

# Rectors Ramble

“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it”  
Hebrews 13

Dear Friends,

It is with a heavy heart that I write this newsletter with the tragic news coming in from Minneapolis USA that there has been another shooting of young school children. This time at a Mass, celebrating the start of a new school year. Honestly my heart breaks!

As we prepare to welcome our young people back to our Primary schools in Newick and Chailey and our new year 7's begin their journey into secondary school and joining NYC in a couple weeks, a time of hope, excitement and joy, I cannot imagine the pain and the trauma of all those families affected by this tragedy, and our hearts and our prayers go out to them.

*Lord of Love & Prince of Peace,*

*Our hearts are breaking as we again lament the loss of life at another school shooting today, and the number of families grieving the loss of their children because of our violent ways.*

*God, give us to know your wisdom that we may be courageous advocates for peace and justice, praying that the legislators and law makers in America will hear the cries of our hearts from around your world today and protect the innocents of this country.*

*Grant us a double portion of your spirit that we may create cycles of hospitality and end cycles of hostility.*

*Make us to know the ways we can be bearers of good news in the power and love we know as Christ.*

*Amen.*

On Tuesday, Pam and I took Niamh back to the airport as she headed back to her home in Melbourne after a wonderful couple of months with family and friends in the UK. We will miss her terribly, but our love and joy go with her and for the adventures she has planned this year.

On the way to Gatwick, I was surprised by the number of roundabouts and zebra crossings, which had been transformed by red paint into symbols of the red on white flag of Saint George. National flags are so often associated with world sporting events, such as world cups, and I originally thought the flags were for the Women's Rugby World Cup

Upon returning home I was disturbed to discover the reason for the display of flags bearing the St George's cross was seemingly due to something entirely different.

Whilst for many these flags are a sign of respect or celebration, for others they have become more associated with far-right demonstrations and organisations. A recent BBC article asks whether the St George's (and Union) flags that have been appearing recently are statements of pride or prejudice. It is intriguing that this debate is happening around the time as many people in the UK have been arrested for protesting about the situation in Gaza by displaying the Palestinian flag?

One can't help but wonder if those who have recently displayed or graffitied the red and white cross of St George know that legend has it that he was of Cappadocian Greek origin, served in the Roman army, or that his father was from Turkey and his mother from Palestine. He was martyred for his Christian beliefs and, as well as being the patron saint of many churches and countries, including Ukraine, he is also venerated by Muslims.

Hebrews 13:1 begins this week's Epistle passage, '*Let mutual love continue*' and I wonder how can we live out an attitude of hope and care for all people, especially during these times of increasing division?

We're reminded in this passage from Hebrews to '*keep on* loving one another as brothers and sisters' (Hebrews 13:1). That sense of *keeping on* loving – to do it again, and again, and again, and again.

That can seem like a chore or a bind...or quite exciting.

Why exciting?

Because we have the opportunity to give it a go; learn from what goes well – and not so well; to experiment; try new ways of caring; and to learn from how other people care for us and for other people.

It also means we don't need to get it right first-time round; nor do we need to have it all together in order to care for someone else.

We don't need to have money to care for other people - it can be as simple as giving a smile or popping a homemade card or note through someone's letterbox.

It's quite easy to get disenchanted about helping others when we watch the news and see the division which is happening around us.

What difference does caring for my neighbour make when people are dying in Ukraine or starving in Gaza?

And yet humanity at its best is so diverse, so creative and so caring for each other, as Mel Thews daughter Sam said this week as part of her mother's Eulogy, "*we are all walking each other home, all on a journey to a shared destination, the ultimate home, and that we each play a role in assisting one another on that journey*"

If we *keep on* caring for those around us, we may find that our confidence to care increases at the same time.

So... who are you going to care for today? Or tomorrow? Or the day after?

Go on...give it a go. Get creative.

Tell someone what you've done. Ask them what they've done.

Be co-conspirators together to care for those around you. And see how your confidence and your faith grows as you do so...

In our Gospel reading from Luke 14:1,7-14 Jesus uses the illustration of a wedding banquet to teach about humility and hospitality.

How can the Church model humble, open hospitality in the world today?

Do we, as Jesus instructs, ensure that we do *'invite the poor, the crippled, the lame and the blind'*? The conflict in the Middle East is just one place where humanity struggles to reach its full potential to be human, as is our understanding of the refugee situation around our ports and coastline and our ability as a nation to be able to discern those with a legitimate right to asylum over those who would enter our country for the wrong reasons.

But the potential for different peoples to live alongside one another here could be a story of hope for all the world – a place of hope, against all hope.

As a statement on the Greenbelt act of communion order of service last weekend puts it:

*"We choose to orientate ourselves towards a future that is good. We choose to live into the best possible future, not the worst one. We choose to build hope with our bare hands – not because we have given up on God, but because we have grasped that our hands are God's implements."*

Hope is in our hands!

Have a good week, be joyful, keep the faith and keep doing the little things that make a difference to those you love and those in need.

Paul xx

### ***St Mary's Hymns***

*All are welcome.*

*Beauty for Brokenness*

*For the Healing of the Nations (Tune Cwm Rhondda)*

*Tell Out My Soul*

### **As always, please remember those on our prayer list:**

Francis Bailey, Cole Louise Blackman, Bernice Blundy, Karina Brown,  
Beryl Campion-Smith, Harri Gande, Morris Gee, John and Elizabeth Gould, Rubie Geer,  
Juliette Lucas, Spike MacGuire, Christina McCann, Shirley Mansfield, Derek Marshall,  
George Morrison, Patricia Moss, Ann Parker, Adrian, Andrea and Amber Parris, Gemma  
Peacock, June and Ron Perou, Christine Ripley, Rubie, Cheryl Stewart, Marcus  
Thrower, Toni Warrilow, Sean Watson, Nasima Wright.

SERVICES – AUGUST 2025	
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup></b> <b>August</b> Tenth Sunday after Trinity	8am BCP* Holy Communion <i>Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy</i> 10am Holy Communion Isaiah 58.9b-14 - Hebrews 12.18-29 - Luke 13.10-17 <i>Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy</i>
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup></b> <b>August</b> Eleventh Sunday after Trinity	8am BCP* Holy Communion <i>Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy</i> 10am Holy Communion Ecclesiastes 10. 12-18 – Hebrews 13. 1-8, 15-16 – Luke 14. 1, 7-14 <i>Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy</i>

SERVICES – SEPTEMBER 2025	
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September</b> Twelfth Sunday after Trinity	8am BCP* Holy Communion <i>Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy</i> 10am Worship & Holy Communion Jeremiah 18:1-11 - Philemon 1-21 - Luke 14:25-33 <i>Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy</i> 6pm Evensong <i>Leader: Reader Jeremy Burdett    Preacher: Ian Reekie</i>
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September</b> Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity	8am BCP* Holy Communion <i>Preacher: Fr Martin Morgan</i> 10am Holy Communion Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28 – 1 Timothy 1:12-17 – Luke 15:1-10 <i>Preacher: Fr Martin Morgan</i> 6pm Worship2 <i>Leader: Many Stockwell</i>
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September</b> Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity	8am BCP* Holy Communion <i>Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy</i> 10am Family Communion & Owls Club Jeremiah 8:18-9.1 – 1 Timothy 2:1-7 – Luke 16:1-13 <i>Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy</i>
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September</b> Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity	8am BCP* Holy Communion <i>Preacher: Fr Martin Morgan</i> 10am Morning Praise & Worship Jeremiah 32:1-3, 6-15 – 1 Timothy 6:6-19 – Luke 16:19-31 <i>Preacher: Reader Jeremy Burdett</i>
*DENOTES STANDARD YEAR C LECTIONARY READINGS PRAYER MEETINGS FOR CHURCH SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY 9.30 BARN CENTRE	

# REGULARS AT ST MARY'S

**Children's Choir:** 1st Sunday of each month 10am - 11am Barn Centre

Email: [churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church](mailto:churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church)

Web: [stmarysnewicks.church/youthchoir](http://stmarysnewicks.church/youthchoir))

**RSCM Voice for Life Sessions** with St Mary's Youth Choir - every third Thursday of the Month - 4pm - 5pm in the Barn Centre. £5. Email: [churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church](mailto:churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church) to register.

**Citizens Advice:** **Now at the Community Centre - Wednesday's 12 - 3**

16<sup>th</sup> July, 20<sup>th</sup> August, 17<sup>th</sup> September, 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 19<sup>th</sup> November and 17<sup>th</sup> December

**Lunch Club:** Second Monday of the month in the Barn Centre at 12.30pm. to book Your place please ring 01825 722186

**Mens Meeting:** Monday mornings 7am - 8am in the Barn Centre

**NYC & NCT:** A fun club for the young people of the village. The Barn Centre.

**Wednesday evenings during term-time.** Time? 18.00 Juniors and 19.30 Seniors

- Juniors: 11-15 years
- Seniors: 16-18 years

More information: [HERE](#)

Email: [youth.newick@gmail.com](mailto:youth.newick@gmail.com)

**Owls:** Crafts, Bible story, fun and refreshments **Sundays 9.55am - 11am**

Email: [childrenandfamilies@stmarysnewicks.church](mailto:childrenandfamilies@stmarysnewicks.church)

**18th May - 15th June - 20th July -  
21st September - 19th October - 16th November**

**Prayer Group:** Every 1st and 3rd Monday 2pm Barn Centre (unless otherwise notified)

**Prayer Meetings for Church Services:** Sundays 9.30-9.45am  
Barn Centre

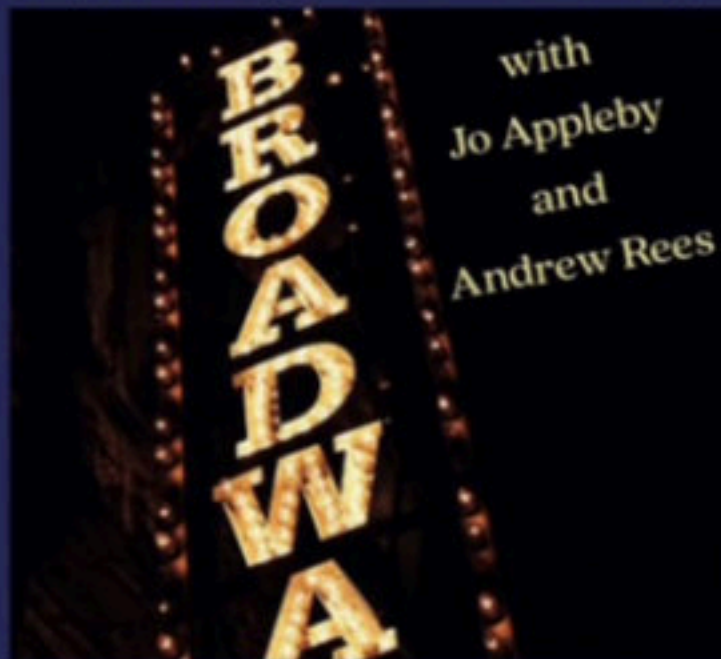
**Tea at Three:** Third Thursday of the month at 3pm in the Barn Centre. For more information contact Patsy on 01825 722590

**Remember tickets on the night are dearer than getting them in advance so don't miss out - get yours now.....**



# Bubbles & Broadway

A celebration of Broadway hits with a complimentary glass of fizz and canapés



**Saturday 30th August**

**7.00pm**

**St Mary's Church, Newick, BN8 4JZ**

**Tickets £18 (£20 on the night)**

**including a glass of fizz and canapés  
(kids under 16 go free)**



All profits from this event will go towards St Mary's Church, Newick and





# Opera Gala Evening

Join us for an unforgettable evening with performers  
from Glyndebourne Opera, English National Opera  
and the Royal Opera House

Four professional opera singers and their accompanist  
perform a variety of popular operatic repertoire at

**Sunday 31st August 2025, 7.30pm**

**St. Leonard's Parish Church, 18a Church Street, Seaford BN25 1HG**

Tickets are \$15.00 per person. Reservations advised.

For ticket reservations call **Charlotte Wicks on 07966 621229** or email [intergenopera@gmail.com](mailto:intergenopera@gmail.com)

Payment by cash or cheques on the night.

Proceeds are in aid of Dementia UK and Intergenerational Opera,  
a project which brings together primary school children with older people  
in the community through creative music making.

More details of Intergenerational opera can be found at  
[www.intergenerationalopera.com](http://www.intergenerationalopera.com)





*Last Summer Fun in the Park*

*Don't miss it!*

*Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September*

*Owls is back in September*

*See you on the 21<sup>st</sup> .....*



 **Mary's  
Newick's Church**

# Owls Club



**Crafts, Bible Story, Fun!  
& Refreshments**

9.55am - 11.00am

Next dates: 20 July, 21 September, 19 October

Feel free to be in contact -

Pam Mundy, [childrenandfamilies@stmarysnewicks.church](mailto:childrenandfamilies@stmarysnewicks.church)





## Garden Day Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October.....

Save the date! We have an ambitious program, and the lunch as always will be convivial and excellent. Don't worry, we will remind you again nearer the time too...

**Christopher Hume**



**FLETCHING  
MUSIC &  
ARTS  
FESTIVAL**

ALL CONCERTS & EXHIBITIONS AT FLETCHING PARISH CHURCH

**16 October 7.30pm**  
**REFLECTIONS THROUGH TIME**  
*Poetry Through Time*  
BINGEN Spiritus Sanctus Vivificans  
MATTIES 'Aria Fantasia' in A Minor  
PURCELL An Evening Hymn  
BACH 5th Suite: Sarabande  
MOZART String Quartet in C Major K465: Dissonance  
DOWLAND Flow My Tears  
PURCELL Fantasia in A minor  
BRITTEN Three Divertimenti for String Quartet

**17 October 7.10pm**  
**ECHOES OF EXISTENCE**  
*With Excerpts from T.S.Eliot's 4 Quartets*  
SCHUBERT String Quartet No 14 in D Minor  
"Death and The Maiden" 1st Mvt  
SCHUBERT Der Tod und das Mädchen  
SCHUBERT Erlkönig  
MOZART String Quintet No 4 in G Minor  
K516: Adagio & Allegro  
MAHLER Symphony No. 2 in C major  
"Resurrection" 4th Mvt: Urlicht arranged for voice and string quintet  
BRAHMS String Quintet in F No 2: Grave  
VASKS Quartet No 3 1st Mvt  
BRAHMS Leichengesang

**18 October 7.30pm**  
**A LIGHT IN THE DARK: Music of Love & Peace**  
*Excerpts of the Stan & Chris Rickard Letters*  
STRAUSS 'Capriccio' String Sextet  
MAHLER Rückert Lieder: Mitternacht & Ich bin der Welt abhanden gekommen  
STRAUSS Ich wollt' ein Sträußlein binden & Afferseelen  
MENDELSSOHN String Octet in Eb major

**ART EXHIBITION: Nathaniel Boyd**  
**Artist Insights Talk 17 October 8.30pm (Free)**  
Exhibition Opening Times: 16-18 October  
5.00pm-9.00pm (Free)

**FM&AF**  
Fletching  
Music & Arts  
Festival

**16-18 October 2025**  
Tickets & Information:  
[www.fletchingmusicartsfest.com](http://www.fletchingmusicartsfest.com)





## **OUR PRAYER FOR GROWTH**

**God of Mission who alone brings growth to your Church,  
send your Holy Spirit to give Vision to our planning,  
wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness.**

**Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual  
commitment to you, and in service to our local community,  
through Jesus Christ Our Lord**

**AMEN**

Please visit our website [stmarysnewicks.church](http://stmarysnewicks.church) for more information on the various organisations and events and activities available to you.

If you have any news you would like to share, any photos you would like to display, or any stories about St Mary's Newick or wider afield that you think the readers may enjoy - please mail us at:

**[churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church](mailto:churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church)**

**The content deadline is 10am on Thursday**

so please make sure you send anything to us in time. Anything received after 10am will be included the following week if appropriate.

Thank you.