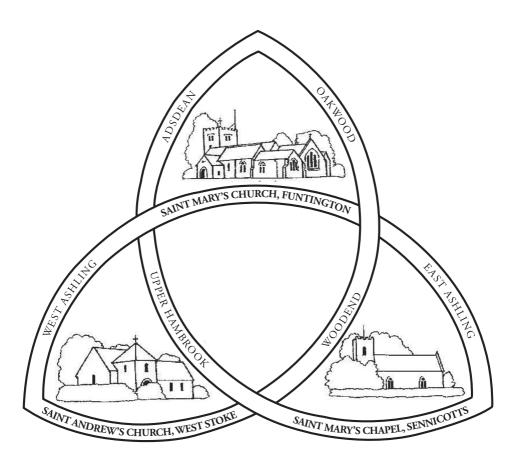
FUNTINGTON

Parish Magazine



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St Mary, Funtington; S	St Andrew, West Stoke; St Mary, Sennico	ous www.runtingtonweststoke.	com
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Letter from Archdeacon Luke Irvine-Capel, Archdeacon of Chichester

I am very grateful for this opportunity to write a short piece as the vacancy across these parishes begins.

Any time of change is, at first, a time of uncertainty when many can feel unsettled or anxious about what may happen next.

So, the first thing that I want to say is, do not be afraid! You are not alone. We are members one of another as the body of Christ, of this household of faith which is the Diocese of Chichester.

The language we use, of being a household, is very deliberate, and one that I hope most of us are, by now, familiar with across the Diocese. It is rooted in Scripture, and gives us a proper sense of interdependence and a shared life, mission and ministry across the parishes and communities of Sussex that we are called to serve in the Name of Jesus, our Lord and our God. We delight in the particularity and distinctiveness of every community and person within our household, insofar as they contribute to the life of the whole. We are all diminished when one suffers, and we all rejoice when one abounds. That delight in one another, and for one another, must be characteristic of your shared mission and ministry across Funtington, Chidham, West Stoke and Sennicotts. You are called to reveal the beauty and truth of Jesus Christ in the manner of your life together, that others may come to know, love and follow him too.

Secondly, keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, we can be confident (strong in faith) knowing that we are being called into the future by the One who is faithful and who has gone before us, and from whose love we can never be separated.

There will, of course, be much to do and I am thankful to everyone who will share in the responsibilities that arise in any vacancy. When speaking with parishioners at the beginning of any vacancy I always urge them to patient and kind towards one another! There are inevitable times of stress and concern, but the Rural Dean and I are here to work alongside the Bishop and support the Wardens and PCCs in leading the parishes through this time of discernment as we wait upon the Lord in hopeful trust.

That waiting upon the Lord is a call to go deeper in prayer. We must not neglect the opportunity and the obligation – our duty and joy – to worship together. As Christians that duty, to gather on the Lord's Day and to meet and receive the Risen Lord in Word and Sacrament, is the first priority in our lives. Our communion with him deepens and renews our faith and expands our hearts in love for him and our neighbour. It can be so easy to become distracted by the busyness of life and the many demands upon us – and there will be much to dobut 'seek first the kingdom of God' and all else shall follow.

The Risen Christ greets his disciples with the liberating and life-giving words "peace be with you". This is the peace that passes all understanding, for it is the assurance that God has raised Jesus from the dead and given him glory, that our faith and hope might be in him.

My prayer for you all is quite simply that you will know and receive that beautiful gift of his peace and that, through love for one another rooted in prayer and worship and nourished by Word and Sacrament, you may reveal the face of Jesus Christ and be known as his disciples.

With my love and prayer, always, AD Luke The Venerable Luke Irvine-Capel Archdeacon of Chichester

FUNTINGTON PARISH MAGAZINE COPY DEADLINE

There will be a joint December/January edition

Please could you send copy for this by Saturday 18th November to

Editorfuntingtonmag@gmail.com

November PCC news

You may have noticed that the Church sign is back in position at the junction of Church Lane, thanks go to Tim and Claire Hoare for their handywork in restoring this.

If you are in the church itself, please be aware of the area just outside the ringing chamber, which has been cordoned off. This is due to some crumbling stonework which will be repaired in due course.

The Church website is now updated very regularly <u>funtingtonweststoke.org.uk</u>. It is being used to publicise events along with any changes.

As we are now in a period of interregnum, i.e. without a parish priest, we are dependent on other clergy to lead our services. This has necessitated to a change of service times and venues on some Sundays. The changes will be published in this magazine, so please do check which church is holding a service and at what time, before you leave home!

Sadly, our wonderfully talented flower arranger, Denise Foster, who has dedicated many hours to making Funtington Church look glorious on countless occasions has made the decision to step down from her role in the new year. Denise has managed the rota for the flower arranging team for many years and has given us all immense pleasure through her colourful, stylish and amazing arrangements. The way she could bring the church alive with flowers was a very special skill which she willingly used to enhance worship and bring glory in the church for the benefit of others. Our sincere thanks go to Denise for her dedication and for the joy she has brought to the church through her floristry skills.

By now, a flyer should have landed through your letterbox promoting the Church bonfire and fireworks night. It also has details of special services and events. Special thanks go to David Heaver for all his research, time, thoughtfulness and effort in bringing this idea to fruition.

Carolyn Watt (PCC Secretary)

Home Group - Bible Course

Last evening five of us met together in comfort around a log burner and watched and discussed the first session of the Bible Course. Each of the eight sessions involves two 17-minute videos, 25 minutes group discussion and a short time of personal reflection. The first session was an introduction, and we were all amazed how 66 books written in 3 languages by many authors over 1,500 years come together to tell one unified story, God's story of Jesus Christ. The Bible is a BIG book, and the Bible Course seeks to tell the BIG picture and help us navigate and interpret it. We ended the session by considering the statement that all the Bible is inspired by God.

We found the session engaging and inspirational and can't wait for the next session on Genesis.

It's not too late to join us on Tuesday evenings. But if you can't make Tuesdays, we hope to re-run it on an alternative night in the new year so we can all share in this exciting course. Please contact Neil Watt wattnwatt@gmail.com for more details.

News from the WI

For our October meeting we welcomed Andrew Hughes and his wife to talk to us about Trekking to the Himalayas. Andrew had always been interested in trekking and climbing. It was his time in the Army that brought him to the Himalayas, where he did a lot of climbing with the three Services. Some of the conditions they had to put up with were amazing. Like nearly to the top of Everest and a storm breaks, so you have to go back down. You can't stay in high altitudes for too long because of the lack of oxygen. For Andrew not getting to the top did not bother him, it was about being out there. He and his wife and their kids did a lot of trekking together out in Nepal where they were always welcomed. You needed permits to climb and there are a lot of rules and regulations. He showed us lovely slides of the mountainous area. It was a fascinating talk which we all enjoyed.

As always we finished with our excellent sandwiches and cakes. Our November meeting will be on Wednesday 15th at 2pm. Our speaker will be David Roberts on the History of Bell Ringing.

Visitors and new members are always welcome. Our President is Sue Nicholson on 01243 574722. *Jan Dunnett*

Funtington Parish Council News

Thank you to all of those who came along to the recent Parish Social Evening, it was an amazing turn out, and in response to the amount of positive feedback that we received, we will try and arrange some similar events in the future.

At the meeting Kate Du-Port spoke about the SID (Speed Indicator Device) that is moved around between West Ashling and Funtington, Kate has been moving this SID around for us for the past 3 years. Kate would now like to step down, so if anyone feels that they could take over this task then please get in touch with the Parish Clerk, meanwhile we would like to say a huge thank you to Kate. Bob Money does a brilliant job of moving another SID around East Ashling and West Stoke.

At our October PC meeting we discussed the foreseeable flooding problems around Funtington, that we experience every winter. This year we will try and get funding to employ an engineer who will be able to identify the problems and produce a report on how to mitigate against or resolve our flooding issues.

We are delighted to welcome Elizabeth Paris, as a co-opted member, onto Funtington Parish Council, Elizabeth is already a member of the Steering Group for our Neighbourhood Plan.

Our applications for reduced speed limits in West Ashling, East Ashling and West Stoke have been accepted by WSCC Highways and now we await to see if they are agreed to, by the Highways team. Reducing the speed limits really does save lives, if you are hit by a car at 20mph there is a 1% chance that you will die, that percentage increases to 8-15% from a car travelling at 30mph and to an astonishing 25-60% if hit by a car at 40mph.

Jane Mottershead

The Funtington Players

Don't forget to book your tickets for Funtington Players' production *Disposing of the Body* by Hugh Whitemore at West Ashling Village Hall from Tuesday 21st to Saturday 25th November. This is an intriguing play with adult themes by the author of *Breaking the Code* and *Pack of Lies*. Tickets can be booked via the Funtington Players website or direct from . Alternatively you can call the box office on 07939 657997.

A Centenarian Reminisces

Do you own a Smartphone? Not everyone does. Just as in the mid 1920s when I was a child not every householder had a house phone. Despite the fact that Alexander Graham Bell launched the telephone in 1876, it was not until 1930 that all towns in the UK were linked. Large rural areas were to be without telephones for many years and some valleys had no lines until well after the Second World War.

New subscribers were given the name of their exchange, which was usually the name of the area in which they lived, and a four-figure number. For example when Harrow was still a leafy Middlesex town about twelve miles north-west of London, it was even then large enough to have three exchanges: Byron, Harrow and Wordsworth.

The telephone, because it was a family instrument, was usually kept in the hall. In those days the instrument had a mouthpiece on a stand hanging from which was the receiver. As soon as the receiver was lifted a female voice from the exchange would say, "Number please?" and then connect. Should the number be engaged, or unavailable you would be told by the Operator quite quickly. Just occasionally the Operator would make a mistake, realise it and say to the person who had answered, "Sorry you've been troubled".

It was not uncommon for the same number to appear in two different exchanges. My parents shared a number on another exchange belonging to a women's outfitters, and to my schoolboy brother's delight on one occasion when he answered a call, somebody asked, "Is that the corset department?" Later, when I was married, we shared a number with the Watford Steam Laundry and one morning an irate and agitated woman announced to me, "You've torn off all the buttons from my husband's shirt, what shall I do?" I replied, "I should try ringing the laundry".

Gradually, the lines were becoming partially automated, in that another subscriber could be called directly by dialling the first three letters of their exchange followed by the number. For example, we became 'PIN 0492', but automation took a long time and was very patchy. In the 1950s there was still an exchange with an operator. My daughter was caught one day having a long conversation all about her teddy.

After the War people found themselves sharing lines because havoc had been wreaked by nightly bombardment. Subscribers sharing lines would have to show a good deal of give and take and it was always obvious when someone was trying to get through. There would be a click on the line when the sharer of the party line wanted to make a call and this of course would normally be followed straight away by a second click as the receiver was replaced, but just occasionally it was not!

Even when the whole system had been automated, there was still somebody available to deal with trunk and toll calls (long-distance). In the early days the reception on foreign calls was poor compared with the quality nowadays when someone in Mexico sounds as if he is next-door.

Even now holders of Smartphones do not find universal coverage, but how amazed Alexander Graham Bell would be if he knew what his invention all those years ago would do for society and how quickly technology would progress.

Bee Kenchington

The 2023 Poppy Appeal Funtington and Chidham



Our collectors will be back out in our community to raise vital funds for the RBL Poppy Appeal which launches on the 27th October and finishes on Remembrance Sunday, 12th November. Poppy Tins and Boxes will be distributed around the Parish. Please find your local collector, pub, café, coffee shop or business premises to donate to because. 'Every Poppy Counts!' Your contribution will make a real difference to the lives of the Armed Forces Community many of whom have given so much for their country. This year, let us not forget the unpublicised

service they will have been giving, that we are not told of, by training those that are fighting to defend the front line countries of Europe for the

'Freedom' that we in the UK tend to take for granted.

As promised, the QR Code below is for you to use in order to make a donation which, with a couple of clicks, will add 25% to the Value of your Donation under the Gift Aid Scheme. If you do not use a mobile phone ask a friend, who does, to do the donation for you and you can give them the donation in cash! Poppy Appeal Organiser Tony D'Alton, Mobile 07831 775819 or tony@tonydalton.org

SCAN HERE TO DONATE

The Poppy Appeal - Registered Charity No 219279.

FUNTINGTON . BONFIRE NIGHT 4TH NOVEMBER* FROM 6PM AT CHALK PIT BARN, ADSDEAN FARM PAY BAR BBQ, Bonfire lit @ 6.30pm Fireworks @ 7.00pm TICKETS £7 (includes an 'Adsdean' sausage in a roll & a soft drink, free tickets for under 12s) rom Adsdean Farm shop, anna@anna-dalton.com, andrew@hugfam.uk or phillipakerr123@gmail.com *date may change if bad weather forecast, please check funtingtonweststoke.org.uk for last minute updates (wear wellies!)

Harvest Festival at St Mary's Funtington – sadly Father Andrew's last service in the Parish













Festival Flowers at St Marys – Many thanks to all our flower arangers!













Our Finches

Finches are a seed eating family of birds characterised with large bills designed for their diet. In most species the male is a brightly coloured bird and the female is more often than not more drab in her dress. Amongst our garden birds there is a good attract, even in urban environments, Goldfinches, Greenfinches and Chaffinches and if you are fortunate a few other species.



Goldfinches are small finches and have made a great come back over recent years. Their delightful musical song, brightly coloured plumage and the fact that they often feed in numbers make this bird a real jewel of the garden feeder. The cherry red face and bright yellow wing bar stand out amongst common bird plumages.

Greenfinches are large finches with large bills and as their name suggests are mainly green but sport a bright yellow wing bar. Their population was hit very hard by a parasitic infection called trichomonas which surprisingly jumped species from the Wood Pigeon and it was thought that poor hygiene of garden bird feeders was responsible. However the message of



cleaning garden feeders regularly seems to have got through and numbers are now picking up.



Chaffinches are our most numerous finches and will usually be seen in groups underneath bird feeders feeding on the seed dropped by others. They are quite a skittish bird and with any movement spotted they will all fly to the nearest cover. Their white wing bar and outer white tail feathers make them quite easy to identify in flight.



Those that have large gardens with areas of thick shrubs and trees might also be lucky to get a visit from the stunning but secretive Bullfinch. This is a plump round looking bird with a large head and short neck. Its grey and black upper plumage contrasts beautifully with its amazing rose-red breast. The female has the same shape but her breast is more of a pink-grey colour. When this bird is disturbed and flies away from you both male and female have a

characteristic white rump.

Another common finch which, however, is seen on the heaths and around farmland where there is a good cover of bushes rather than in our gardens and woodlands, is the Linnet. This is a small slight finch which is seen feeding on the ground or low on bushes. The male is sandy brown coloured and in the summer has very attractive rose-blush on its breast with a small patch of red on its forehead. The female is the same shape but a brown bird with some fine stripes on its chest.





In the winter finches will often flock together and it is not uncommon to see a mixture of species. It is also a time particularly amongst these flocks for some unusual finches to join them, so these flocks are worth studying. One of our finches, the Siskin, during the breeding season tends to reside high in conifer trees, but outside this time will join other finches and sometimes will be seen in the garden on bird feeders. During

the winter their numbers are swollen by migrants from the continent. This is lovely small finch which has a striated plumage of black and green. The male sports a black crown and bib.

Also amongst winter flocks of finches it is worth looking out for a Redpoll. This is also a small striated finch but more brown than the siskin and the male has a rose coloured breast with a small patch of red on the forehead. We have a small population that are resident in the north of the UK, and the ones we see are those that move south along with some from the continent. Numbers vary from year to year depending on availability of food, during



an 'irruption year' locally we can see good numbers.



always dirty cream or pink.

There is one particular winter finch I go out of my way to look for each year, the Brambling. This is a migratory finch and we generally only see them during the winter. This is a beautifully coloured finch of oranges and black, the depth of colours often varying amongst birds. It most commonly associates with Chaffinches, with which, particularly the females, it can be confused. The best way to identify a Brambling is to look for the white abdomen, whereas the Chaffinch's is

Our last local finch and my favourite is probably the most difficult to see for it is a shy and reclusive bird. This is the magnificent Hawfinch. A bird as a youngster I longed to see but it was not until I moved to this area that I was able to find them. It is a breeding bird in the UK but is only found in a few isolated pockets around the country. We are lucky to have breeding birds in West Dean Woods, on Kingly Vale and in the New Forest.



However the best time to look for this bird is in the winter. Our small resident population is joined by migrating birds from the continent swelling the numbers and therefore the chances of finding them. It is a bird that favours deciduous trees and so in the winter is easier to find as the trees have dropped their leaves. This bird is worth looking for. It is a large solid finch; its plumage is a beautiful study of browns set off by

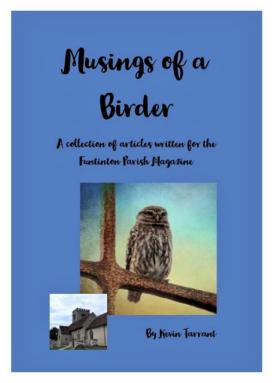
a few sweeps of black and a bluish bar on its wings, but its standout feature is its enormous bill with which it can crush stones from cherries and plums. In fact its Latin name translates as 'stone crusher'.

So as the winter months approach, get out your bird feeders, clean them and fill them with seed, and then enjoy our finches along with our other garden birds.

Kevin Tarrant

'Musings of a Birder' – We feel very lucky that Kevin sends such wonderful pictures to the Parish Magazine every month.

His book would make a lovely birthday or Christmas present. It can be bought through Amazon at £15 a copy or directly from the author (kntarrant@icloud.com) at £11 per copy (£2 of which will go to the Parish Church funds).



The book is a collection of the Parish Magazine 'Birding' articles. Some articles have been expanded and the book, 165 pages long, has over 150 colour photos. Many of the chapters end with an appropriate poem.

'Not many people know that'

While pub lunching in September (hey, I'm allowed a day off, it was my birthday) I witnessed a series of heinous crimes, robberies taking place in broad daylight...the cheek of it! The other diners didn't clock, or those that did seemed pretty indifferent to what was occurring, which was a shame, because had they looked up from their scampi and chips they would have seen a 'nectar robbery' taking place.

Unlike a 'honey robbery' — a crime mostly undertaken by wasps in the late summer when they desperately attempt to steal honey from inside the beehive — a nectar robbery happens when a bee with a short tongue, such as a cute, innocent-looking Buff-tailed bumblebee, wants to get to the nectar hidden away deep inside flowers with long petals, such as salvia, honeysuckle and comfrey. The problem is, her tongue is way too short to reach it, so, blowing the bloody doors off, she instead chews a hole through the base of the petals to get to the nectary instead! Clever girl.



With this blatant act of breaking and entering, our bumblebee is able to forage on the nectar that would normally be reserved for those bumblebees and pollinators that have longer tongues better suited to long, tube-like petals. But the crime-spree doesn't stop there, for once the damage is done the reckless looting continues as other bees, including our beloved honeybee, get in on the act and continue to use the hole to access the nectar.

You'll need to wait until next summer to witness this for yourself, but if you have any of these plants then give the flowers a check over to see if you can see these tiny holes at the base of the petals. We don't know for sure, but we think this is learnt behaviour, knowledge passed from bee to bee by observing others doing it, rather than being evolved behaviour that bees are born already knowing.

Well, we are very much done with our winter preparations here in Watery Lane. Our honeybees have had their extra sugar syrup and fondant to boost their winter stores, we've had a pleasantly mild autumn so they have had plenty of opportunity to forage on the last of the summer blooms, and we've strapped down the hives to prevent them from being blown apart in winter storms. We'll not need to open the hives now until late December, but in the meantime, every couple of weeks, we give them a lift to check the weight of the hive. By knowing how much an empty hive plus bees weigh, we can roughly calculate how much honey stores they have and that way we can always give them some additional fondant to help them along.

Having so little to do with the bees in autumn is always such a pleasant break after the manic rush of spring and summer, and gives us the chance to get on with lots of other jobs... such as getting all the beekeeping kit cleaned and ready for next spring!

Jason & Kate Boswell

East Ashling Association Litter Pick on 7th October followed by coffee and biscuits!





The purple bags can be obtained from WSCC and they will pick them up afterward saving a trip to the tip.

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Funtington, the Ashlings, West Stoke and Sennicotts

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St Andrew's Harvest Festival











Kingley Vale

National Nature Reserve

A Talk...

26th October 2023 @ 18:30

Location: West Stoke Village Hall info@weststoke-villagehall.org.uk



Natural England would like to invite you to meet the Kingley Vale National Nature Reserve senior manager Graham Johnstone to hear about the management we undertake and share insights into some of the sites important species and habitats.

The talk is kindly hosted by the West Stoke Village Hall at 18:30 on Thursday 26th October 2023 – we hope to see you there.

Any queries about the event email info@weststoke-villagehall.org.uk.

A busy month for 'Good Neighbours'

We held our autumn lunch on October 4th serving tasty soup and cakes:









And on 3rd October many of the Volunteers were given a First Awareness Course by a volunteer from St John's Ambulance:



Pets waiting patiently to be blessed (and to get the biscuit!) at St. Mary`s Pet Blessing Service on 8th October















A magical evening concert at St Andrew's West Stoke



The Siena Singers treated us to a wonderful concert early in October to celebrate four hundred years of William Byrd and Thomas Weelkes. All sung 'a capella' and in such a beautiful sacred place it transported us all to the court of the Tudors up to the present day.

The Siena Singers chamber choir is made up of members of a wide variety of larger choral societies including The Chichester Singers, St Paul's Church

Choir Northgate, and Fernhurst Choral Society. All enjoy the unique challenges of singing 'a cappella' in a smaller ensemble. Many of them are professional musicians and most also train as solo singers with Giles White, the conductor and leader.





The concert was attended by nearly 80 parishioners making over 800 pounds for the three churches in the Parish of Funtington. Our thanks go to Caroline and Jamie Noble for making this possible and to all those who helped with food and wine.











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Building the Bonfire is well underway!

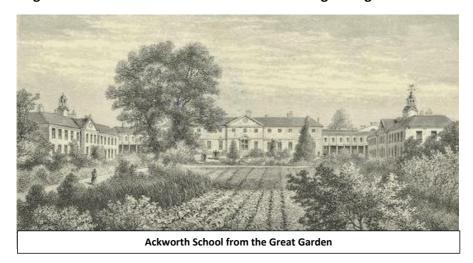




Building the bonfire is well underway. Don't forget to buy your tickets! $4^{\rm th}$ November Chalkpit Barn, Adsdean Farm -

A poster with all the details on where, when, what and how on Page 11

Funtington Parish in the Past – Sarah White – No Longer Forgotton







Watercolour by my great grandmother aged 16

I found some pictures and drawings by my great grandmother. I wondered how she acquired her skills. I knew little about her early life until I discovered that her parents Isaac and Sarah Payne owned a boarding school for Quaker boys in Epping. I found a list of the 600 boys who had attended the school.

The Quaker Library in London was delighted to receive this list: they showed me memories of Isaac Payne from his former pupils. However they did not know much about his wife Sarah White who became Sarah Payne. She taught my great grandmother to paint and draw.

Isaac Payne and Sarah White met as pupils at the newly opened coeducational Quaker school at Ackworth in Yorkshire. From the age of 14 they also became apprentice teachers there. Sarah stayed on as a full time mistress until she was 24.



Sarah White's early life was not easy. Brought up in Alton, Hampshire her father died when she was eight. Then she went to boarding school in Yorkshire. There she stayed with her friend Esther Tuke in York, coming back to London once a year on the "fish cart". Her younger sister died aged 11. Later when she was a mistress a severe outbreak of scarlet fever in 1804 sent many of the pupils. Seven children died. In 1805 Sarah White married and with a legacy from her uncle, she and her husband opened Isaac Payne's School. They had settled in Epping, Essex in 1805, hoping for a healthier climate. However in the severe winter of 1812 the eldest three of her four sons died of croup within a couple of months.

Isaac Payne's School prospered and the Paynes had seven children who survived into adulthood. Boys came to the school from a network of Quaker families all over the country: from East Anglia, Somerset, Hampshire, Sussex, the Midlands and even from France and Ireland.



The Grand Canal, Venice by Richard Bonington

Some of the pupils became prominent in later life. Richard Parkes Bonington (1802-1828)(below) was "one of the most important artists of the early nineteenth century, vital to the understanding of French and British art of the Romantic period". Henry Doubleday (1) was the author of the first catalogue of British butterflies and moths. Dr William Curtis gave his name to the Curtis Museum (2) in Alton. Isaac Brown, a former pupil and master was the first Principal of the Flounders Institute (3). Elizabeth Fry, (below) the prison reformer sent two of her sons to the school.

Sarah Payne lived in Epping for nearly sixty years, bringing up ten children, seven of whom survived. She taught her own children and she influenced maybe as many as 600 young boys. 100 years later, Sarah had been forgotten even by her family.

I suggested in the Parish Magazine last month that Maria Hack of Chichester should be remembered for her writing for children all over the world (4). Sarah Payne was a contemporary of Maria Hack with whom she shared links with the Quaker networks in Alton, York, Tottenham, Lewes and Chichester. I am sure that they would have known of each other even if they did not meet. Sarah Payne Snr also deserves mention as a forgotten woman.

My great great grandmother lived long enough to be photographed above c1855. With the advent of the railways she would probably have come to Chichester to visit her first grandson, my grandfather. I do not know though whether she visited Funtington where some of her relatives have lived ever since. Nevertheless I think that her life is worth mentioning in the Funtington Archives.

- (1) https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry Doubleday (entomologist)
- (2) The Curtis Museum.https://www.hampshireculture.org.uk/curtis-museum
- (3) The Founders Institute in Ackworth provided a college for Quakers as they were barred from University Education
- (4) Warrior Queens and Quiet Revolutionaries by Kate Mosse

Geoffrey Boys geoffrey.boys@btinternet.com

Thoughts on the Investor Parable. Luke 19:11 - 27

I love the way Jesus tells very simple stories to explain such important truths. Jesus told this parable just before he entered Jerusalem at the end of his earthly ministry. He tells the story of a ruler who had to go away for some time, to obtain the credentials for his authority. He gathered his servants together and gave them each a sum of money to work with while he was away. The people around hated him being ruler and signed a petition to reject his rule. He was away for some time and when he returned, he gathered his servants together and asked what they had done with the money he left them. The first had put the money to good use and had doubled it. The ruler congratulated the servant and gave him a commensurate reward. The second servant had made a 50% profit and was also congratulated and given a good reward. The third servant was afraid of the ruler and had kept the money in a safe place. The ruler chastised this servant, he hadn't even put the money in a deposit account. To the onlookers surprise the ruler demanded the money be taken away from this servant and given to the servant who had earnt the most. As for the people who had petitioned against the ruler, he said, "Take them away, I don't ever want to see them again." Jesus is clearly telling this story about himself, his ascension, his second coming and his kingdom.

There are two really important truths that jumped out at me from this story. There is no watering it down; those people who reject Jesus, and petition against him, will have no place in his kingdom. In the modern world that says anything goes, this story is in stark contrast. When Jesus returns, he will have no time for those who reject his rule and oppose him. We must be careful not to allow the ways of the world to water down our view of God's kingdom.

The other truth is surprising. Jesus gives his servants gifts to use, he leaves us responsible for working for the growth of his kingdom. If we make good use of the gifts he gives us, we will be rewarded. But if we just sit on our gifts, they will be taken away. We should use this story to push us into action to use the gifts Jesus has given us. They are to be used for building God's kingdom; they are not to be kept to ourselves. This I believe is an important lesson for church growth. As Jesus said, "The way to life is vigorous and demands our total attention." We are all required to work hard and use our gifts to build God's kingdom together.

Neil Watt

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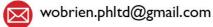
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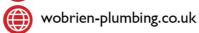
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Social Activities

Parents and Toddlers Group

Every Monday during term time from 10 - 12 am during school year. 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

Funtington and West Stoke W1

Our November meeting will be on Wednesday 15th at our new time of 2pm. The speaker will be David Roberts on `The History of Bellringing`. For further information about the WI, contact Sue Nicholson on 574722

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 4th November Funtington Bonfire Night 6pm

See page 10 for full details

Sunday 12th November Remembrance Day Parade & Service 10.45

St. Mary's Church Funtington

The Funtington Players 'Disposing of the Bodies'

November 21st - 25th West Ashling Village Hall

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

Solutions to Crossword 27 (compiled by Paul Pridmore)

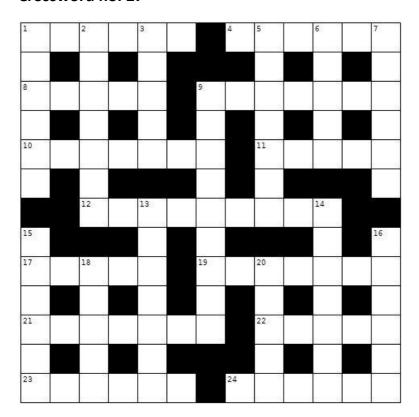
ACROSS:

1 Fedora 4 Scythe 8 Arena 9 Gilbert 10 Chatham 11 Reign 12 Doolittle 17 Lemon 19 Kestrel 21 Attaboy 22 Twang 23 Heresy 24 Kraken.

DOWN:

1 Fiasco 2 Die-hard 3 Reach 5 Culprit 6 Trevi 7 Extant 9 Gimmickry 13 Omnibus 14 Earmark 15 Bleach 16 Slogan 18 Motor 20 Sitar.

Crossword no. 27



ACROSS

- 1 A low soft felt hat (6)
- 4 The Grim Reaper's tool (6)
- 8 Amphitheatre, sphere of action (5)
- 9 Sullivan's librettist (7)
- 10 Naval dockyard in Kent (7)
- 11 Hold sway as monarch (5)
- 12 Eliza, of "Rain in Spain" fame (9)
- 17 The answer is ... a citrus fruit (5)
- 19 A small hovering falcon (7)
- 21 Gender-specific interjection of encouragement (7)
- 22 Nasal intonation, or sharp flavour (5)
- 23 Strongly unorthodox belief (6)
- 24 Norwegian sea-monster in a John Wyndham novel (6)

DOWN

- 1 Debacle (6)
- 2 Irreconcilable conservative (7)
- 3 Attain, or vomit (5)
- 5 Perpetrator (7)
- 6 Famous Roman fountain (5)
- 7 Still surviving (6)
- 9 Use of needless features or devices to attract publicity (9)
- 13 Public transport; several books in one (7)
- 14 Set aside for a particular purpose (7)
- 15 Liquid that whitens or disinfects (6)
- 16 Advertiser's or politician's pithy phrase (6)
- 18 Machine that produces movement (5)
- 20 Ravi Shankar's instrument (5)

St Marys Funtington Church Interregnum Rota November 2023

Day	Service	Flowers	Brass	Elem	LaMoCs	Intercessor	Sidesperson	Readers
Sunday 5 th November	10 am Family Service		Liz Collet			Jo Borbone	Nigel Brown	Denise Foster Rev 7; 9-end
4" before Advent Trinity22	Red/Green JM							Mini Elliot Matt 5; 1-12
Sunday 12 th	10.45 am	Rememb-	Маррір			Nigel Brown	Kay Knowles	Andrew Hughes
November		rance	Webb				Claire Hoare	
3 rd before	Red/Green	Flowers						Nick La Hive
Advent Trinity23	Q							TBC
Sunday	10 sm						oddy	Carolyn Watt
19 th	Eucharist				Nigel	Neil Watt	Maddock	Zeph; 1.7,12-18
November					Brown			Claire Hoskin
2 nd before	Red /Green						Liz Lancaster	1Thess5.1-11
Sunday	Sennicotts							Ezek 34;11-6,
56 th	9 am					1		20-24
November	Red/White/Gr		Phyllis					
Christ the King	Z O		Goulding					Ephe 1;15-end
Sunday 3 rd	10 am Family						Judy Meeke	Mini Elliott
December	service					Anne	Anne	lsa; 64 1-9
Advent 1 Year B	Purple JM					Maddock	Маддоск	Neil Macaulay Mark 13;24-37

NB These are the new Interregnum service times.

Please arrange your own cover if you are unable to help on the day you are rostered

Parish Services and Events November 2023 EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ALL CHURCHES IN BOTH PARISHES!

Day	Time	Event	Place
Thursday 2 nd Nov	10.30 am	Eucharist DN Coffee (all welcome)	St Wifred`s Nutbourne
Sat 4 th Nov	6 pm	Bonfire, Barbeque and Fireworks	Adsdean Chalk Pit Barns -Tickets only
Sunday 5 th Nov 1 st	8 am 10 am 10 am	Eucharist DN Eucharist DN Family Service JM	St.Andrew`s West Stoke
Monday 6 th Nov	5.30- 6.30pm	Church in the Community -Ideas Meeting	St Marys, Funtington Church room
Thursday 9 th Nov	10.30 am	Eucharist TBC Coffee (all welcome)	St Wifred`s Nutbourne
Saturday 11 th Nov	10.45	Armistice Day DN	St. Andrew`s West Stoke
Sunday 12 th Nov 2 nd	10.45	Remembrance Day Parade and Service JD " " C.H	St Mary's Funtington St Mary's Chidham
Monday 13 th Nov	5.30- 6.30pm	Church in the Community prayer meeting	
Thursday 16 th Nov	10.30am 11 am	Eucharist TBC Coffee (all welcome)	St Wilfred, Nutbourne
Sunday 19 th Nov 3 rd	8 am 10 am 10 am 10 am	Eucharist DN Eucharist DN Morning prayer CO Morning Prayer EN	St Mary`s, Funtington St Wilfred`s Nutbourne
Monday 20 th Nov	5.30- 6.30pm	Church in the Community -prayer meeting	St Mary`s, Funtington Church room
Thursday 23 rd Nov	10.30am 11 am	Eucharist and Healing Coffee	St Wilfred`s, Nutbourne
Sunday 26 th Nov 4 th	9 am 10 am	Eucharist BCP DN Eucharist DN	
Monday 27 th Nov	5.30- 6.30pm	Church in the Community - prayer meeting	St Mary`s, Funtington Church room
Thursday 30 th Nov	10.30am 11 am	Eucharist DN Coffee (all welcome)	St Wifred`s, Nutbourne
Sunday 3 rd December 4 th	8 am 10.am 10 am	Eucharist CH Eucharist TBC? Family Service JM	
Monday 4 th December	5.30- 6.30pm	Church in the Community – Ideas Meeting	St Mary`s, Funtington Church room

CHURCH NOTICEBOARDS for ALL INFORMATION & UPDATES:

www.funtingtonweststoke.org.uk

The times and types of Service may vary from the above at this time due to Interregnum from Nov 2023 please check