington Centenarians

At Bee Kenchington’s wonderful 100th Birthday Party in Funtington last month, I was asked about the oldest person whom I had known or rather the person who was born the longest time ago.

I think that this was Fred Ewens, the saddler, who was born in Funtington in 1850. I remember seeing him sitting outside the house called Saddlers in the 1940s. Fred died at the age of 98. Flo Ewens, one his four daughters, lived the whole of her life in Funtington and died at the age of 101 in 1981. She helped her sister Nell to raise the money to build the Women’s Institute Hall in West Ashling.

I asked Jessie Sparkes (1881-1989) a contemporary of Flo and Nell Ewens about her earliest memories. She was able to recall the funeral of Admiral Sir Provo Parry Wallis in 1892 when the “coaches got stuck in the snow” in Watery Lane. The funeral of the admiral was one of the most memorable events in the parish in the 19th century.

Provo Wallis lived at Funtington House for fifty years. He died there in 1892 and was buried in St Mary’s churchyard. He is remembered for his part of the action between HMS Shannon and USS Chesapeake called the Battle of Boston Bay in the American War in 1813. At the age of 22, he took command of both ships as the US Captain had been killed and the Captain of the Shannon was injured and brought them victoriously into Halifax in Nova Scotia.



Admiral Sir Provo Wallis (1791-1892)

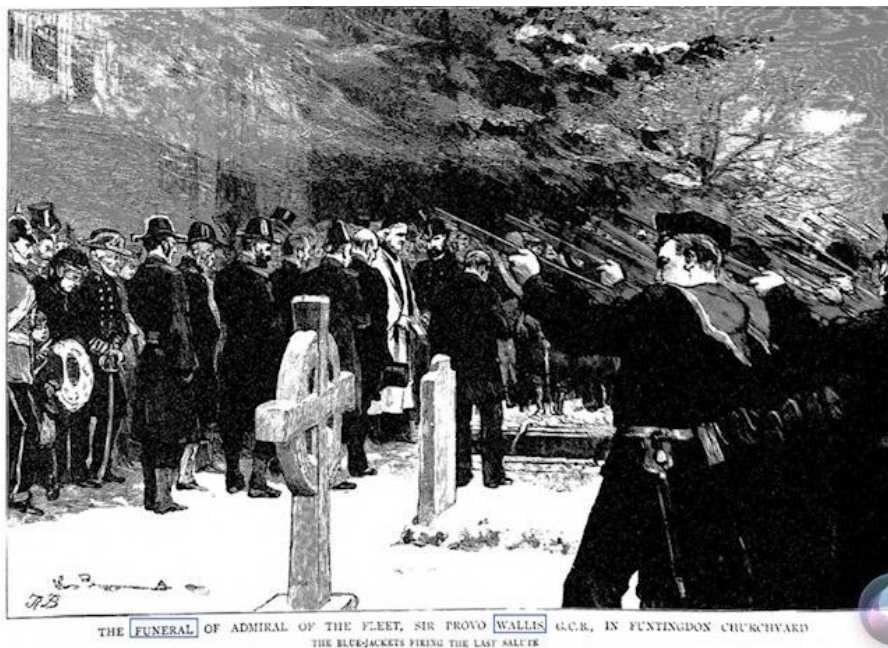


HMS Shannon



His grave in Funtington Churchyard

He was promoted Captain at the end of the Napoleonic Wars, which entitled him to remain on the active list, and therefore on full pay for the rest of his life. In his late 90s the Admiralty tried to persuade him to retire, pointing out that he was liable to be sent to sea if he remained on the active list. He responded that as the most senior officer in the Navy he would have to be in command of any fleet he was in and his last seagoing command was in the days of sail. The suggestion was quietly dropped and he was still on full pay when he died aged 100.



The Bluejackets firing the last salute in Funtington Churchyard

The report in the Evening News takes up the story of his funeral.

“With all the honours befitting the rank of “Father of the British Navy” the mortal remains of Sir Provo Wallis were buried in the picturesque churchyard in the little village of Funtington where the distinguished officer spent the declining years of his eventful life. Naval and military officers travelled by special train from Portsmouth Harbour to Bosham with a force of Bluejackets and Marines. The funeral party marched over a rough flint road covered with fast melting snow to the deceased’s late residence about three miles away.”“As the funeral bells tolled at the village church, the sailors and marines assumed their designated positions. The sailors, the only ones carrying rifles, joined the procession as the firing party, while the marines lined the roadway from the deceased’s former residence to the nearby churchyard gate. The coffin, made of plain

unpolished oak by Mr. Matthews, the village carpenter, was carried out of the hall by six sturdy Bluejackets, as Sir Provo Wallis had requested."

There were just a few hundred centenarians in England in 1900 but by 2020 there were more than 15000. It is now forecast that there may be a million by the year 2100. Funtington Parish has had a fair share of centenarians since Admiral Wallis.

As well as Jessie Sparkes and Flo Ewens, I remember Maynard, a former RAF Officer, who was living in East Ashling until shortly before she died at the age of 102. Bee Kenchington and Betty Harrap both still live in Funtington and there may be one more centenarian in the parish by the end of the year!

Geoffrey Boys

Sew4Fun

Come to "Sew4Fun" enjoy sewing, crafting, crochet or knitting in company with tea and cake!
First Session free!

When....10am-1pm 2nd Thursday of each month
Where....West Stoke Village Hall, PO19 9BG

If you would like a lift or need anymore info please contact Sue or Kim
Sue 07974875782
Kim 07752012931



All the right notes.....



West Ashling Village Hall. Friday April 14

Come along on April 14 for an evening of light entertainment to raise funds for the West Ashling and Funtington District Hall.

Acclaimed musicians The DiElle Trio, Tony & Jane Pegler and our very own Funtington Players are putting on a show of words and music to make you smile and sing along. Don't miss this live show, crammed with laughs, larks and songs from the greats!

Doors will open at 7 for a 7.30 start. Bar available. Tickets are priced at £10.00 (£12.00 in the door), and available from March 6 on <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/westashling>.

Our Beautiful Climate

Did you know that Chichester is the sunniest city in the UK? Our city received more than 1920 hours of sunlight in 2021 which is typically the average per year (*source: Metrological Office*). This compares to a UK average of 1403 hours. Why should this be? Well, in climatology there is never a simple cause and effect and on top of that, the UK has one of the most complicated weather systems in the world. Having said this, our area benefits from a series of geographical, geological and meteorological influences.

One of these is the fact that our prevailing winds are south-westerly. This is important because this ushers in relatively warm dry air from the continent and the tropics. Winds from the north are associated with polar air masses and the south of England is least exposed to these compared with the rest of the country, particularly Scotland, Northern Ireland and the north of England. Winds from the west and north-west generally involve wet Atlantic air masses.



Chichester is the sunniest city in the UK (using Met Office data)

The whole of the UK benefits from the warming effect of the Atlantic and generally speaking oceans warm landmasses in the winter and cool landmasses in the summer. That's because the oceans have a much greater heat capacity than land. It also takes longer to heat up liquid than solid objects. Water temperatures (sea surface temperature or SST) off the coast of the Witterings typically peak at around 21.2 °C in August dropping to an annual low of 5 °C in February. This compares to a variation of 3 °C in January to 17 °C in July for the UK as a whole. (*source: sea*

temperature.net). The Gulf Stream (the warm current of the north Atlantic originating in the Caribbean) plays a major impact in raising temperatures for us.

The northern Atlantic also tends to bring moist air and with the relative warm water, the air tends to rise resulting in a continuous series of cyclones (areas of low pressure

where the air is rising). This is most conducive to cloud formation as water vapour condenses when it rises and cools to form clouds. As you move more northerly in the UK, the more the effect of the north Atlantic cyclones. Because of the prevailing winds, our area is less exposed to these rain bearing systems

It is fascinating to appreciate that we are positioned on the same latitude (50 degrees) as Krakow in Poland, Luhansk in Ukraine, Tuva in Russia and Mongolia. These are locations with a continental climate and so do not have the warming effect of any ocean. As a result, average January temperatures in Luhansk are $-6.8\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ and in Tuva temperatures have dropped as low as $-58\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. Just think about what we experience when the wind direction changes to an easterly for a period of time. This is what produces episodes such as the “Beast from the East” in 2018.



Funtington area shielded by the South Downs to the north and the wind break of the Isle of Wight to the south-west

Yet another influencing factor is quite surprising, the physical effect of the Isle of Wight. It acts as a kind of wind breaker, a bit like putting your hand in front of your face when you stand into the direction of the wind. This creates eddies which flow around each side of the area to the north east of the Isle of Wight (remembering that the prevailing winds are south westerlies). This creates an area of calm immediately behind the island and tends to direct cloud cover and air with high moisture to the west and east of our immediate area. Imagine the back of a travelling lorry. Just behind the vehicle is an

area of lower pressure and calm air, before you move away and back from the vehicle to experience strong air movement and turbulence.

A much larger land mass also exerts an influence on our climate...continental Europe. It tends to bring cold spells in winter and hot, humid weather in the summer. This influence spreads to the rest of southern Britain and in the summer can result in very high temperatures further inland. It is our sea breezes that result in us experiencing lower temperatures than the record temperatures in places such as Heathrow.

In winter, our area is generally milder than further inland and the partial protection provided by the South Downs from northerly air flows combined with the coastal air, means that recent snow falls as close as South Harting have not occurred in the Funtington and East and West Ashling. Whilst the Met Office records are not as geographically precise as this area, records show that the average number of days when snow falls close to the southern coast is less than ten and I suspect that it will be even fewer in our area.

Being close to the coast and the associated sea breezes can have a detrimental effect as well as the effect of creating a milder climate. Exposed areas of our coast can experience gale force winds (a mean speed of 34 knots or more over ten consecutive minutes) ten times a year (compared to one or two further inland). Just down the coast at Shoreham by Sea a gust of one hundred knots was recorded during the "Great Storm" of 1987.

Stronger winds of around 150 knots do occur in the south in the form of tornadoes. Selsey is a known tornado hotspot with small tornados hitting the town in 1986, 1998 and 2000.

These are of course extreme conditions and we should appreciate that our climate is moderated by the sea and its position which cools our summers and warms our winters relative to the rest of the UK. Whilst it may not seem it at the beginning of March this year, rainfall in our area averages 768 mm and 118 rainy days (>1mm per day) annually. (source: *Thorney Island Met Office climate station 1991-2010*) Compare this to the average for England of 870 mm and 135 days. (source: *Met Office 1991-2010*)

So, if you have ever questioned whether you chose the right area to live in from a pure climate perspective, I can assure you that you did!

Jeremy Ling

A Regal ‘Shindig’ proclaimed at Ashling Park in Honour of the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III

on

Monday 8th May from 1pm

It’s not every day a King has a Coronation so we are coming together to celebrate and raise a glass of Sparkling Rosé to King Charles III in true Ashling Park style...

Cue the music and fabulous food with our amazing chef’s spin on the old classics.

Think, Beef Shin & tout Hash, Poached salmon, Beef Wellington, Scotch eggs, Prawn cocktail, Asparagus tartlets, leek gratin and of course Coronation Chicken.

Followed by the old favourites, Victoria Sponge, Scones, Welsh Cakes, Eton Mess, Rhubarb and Gooseberry custard tarts and many more

With some toe live tapping music, vineyard views and a glass Rosé what could be more fitting for a King?

Our delicious banquet will be served in a buffet style on party sharing tables

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To book tickets www.ashlingpark.co.uk/events/ or telephone 01243 967700

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Social Activities

Parents and Toddlers Group

Every Monday during term time from 10 – 12 am starting again in September. Grannies most welcome too! Toys, teas and coffee plus biscuits of course! Please contact Julie Morrow on 01243 575356.

or juliemorrow7@gmail.com for further details.

Let's Dance (for the not so young!)

Monday afternoons (term time) 2.30pm 'til 3.30pm

St. Mary's Church Room, Church Lane, Funtington PO18 9LH

Contact: Kathryn Wignall at Kathryn.wignall@tiscali.co.uk

Wednesday Coffee Morning, St. Mary's Church Room

Everyone welcome to come and join us for coffee and biscuits at 11am in The Church Room. A good time for meeting others, sharing and laughter.

Funtington and West Stoke W1

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 19th April at 7pm. Our speaker will be Richard Mornay on 'Scams'. If you think you would like to join us on the 3rd Wednesday of every month, please call Sue Nicholson on 01243 574722.

Fundraiser for West Ashling and Funtington Community Hall

'All the Right Notes'

Friday 14th April 2023, 7pm Tickets £10

For further details see page 25

Funtington Bridge Club

The club meets every Thursday at St. Mary's Church Room, Funtington. Rubber Bridge from 1.30pm until 5pm £3 per person including tea, coffee and biscuits.

Contact Roger Freeguard for details 01243 576650

Solution to Crossword 21 (compiled by Paul Pridmore)

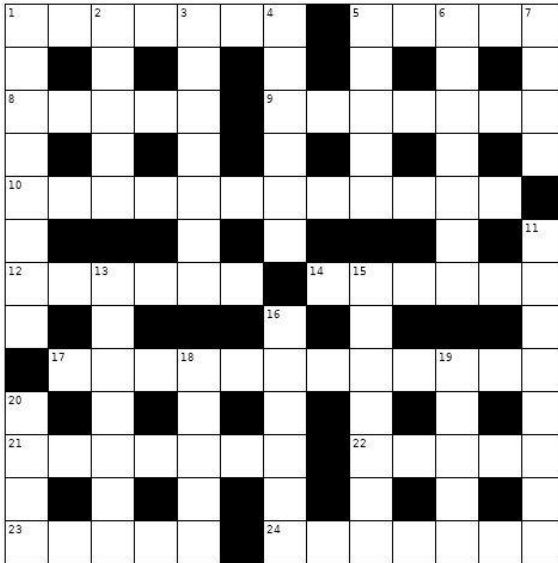
ACROSS

1 Sisters 5 Muzak 8 Usurp 9 Omnibus 10 Playing-cards
12 Sombre 14 Scheme 17 Know the ropes 21 Bit part
22 Apple 23 Acrid 24 Seesaws.

DOWN

1 Sourpuss 2 Sauna 3 Emptier 4 Slough 5 Manna
6 Zebedee 7 Kiss 11 Reassess 13 Minster 15 Corkage
16 Photos 18 Weald 19 Papua 20 Abba.

Crossword no. 21



ACROSS

- 1 Sorority members (7)
- 5 Bland 'lift' music (5)
- 8 Seize a position of authority (5)
- 9 Collection of author's works in one volume (7)
- 10 Deck components? (7-5)
- 12 Gloomy (6)
- 14 To conspire (6)
- 17 Have a thorough understanding, like Bond's? (4,3,5)
- 21 Minor acting role (3,4)
- 22 Computer fruit (5)
- 23 Bitterly pungent (5)
- 24 Oscillates in the playground (7)

DOWN

- 1 Pessimistic feline? (8)
- 2 A Finn's steam bath(5)
- 3 Less full (7)
- 4 Shed skin in Berkshire (6)
- 5 Miraculous windfall of food (5)
- 6 Father of disciples James and John (7)
- 7 Join lips (4)
- 11 Make another evaluation (8)
- 13 Monastery's church (7)
- 15 Tax on drinking your own wine (7)
- 16 Camera images (6)
- 18 Region between the North and South Downs (5)
- 19 Area joined with New Guinea (5)
- 20 Sweden's best-known palindromic export (4)

ST MARYS CHURCH FUNTINGTON SERVICES AND ROTA

Day	Service	Flowers	Brass	Elements	LaMoCs	Intercessor	Sidesperson	Readers
Sunday 2nd April PALM Sunday	10 am Family service Red JM		Liz Lancaster	-		Jo Borbonne	David Callas Claire Hoare	Jo Borbonne Isa 50.4-9a Claire Hoare Matt 27. 11-54
Thursday 6 th April Maundy Thursday	1900 Eucharist White AB	Easter Flowers	Liz Lancaster		Kay Knowles	-	Church Wardens	Volunteers Exod 12: 1-8 11-14 1Cor 11: 23-26
Friday 7 th April Good Friday Red AB	10 am Prayer Stations of the Cross					Clergy	Church wardens	Volunteers on the day please
Sunday 9 th April Easter Sunday	10 am Eucharist Gold AB				Liz Lancaster	Clergy	Anne Maddock Maddock Nick la Hive	Anne Maddock Acts10: 34-43 Nick La Hive Colo 3; 1-4
Sunday 16 th April Easter 2	10 am Eucharist White AB		Liz Collett		Nigel Brown	Anne Maddock	Denise Foster Sue Simms	Denise Foster Acts 2 ;14, 22-32 Claire Hoskins 1Peter 1: 3-9
Sunday 23 rd April Easter 3	10 am Eucharist White AB	Pat Hill			Kay Knowles	Clergy	Jimmy Faure Claire Hoare	Jimmy Faure Acts 2; 14 a 36-41 Claire Hoare Peter 1; 17-23
Sunday 30 th April Easter 4	10 am Joint service White TBC	Jubilee Flowers	Maggie Webb		Nigel Brown	Liz Lancaster	Liz Lancaster Pippa Kerr	Deborah Hughes Acts 2 ;42-47 Andrew Hughes 1Peter 2 ;19- 25
Sunday 7 th May Easter 5	10 am Family service White JM			-	-	Jo Borbonne	Liz Lancaster	Mini Elliot Acts 7:55-60 Neil Macauley 1Pet;2.2-10

Parish Services April 2023
EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ALL CHURCHES, SERVICES & EVENTS!

<i>Day</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Place</i>
Sunday 2nd April Palm Sunday	10 am	Family Service, Palm Cross blessing	St Marys, Funtington
	10 am	Eucharist CW2	St Andrew, West Stoke
Weds 5 th April	10.30 am 11 am	Eucharist and Healing Coffee (all welcome)	St Mary, Funtington Church room
Thursday 6th April Maundy Thursday	1900	Eucharist	St Marys, Funtington
Friday 7th April Good Friday	10 am 14.00	Prayer Stations of the Cross -Walk of Witness to St Wilfreds Veneration of the Cross	St Marys, Funtington Lunch 12.00 then onward walk to St Marys Chidham
Sunday 9th April Easter Day	7.00 am 9.00am 10 am 10am	Lighting of the Paschal Candle Holy Communion BCP Eucharist Eucharist	Cobnor Beach - All welcome Sennicotts West Stoke, St Andrews St Marys, Funtington
Weds 12 th April	10.30am 11 am	Eucharist and Healing Coffee (all welcome)	St Marys, Funtington Church room
Sunday 16th April Easter 2	10.00 am	Morning Prayer	St Andrew, West Stoke
	10.00 am	Eucharist	St Marys, Funtington
Weds 19 th April	10.30am 11 am	Eucharist and Healing Coffee (all welcome)	St Marys, Funtington Church room
Sunday 23rd April Easter 3	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP	Sennicotts
	10.00am	Eucharist	St Marys, Funtington
Weds 26 th April	10.30am 11 am	Eucharist and Healing Coffee	St Marys, Funtington Church room
Sunday 30th April Easter 4	10.00 am	Joint Eucharist with Chidham	St Marys, Funtington
Weds 3 rd May	10.30am 11 am	Eucharist and Healing Coffee	St Marys, Funtington Church room
Saturday 6th May	Tbc	Bell ringing to celebrate KING CHARLES III Coronation	
Sunday 7th May	10 am 10 am P.M 19.00	Family Service Eucharist Cw2 The Funtington Parish Party Coronation Evensong	St Marys, Funtington West Stoke, St Andrew Cricket Pitch West Ashling Chidham, St Marys

NEW PARISH WEBSITE and CHURCH NOTICEBOARDS for ALL INFORMATION & UPDATES www.funtingtonweststoke.org.uk