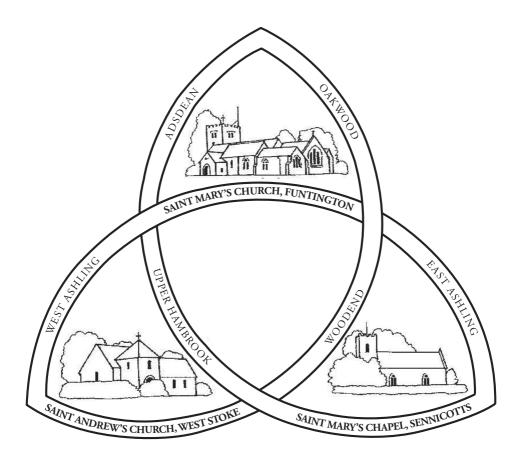
FUNTINGTON Parish Magazine



SEPTEMBER 2023

Funtington and West Stoke with Sennicotts: Who's Who

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Letter from Father Andrew, Priest in Charge

In recent weeks we have heard a lot in our Gospel Readings on Sundays about the planting of seeds and how they can be affected by the other things around them. As with any seed, it needs the nutrients from the soil, the water and sunlight to flourish and grow, and in many cases provide food for humans and animals. Often the flower or crop then produces seeds of its own, which are carried by the wind, birds, or harvest by human to be spread elsewhere and further flowers and crops are grown. Everything that grows is stunning and beautiful, even those things which we consider weeds! I often think that it is such a shame that some of the flowers that pop up wild are often shunned and referred to as weeds. Think of the thistle, the national emblem of Scotland, with that almost Majestic purple flower; or poppies which often grow wild and sometimes in abundance which creates a sea of red in fields or verges as you drive by.

In our Gospel text, Jesus often refers to the weeds as something which is strangling or seeking to destroy the good seeds, and whilst this can be true with some plants, it is not always helpful to then think of the good Christian folk being the seeds and the weeds those who do not, or will not, believe and therefore evil! If we think of those people as weeds and we then treat them like weeds, we will not see the beauty of them. We will not be able to examine whether the two can coexist.

In his parable of the sower, Jesus shows how easy it is to be distracted. Trouble and wealth can distract us and lead us to forget that God is the God of abundant life. We could hear the story of the sower in a narrow way, as a threat to people who get distracted from living a joyful, God-filled life, but that would be to make God too small. This God, whom Jesus tells us about, can bring forth abundance in the world and in people and communities. Now that is good news indeed!

So how might we set aside a place and time in our noisy world to hear God's words of encouragement? Perhaps some of us feel that God speaks only to more important, "holier" people. Maybe some people are even afraid that the word God speaks will be angry, telling us of our faults. Sometimes we are bullied into believing the words of others who tell us that their way is the only way and throw Bible quotes at us to prove they are right! We do not need to be afraid to hear God. We can hear Him anywhere and anytime. We might hear Him in words spoken by a child, or a friend or stranger.

God speaks in many voices, and not only through the church or chapel or in a place of silence, but in the noise and chatter of everyday life. Make sure you set aside times in your busy, everyday lives to speak and listen to God!

Fr Andrew

HARVEST SOCIAL

Tickets are now available for our Harvest Social taking place on Saturday 7th October in Chidham Barn, by kind permission of Mr & Mrs Bentall. It starts at 7.15pm and there will be a live ceilidh band, a barn dance, food and a raffle. This should be a great evening and tickets are selling fast so do secure yours soon! Tickets cost £15 and are available from Father Andrew. Please email him with requests for tickets <u>rev.andrew.birks@hotmail.com</u> which he will distribute when he returns to work .

RIDE & STRIDE

Saturday 9 September 2023 - Raise funds for the Parish Churches!

This event is organised by the Sussex Historic Churches Trust. Money raised is split 50/50 between the Trust and the Funtington Parish Churches. We recently received funding from the Trust. You can either visit as many local churches as you wish on bike, foot or horse. Get yourself sponsored. Donations are also welcome. We are looking for volunteers to sit in St Mary's and record the visitors. More details, contact Phillipa Kerr, sponsorship forms are at the back of St Mary's Church Funtington and St. Andrews, West Stoke

Tel: 07779326511 please let me know if you are going to participate.

The Church in our Community: prayer, ideas and action group

The group is authorised by the PCC to consider and put into action the agreed parish Mission Action Plan. We meet every Monday from 5.30-6.30pm in the Church room.

The first Monday of the month is an ideas and planning session. We are currently generating ideas for involvement of our community and planning publicity for the November bonfire event and an outside nativity service at Sennicotts. On the other Mondays in the month we consider ideas and pray specifically for the various events. Our aim is to encourage one another into action.

The group is open to everyone from our three churches, so please do join us. *Neil Watt*

The Funtington Parish Council

The Funtington Parish Council meets the 1st Wednesday of every month (apart from August) in St Mary's Church Rooms, at 18:30. The Parish Council is your Parish Council and we are here to represent and to serve, the parishioners of Funtington Parish. At meetings we encourage everyone who attends to join in with our discussions, we want to hear your views. Everyone is welcome.

At our July meeting we discussed new fencing and maintenance of the playground, local footpaths and their clearance, a handrail for the steps down to The Dell, Planning and Enforcement and the Parish Council's Community Highways Scheme submission, this scheme is for a 20 mph speed limit to be imposed through West Ashling, East Ashling and West Stoke.

As a Parish Council we want to run this Parish as efficiently and as cost effectively as we can, we want to make improvements where we can, and to keep on top of the day-to-day management of our Parish assets. It will take us a while to get some of these improvements made, as we must fully understand what has gone on in the past before we can move forward with what now needs to be done.

We as a Parish Council will not be making any huge changes to your Parish without full consultation with you the residents, and currently we have no major changes proposed.

We will be holding a social evening in September for all residents of the parish, so please come along and enjoy a glass of wine with us, at this event you can meet your Councillors, hear all about the Community Highways Scheme which is trying to get speed limits reduced through your villages, find out more about the Neighbourhood Plan and how this is progressing, we also want you to tell to us about the ways in which we can effectively communicate with you. We need you to tell us about what changes and improvements you feel your Parish Council should be making, so please come along to enjoy a glass of wine and to have a chat with us.

JaneMottershead Chair, Funtington PC

Classic Chocolate Sponge Cake (The one everyone raved about following the GN Cream tea at West Stoke!)

Grease and line two 8inch (20cm) tins

Ingredients

5oz (150g) self-raising flour 1oz (25g) cocoa 1 rounded teaspoon baking powder 3 large eggs 6oz (175g) golden castor sugar 6 oz (175g) soft butter

Method

Put flour, cocoa, baking powder in a sieve and sift into bowl holding sieve high to give good airing.

Now add all the other cake ingredients and whisk everything together until smooth and well combined.

Divide mixture between 2 tins and cook at 325F (170C) Fan 150 for 30 minutes

Chocolate Butter Cream

4 oz butter 8oz Icing sugar Dissolve 1 tablespoon cocoa in a little hot water This amount gives you enough for topping and filling

News from the WI

For our August meeting we held our traditional cream tea in our Treasurer's garden and were blessed with a sunny afternoon. A wonderful selection of scones and delicious cakes. It was a lovely afternoon enjoyed by all. For our September meeting on Wednesday 20th September at 7pm we have invited John Gleadall to entertain us with Music from the Shows. It will be a great sing along. Visitors and new members are always welcome.

Our President is Sue Nicholson on 01243 574722.

Jan Dunnett

'The hum of bees is the voice of the garden' (Elizabeth Lawrence)

Over the summer break I've been wandering around our flower meadow/patch of weeds (delete as you see fit, Alan Titchmarsh) on the lookout for bumblebees and other pollinators. On the occasional sunny day I could almost do this with my eyes closed, homing in on the loud buzzing noises coming from the swaths of water mint and teasel that seem to be thriving in the garden, despite me spending a small fortune on wildflower seed packs that didn't even include water mint or teasel...

The buzzing we can hear is caused by the vibrations that honeybees, bumblebees, and all manner of flying insects make when they flex their thorax muscles, which in turn cause their thorax to bend in and out of shape anywhere up to 400 times per second. Their wings, attached to the thorax, move up and down and, well, they fly.

But, remarkably, because the thorax muscles aren't directly attached to the wings, some bees can disconnect their wings from the thorax and so still buzz without their wings moving. Press your ear up to a honeybee hive and you'll hear them buzzing away inside to communicate with each other, to keep themselves warm, and to remove the moisture from their honey. Each of these different buzzes is the result of the thorax muscles vibrating at different speeds, or frequencies, and we hear this as different sounding buzzes.

Bumblebees even have a special buzz they can use when they are trying to get pollen out of certain flowers. You might have noticed this when you hear a bumblebee flying up to a flower – it's a low, droning buzz – and then when they land on it and start rummaging around for pollen they emit a higher-pitched buzz. They have grabbed hold of the flowers' anther and are literally shaking it with their vibrations to release the pollen grains. This is called 'buzz-pollination' and buzz-pollinated plants, such as tomatoes, only release their pollen at certain vibrating frequencies, meaning that only specific buzz-pollinators can get to it. The mind boggles at just how intricate bee-plant coupling, or mutualism, can get, and just how easily human interventions such as pesticides can disrupt these dependencies. The bee-keeping summer has finished and we are now well into our winter preparations. The honey 'super' boxes have all been taken off the hives, the laborious task of harvesting the honey from the frames has been endured with much grumbling, and the bees now have what I hope will be a lovely, long Indian summer to feast on the mint, loosestrife, and ivy to build up their winter stores. We've had something of a topsy-turvy summer with lots of honey produced in May and June, when normally in June there is a gap between spring and summer flowers, and barely anything since. Well, it's no surprise that with so few sunny flying days in July and August everything the bees gathered they ate straight away, so nothing was stored as honey.

Jason & Kate Boswell

GARDENS YOUNG AND OLD

The garden next door is quite different from ours With its neat little pathways and bright summer flowers The lawn's just been mown and the edges all 'strimmed' And back and front hedges all freshly trimmed. The beds are immaculate, quite free of weeds And the shed's full of implements, flower pots and seeds. The small kitchen garden's behind a high hedge; We can't see but know that it's well-stocked with 'veg'.

Our garden's the same both in aspect and size But in content and upkeep the real difference lies. Daisies and dandelions cover our lawn And the edges and hedges unkempt and forlorn. Bicycles, tricycles, an old metal bath, A doll's pram and pogo sticks litter the path There's sand in the corner, kicked out of the pit, But nobody's fussed it seems, one little bit.

A neat little lawn would be lovely, one day, Meanwhile it's a space for the children to play. Perhaps those next door once went through this phase, And have now reached their quieter, more orderly days

Bee Kenchington

News of Jane Gummer

Jane is now a permanent resident at the Marriott Care Home, Tollhouse Close, Chichester, PO19 1SG. She would be delighted to receive visitors at anytime and sends her blessings to all her friends. The best times to visit are between 2 – 5pm. I have to say it is lovely to see her looking so well.





New Parish Website and Church Noticeboard for All Information and Updates wwwfuntingtonweststoke.org,uk

Remembering Shirley Rogerson 19th January 1933 – 18th June 2023

I am writing this as Shirley's next door neighbour when she lived in Old Monks House, West Ashling. She was a fantastic neighbour to Andrew and me when we moved into West Ashling in early 2005 until she left to go into a care home near her family a couple of years ago. Shirley made an outstanding contribution to village life,



so, as a tribute to her, I have tried to capture some of this with the help of some of her friends and family.

First, a brief resume of her life:

Shirley started her working life at the BBC before meeting John Morton and heading off to Malaya where she and John were married. Returning to England to start a family, she had a daughter and son, Nicky and Jamie. Sadly, her husband John died young, and Shirley brought up the young family on her own as well as taking on her late husband's business. Jamie writes of his mother "She was always fiercely independent, a strong feminist who believed there was nothing in life that couldn't be made better with a woman at the helm." She later married John Rogerson, and they spent many happy times both in West Ashling and at their house in France. Her daughter, Nicky, and her husband, Jonathan and their five children later moved out to live in the French property permanently. Sadly Nicky died shortly before Shirley. Shirley's son Jamie and wife Teresa live in Hertfordshire with their two children. It was to be near them that Shirley moved to a care home for the last few months of her life.

Shirley was an active member of both the Church in Funtington, and the Women's Institute, fulfilling leadership roles in both organisations. A regular church goer, she was a LAYMOC in the church during John Holliman's time and is remembered by Dena Kitchener as "a sincere Christian who took her duties seriously but with a sense of humour."

Shirley was President of the WI for 4 years: 1995, 1996, 2010 and 2011. Kay Ashby writes "She proved to be a very popular President with a knack of getting people

to volunteer to help with things. She was a creator of a happy atmosphere." She organised Jazz picnics in the Rectory garden, and summer parties for the WI her own garden. She participated in the WI's weekly walks as well as hosting the Scrabble group at her house. Peels of laughter used to come wafting over our garden fence on Scrabble afternoons.



Jamie, reflecting on his mother's life says "She will be remembered as someone who embraced an adventurous life... and loved nothing better than to be surrounded by friends and family with music, dancing and a singsong, inevitably washed down with a few drinks!" And Kay Ashby writes "My abiding memory of Shirley is lots of laughter and spontaneous fun, someone who enjoyed life despite the problems she might face."

We remember Shirley as the epitome of a "good neighbour" who welcomed us to West Ashling and became a friend. It is people like her that are at the heart of village life.
Anita White

(With thanks to Jamie Morton, Kay Ashby and Dena Kitchener)

Memories of Shirley Rogerson from a fellow Funtington Player

I first met Shirley in 1976 when she and her daughter Nicky took part in a production of 'The Heiress' for the Funtington Players at the Village Hall, West Ashling.

She thoroughly enjoyed her time as a member of the players and took part in several productions. One year the Players gave a 'Café and Cabaret' evening with the audience seated at individual tables in the hall with wine and refreshments. While the audience was chatting and enjoying themselves the back doors opened and in came four or five Salvation Army Girls, complete with hymn books, tambourines and collecting tins (much to the surprise of the audience!). Shirley

was leading the way. We entered singing 'Shall we gather at the River'! Suddenly the music changed , we flung off our bonnets and jackets and 'sashayed' around the tables rattling our collecting tins to the tune of 'Hey, Big Spender' to the delight of the audience.

Dear Shirley never forgot that evening even thought her memory was fading. She would often mention it at the 'Lets Dance classes' held to this day in the Church Room on a Monday. She will be greatly missed by all her friends in the village community. Our thoughts and best wishes go to her family.

Sybil Grindrod

Peace Doves



The Peter Sullivan Installation at Liverpool Cathedral

There is going to be a wonderful mass participation installation in Chichester Cathedral in October of 15,000 paper doves designed and created by the renowned sculptor and artist Peter Walker. The Cathedral have recently put out a notice to encourage people to pick up one or more of these white doves and write a message of peace, hope and love on the back of the doves which will then be installed in the Cathedral.

Bringing a message of peace and hope, these Peace Doves artworks collectively form a beautiful artwork which as a whole reflects joining together in unity, peace and hope.

If you would like to write a message or prayer you will find a box of paper doves in a box at the back of St. Mary's Funtington and St. Andrews West Stoke. Take them home and write on one side only and deliver them back to the church before Sunday 10th September. Keeping them as flat as possible! Write your prayer on the back and return to the box provided before Sunday 10th September and they will be returned to the Cathedral on 11th September to be a part of this very special installation. *Caroline Noble* Congratulations to Alicia Grace Wergan and Henry Joseph Mayo Verbi who were married at St. Mary's Church, Funtington on Saturday 15th July 2023. Their reception was held at Hollybank House









And many Congratulations to Raja Sharma and Georgina Kerr who were married on 28th July 2023



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY Friday 6th October The Sienna Singers in Concert, St. Andrew's Church, West Stoke Saturday 7th October Harvest Social with Ceilidh Band and Barn Dance Sunday 8th October Pets Blessing Service, St. Mary's Church Friday 4th November, Bonfire and Fireworks Party

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Good Neighbours is a volunteer group for local residents in need of a helping hand. **We can offer**: transport, befriending - just calling in for chat and a cup of tea and social events. – **if in doubt just ask!**

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Pets Blessing Service



Attention all Pets!

Please tell your owners you are all invited to our Pet Blessing Service, (they will not have to get up too early and refreshments are provided for you all). More details to follow

> October 8th at 10 am St Marys Church , Church lane , Funtington , PO18 9LH

Do all come to the Concert performed by The Sienna Singers at St Andrew's West Stoke Friday 6th October at 7.30pm



Come and join us at St Andrew's West Stoke for a varied one-hour programme of anthems, songs, motets and madrigals spanning five centuries, all performed 'a cappella' by a local choir, the Siena Singers. The concert will highlight music and songs over the 400 years since William Byrd & Thomas Weelkes (medieval composers), moving through to the Victorian masters and finishing with the jazz of Gershwin.

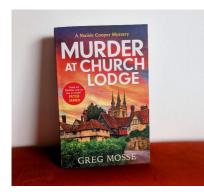
Refreshments will be served. Tickets at £10 per person are available from:

- Pippa Kerr (philipakerr123@gmail.com)
- Anna D'Alton (anna@anna-dalton.com)
 - David Heaver (<u>heaverdc@gmail.com</u>)
- Caroline Noble (cfrnoble@hotmail.co.uk)

All proceeds will be given for the continued support and development of the Parish

FUNTINGTON PARISH MAGAZINE COPY DEADLINE FOR October 2023 issue 20th September 2023. Please send copy to editorfuntingtonmag@gmail.com

Funtington Parish in the Past



Murder at Church Lodge

"Maisie Cooper hasn't seen her brother Stephen in years. So it's a surprise when he gets in touch out of the blue. When she returns to the village where they grew up, she discovered that he is dead and not just dead, he has been murdered. As Maisie investigates she starts to uncover a sinister mystery at the heart of this "perfect little village"

That perfect little village is Funtington. The story takes place between Funtington and Chichester in

1972. Greg Mosse, the author, lived in Funtington until he was 11. He still lives near Chichester where he is well known as a writer and encourager of writers. Greg has now published his first Maisie Cooper Mystery Story (1) and he promises more.



The swimming pool at Funtington



Don Wilkinson in the blacksmith's shop

Some place names and people's names in Funtington are thinly disguised while in Chichester they are quite clear. The pub in the village of **Framlington** is the **Fox in Flight** which is next to blacksmith's shop owned by **Jon Wilkes (2)**. The murdered man is found at the bottom of the swimming pool at **Church Lodge**, suggesting that this was the unusual shaped swimming pool **(3)** at **Funtington Lodge**. **Church Lodge** however has been moved to the end of **Church Lane** and so it may be that the author is also writing about Funtington House.

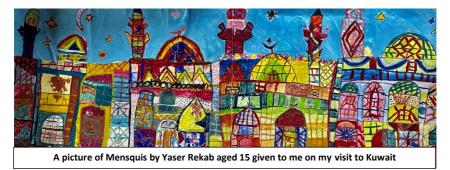
Here are some short extracts from the book.

" Maisie and her brother Stephen had been so close as children and teenagers mucking out the stables on the edge of the village in return for time in the saddle; working for a pittance in the fields gleaning potatoes that the farm machinery had left behind; naughtily drinking cider by the mill pond in **West Bitling**"

"As Maisie rode her bicycle back to **Framlington**, she enjoyed the journey through the wooded section sheltered between the trees. After the S-bend in **East Bitling**, she came out onto the straight road between bare arable fields and discovered that the southwest wind was in her teeth"

"At the bottom of **Lavant Road** in Chichester near the theatre a woman is hurt and bleeding badly. Maisie wonders whether she should bang on the door of the **Bell Inn** in the middle of the night or whether it will be quicker to shoot over to the phone box in **St Paul's Road**"

An unexpected character in the book is Stephen's friend, Mohammed As-Sabah, a wealthy Kuwaiti who was his old army colleague. I was invited by the Kuwaiti government to go to Kuwait in Summer 1972 in order to talk about teaching computer programming in the classroom. I don't remember meeting Mohammed but I am wondering now whether the real purpose of my visit was to provide the Kuwaitis with first hand information about the village of Funtington as they planned to do business with Stephen!!



- (1) Published in July 2023 by Hodder and Stoughton and also on Kindle and Audible. There is a review in the Chichester Observer August 3rd by Phil Hewitt.
- (2) Don Wilkinson was the blacksmith next to the Fox and Hounds in the 60s and 70s.
- (3) During the Second World War, the Booths at Funtington Lodge had several evacuees and they invited other evacuees to swim in their swimming pool which is shaped like a pot of Marmite.

Geoffrey Boys

Plants flowering around Funtington parish this month



Common Mallow has bright pink five-petalled flowers with darker stripes arranged up a stem which can be over one metre tall. Find it on road verges and fields. It is related to the garden Lavatera.

Another flower, abundant in the hedgerows, is *Hedge Bedstraw*.

This is a much more delicate relation of Cleavers (Goosegrass). There are clouds of small white fourpetalled flowers and leaves arranged in a ring (whorl) around the stems which scramble through the undergrowth.





Down at West Ashling pond there is *Great Willowherb,* with magenta flowers each with four notched petals and a central stigma (female flower part) in a white cross shape. Its stems are covered with tiny hairs giving a distinctively downy appearance.

Compare that with the other tall purple flower, *Purple Loosestrife* which has spires of untidy sixpetalled purple flowers, and also grows by the pond edge.



Helen Dignum

The Grapevine – Ashling Park

Grow grapes they said, it will be easy, they said!

While writing this it's raining (AGAIN) but I hope that by the time you're reading this, summer has returned and my weather woes are a distant memory. Apparently some rather more favourable summer weather does lie on the horizon.

After a considerably damp July and August we need much summer canopy management. That's the plucking of leafs and the trimming of the vines so that we can get the grapes to concentrate all their energy and sugar into ripening the grapes. We need some serious sun and heat in order to ripen the grapes folks.

We are still waiting for 'verasion' when the grapes start to change colour, soften and accumulate sugar. Harvest usually happens 6 to 8 weeks after then, so as you would imagine we're a little bit behind which pushes harvest to the beginning to middle of October.

The good news is if we have the right weather conditions (we need a month of sunshine) and we do manage to ripen everything, Ashling Park will have a bumper year, the biggest yet. This is largely due to the process in vines is spread over two seasons so last years hot summer is a blessing.

If you would like to get involved with volunteering email <u>leah.richards@ashlingpark.co.uk</u>

New lines on the shelves

Our Rum and Vodka are finally finished. Along with our gin, the base alcohol comes from our Pinot Noir grapes so if you can stretch your imagination come to the vineyard sip our gorgeous rum and whisk yourself off to the Caribbean. All our spirits are named after the vineyard dogs, Pointers Pour Gin,



Beagle Juice Rum and Alsatian Elixir. And they come in miniatures too as modelled by our new puppy 'Bill'. *With Best wishes,*

Gail Gardner

@TeamFuntington Goblin Racing Update

Over the course of the last few weeks, @TeamFuntington has taken part in their final two races of the Greenpower Goblin electric kart series.

On 17th June the team travelled to St. Paul's School in Barnes for the first ever Goblin race in London. We were up against 11 other cars with the event taking the usual format of a judging parade, drag races and slaloms in the morning and sprint races after lunch. Once scrutineering was completed, the team proudly took their portfolio to race control. The portfolio is a record that they've been keeping of all their activities since they started last autumn and they'd even added a short



video about the team which played on a miniature screen when the cover was opened.

During the morning events, we had some great runs in the drag race and a much better performance in the slalom than at Seaford College, although still there were a few crazy moments and cones knocked over which meant some of our runs were hit with two-second penalties. But the teamwork was excellent and the children all helped each other to get the best out of themselves and the car. After lunch, we had a short safety briefing before the really fun sprint races started. With 12 cars competing, these were organised into six heats each with two cars racing against each other with the winner of each heat progressing to a semi-final. Oliver CB drove in our heat, made a lightning start and led all the way to the chequered flag. Then, in the semi-final, Oliver W did exactly the same leaving the opposition for dust. But it wasn't quite so rosy in the final. With Fraser at the wheel we were up against two of the fastest Goblins out there and, despite his best efforts, Fraser just couldn't stop them from getting away. A desperate effort led to our car running wide at one of the corners into the barrier and that was us out with a damaged car and dented pride but still with a definite trophy for third place!

Prizegiving was the final event of the day and we all gathered around eager to find out how we'd done. To our delight, we won second place in the drag race, we picked up our trophy for third in the sprint and also won the award for best portfolio! Could the day get any better? Well, it certainly did when the announcement came for the overall winner of the day...car number 9, Team Funtington! Then, just three weeks later on Sunday 9th July, we took part in the season finale, the Gathering of Goblins at Goodwood Motor Circuit. This event is always the biggest race of the year, with 71 cars taking part this year from all over the UK and even a team who'd travelled over from Spain!

The format of the races is slightly different at Goodwood. The drag races



and slaloms are similar to those at the other races and we performed well in both but with so many cars, the competition was really tough. There are a few events unique to Goodwood, one of which is the Chicane Sprint. Each car takes part in timed runs around the iconic Goodwood chicane at top speed but then has to perform a controlled stop in a designated area without passing a coned barrier. Another is the Pit Stop Challenge where the team have to remove all four wheels from a Goblin car, touch them on the ground, refit them and tighten the wheel bolts in the shortest time possible.

One of the highlights of the day is the Lap of Champions, a full lap of the Goodwood circuit for all 71 cars. This is always an amazing sight to see all the cars lined up on the starting grid and setting off row by row. Oscar was chosen to represent the team in this event and he drove a great lap bringing the car home in an impressive 10th place. Following this was the 'High Mileage Heroes' race which offers the same chance of a racing lap in a Goblin car for team leaders or helpers aged 12+. One of our drivers from last year who has now moved on to secondary school drove our car in this event.

When it came to prize-giving, we knew that, with so many other cars taking part, the chances of us picking up any trophies were slim. However, we were excited to receive trophies for 2nd in the chicane sprint, 2nd place portfolio award, and Luke also picked up the trophy for 2nd place for his High Mileage Heroes lap!

Another season over. Nine more trophies for the display cabinet. Our little car will be disassembled ready for next year's team to build, decorate, tune and race in 2024.

Funtington Goblin Team

SAVE THE DATE!

The Funtington Parish Bonfire and Fireworks Night



Friday November 4th 2023 More details in next month's magazine. Definitely a date to mark on your Calendars!



News from Good Neighbours

In July we held what we called our 'Quiche' lunch. The Volunteers made the most delicious quiches which were served with a variety of salads.













And then on **Sunday 13th August** it was our turn to organise the Cream Tea at the West Stoke Village Hall. The weather was kind to us. Manic can only describe the afternoon. They started queuing up at 2 p.m. and we had run out of most things by 4.30 p.m!! We took £600 which we think is a record leaving a profit of about £530. Anna D'alton, Anne Maddock, Judy Meeke, Margaret McMullen and Kevin Tarrant were the exhausted servers on the day.

We had about 100 scones and 11 cakes (all gone) made by our wonderful volunteers.

One customer told me with tears in his eyes that he had never eaten such a delicious chocolate cake before. (see page 6 for the recipe!)



The Team!



Some of the 11 cakes



If you are interested to learn more about volunteering for the Good Neighbours Scheme or know someone who needs some help in some way - do let us know Jo Laird 01243 574878 jml@laird.uk.net

WILLOW WEAVING WORKSHOPS

Are you interested in learning a new skill? Come along to a friendly beginners' workshop in Funtington where you'll find out all about the ancient craft of willow weaving and learn the basics of a rewarding and absorbing craft.



You'll choose from various beginners' projects including a bird feeder, a willow dragonfly and an ornamental sunflower - all ideal for the garden.



Wednesday 11 October 10 - 4.30pm

Enjoy very supportive, friendly tuition with an experienced teacher and a small class size.

£70 including all materials, tea or coffee and homemade cake. You should be able to make at least two, maybe three items!

And thinking ahead..

I will be repeating my popular **'Willow Weaving for Christmas'** workshops at West Stoke Village Hall on **Monday 27 November** and **Monday 4 December**. They run from 10 - 4.30pm and cost £70 which includes all materials, tea or coffee and homemade cake. **All profits will go to Pancreatic Cancer UK.**



If you are interested in any of these classes please email Jill at <u>southdownsbasketmaker@gmail.com</u> for more information, or text / phone 07729 638439

King Kingfishers

If you ever talk to a non-birder about birds, it is not uncommon to be told that the one bird they would love to see would be a Kingfisher, or if they happened to have seen one, they will regale you about the time that they saw the bird. It is a bird that sticks in the memory once you have seen one. Stunning is a word not inappropriately used to describe the Kingfisher. It is certainly one of the crown jewels of the British bird species. The electric blue back and tail, its head and wings an iridescent green which in certain light changes to blue and its underparts and cheeks bright orange, which are further exaggerated by patches of white on its neck and face, make this a standout bird. It has a long powerful dagger-like bill which in the male is black and the female has a splash of red on the lower mandible. The legs are a bright red.



So many pictures capture this beautiful bird sitting patiently on a perch by the side of a river, scanning the water for any potential catch, making the viewers think they will have time to take in its glorious plumage. In reality the bird is often seen as flash of blue as it arrows down a river out of sight. Like the 'green flash' of the perfect sunset, you are left with a sense of awe if you see it, but then wonder whether you did actually see it! The Kingfisher was a bird that in the past had eluded me, and so when I moved to the Chichester area with all the water around I felt and hoped that this was a bird I would get the opportunity to see.

The first time I saw one down here was at Pagham Harbour, but it was just a quick flash-by as it headed out into the harbour. It was so quick that it did not register as to

what it was until it was gone. However as I spent more time out birding locally I started to see these blue flashes more often, but it was some time before I managed to find a Kingfisher sitting still. My reading about Kingfishers enlightened me to the fact that a Kingfisher is very territorial and is very faithful to its home range. A territory being an area the bird will defend with aggression, a home range being an area that the bird will use to find food. Thus seeing a blue flash of a kingfisher gives the clue that you are likely to be in a Kingfisher's territory and therefore it is worth looking out for them. I started to explore the areas where I had caught glimpses of the bird and was soon rewarded with views of these lovely birds stationary on favoured look-out posts. Working out established territories and home ranges can be very helpful when looking for birds and particularly if one wants to try to photograph them and I have used the technique successfully for several other species. Locally there are Kingfishers around Emsworth harbour, along the west and east side of Thorney Island and around the Pagham Spit.

I often wonder why I went so long without ever seeing one and then suddenly they seem to be reasonably straight forward to find. I think recognising the fact that it was such a small bird was a big step forward. The Kingfisher is only slightly bigger than a sparrow, and this usually surprises people who have never seen one before, thinking that they are much bigger. We can sometimes have preconceived ideas about birds that we have never seen and this I think means one subconsciously excludes possibilities when one sees the unusual. The other thing that I think helped with successfully spotting Kingfishers was recognising the flight pattern. Inevitably one sees this bird as its speeding along the water. If the light is not good, its vivid colours are not always apparent but apart from a Dipper I don't think another bird flies like a Kingfisher. Identifying one flying sometimes allows you to follow the bird and if you are lucky you will get a rough location where it came to rest.

Naturalists now refer to a concept called 'the jizz' of the animal. The jizz of a bird is the overall impression or appearance of a bird garnered from such features as shape, posture, flying style or other habitual movements, size and colouration combined with voice, habitat and location. The concept has been popularised in birdwatching but is so useful that it has since been adopted increasingly by other specialised field biologists in referring to the impression of the general characteristics of other animals.

It is thought that the word giss was first used in 1922 by Thomas Coward in his Country Diary, a newspaper column, which he wrote for the Manchester Post when describing the ability to recognise someone from a distance by something in their carriage and general appearance which seemed familiar. Giss was an acronym of 'General Impression of Shape and Size' and overtime it became popularised as jizz. The ability to pick up a bird because of its jizz needs familiarity with it and is built up over time as one sees the bird on repeated occasions. It is amazing however how quickly the subconscious mechanisms of the mind absorb and store so much information that is recalled when one sees the bird on another occasion. Over the years I have been able to build up the 'jizz' of the Kingfisher and now see them more frequently.

So to learn a bird's jizz enabling you to spot those birds, there is no substitute for getting out and watching birds ... so what other excuse do you need?

Kevin Tarrant

Book Review

Small Things Like These, Claire Keegan (2021)

There have been many 'troubles' in Ireland. This book explores the mother and babies' homes of Ireland and the Magdalen Laundries (the nuns don't do well in this book).

The author tells us in a note to the text that the last laundry shut in 1996 – not that long ago. But back to the story. We follow the local coal and timber merchant, Bill Furlong, making his last and rushed deliveries before Christmas. There are snapshots of the different families to whom he delivers much needed fuel. And we see inside Bill's own life – his worries, his love of his large family and the shadow that falls upon him from his past.

The author tells us that 'Furlong had come from nothing. Less than nothing some might say.' His mother was unmarried at 16. But unlike so many facing her plight, her employer (a protestant widow for whom she was a domestic) kept her in her employ and welcomed the baby to her home.

It's a beautifully written but bleak story and a captivating read. Despite the disturbing subject matter, in my view, it ends on a note of hope. **Anita Binning**

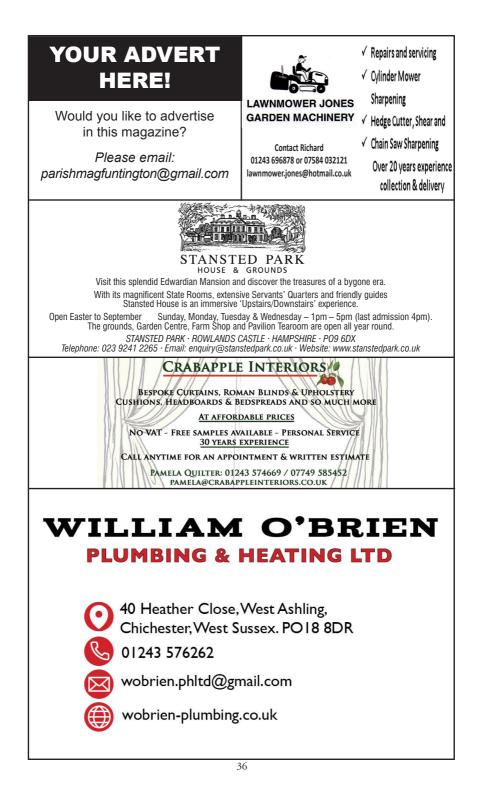
BOSHAM CHIDHAM & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Thursday 12th October 2023 – 7.00 for 7.30 p.m.

Bosham Village Hall

Speaker: Sarah Hughes Strategic Wildlife Corridors Project Officer Chichester District Council VISITORS WELCOME!





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 <u>Kathryn.wignall@tiscali.co.uk</u>

Funtington and West Stoke W1

For our September meeting on Wednesday 20th September at 7pm we have invited John Gleadall to entertain us with Music from the Shows. It will be a great sing along. Guests always welcome. For further

information about the WI and becoming a member contact Sue Nicholson on 574722

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY Friday 6th October The Sienna Singers in Concert, St. Andrew's Church, West Stoke Saturday 7th October Harvest Social with Ceilidh Band and Barn Dance Sunday 8th October Pets Blessing Service, St. Mary's Church Friday 4th November, Bonfire and Fireworks Party

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 25 (compiled by Paul Pridmore)

ACROSS:

1 Carthorse 8 Proms 9 Perplex 10 Long 11 Batemans 13 Mishap 14 Enable 17 Shoreham 19 Beta 21 Shelley 22 Ochre 23 Notre Dame.

DOWN:

2 Anoints 3 Tusk 4 Orphan 5 Sergeant 6 Elba 7 Exasperate 8 Palimpsest 12 Waterloo 15 Beecham 16 Sawyer 18 Omen 20 Goad.

Crossword no. 25

	1	2		3		4		5			
					22		22			6	7
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	8	30	23				0 0		8		

ACROSS

- 1 Beast of burden upsetting orchestra? (9)
- 8 Annual series of classical concerts (5)
- 9 Baffle (7)
- 10 Yearn; extensive (4)
- 11 Kipling's home in Burwash (8)
- 13 Accident (6)
- 14 Facilitate (6)
- 17 Sussex port known for its airshow (8)
- 19 Second Greek letter (4)
- 21 Author Percy or Mary (7)
- 22 Brownish-yellow pigment (5)
- 23 Parisian cathedral damaged by fire (9)

DOWN

- 2 Consecrates with oil (7)
- 3 Walrus's tooth (4)
- 4 Parentless child (6)
- 5 Rank above corporal (8)
- 6 Napoleon's island of exile (4)
- 7 Vex (10)
- 8 A document erased and reused (10)
- 12 A final decisive defeat (8)
- 15 Conductor Sir Thomas (7)
- 16 Professional cutter of timber (6)
- 18 Portent (4)
- 20 Incite (4)

Day	Service	Flowers	Brass	Element	LaMoCs	Intercessor	Sidesperson	Readers
Sunday 3 rd	10 am	Sue Simms	Ann Jones			Jo Borbone		Denise Foster
September	Family				1		Nigel	Jer 15. 15-21
Merchant Navy	Service						Brown	Nigel Brown
^{Day} Trinity 13	Green JM							Mt 16.21-28
Sunday 10 th	10 am	I					Denise	Ann Maddock
September	Eucharist				Кау	Nigel	Foster	Ezek 33. 7-11
					Knowles	Brown	Judy	Clare Hosking
Trinity 14	Green ?						Meeke	Rom 13. 8-14
Sunday 17™	10 am						Anne	Carolyn Watt
September	Eucharist	Denise	Miriam		Nigel	Clergy	Maddock	Gen 50. 15-21
Battle of		Foster	Callas		Brown			Liz Lancaster
Britain	Green ?						Pippa Kerr	Rom 14. 1-12
Trinity 15								
Sunday 24 th	10 am						Jimmy	Jimmy Faure
September	Eucharist				Liz	Ann	Faure	Jon 3. 10- end of 4
Trinity 16					Lancaster	Maddock	Nigel	Nigel Brown
	Green AB						Brown	Phil 1. 21- end
Sunday 1 ^{sr}	10 am		Anne					Jo Borbone
October	Family		Maddock			Jo Borbone	Liz	1Kings 8.22-30
Animal	Service						Lancaster	Mini Elliott
Welfare								Mt 21.12-16
Sunday	Green JM							
Trinity 17								

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

St Marys Funtington Church Rota September 2023

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

Day	Time	Event	Place
Sunday 3 rd	10.am	Family Service	St Marys, Funtington
September	9 am	Eucharist	St Andrews, West Stoke (tbc)
Monday 4 th	5.30-	Church in the Community -Ideas	St Marys, Funtington
September	6.30pm	Meeting	Church room
Weds 6 th	10.30am	Eucharist and Healing	St Mary, Funtington (tbc)
September	11 am	Coffee (all welcome)	Church room
Sunday 10 th	9 am	Eucharist	Sennicotts
September	10 am	Eucharist	Mary, Funtington
Monday 11 th	5.30-	Church in the Community prayer	St Mary, Funtington
September	6.30pm	meeting	Church room
Weds 13th	10.30am	Eucharist and Healing	St Marys, Funtington (tbc)
September	11 am	Coffee (all welcome)	Church room
Sunday 17 th	9.0 am	Morning Prayers	West Stoke
September	10 am	Eucharist	St Marys, Funtington
Monday 18 th	5.30-	Church in the Community -prayer	St Mary, Funtington
September	6.30pm	meeting	Church room
Weds 20 th	10.30am	Eucharist and Healing	St Marys, Funtington
September	11 am	Coffee	Church room
Sunday 24 th	9 am	Eucharist BCP	Sennicotts
September	10 am	Eucharist	St Marys, Funtington
Monday 25 th	5.30-	Church in the Community - prayer	St Mary, Funtington
September	6.30pm	meeting	Church room
Weds 27 th	10.30am	Eucharist and Healing	St Marys, Funtington(tbc)
September	11 am	Coffee (all welcome)	Church room
Sunday 1 st October	9 am	Harvest Festival	St Andrews West Stoke
	10 am	Family Service	St Marys, Funtington
Monday 2 nd October	5.30-	Church in the Community -Ideas	St Mary, Funtington
	6.30pm	Meeting	Church room