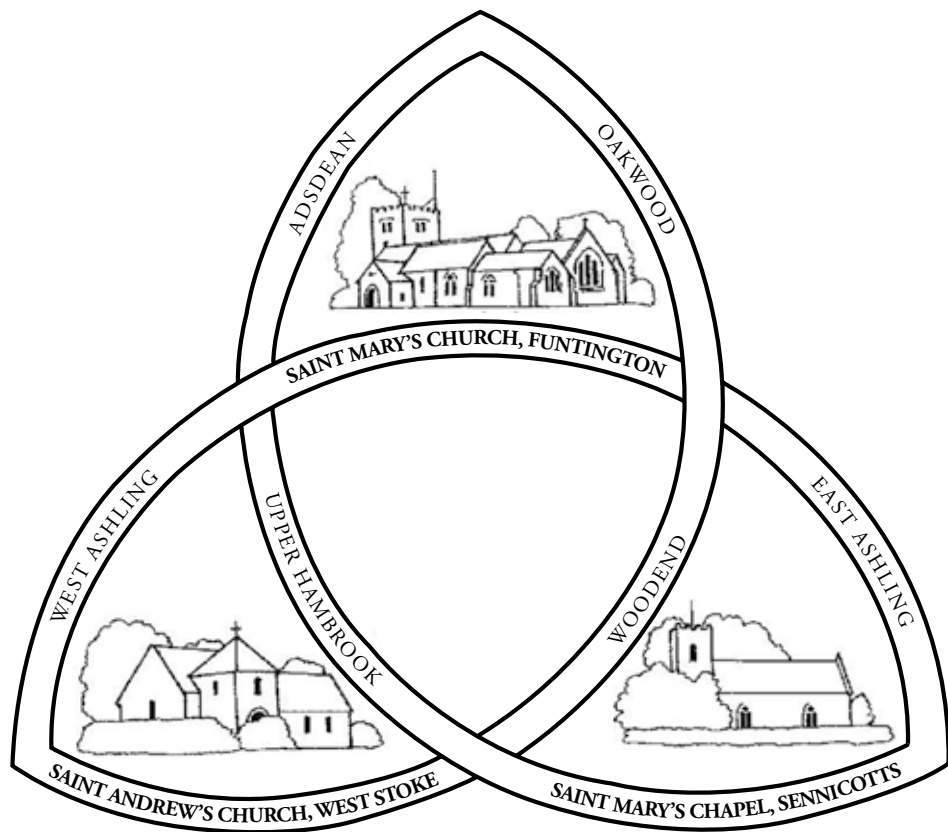


# FUNTINGTON

## Parish Magazine



MAY 2022

£1

## **Funtington and West Stoke with Sennicotts: Who's Who**

*St Mary, Funtington; St Andrew, West Stoke; St Mary, Sennicotts [www.funtingtonweststoke.com](http://www.funtingtonweststoke.com)*

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## **Letter from Father Andrew, Priest in Charge**

At the time of writing this article for the magazine we have just come out of Holy Week and what a Holy Week we had! Our Holy Week began with a short procession round from outside The Old House at Home round to the Church. On Good Friday, we began the day at Funtington with Stations of the Cross in which we remember 14 different points of the final journey of Christ, following His trial to His death. As we walked around the various stages in the churchyard, we carried a cross which Neil Watt had made from the tree which fell in the recent storms. The cross was then carried on the Walk of Witness to St. Wilfred's in Nutbourne, where Alyzn Johnson prepared wonderful home-made soup for us to gather in fellowship before listening to the Passion of Christ being read. We then made our way down to Chidham where we venerated the cross and had communion which had been reserved at the Morning Thursday service. It was a great event, which all those who walked the whole distance, or those who joined at various points found very rewarding. We held a 7am service on the beach at Cobnor (with thanks to Diana Beale for allowing us to use the space) where 37 of us gathered to light the fire and then the paschal candle – the light was then taken to our churches. A great Holy Week and Easter witness!

During Holy Week and Easter Week we held our Annual Parochial Church Meetings in both parishes I am responsible for. Our financial year runs from January to December, but Annual Meetings are held around April each year. I often see these APCM's as the start of the new year because a new team forms to take us through the next 12 months. The pandemic isn't behind us, it is still in our vision, but we must now focus on the recovery and on the positives that we can take out of what has been a very negative and difficult time.

At the APCM we heard that Nick La Hive and Claire Hoare had decided not to stand for election this year as Churchwardens. We will have a proper 'Thank you' Service for them on 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 7pm, where we will also see the new Churchwardens sworn in. Nick had managed to rack up 16 years as Churchwarden and Claire 6 years. We owe them a huge debt of gratitude and thanks for everything they have done to support the parish – especially during the last couple of years with the covid restrictions. However, we now have two new churchwardens – Pippa Kerr and Paul Wren. We are grateful too to them for accepting the nomination to stand.

There are 4 areas which Bishop Martin has asked us to focus on. They are More open; More Converted to Christ; More Generous and More engaged.

**More Open:** We want to see the Church as a family of all ages. Loving and serving and contributing and growing together. As Parish Priest I am the Priest for the community within the Parish boundaries in addition to those who come to church. I believe that we need to get out into the community and take the Gospel message with us.

**More Generous:** We have a diocese characterised by a radical and generous response to the self-giving of Jesus Christ, who fills the church with His life. (Ephesians 1:23). We are encouraged to run a stewardship campaign. We will have a financial review of our spending and how we fundraise. We are moving to contactless giving in addition to our giving through the collection plate and standing orders, gift aid etc. This vision will also be supported and enhanced by host of social events. Over the coming months we will see building works at St. Mary's which will ensure our church building remains very much part of our ministry going forward.

**More Engaged:** We have a vision for a church where people have a sense of vocation with a church family that nurtures and encourages that vocation. We long to see a renewed church which brings blessing and transformation to the parish, contributing to the common good. We need to be more supportive of environmental issues and how we ourselves impact on the planet which God gave to our care and which we are irreparably damaging through our own actions; we need to focus on supporting other issues such as social justice; community groups and others where we can share common ground with one another.

I am not saying that this will all be achieved overnight, nor am I saying that the road will be easy. We will succeed in many things, but where things are less successful, we will review what we have done and identify where we can learn from what we have done. However, none of this will work unless we come together as a team, working together to build a strong and resilient parish. We will also need to work more closely with the Parish of Chidham to help us achieve some of these Visions.

I want to take this opportunity to say Thank You to you all for everything you have done to date supporting and building the parish, and I look forward to working with you in the future as we build our **Parish in 2022/23** *Fr. Andrew*

## **Our Great God Reigns!**

In a world that is blighted by sin and sorrow it is a delight to set our eyes on the things that are beautiful and lovely as God intended it should be.

We see it in nature, the changing seasons 'In all the changing scenes of Life, in trouble and in joy, the praises of my God and King shall still my tongue employ'. When God created the world, He saw that it was good. This is how He intended it to be. But as we look round the world today, we see that it has been marred by evil and man's selfish ambitions. We have not loved God with all our hearts or our neighbours as ourselves.

The conflict in Europe has heightened the situation. Refugees are fleeing their countries. Driven from their homes and livelihoods to seek safety elsewhere. Buildings are demolished and people lie dead in the streets. Our hearts cry out for them 'O God, O nameless someone, 'Be There'. And of course He is. If we believe in a God of love nothing can annihilate Him. He knows what is going on, and He wants to get it right, if we will but co-operate with Him.

If we look around we can see that many acts of kindness are being offered. Food, shelter, money and protection. The politicians struggle to find the answers. Ultimately, goodness is stronger than Evil and Love is stronger than death. We thought the Devil was on the throne, but God is on the throne. And He has the final word.

All of us has a part to play, if we are to bring God's Kingdom of love on earth. So let us spread the message. As the saying goes, 'Channels only, blessed Master, yet with all thy wondrous power flowing through us, thou canst use us every day and every hour'. Our God reigns. He is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Oh, wondrous Love.

*Jane Gummer*

*May 2022*

## **Ride and Stride: 10<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

The 2022 Sussex Ride & Stride is taking place on the 10<sup>th</sup> September. Organised by Sussex Historic Churches Trust, Ride & Stride encourages walkers and cyclists to get sponsored to visit Churches/chapels across the county. The money raised helps to save Sussex historic churches for future generations by helping to fund urgent repairs.

50% of your sponsorship money goes to your local Church. The Churches in our Parish will be open that day and one or two of them will be manned. If you are interested in taking part either as a walker, cyclist (team or individually) or helper let me know and I can give you more details!

*[anna@anna-dalton.com](mailto:anna@anna-dalton.com)*

**Bible Readings at St Andrew, West Stoke and St Mary, Sennicotts**

<b>May 2022</b>				
<i>Date:</i>	<i>St Andrew, West Stoke</i>		<i>St Mary, Sennicotts</i>	
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> May	10.00 a.m. HC	Acts 9.1-6 John 21.1- 19	-	-
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> May	-	-	9.00 a.m. HC (BCP)	Acts 9.36-43 John 10.22-30
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00 a.m. HC	Acts 11.1-8 John 13.31- 35	-	-
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	-	-	9.00 a.m. HC (BCP)	Acts 16.9-15 John 14.23-29
Sun 29 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00am Joint Service at St Mary, Funtington			
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00 a.m. HC	Acts 2.1-21 John 14.8- 17	-	-

**Coffee Morning**  
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***Denise Foster (01243 574251)***

## News from the PCC

On April 13<sup>th</sup> the annual Vestry meeting and APCM were held, the meetings were extremely well supported; a great encouragement to those PCC members who had served during the last 12 months. At the vestry meeting, Fr. Andrew spoke of each of the churchwardens' considerable commitment to their roles. He individually recognised their time and service, in particular the very sad timing of Richard Elwes' death but also the considerable legacy he has left, which will live on for many years to come. He also thanked Caroline Noble for taking over the reins so competently which had kept continuity at St Andrew's. Claire Hoare, who has been Churchwarden for 6 years, had decided not to stand again as Churchwarden. Andrew said she was like a 'Beacon of light' at the door and made people feel very welcome. He added that the church had been through a difficult few years and she had helped to bring the church to where it is today. Nick La Hive also stood down from his longstanding position of churchwarden having served for 16 years which had included four inter-regnams. Andrew acknowledged that Nick had been a 'rock' for Funtington and the wider parishes and it had been much easier for him to come into a parish which was so well organised. Andrew passed on his immense thanks to him, (sadly, due to covid, Nick was unable to attend the meeting.)

Two new churchwardens for Funtington were appointed: Paul Wren and Pippa Kerr. Caroline Noble continues to be Churchwarden at West Stoke. Andrew thanked the new Churchwardens for putting themselves forward for their role. On May 23<sup>rd</sup> @7pm, the Bishop of Lewes will be coming to officially appoint the new churchwardens. The PCC will also be marking the Churchwardens' years of service with a social event.

At the APCM the new PCC were elected. Together with the Churchwardens it comprises: Anna Mallam, Tricia Dry, Tony D'Alton, Carolyn Watt, Andrew Lillie, Kay Knowles, Deborah Hughes, Claire Hoare, Ed Platt, Denise Foster, Gwynne Oakley-Smith, Gill Boote, Andrew Hughes, Neil Watt, Joanne Wergen. Andrew thanked all those members whose 3-year period of office had come to an end and said it was humbling that so many had put themselves forward to serve. He also thanked all those who contributed to the life of the parish and, in particular, Anna D'Alton and Jo Laird for taking on the Parish Magazine which was going to many homes in the parish and beyond and was going 'from strength to strength.'

*PCC Secretary*

### **Stonepillow Food Collection**

A huge thanks to everyone who so generously donated food for the very important local charity Stonepillow during the months of January and February. I took 4 x carrier bags, full to the brim, to St Joseph's in Huston Road, all was very gratefully received. These months collection will be for the Chichester food bank.

The next collection for Stonepillow will be in the months of May and June. The food donation boxes can be found at the back of St. Mary's Church, Funtington. *Pippa Kerr*

## From the Parish in the Past

### Oakwood School 110 years old in April 2022

#### Sir and Senn

Oakwood School has always been Fenns to me. The school was founded by Mr and Mrs Fenn in 1912 as a boarding school in Highland Road in Summersdale and in 1915 they moved to Avenue House in The Avenue. Some of the boys lived abroad and stayed at school the whole year round.



In 1915 Dick Fenn volunteered to join the Army; he served in Palestine and in France where he was awarded the MC. He was seriously injured in Palestine and woke up in Cairo in time to persuade doctors not to amputate his leg.

On his discharge in 1919, Captain and Mrs Fenn were hoping to take over Eastfield House in Ditchling, a preparatory school where Dick Fenn used to teach. However this school burnt down during the Easter Holidays. They were asked to take some Ditchling boys. The Fenns decided to buy Summersdale Lodge on the corner of the Drive. Here they established the very successful Fenns school.

Summersdale Lodge was requisitioned in June 1940, the boarders being evacuated to Cornwall with Capt and Mrs Fenn. Infants remained in a schoolroom built after an electrical fire had damaged some of the main building. I joined the infants in January



1943. Capt and Mrs Fenn were spoken of with admiration and some awe.





On May 4th 1943 in the middle of the Second World War, Captain and Mrs Fenn moved their school back to Sussex. Oakwood House had been also been requisitioned and after more than 100 years, the du Pre family did not wish to return.

Mrs Fenn explained in her diary "We had taken Oakwood on a three-year lease. We brought

back 15 boys. We had seven new boys and the five who had not gone down to Cornwall with us rejoined. The war was not over. There were occasional siren warnings but we had good sound cellars to retreat to. Meanwhile the troops were preparing for D Day. There followed a brief period of war shortages, chiefly petrol; the boys arrived in old resurrected horse-drawn vehicles, governess carts, dog carts etc but gradually life returned to normal"



I joined Oakwood School in Jan 1944. There I was taught by Captain Dick Fenn and Mrs Nora Fenn. To me they were Sir and Senn (Senn being a corruption of Mrs Fenn) I saw them almost every day for the next six years. I later found out more about them from Nora Fenn's diary and in correspondence with Edward Fenn, Captain Fenn's great nephew in New Zealand.



Dick and Nora Fenn were cousins, each with five siblings; they had each lost their fathers when they were aged nine and six respectively.

Nora's father, the vicar of Roffey, near East Grinstead suffered poor health and died in 1889. The family moved to Littlehampton and is pictured here c1890.

In order to help finances, the two older girls took posts as governesses in Germany before they had completed their education. Nora became fluent in French and German.

At Oakwood, Nora's three sisters Nelly, Ruth and Mary became Mrs Potter the cook, Mrs Miles the matron and Mrs Ford who taught the youngest class and whom we naturally called Sord.



Dick's family pictured here in Dunedin, New Zealand emigrated in 1885. His father, a retired naval officer, joined the Merchant Navy and died there of kidney failure in 1889. Most of the family returned to England and lived in Tonbridge in Kent for a while, where Dick attended Tonbridge School.

There he started to learn Latin and Greek which he studied at Oxford and taught for more than 65 years. In 1949 I was one of the first of several Oakwood boys to follow him to Tonbridge School.

"Fenns School" or Oakwood School, as it is now known, celebrates its 110th anniversary this year.

*Geoffrey Boys*

## Funtington Flora

As the golden Lesser Celandines fade on the verges, you can find the white starry Greater Stitchwort in patches along the road side. Its flowers have five petals, deeply notched, and it has pairs of long thin leaves, which are often inconspicuous among the grass until the plant flowers.



Alexanders is the first of the Carrot Family (Umbellifers, Cow parsley type to flower in spring. This tall plant with yellow-green multiple flower heads (umbel), and glossy bright green leaves, was originally introduced by the Romans as a food plant. It spreads close to the coast and in Southern England, and can be seen on Lye Lane and elsewhere.

Many of our local woods are carpeted with extensive patches of low green plants about 15-20 cm high, with green upright catkin-like flowers. This is dog's mercury. 99% of the plants are male. It is a feature of ancient woodlands, and prefers oak and beech woodland. Its name is nothing to do with dogs, rather dog in a plant name means it is similar too but inferior to other similar. It is toxic if eaten.



Our woods are also rich with native bluebells. Key features: nodding, one sided flower spike, narrow leaves, narrow parallel-sided leaves, cream anthers. Hybrid bluebells have upright flower spikes with more open bell-like flowers, and are usually found on road verges or nearer human habitation. The true Spanish bluebell species is vanishingly rare in Britain. Britain is home to 50% of the world population of our native bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*).

*Helen Dignum*

## West Stoke Cream Teas

The summer cream teas at West Stoke Village Hall have been a fixture of village life since the 70s. They are a wonderful opportunity for local charities to raise money and publicity and have a lot of fun as well. A typical tea on a pleasant Sunday afternoon can raise over £300 with a small fee going to the hall.

You need about five helpers plus some bakers

to provide homemade cakes. Cross your fingers for a sunny day, hoist the Union Jack and welcome your hungry guests.

There are a few coveted spaces left in July and August. If you would like to take the opportunity to help a cause dear to you then get in touch with Richard Warburton at [dickwarburton@msn.com](mailto:dickwarburton@msn.com)



## East Ashling Spring Clean up



followed by a well deserved Coffee where a collection for Ukraine raised £325.





## Swans of West Ashling Mill Pond

At the time of writing the Mute Swans on West Ashling Mill Pond have refurbished their old nest, she has laid her eggs and is currently sitting on them. By the time this article is published the eggs will be ready to hatch. The Mute Swan sits on her eggs for six weeks, and so by my reckoning the new cygnets will arrive in the first week of May.

It is fascinating watching the evolving behaviour of the swans on the pond. At the beginning of the year the adult pair will start to encourage the previous year's cygnets to leave the pond. This starts off as gentle encouragement and gets more and more aggressive if the message does not get through. If you are observant you will have noticed that if any remain in March they will be seen mooching around the edge of the pond's bank, only allowed on the water for the night. The previous year one cygnet was rather violently dealt with by its father as it just did not seem to get the message it was not wanted anymore. I presume most of the cygnets head to the harbour area. Swans mate for life and are quite territorial, but they do not breed until they are five to six years old. So for these intervening years they tend to collect together and I think this is why so many can be seen together in the harbour area. A mob of teenagers!



From mid-February you can see the adult pair repairing their old nest, collecting twigs from the bank and gently placing and winding them into the fabric of the



structure. In March they mate and by the middle of the month the Pen starts to lay her

eggs over a couple of days. The Cobb is now quite aggressively clearing the pond of anyone on the water adjacent to the nest. He does this by arching his wings over his back, extending his neck out, and swimming straight at the individual that has encroached on his patch. You might have noticed that over the last month there are more ducks in the road as you drive past, and the pair of Black Swans has taken up residence on the road side of the pond all courtesy of the male swan patrolling his territory.



The Pen does most of the sitting, but the Cobb does occasionally let his mate stretch her wings as he takes over. The eggs will hatch over a couple of days at the beginning of May. The cygnets will be kept around the nest until all are hatched and then they will then all be led onto the water by the parents. She usually produces between 6-7 young. The adult pair continues to be very protective of the area of the pond where the cygnets are, chasing away any bird that comes near their family. However as the cygnets grow in size, the adults become a little more tolerant and relaxed. Normal service on the pond does not usually resume until the cygnets are about two months old. The pond then is once again a place of peace and the tranquillity .... until the beginning of next year, when it all happens again.



*Kevin Tarrant*



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Easter Flowers at St. Mary's Funtington





**Lighting of the Pascal Candle on  
Cobnor Beach on Easter Day  
*Courtesy of The Daily Telegraph***





# Happy Times! The Parish Magazine Drinks Bash!



## Lou (Mary Louise) Scott Joynt - 22 March 1942 – 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2022



It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Lou Scott-Joynt on 2<sup>nd</sup> April in the Winchester Hospice. A few of us from Funtington went to her beautiful funeral held on 19<sup>th</sup> April in Winchester Cathedral where she will be buried alongside Michael. Lou was a very much loved and active member of this village and Parish. She was a lifelong supporter of the Mothers Union and led the

choir at St. Mary's Funtington for some years until she moved back to her beloved Winchester in 2019. Lou was one of the founding members of the Good Neighbours group in this Parish.

### **Annual Subscriptions for the Parish Magazine**

Thank you to all who have already paid their annual subs. A gentle reminder to those who haven't got around to it yet!

The cost of the magazine is being held at £10 per annum (£18 for those who receive it by post). The magazine is non-profit and as printing prices rise every little bit helps!

You can pay online to Funtington PCC, Account Number 00014478 and the sort code is 40-52-40 (which is preferred), but please give your name as a reference. Or by cheque made out to Funtington PCC and send to The Editor, 3 Dukes Meadow, Funtington PO18 9LU or by cash to your usual distributor.

Thank you for your support

### **Spread the Word....**

Do your neighbours enjoy reading your copy of the Parish Magazine?

If not perhaps they don't know what a good read it is and how much local information it covers.

So... please do spread the word and encourage your friends and neighbours to subscribe. We will be giving our village distributors extra copies of the magazine this month to pop through newcomers doors!

*The Editors*



# Come to the Platinum Jubilee Beacon Lighting Party

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022 7.30pm



for everyone in Funtington, West Stoke, East Ashling, West Ashling, Sennicotts and Chidham to Celebrate the Queen's Jubilee

**‘Lighting up the UK and Commonwealth for the Queen's Jubilee’**

Where: Funtington Church Paddock

Date: Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022

Time: Gates open at 7.30 pm

Tickets: £5 (Under 12s Free)

An Oak Tree will be planted at 8.30 pm. Drinks and food available from 8pm followed by the Parish Beacon being lit! Parking is limited so please walk if you can

Tickets available from: [phillippakerr123@gmail.com](mailto:phillippakerr123@gmail.com) or [cfnoble@hotmail.com](mailto:cfnoble@hotmail.com)  
or [rev.andrew.birks@hotmail.com](mailto:rev.andrew.birks@hotmail.com) or [anna@anna-dalton.com](mailto:anna@anna-dalton.com)

## Infamy...infamy...they've all got it in for me!

One of the questions asked at the end of my recent WI talk is super-interesting: *how long do queen bees live for?*

Avid readers of this column will know that worker bees live for around six weeks, that their winter sisters can live up to six months, and that their brothers, the drones, get



just a summer, or less if they are lucky (*keep up at the back, dig out your past issues if you need to revise*). Queens, though, live for around 2 to 3 years, give or take a year or two. But unfortunately, a queen bee never makes it to a grand old age, she always meets an untimely end. A queen might die if she swarms with her colony and it doesn't get re-homed since they are very likely to perish in the wild. She might not make it through winter with her colony if they don't have enough food stores or succumb to disease. She might be eaten on the wing during a mating flight, or squished at the hands of a clumsy bee-keeper. Or, not our thing we'll have you know, some bee-keepers intentionally

replace their queens annually with younger, more productive queens. But even if she avoids those fates, she will eventually be replaced by her own colony. It's what we call 'supersedure'. As a queen gets older she produces less pheromones, the chemical signals she gives the colony to tell them to do as they are told, and, sensing their ageing queen, they make plans to raise a new queen. When the new queen hatches she will kill her mother and take over the colony. Supersedure almost always happens in autumn so the colony has a young, mated queen to get them through winter. Which is why when we do our first inspection in spring and can't find the marked queen we last saw in autumn, we have to suspect she has been superseded. Two of the hives we opened a few weeks ago turned out not to have the blue-marked queen that we were expecting to see (blue for queens born in 2020), but instead each had an un-marked queen going about her business. Each was swiftly caught, dabbed on the back with white ink (white for 2021 queens) and released back into the hive to hopefully lead an incident-free life for a couple of years. The rapeseed on the fields around Kingley Vale is now a mass of bright yellow flowers and the bees are making the most of it. They love a bit of it – it's packed with pollen and produces loads of nectar – so our supers (the honey boxes) fill up very quickly during the five weeks it's in bloom. Annoyingly, honey sourced from rapeseed crystallises rock solid, so as soon as we spot that the flowers have gone to seed we extract the honey so we know that from then on the honey being made by our bees will be runnier.

*Jason & Kate Boswell*



## The West Ashling Duck Race! Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Live music, delicious food, a pimm's bar and drinks tent.

Tickets are £5 per adult and £1 for under sixteens, available from Ticketsource. More information can be found at

[www.westashlingduckrace.com](http://www.westashlingduckrace.com)

or email [info@westashlingduckrace.com](mailto:info@westashlingduckrace.com)

### CHICHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY

Spring Concert on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 7.30 pm

A Spring concert to set the birds singing on the University campus

**Margaret Fingerhut (piano) & Bradley Creswick (violin) are back!**

If you missed their last recital don't miss this one. Programme details are yet still in bud but will burst into flower soon so keep an eye on our website

[www.chichestermusicsociety.org.uk](http://www.chichestermusicsociety.org.uk) Visitors **£15** available on:

[ticketsource.co.uk/chichester-music-society](http://ticketsource.co.uk/chichester-music-society) or from

[Elizabeth.stanley617@btinternet.com/07973410407](mailto:Elizabeth.stanley617@btinternet.com/07973410407)

### News from the WI

It was lovely to see so many members at our April meeting. After the usual business of the meeting welcomed John Gleadall to entertain us with Songs from the Musicals and the Music Hall era, where you were entertained by singers such as Champagne Charlie. Sadly most of the Music Halls burnt down. We sang a lot of songs from the last century. He used clips from the old films, like Dancing Cheek to Cheek, with Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. John sang and played his guitar and we sang along with him with the words on a screen. So many songs, too many to list. We ended with High Society, the longest running show. Afterwards it was the usual tea and cakes. It was an evening much enjoyed by all. Our next meeting is on May 18th, the Resolutions Meeting at 7pm. Visitors and new members are always welcome.

*Jan Dunnet*

## RECIPE

### HEREFORDSHIRE PORK CHOPS 4 - 6 portions

A 'batch' cook - appropriate now when people are trying to use less gas and electricity.

- 4 - 6 pork loin chops (medium sized)
- 1 tables malt vinegar
- 1 tables Worcester sauce
- 3 tables soft brown sugar
- 3 tables ketchup
- 1 large onion, sliced
- 1 teas curry powder
- 1 teas marmite
- 2 sticks of celery, chopped (limp celery works just as well)
- 1/2 pint water
- 1 beef stock cube

Brown the chops. Place in oven-proof dish along with all the other ingredients. Cover and cook for 1 1/2 to 2 hours at 170C, Fan 150C or Gas Mark 4

This can be cooked in large quantities and then put into the freezer in smaller packs. Serve with potatoes or rice, green vegetables or salad.

*Angela Wood*

#### **MARMALADE NOW SOLD OUT!**

A big thank you to all who supported my fundraising for the Mothers' Union by buying the marmalade which I made, without you it would not have been possible. I have sent a cheque to the Mothers' Union for £127.50, which I am delighted was an increase on last year's amount, and will be used for their work in this country and abroad, particularly in Africa. Enjoy!

*Anne Maddock*

## **SPECIAL TWO-PAGE FUNTINGTON MAGAZINE LITERARY SECTION!**

### ***The Amur River: Between Russia and China by Colin Thubron***

You may have some difficulty in locating the Amur River, yet it is the tenth-longest river in the world, rising in Mongolia and flowing through Siberia. For 1,100 miles it forms an uneasy natural border between Russia and China – one of the most fortified frontiers on earth. Thubron describes the river as ‘a fault-line, shrouded in old mistrust.’ The 1689 Treaty which set the border between Imperial Russia and China was the first between the two nations. This and subsequent treaties took advantage of the weakened position of China, pushing Russian territorial boundaries south of the Amur to the sea – including the peninsula ending with Vladivostok, now Russia’s major Pacific seaport and the main base of its Pacific fleet.

In his eightieth year, Colin Thubron sets off from the Amur’s source to its desolate end. He speaks Russian and appreciates the changing fortunes of the country, having returned often over several decades. For the Russians, China’s booming economy and huge population are sources of great fear. To the north of the Amur, the Russian population ebbs away and its towns and cities slowly die while China grows and expands. Thubron’s account of the Russian area is depressing – decrepit statues of Lenin looking down over melancholy towns with dwindling populations. What border trade is done is mainly by the Chinese, a fact that causes much resentment. Thubron notes too that the three Chinese provinces that line the river’s southern banks are now home to 110 million people, dwarfing the mere two million on the three Russian provinces on the northern side. The threat of invasion – whether by economic or military means – is a frequent Russian concern.

In sharp contrast, the bright, brash, busy Chinese border city of Heihe is lively and glittering. Although there is an undercurrent that all may not be as good as it appears, Chinese ambition, buoyancy and optimism shine in comparison with the depressed decay of Blagoveshchensk, its Russian equivalent on the north bank. As an aside, Thubron notes that The Asia Hotel – the smartest, grandest and most prestigious in Blagoveshchensk – is now owned by a Chinese businessman who drives a Bentley. It’s hard to see why Russia is so focused on Ukraine. This journey along the Amur shows a far richer, more populous and more powerful China, which lays claim to over 1 million square kilometres of Siberia. While Xi and Putin profess peace and goodwill between China and Russia, it seems that neither country understands, trusts or likes the other. In the long run, this is likely to be a much bigger issue for Russia and it’s not difficult to see trouble brewing in the years ahead.

*Bob Money*

### ***Cutting For Stone, Abraham Verghese***

This wonderful book, set against the background of the emerging revolution in Ethiopia, follows the lives of twins Marion and Shiva. Born in a mission hospital (named 'Missing Hospital' due to a bureaucratic error) and raised not by their parents, but by the unstoppable Ghosh and the big hearted Hema.

The author is a professor of medicine. He scatters his medical knowledge throughout the dramatic ailments of Missing Hospital's patients (some speed reading/skipping of pages might be required!)

We follow the twins, 'MarionShiva' (as they are cleverly described) along their separate paths, which, though far apart and at times alienating them from each other, cannot ultimately break the strong link between them.

### ***The Pianist, Wladyslaw Szpilman***

This is the book which lies behind the 2002 Roman Polanski film of the same name. Written by the pianist himself, it follows the slow destruction of his family, home, Jewish community and city during the Nazi occupation of Warsaw.

It is a somber read, especially in light of the current war in the Ukraine. That he survived is a combination of luck, cunning, human kindness (including from a Nazi) and small miracles.

An uncomfortable read due to the subject, it is however an extraordinary story well worth reading.

### ***Slow Train to Switzerland: One Tour, Two Trips and 150 years apart, Diccon Bewes.***

Diccon Bewes is a travel writer with a great passion for all things Swiss. In this book we meet Miss Jemima, a Victorian spinster. Thanks to the combined generosity of her brother and the brain child a vicar on a mission to curb partaking of alcohol, in 1863 she sets off on a tour from London by train to tour the Swiss Alps. This is also, the first tour organized by what was to become Thomas Cook. Previously international tourism had been limited to the wealthy. Our heroic vicar however found a way to enable people of ordinary means to experience the joy of travel. 'Joy' is perhaps not the word – Miss Jemima's pace of travel was punishing: early starts and arriving late at hotels for light suppers and bed. And remember too that she was dressed as a Victorian woman, with the addition of hob nailed boots for glacier walking! Mr Bewes takes his unsuspecting mother on a tour tracking as much as possible the journey and means of transport used by Miss Jemima and her tour group of 7.

*Anita Fulton*

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## Social Activities

### 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](mailto:Kathryn.wignall@tiscali.co.uk)

### Eucharist on Wednesdays (followed by coffee morning for all)

You are invited to come to Eucharist and coffee held every Wednesday morning at St. Mary's Church Funtington for a short service. Everyone welcome to come and join us for coffee and biscuits afterwards at 11am in The Church Room. A good time for meeting others, sharing and laughter.

### Funtington and West Stoke WI

The next meeting is on 18<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm for the Resolutions meeting. Visitors are always welcome at our WI meetings in the Village Hall. Please phone Sue Nicholson for more details. 01243 574722

### Funtington Bridge Club

The club now 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

## BOSHAM CHIDHAM & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

**SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2022 10.00 AM – 12 NOON**

**PLANT SALE AND COFFEE  
BOSHAM VILLAGE HALL  
ENTRANCE AND COFFEE 50P**

**RAFFLE – BOOKS - CAKES**

### Solution to Crossword 12 (compiled by Paul Pridmore)

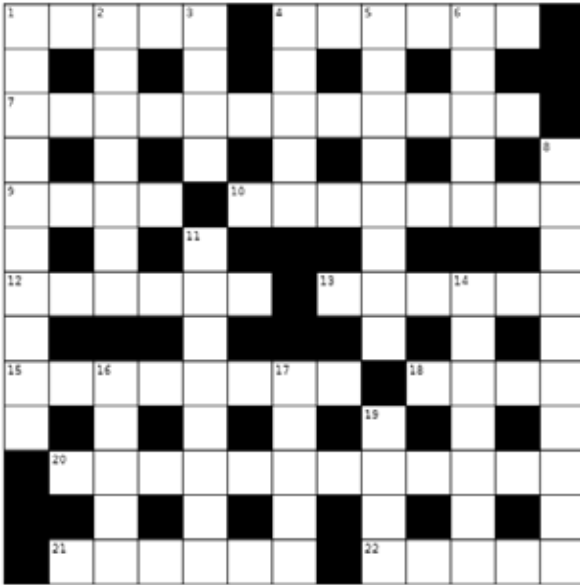
ACROSS:

1 Moore 4 Mascot 7 Red-Letter Day 9 Year 10 Seniorita 12 Indian 13 Anchor 15 Observer 18 Arch 20 Portland Bill 21 Detest 22 Nasty.

DOWN:

1 Merry Widow 2 Old maid 3 Ewes 4 Mitre 5 Sorbonne 6 Okapi 8 Caerphilly 11 Magritte 14 Harpies 16 Scone 17 Enact 19 Odin.

## Crossword no. 12



### ACROSS

- 1 Surname of a sculptor, astronomer, or actor (5)
- 4 A team's lucky animal (6)
- 7 Very important calendar entry (3-6,3)
- 9 It could be solar, sidereal, or leap (4)
- 10 Spanish miss (8)
- 12 Such a summer is unseasonal (6)
- 13 Hooked weighted stabiliser (6)
- 15 Sunday newspaper (8)
- 18 Superior part of foot? (4)
- 20 Southernmost point of Dorset (8,4)
- 21 Hate (6)
- 22 Unpleasant (5)

### DOWN

- 1 One whose husband is not missed? (5,5)
- 2 Spinster (3,4)
- 3 Rams' mates (4)
- 4 Cleft cap or corner joint (5)
- 5 Paris university (8)
- 6 African mammal with longish neck (5)
- 8 Welsh cheese (10)
- 11 Bowler hat surrealist (8)
- 14 Birdlike females of myth (7)
- 16 Cream tea component (5)
- 17 Establish by law (5)
- 19 Chief Norse god (4)

## Saint Mary, Funtington Combined Rota.

### St. Mary, Funtington – May 2022 Church Rota

Day	Service	Flowers	Brass	Elements	LaMoCs	Intercessor	Sidesmen	Readings
Sun. 1 <sup>st</sup> May Easter 3 W	10:00 Family Service	Debbie Hughes	Anne Maddock	-	-	Borbone family	Denise Foster Kay Knowles	Denise Foster Acts 9.1-20 Clare Hosking John 21.1-19
Sun. 8 <sup>th</sup> May Easter 4 W	10:00 Sung Eucharist			Sybil Grindrod & Denise Foster	Nigel Brown	Anne Maddock	Claire Hoare Andrew Hughes Rev:7.9-17	Claire Hoare Acts 9.36-43 Andrew Hughes Rev:7.9-17
Sun. 15 <sup>th</sup> May Easter 5 JM W	10:00 Morning Prayer	Marian Sewell	Ann Jones	-	-	Nigel Brown	Nigel Brown Neil Watt	Nigel Brown Acts 11.1-8 Neil Watt John 13.31-35
Sun. 22 <sup>nd</sup> May Easter 6 W	10:00 Sung Eucharist			Rob & Katy Symmons	Kay Knowles	Jane Gummer	David Callas Carolyn Watt Rev: 21.10,22-22.5	Mini Elliott Acts 16.9-15 Carolyn Watt Rev: 21.10,22-22.5
Thu. 26 <sup>th</sup> May Ascension Day W	19:00 Eucharist	Jubilee Week- end	Liz Collet	In Sanctuary	Kay Knowles	Clergy	Liz Lancaster	Liz Lancaster Acts 1.1-11 Eph. 1.15-23
Sun. 29 <sup>th</sup> May Easter 7 W	10:00 Sung Eucharist			Ann Jones & Liz Lancaster	Carolyn Watt	Liz Lancaster	Jimmy Faure Ann Tupper Rev.:22.12-14,16- 17,20-21	Deborah Hughes Acts 16.16-34 Jimmy Faure Rev.:22.12-14,16- 17,20-21
Sun. 5 <sup>th</sup> June Pentecost R	10:00 Family Service			-	-	Borbone family	Denise Foster Anne Maddock John 14.8-17	

If unable to carry out a duty please arrange your own relief & amend notice at back of Church

## Parish Services May 2022

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ALL CHURCHES, SERVICES & EVENTS!**

<i>Day</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Place</i>
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> May Easter 3	10:00am	Holy Communion	St Andrew, West Stoke
	10:00am	Family Service	St Mary, Funtington
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am	Said Eucharist	St Mary, Funtington
	11.00am	Coffee Hour	Church Room, Funtington
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> May Easter 4	9:00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Mary, Sennicotts
	10:00am	Sung Eucharist	St Mary, Funtington
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am	Said Eucharist	St Mary, Funtington
	11.00am	Coffee Hour	Church Room, Funtington
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> May Easter 5	10:00am	Holy Communion	St Andrew, West Stoke
	10:00am	Sung Eucharist	St Mary, Funtington
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am	Said Eucharist	St Mary, Funtington
	11.00am	Coffee Hour	Church Room, Funtington
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> May Easter 6	9:00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Mary, Sennicotts
	10:00am	Sung Eucharist	St Mary, Funtington
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am	Said Eucharist	St Mary, Funtington
	11.00am	Coffee Hour	Church Room, Funtington
Thu 26 <sup>th</sup> May Ascension Day	7:00pm	Said Eucharist	St Mary, Funtington
Sun 29 <sup>th</sup> May Easter 7	10:00am	Joint Sung Eucharist	St Mary, Funtington
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> June	10.30am	Said Eucharist	St Mary, Funtington
	11.00am	Coffee Hour	Church Room, Funtington
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> June Pentecost	10:00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Andrew, West Stoke
	10:00am	Family Service	St Mary, Funtington

BCP – Book of Common Prayer

See PARISH WEBSITE and CHURCH NOTICEBOARDS  
for ALL INFORMATION & UPDATES:  
[www.funtingtonweststoke.com](http://www.funtingtonweststoke.com)

**Deadline for Magazine content for the May Edition  
17<sup>TH</sup> May 2022  
Please send to  
[editorfuntingtonmag@gmail.com](mailto:editorfuntingtonmag@gmail.com)**