

November 2020

DORKING ANGLICANS AND METHODISTS TOGETHER with St Mary's, Pixham & St Barnabas, Ranmore

Remembrance Sunday Sunday 8th November

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At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them.

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Number 493

I Remembrance Sunday

NOVEMBER 2020

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SUBSCRIPTIONS for St Martin's Magazine

The subscription rate, for magazines delivered to your home (11 copies during the year) is £6.00 per annum, or £4.00 for those who have retired. Please give cash or a cheque (made payable to "St Martin's Dorking PCC"), to your distributor , who will pass the total amount for his / her area to the Subscriptions Manager, Janet Housden. Postal subscribers should send a cheque for £12.00 for the year to Janet Housden at Brympton, Ridgeway Road, Dorking, Surrey RH4 3AT If you do not currently receive a regular copy of the magazine and would like one delivered to your home, please phone the Distribution Manager, Freda Goddard on 740682 and she will make the necessary arrangements.

COPY FOR DECEMBER MAGAZINE **By Friday 20th November** please, or sooner!

Any material is preferred on disc, in a PC format such as Word or Publisher. Handwritten material is still accepted! If you would like to send material by e-mail, the address is kikronfran@aol.com Thanks. *Ed*.

Register

FUNERALS

"Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them" We pray for those who have died and for the bereaved:

October 16th George Hunter Aged 94 at Randalls Park

WEDDINGS

"Marriage is a gift of God in creation and a means of grace, a holy mystery in which man and woman become one flesh"

We pray for those who have committed themselves to each other:

September 12th Richard Ockwell and Nicola Conley October 9th Paul Lopez and Rosemary Colver

Editorial policy

The Editor, consulting the Magazine Committee, reserves the right not to publish any article which is deemed unsuitable for any reason, but our intention remains to include contributions from across a broad theological spectrum (and also on other matters of community interest). Contributions to the magazine thus reflect the perspectives of individual authors and do not thus necessarily reflect an agreed view of the church's leadership team.

Readers will appreciate that Covid restrictions are changing frequently and although some references where correct at going to press, they may not reflect recent changes.

St Martin's Magazine.

The April, May, June, July, August, September and October editions of our parish magazine are available on our website. If you or someone you know cannot access this please contact church office and we can arrange a paper copy to be delivered.

Luke an unsung hero!

Over the last few months, we have all applauded (literally!) all our heroes and heroines in the medical profession. So, it seems a good time, as we have just passed St Luke's day (18 October), to take a closer look at one unsung hero from long ago.

If you count the chapters of the New Testament then he wrote over 20% and, if you count the pages, it is over 25%! If we go to the very beginning of his Gospel (Luke 1:1-4) we see, that like any good doctor, he recognises his limitations. He wasn't an eyewitness but he learnt from those who were and carefully investigated everything he was told and then wrote it out in an orderly manner, because he had come to the conviction, indeed certainty, that what he had been told was true. Remember that this was a doctor, not somebody given to flights of whimsical imagination! Straightaway Luke challenges us, as he challenges his friend, to rely on those who are eyewitnesses of the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus.

We notice too how anxious he is for his friend Theophilus to come to the same conviction as he did. Isn't it amazing, that because of that concern, you and I and thousands of millions of others, have been able to read his word. What a great example to us that we never know where a clear coherent witness to one other person may take, not only us, not only the other person, but many others as well. Just look at Luke!

Back in the 1930s a man we have almost certainly never heard of, Albert McKakin, when a teenager persuaded his friend William to attend the rally of a Christian evangelist and at that rally his friend William put his trust in Christ. "William" was in fact William Franklin Graham, universally known as Billy Graham, whose ministry has been a blessing to hundreds, if not thousands of millions (myself included)!

If we look closely at his opening verses, we will see that those eyewitnesses were also called "servants of the Word". Luke, and all of us, were not eyewitnesses but we are called to be servants of the Word, obeying the written word and following the Living Word, the Lord Jesus Christ. After the initial reference to himself, in the whole of his Gospel, Luke never refers to himself again but always points to others and above all to Jesus Christ. He is just like the Holy Spirit whose work he stresses. Indeed, I don't think he will be best pleased with me for putting the spotlight on him for a few moments!

Consider how much we owe to Luke for information about the build up to our Lord's birth, all that followed, a glimpse of His childhood and much of His teaching. It is from Luke that we learn of the Good Samaritan and the Prodigal Son, as well as the penitent thief. All of these are famous because they are recorded by Luke. Luke was a Gentile, not a Jew, and there is a lot of emphasis in his Gospel on the fact that Christ came for all of us and that includes you and me, men and women, boys and girls.

Of course, Luke's writing didn't end with his Gospel. If we turn to the first three verses of Acts chapter I we see the only other reference to himself individually and he goes on to recount that Christ ascended to Heaven and will one day return. Amazingly 3,000 who had been complicit in the crucifixion of our Lord knew forgiveness on that very day when the Holy Spirit came and later others followed in an equally amazing way, particularly Luke's own hero, Paul.

If that were all we would have much for which to thank him but there is something more to come because from Acts 16 (verse 6 onwards) we notice the word "we" keeps popping up. In other words, Luke the doctor went with Paul on many of his journeys. He set his own normal life aside, it seems to be a faithful friend to Paul and to expose himself to dangers of persecution and the elements (e.g. the dangerous voyage to Rome at the end of Acts). What a challenge to you and me to put the Lord's interests ahead of our own!

Reflection contd.

Once we get to the end of Acts, we might be inclined to think that Luke's contribution is at an end, but not a bit of it! He pops up in Paul's epistles no less than three times. Once he is described as "Luke the beloved physician" (Colossians 4: 14 AV). That seems to me a marvellous reminder that Luke continued to be a man who pursued his profession and calling (that of medicine in his case) but it was placed at the Lord's disposal. What a magnificent example that is to all of us that we are not necessarily called to abandon our ordinary daily life and work, but rather to place it under the Lordship of Christ as Luke did. How marvellous that Luke can be remembered both as Luke the evangelist and Luke the doctor!

Much more recently Cliff Richard (who celebrated his 80th birthday recently) became a Christian when he was a young man in his 20s (he proclaimed his faith in Christ at Earls Court when Billy Graham was preaching in June 1966, a few days in fact before I myself made a somewhat tentative commitment). It wasn't long before Cliff Richard wondered if he should renounce his singing career to be trained as a teacher but he felt the Lord saying that He honoured him for placing that at his disposal but He wanted him to continue serving the Lord in the music world.

Luke clearly was not one to covet the limelight. Another reference to him simply describes him as one of Paul's four fellow workers. But then who could ask for a finer accolade than that?!

At the very end of Paul's life, we find him on death row, probably cold, lonely, bored and frightened. Many of his friends were not there for valid reasons, some had abandoned or even repudiated him, or deserted him. But there was one jewel in the crown "only Luke is with me" (2 Timothy 4: 11a). What a truly wonderful epitaph to a man who so faithfully served the Lord and was such a faithful friend in Paul's hour of direst need. May that be true of you and me!

Desiderata - Words for Life

Go placidly amid the noise and haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible without surrender be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even the dull and the ignorant; they too have their story.

Avoid loud and aggressive persons, they are vexations to the spirit. If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain and bitter; for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself.

Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans.

Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time. Exercise caution in your business affairs; for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals; and everywhere life is full of heroism.

Be yourself.

Especially, do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment it is as perennial as the grass.

Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth. Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune.

But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness. Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself.

You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.

Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be, and whatever your labours and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul.

With all its sham, drudgery, and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world.

Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.

Poem by Max Ehrmann

Tel: 01306 883474 Fax: 01306 743328

Web Site www.stmartins-primary.surrey.sch.uk E-mail head@stmartins-primary.surrey.sch.uk 'Inspiring children to be the best that they can be'

There are many pleasures in being the headteacher of a primary school and one is when a child brings something into school, especially for you. The story below was brought to me earlier this term, by Sienna in Year 5. She said that she had been looking for stories and poems on the internet and then she found this and immediately thought of me.

Original Story by: Loren Eisley

One day a man was walking along the beach when he noticed a girl picking something up and gently throwing it into the ocean.

Approaching the girl, he asked, "What are you doing?"

The girl replied, "Throwing starfish back into the ocean. The surf is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them back, they'll die."

"Oh," the man said, "don't you realize there are miles and miles of beach and hundreds of starfish? You can't make a difference here!"

After listening politely, the girl bent down, picked up another starfish, and threw it back into the sea

Then, smiling at the man, she said......"I made a difference for that one!"

Having read the story, I can see why Sienna had bought the story to me.

During our collective worship we are always telling the children that – everyone can make a difference, in some small way. We encourage the

children to try to do one small act of kindness each day. These will all add up and make a bigger difference, spreading kindness and good will is something that we need each to try to find the time to remember.

In a world where you can be anything - 'Be kind!'

Right now the world really needs us all to step up and make small differences – someone will benefit. Jane Gorecka

CHRISTIAN CENTRE NOTICE

We continue to be open for hirers and are discussing with existing hirers their approach to restarting safely. New hirers would be welcome, please give us call to arrange dates and times available.

Activities are starting to return but please contact the group leaders for more details.

Our Café is open Monday to Friday 12 noon – 1.00pm.

Take away meals will still be available.

Café will still be closed on Saturdays for the time being.

The above is subject to the current Government and Methodist Connexional guidelines.

We are looking forward to welcoming you back to the Christian Centre.

Kind regards,

Janette Masters, Centre Manager, Tel: 01306 886830 centremanager@dorkingmethodist.co.uk Following the latest Government Guidelines, please be reminded that face coverings must be worn in all communal areas of the Christian Centre building. Thank you.





What do you remember over these past six months?

Do you have special memories? The spectacular views, the wonderful walks, all the lovely people we have met and known in our lives, the countries and places we have visited, maybe the cruises, the concerts, theatre shows or the films we have attended, the kindness shown to us, people in our lives who sadly have died and are no longer here. Although time may have passed, you will never forget the ones you loved.

Remember those we love don't go away They walk beside us every day Unseen, unheard, but always near So loved, so missed and so very dear.

Such love as the whitest snow; Such love weeps for the shame I know; Such love, paying the debt I owe; O Jesus, such love.

Such love, stilling my restlessness; Such love, filling my emptiness; Such love, showing me holiness; O Jesus, such love.

Such love springs from eternity; Such love, streaming through history; Such love, fountain of life to me; O Jesus, such love.

Memories! Memories! Memories become 'treasures'.

We thank you for all the service men and women who gave their lives in the first and second world wars to save our country. What a sacrifice they made for us! What about all the people who have undertaken such stoical jobs since the COVID pandemic started. Let us remember their dedication, their hard work, their kindness, their sacrifices in many instances, plus their generosity.

A key poignant act of remembrance is when we remember the Lord Jesus Christ's death. In I Corinthians II v 24 Jesus took bread and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said "This is my body which is for you; do this in remembrance of me". In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me". For whenever you eat this bread or drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

It has been so hard during these COVID pandemic months that we physically have not been able to take communion. We thank all the clergy around the town and further afield who have conducted the Eucharist on Zoom or YouTube – this has been a special privilege and so appreciated. Now a few of us are able to go to church and actually receive communion although it is only the bread.

Memories! How we long to see each other normally, at home, in a restaurant, at place of interest like a garden centre, but it is all still somewhat restricted. We have all got to hang in there particularly with the pending long dark evenings.

Let us remember those who are not so well – they are:- Betty and Brian Smith, Rosie and Barry Pegram, Heather Anderton and Gary Knight. We pray for God's healing hand to be upon all these dear people.

We pray for the bereaved thinking particularly of Janette our Centre Manager on the loss of her mother. We pray for her father as he grieves and he himself is really very frail. Lord let us encourage one another – why not give a phone call to someone and have a chat or a prayer over the phone.

Lord please bless us at this very difficult time. I pray that God will give us courage and strength to carry us through and may we ever be thankful for what we have, even though times have been tough.

God bless you all and may you know his closeness and presence at this possibly lonely time. You are <u>not</u> alone and there is always someone on the end of a line to speak with you. God is with us and He cares, so cling on to this fact.

Every Blessing, Rowan

Contact details:- 01306 886830 (09:00-13:00) or centrechaplain@gmail.com

Services at St Barnabas, Ranmore

(Covid restrictions and local lockdowns permitting)

Sun I Nov at 3pm

All Souls: Remembering with Thanksgiving our Departed Loved Ones: a quiet and meditative service of music and readings, in which we read out the names of our

Departed Loved Ones and light candles in their memory. (followed by the interment of ashes of the late Sir High Cubitt).

Sun 8 Nov at 10.30am

Remembrance Sunday: A Service of Holy Communion including a Act of Commemoration for the Fallen. The music is sung by the Whyte Effect Choir and incudes Tavener's "Mother of God, here I stand", parts of the Requiem by Tomas Luis de Victoria, and the Anthem "And I saw a new Heaven" by Edgar Bainton, plus hymns sung by the Choir and a live Trumpeter.

Sun 15 Nov: NO SERVICE

Sun 22 Nov at I Iam: Matins

Sun 29 Nov at I Iam

Holy Communion for Advent Sunday. This special service will be sung by the Whyte Effect Choir and will include the Introit "Hosanna to the Son of David" by Thomas Weelkes, the Anthem "Let all mortal flesh keep silence" by Edward Bairstow, and parts of the *Missa Papae Marcelli* by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina.

Please also note the following changes to November and December :

(i) The Christmas Fayre scheduled for Saturday 14 November has had to be cancelled due to the continuing Covid-19 Pandemic.

(ii) There will be NO SERVICE on the first Sunday of December (the 6th), since we had an "extra" service on the 5th Sunday of November (Advent Sunday).

(iii) There will be a Wedding in Church on Sunday 6th December at 12 noon.

(iv) The VOCE Advent Christmas Concert which had been scheduled for Sat 12 December has been cancelled.

(v) Our annual Nativity Play & Christingle Service on Saturday 19 December has sadly also been cancelled.

(vi) However, we do plan to hold our annual Service of Nine Lessons & Carols as scheduled (at 11am on Sun 20 Dec). The Whyte 'Effect will be singing this service for us.

(vii) Midnight Communion on Christmas Eve has, sadly, also had to be cancelled.

(viii) However, we hope to have some of the Whyte Effect Choir with us for our Service of Holy Communion on Christmas Morning, Friday 25 Dec at 10am.

(ix) There will be NO SERVICE on Sunday 27 Dec.





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A Church on the Margins

Monday, September 28, 2020

We've tended to soften Jesus' conflict with the system, or the established powers, but Jesus' ministry took place on the margins! In the year 313 A.D., with the Edict of Milan, the Church dramatically changed sides and Christians officially became the Church of the establishment. Before that decree, the Church was by and large of the underclass. It identified with the poor and the oppressed, and the Church itself was still being oppressed and persecuted. The early Church read and understood its history from the catacombs literally from underground. Such a position will always give us a different perspective than that "found in palaces" (see Matthew 11:8).

I'm sure the Emperor Constantine thought he was doing Christians a favour when he ended official persecution and made Christianity the established religion of the empire. Yet it might be the single most unfortunate thing that happened to Christianity. Once we moved from the margins of society to the centre, we developed a new film over our eyes. After that, we couldn't read anything that showed Jesus in confrontation with the establishment, because we were the establishment, and usually egregiously so.

Clear teaching on issues of greed, powerlessness, nonviolence, non-control, and simplicity were moved to the side-lines, if not actually countermanded. These issues were still taken seriously by those who fled to the deserts of Egypt, Syria, Palestine, and Cappadocia. Their practices grew into what we now call "religious life" as observed by monks, nuns, hermits, and anchorites who held onto the radical Gospel in so many ways.

As long as the Church bore witness from the margins in some sense, and as long as we operated from a minority position, we had greater access to the truth, to the Gospel, to Jesus. In our time we have to find a way to disestablish ourselves, to identify with our powerlessness instead of our power, our dependence instead of our independence, our communion instead of our individualism. Unless we understand that, the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5–7) isn't going to make any sense.

We see in the Sermon on the Mount that Jesus intended for us to take the low road. He intended us to operate from the position of "immoral" minority much more than the moral majority. When we're protecting our self-image as moral, superior, or "saved" persons, we always lose the truth. The daring search for God—the common character of all religion—is replaced with the search for personal certitude and control.

As soon as people are comfortably enjoying the fruits of the established system, they don't normally want any truth beyond their comfort zone. Yet those who are not enjoying those benefits, those who have been marginalized or oppressed in any way, are always longing and thirsting for the coming of the Kingdom, for something more.

The Gospel always keeps us in a state of longing and thirsting for God. Grace seems to create a void inside of us that only God can fill.

Richard Rohr's Daily Meditation

From the Center for Action and Contemplation

Richard Rohr's Daily Meditations are free email reflections sent every day of the year. Each meditation features Richard Rohr and guest authors reflecting on a yearly theme, with each week building on previous topics - but you can join at any time!







For our scripture-can-be-fun page, let's take a look at biblical birds.

If you're asked which bird comes to mind soonest, you may think of the dove. Apart from the others created on Day 5 (Genesis 1: 20) and aboard Noah's waterborne zoo after being named by Adam (Genesis 2: 19; 7: 14), a dove brings evidence that the flood has continued to subside (Genesis 8: 11) and features through to Jesus' baptism as a figure for the Holy Spirit (e.g. Mark 1: 10 and John 1: 32.)

Been there, done that, along with the offering of two turtle doves (Luke 2: 24.) No partridge?

Oh yes there is. Visit I Samuel 26:20, "for the king of Israel has come out to seek a single flea, like one who hunts a partridge in the mountains," an assertion that struck Saul's conscience. Well if someone said you'd gone on safari looking for a flea, you would probably take a hard look at yourself. The partridge performs a notable encore at Jeremiah 17: I I where it serves as a slap to all who accumulate wealth unjustly.

Try hunting for birds in the Epistles, though. You'll struggle apart from a reference to the flesh of birds at I Corinthians 15: 39. Perhaps that dove was sufficient.



OK then, what about ostriches? Job whinges at Chapter 30, verse 29 of that complainant's handbook that "I am the companion of ostriches." God puts this in perspective at

Chapter 39, verse 13, yet the poor ostrich still has a bad press. At Lamentations 4: 3, "my people has become cruel, like the ostriches in the wilderness." At Micah 1:8, "I will make lamentation like the jackals, and mourning like the ostriches."

More favourable publicity is, on the whole, granted to the eagle. Perhaps the best image is at Isaiah 40: 31, saying that "those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."

Among the other "fowls of the air" who inhabit Scripture, we could take a look at storks, quails, ravens, vultures, pelicans, owls, cocks that crow more than once,

swallows, swifts, pigeons (which some would say are doves, and let's face it, life is sometimes messy pigeons rather than white doves), thrushes, hens, chickens and others, reserving special mention for the peacocks whose triennial export with apes is commemorated at 1 Kings 10: 22. Then if you're still really fed up with being stuck indoors, faint not, for you could always go on to wade through Leviticus 11: 13-19 and Deuteronomy 14: 12-18, where the ornithological clanger of including bats in a list of banned birds leads to an almost apologetic footnote in the New Revised Standard Version.

After all that, settle for sparrows. At Matthew 10: 29-31, Jesus says "Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father...So do not be afraid: you are of more value than many sparrows." The pandemic may grind on, but do we faint?

"Swift as an eagle cuts the air We'll mount aloft to thine abode: On wings of love our souls shall fly, Nor tire along the heavenly road."

[Isaac Watts at AMNS 436 and HP 663, verse 5. The Anglican version is the original, saying "amidst" rather than "along" in the last line, but you may prefer pilgrimage to any suggestion of getting stuck in the tarmac.]

But here's the sting: our feathered friends get the last laugh when it comes to demolishing evil. Their last mention in the Bible is in the following rather worrying terms at Revelation 19, 17-21 (NRSV):



"With a loud voice he cried to all the birds flying in mid-heaven: 'Come, gather for the great supper of God, to eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of the mighty, the flesh of horses and their riders – flesh of

all, both free and slave, both small and great' ... And all the birds were gorged with their flesh."

Being kind to birds sounds like a good idea.

Petrus Incognitus

- I Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son! hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun! He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free, to take away transgression, and rule in equity.
- 2 He comes with succour speedy to those who suffer wrong; to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong; to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light, whose souls, condemned and dying, were precious in his sight.
- 3 He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth, and love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth: before him on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go; and righteousness in fountains from hill to valley flow.
- 4 Kings shall bow down before him, and gold and incense bring; all nations shall adore him, his praise all people sing: to him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend; his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.

5 O'er every foe victorious, he on his throne shall rest; from age to age more glorious, all-blessing and all-blest: the tide of time shall never his covenant remove; his name shall stand for ever, his changeless name of love. Words: J Montgomery(1771-1854) Psalm 72 Tune: Cruger adapted by W H Monk (1823-89)

James Montgomery the writer of this hymn, was born in Irvine, Ayrshire, Scotland, in 1771. He was the son of a Moravian pastor, John Montgomery and his wife, originally from Ireland, who sent their young son to boarding school at the Fulneck seminary in Yorkshire, when they felt called to minister to slaves in the sugar plantations of the West Indies. Six year old James did not see his parents again as they both died there a few years later. Not exactly an auspicious start to life.

The Moravians are a small Christian sect which is one of the oldest Protestant denominations, dating back to 15th century Bohemia, decades before Martin Luther and the wider Reformation.

The Moravians emphasise personal piety, music ecumenism and mission, particularly to the Caribbean and the Americas, where they still have many churches. John and Charles Wesley notably owed their conversion to them. John was particularly impressed by the practical faith of a group of them on board a ship on which he sailed across the Atlantic.

With the years spent in the in the Moravian seminary, James Montgomery inherited a strong religious bent and a passion for justice. So much so that he was sent to prison for a short time, after he published a song in the *Sheffield Iris*, which celebrated the fall of the Bastille This was the newspaper of which he had recently become editor, a post he held for 30 years). He was imprisoned again when he described a riot in Sheffield which reflected unfavourably on a military commander. It did not put him off seeking justice for others - he also actively protested against slavery, the lot of boy chimney sweeps, and lotteries.

Along with Christian friends of various persuasions, James Montgomery supported missions and the Bible Society and over his lifetime published <u>eleven</u> volumes of poetry, mainly his own, and at least 400 hymns. (7 of them are in our 'Hymns Ancient and Modern including the marvellous Christmas one 'Angels from the realms of Glory').

He moved on from his Moravian roots, first becoming interested in the Wesleyan Society and later worshipping as an Anglican, where, after 1821, the singing of hymns in church was permitted! **'Hail to the Lord's Anointed'** is actually a metrical version of Psalm 72 and follows its meaning closely. In the NRSV the Psalm has a heading *Prayer for Guidance and Support for the King*, the king then being David's son, Solomon. When we sing it today we can recognise 'great David's greater son' as being Jesus.

From what we have learned about James Montgomery it is no surprise that he turned this psalm into a hymn, as it is full of what he would expect a good king should be like - ruling justly, stopping oppression, helping the poor and needy encouraging the weak, <u>and</u> giving us songs for singing! It is a prayer for a King whose priority is the making of a happy, just and fair society.

The land will be productive too, as such a king will pour down gentle showers on a fruitful earth, along with love, joy and hope to it's inhabitants. Verse three conjures up a lovely image of peace and righteousness springing up like flowers on the mountains and valleys.

Only in verse four do we praise the king as other kings and peoples recognise his qualities and bow down before him with presents of gold and incense. By then, we have reason to pray for a long and successful reign.

The hymn (and the psalm on which it is based) is more than just another rousing and reassuring hymn which looks forward to the time when God's kingdom will come on earth - it is a really a prayer for political leaders (and perhaps all of us) to act wisely <u>now</u> to help bring in that Kingdom. **Bits and Pieces**

Message from Veronica

Thank you everyone for electing me as your new Churchwarden and for all your very kind messages of encouragement and offers of help. I will try to do the job to the best of my ability, with everyone's support and prayers. I feel that prayer undergirds all we do, so please continue to pray for everyone at St Martin's and St Mary's and make use of the Prayer Diary. If you don't have one, please contact me and I will send you one. Thank you again.

Veronica 01306 640775

CHANGES TO PRIVATE PRAYER AND STEWARDING

As you know, we are open for Private Prayer twice a week. The days are changing with effect from week beginning 2nd November. We will now be open on Wednesday and Saturday between 9.30am - 12pm. Thank you to the 8 volunteers who are helping steward this. If anyone feels they could be used as a back up on one of these days please do let me know, each session is 1 hour 15 minutes. Thanks, Judy.

St Martin's Wednesday Holy Communion

This weekly service held at 11am will commence again starting November 4th.

THE CHURCH CLEANING TEAM IS BEING RE-ESTABLISHED.

Let's make best efforts to build on the wisdom of those who have looked after our beautiful church over the years. Anyone who is interested in lending a hand, please contact Julia Redfern (883994).

A prayer, by Stephen Cherry* O God of peace and wisdom, give your blessing to those who offer political leadership today. May their words be honest and true; may their deeds be kind and caring; may their minds be open to criticism and their hearts open to correction and may their legacy be of equality, inclusion and justice for all people.



Amen Stephen Cherry

*'Psalm Prayers' by Stephen Cherry, published 2020 by Canterbury Press



DO THE BITS THE VICAR CAN SEE

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George Hunter – a journey through life

It's a long way from the coast of Northumberland to the Surrey hills, but that's not the only sense in which George travelled far in his life.

Let's start with that journey south. Alnmouth, on the Northumberland coast, was where he was born in 1925, his parents being the first from the family to move south of the border from Scotland. Nine years there and the journey further southwards began. After a couple of years in Hertfordshire, by the age of 11 he was in the village of Stockcross, just outside Newbury. The road from there to Dorking was, as we will see, via Middlesbrough (briefly) and London.

But another, and perhaps more significant journey in George's life was from the factory floor to the office, from Assistant Woodwork Machinist to Personnel Manager. Leaving school at the age of 14 in 1939, he was soon helping to build gliders for the war effort in what had been a furniture factory in Newbury. His potential was soon recognised, and by the end of the war, six years later, he had moved from the factory floor to the office, dealing with the procurement of materials.

It was during this time that George became involved in Boys Clubs, and in 1947 he went to train as a Club leader. His journey then takes its brief detour to Middlesbrough as Assistant Leader of a Boys Club in a tough area by the docks. But by 1949 he had returned south as Assistant Warden of the Alford House Youth Club in Lambeth, and was studying for a diploma in social studies at London University. Ten years after leaving school at 14 he had taken up education again, alongside work.

This was the time when George and Pam met. As well as her housing work in the area, Pam was volunteering in a youth club in Lambeth. They met at a dance – not a surprising place for two young people to get together – but the venue was more unusual: the canteen of the local police station, where community workers had been invited to enjoy an evening together. Pam and George were married at St John's Church, Waterloo, in 1951.

Where did the journey take them next? They lived to start with in a flat close to Waterloo Station, but



Pam and George Hunter

by 1953 George was running the Boys Club in Morden, South London, and they were living in Balham. From there the journey southwards continued via New Malden for about three years and finally to Dorking in 1960.

Before that, in 1954, George had moved from youth work to personnel management in the construction industry, initially with Costain Construction. This led to travel in another sense as he visited construction projects in Iran, Kuwait, Nigeria, Kenya, Saudi Arabia, Zambia and Tanzania. It was from one of these trips that he returned with a 1½ metre long stuffed crocodile – not something that would be allowed on a plane as hand luggage today!

Professionally, George was a founder member of the Civil Engineering Personnel Managers Liaison Committee and served on the CBI's Social Security Committee. After 17 years at Costain and some time with other construction companies, the last ten years of his career were with Sandbergs, a firm of consulting engineers based near Victoria Station in London.

But what of George's life in Dorking: 60 years from 1960 to 2020?

These were the years of bringing up a family – David, Alastair, Robin and Caroline. And then seeing grandchildren growing up – Thomas, Sophie, Simon, Owen, Oliver, Fred & Emily. And more recently welcoming (so far) five greatgrandchildren.

George Hunter – a journey through life contd.

George also threw himself into local community activities in Dorking. Two organisations were particularly important to him. Firstly the tennis & squash club, where George and Pam both played tennis in their younger days and where George remained a social member until pretty recently. And most significantly St Martin's Church, where George had many roles over many years: sidesman, PCC member, youth club leader, school governor. Perhaps his biggest contribution was as the first chair of the Christian Centre Management Committee, overseeing (in his words) "the conversion of the bleak, cold and run-down church halls to the building we have today". That building continues to serve the community in many ways.

But above all, the years in Dorking were years of loving marriage, in which George and Pam demonstrated what it means to make a lifelong commitment that endures through good times and when the going is harder, that reflects the deep love and care of two people for each other. This was, perhaps, illustrated most strikingly as Pam was being cared for in a nursing home at the end of her life – every day George visited her, sat with her, held her hand.

So that was George's journey:

- from the north of England to the south;
- from leaving school at 14 to management roles which took him around the world;

a journey enriched by the support and companionship of a loving marriage over many decades.

In honour of that marriage, his children chose *This Marriage*, a piece of music by the American composer Eric Whitacre, to be played at his funeral. This is not music that George or Pam are likely to have known – the piece was only written in 2005 – but the words speak of hope for a happy marriage full of laughter and compassion, a hope that for George and Pam was more than fully realised. *Alastair Hunter*

GRATITUDE

In the same way that I am willing to thank my husband for a gift even before I have opened it because I know him, because I trust his love of me ... I am willing to thank God for my life even before I know how it turns out. This is brave talk, I know, while I can still pay the bills (and) walk without assistance. My hope is that if I can practise saying thank you now, when I still approve of most of what is happening to me, then perhaps that practice will have become a habit by the time I do not like much of anything that is happening to me. The plan is to replace approval with gratitude. The plan is to take what is as God's ongoing answer to me.

Barbara Brown Taylor, "An Altar in the World"

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We all seem to love monitoring our steps, how far we've walked, run or cycled and the Sensory Steps Challenge spans all modes of foot transport, whether you've skipped, scampered or sprinted, it all counts towards your steps target.

So what should your steps target be? Could you manage 2020 steps a day or could you reach the staggering sum of 4million steps (2020miles) by the end of the year?

Whatever your target, it is very important in the current health pandemic to remain healthy and active whilst keeping a 2 metre social distance from those around you, so set yourself a steps challenge today.

Simply set up a fundraising page and ask friends and family to sponsor you and help reach your personal steps or fundraising target. The challenge is not just for individuals. You can get your family, local sports club, work colleagues, friends and any other groups involved.

Set your steps challenge?
1km = 1,250 steps. 1mile = 2,000 steps
220 miles = 440,000 steps
4,000 steps = 30 minutes walking
10,000 steps = 8km or 5 miles
20,200 steps = 10.2 miles OR 2020 miles = 4,040,000 million steps!

It doesn't matter if you march or meander your steps, what is important is that you are being active and healthy and raising money to enable Sight for Surrey to continue helping and supporting thousands of people in Surrey who are blind, vision impaired, deaf, hard of hearing and deafblind to lead active and independent lives.

Lisa Fletcher, Head of Fundraising at Sight for Surrey said, "as a charity that relies on public fundraising we are urging Surrey residents to set themselves a steps challenge today and help us support all the people in Surrey with a sensory loss".

This is your chance to share your love for a local charity so dust off those running trainers and get stepping!

For further information please contact: Lucinda Lighting, 07989 562 776 Email: llighting@sightforsurrey.org.uk

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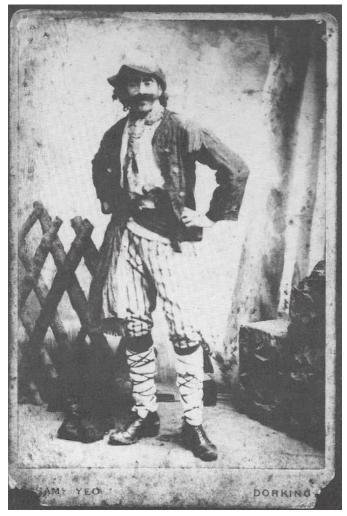
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Dorking Museum in November

There is so much to remember in November, most notably Remembrance Sunday, and, of course, remember, remember the fifth of November. Gunpowder treason and plot ... Guy Fawkes Night ... importantly, Firework Night.

How sad that the pandemic will subdue celebrations this year, although this is an event which has seen changing fortunes in the past. Writing in 1876/77, Dorking South Street linen-draper Charles Rose wrote that "The 'Fifth of November' is now a quiet day in Dorking, compared with the Guy Fawkes' days of half a century ago.



The first known photograph of a Brockham Bonfire Boy, Leonard Gilliam, 1888.

"At night, the streets of the town were the scene of unrestrainable lawlessness, and in vain the constables and headboroughs tried to prevent the lighting of the bonfire near the site of the Old Market House, the rolling of the lighted tar barrels through the streets, and the letting off of fireworks in an almost unbroken succession. This contest between law and lawlessness, order and disorder, went on from year to year, till at length it was brought to an end by the late Mr. Heathfield Young, who sagaciously drew the bonfire boys from the town, by a liberal gift of faggots and of ale, to the more appropriate region of Cotmandene. Thus ended, it may be hoped, for ever, the 'Battle of Dorking' – a real battle of Dorking on the 'Fifth of November'."

The area's largest annual bonfire is in Brockham, which, sadly, will miss 2020 – a rare absence since the time of Brockham Bonfire Boy Augustus Leonard Gilliam, photographed by Dorking photographer Samuel Yeo in full 'uniform' in 1888. Only 19 at the time, he went on in business as a monumental mason in Dorking. His great grandson has recently donated a wealth of old photographs and documents to the Museum.

Bonfires remain unbuilt and social distancing is the norm, but do not forget the 48th **'World Hello Day'** on November 21st. Anyone can participate simply by greeting ten people. This demonstrates the importance of personal communication for preserving peace and sends a message to world leaders, encouraging them to use communication rather than force to settle conflicts.

During lockdown, Museum volunteers have continued to work on the **'Dorking 1620' exhibition**, which was due to take place this autumn to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the *Mayflower*, taking William Mullins and his family to the New World. It has now been postponed until next year. This has given an opportunity to review the event in the current atmosphere of tearing down statues, querying blue plaques and closely examining political correctness.

Exhibitions manager Kathy Atherton says, "I do appreciate the concern about 'celebrating' the Mayflower too much as it does mark the beginning of European exploitation of North America which eventually had devastating consequences for the native peoples. Interestingly, the Plimoth Plantation is renaming itself Plimoth / Patuxet, the name the native people had for it, so that it tells the whole story, not just the white settler story.

Dorking Museum in November contd.

"I think it will really help that we are going to run our exhibition next year rather than this, as this represents the anniversary of surviving the first year, Mullins' death and the first 'thanksgiving'. In that context, we can address the fact that it was only because of relations with native people that the colony was able to survive. It was later that the pressure on land came about when more colonists moved out, leading to wars with the native peoples, and that first thanksgiving was only given significance a century later, when the new nation was looking for founding myths.

"The issue of slavery is slightly more remote – the early colonists did not have slaves, but it would not have been long afterwards that they began trading with slave owning settlements to the south. Slavery was clearly going on in the area before they even arrived as their native American aide knew English because he had been enslaved by the French and sold in Spain and ended up in England. So I think that we can give a balanced rather than a triumphalist view of events."

The **Museum Archive** is currently opening on Saturdays for visitors separately from the main Museum under carefully controlled conditions. Please see the website

www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk for further details.



The Mayflower at sea by Allen Stanley Pollock, 1949 (courtesy, Susannah Horne).

Otherwise, Dorking Museum's main exhibition space remains closed whilst plans are put in place to allow us to re-open safely whilst continuing to offer an appropriate visitor experience. For an update on resumption of activities, to read our regularly updated blog, to become a member or to donate, please visit the website www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk.



The BOOKSTALL

Just looking at them I grow greedy, as if they were freshly baked loaves waiting on their shelves to be broken open - that one and that - and I make my choice in a mood of exalted luck, browsing among them like a cow in sweetest pasture. For life is continuous as long as they wait to be read - these inked paths opening into the future, page after page, every book its own receding horizon. And I hold them, one in each hand, a curious ballast weighting me here to the earth.

Linda Pastan, US poet, born 1932



Something told the wild geese

Something told the wild geese It was time to go; Though the fields lay golden Something whispered, - 'snow'.

Leaves were green and stirring Berries, luster-glossed, But beneath warm feathers Something cautioned, - 'frost'.

All the sagging orchards Steamed with amber spice, But each wild breast stiffened At remembered ice.

Something told the wild geese It was time to fly -Summer sun was on their wings, Winter in their cry.

Rachel Field, American poet, 1894-1942

THE BURNING OF THE LEAVES (Section I)

Now is the time for the burning of the leaves. They go to the fire; the nostril pricks with smoke Wandering slowly into a weeping mist. Brittle and blotched, ragged and rotten sheaves! A flame seizes the smouldering ruin and bites On stubborn stalks that crackle as they resist.

The last hollyhock's fallen tower is dust; All the spices of June are a bitter reek, All the extravagant riches spent and mean. All burns! The reddest rose is a ghost; Sparks whirl up, to expire in the mist: the wild Fingers of fire are making corruption clean.

Now is the time for stripping the spirit bare, Time for the burning of days ended and done, Idle solace of things that have gone before: Rootless hopes and fruitless desire are there; Let them go to the fire, with never a look behind. The world that was ours is a world that is ours no more.

They will come again, the leaf and the flower, to arise

From squalor of rottenness into the old splendour, And magical scents to a wondering memory bring; The same glory, to shine upon different eyes. Earth cares for her own ruins, naught for ours. Nothing is certain, only the certain spring.

Laurence Binyon, 1869-1943

IDYLL (after U. A. Fanthorpe)

We'll be in our garden on a summer evening, Eating pasta, drinking white wine.

We won't talk all the time. I'll sit back, Contemplating shadows on the red-brick path,

And marvel at the way it all turned out. That yellow begonia. Our gabled house.

Later we'll stroll through Kingsgate Park. My leg won't hurt, and we'll go home the long way.

Asked to imagine heaven, I see us there, The way we have been, the way we sometimes are.

Wendy Cope

Holmbury Choral comes out of Lockdown

Following a comprehensive Covid-19 risk assessment for rehearsals and joint evaluation of conditions for an appropriate location respecting the guidelines and norms laid down by the Government, Holmbury Choral tested the waters at their first rehearsal by kind permission of St Mary's Church in Holmbury. The choir met on October 15 under their conductor Amy Bebbington, and accompanist Helen Wharmby. Members were pleased to be together again after such a long break, and the rehearsal was considered to be success, despite the unfamiliar experience of singing from a seating plan which required 2 metres separation from every singer and 3 plus metres from the conductor. Subject to further changes in circumstances and guidelines, the Choir plan to carry on with rehearsals with the aim of singing carols and Christmas music, hopefully at the Glow Event at RHS Gardens at Wisley in December. Details will be given nearer the time.

Dorking Dramatic and Operatic Society In the time of the Pandemic

Very sadly, DDOS had to postpone their schedule of productions. Due to the pandemic, it is likely to be many months before we will be able to bring live theatre back to Dorking. However, the Board of Directors remain determined to keep the DDOS flag flying. Already we have started successful play readings for groups of six in our Green Room Theatre. Plans for online revues and plays are being finalised and will take into account the current restrictions.

To mark DDOS's determination to keep going, we have a beautiful new DDOS sign over our much loved Green Room Theatre. There is now no excuse for people to say "we had no idea you existed"! In addition, during lock down, dedicated members have been extensively renovating and redecorating the premises.

DDOS Green Room Theatre, rear of the Dorking Halls, Reigate Road, Dorking, RH4 15G Website www.ddos.org.uk

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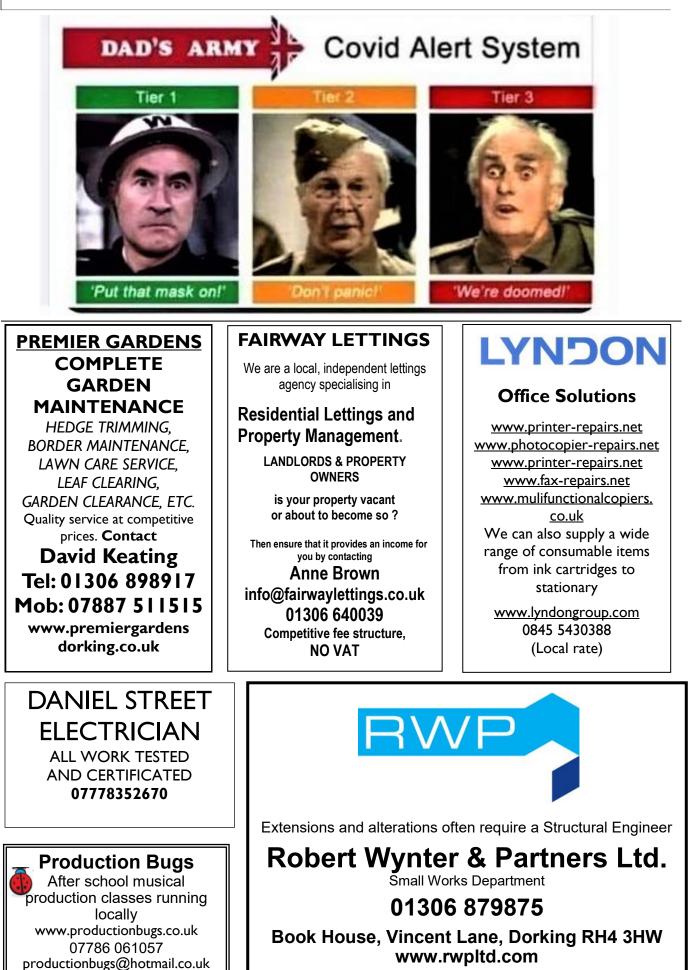
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Have fun!

Bonfire night is a great British tradition,

Eco Church, Remember, Remember to be Green this 5th November

here are a few ideas on ways to help reduce the impact of the event on the environment.

Remember always use fireworks safely by following the manufacturers' instructions carefully and also cordon off a bonfire or firework display area in order to ensure the safety of the public.

Ι. **Bonfire**

Unfortunately most public displays are cancelled this year so many people will be doing their own. If you are building a bonfire, use only clean, dry garden waste such as untreated wood and branches as this minimises the amount of smoke produced. Small amounts of leaves, recycled card and paper can also be used for kindling. Do not use plastics or household rubbish or any oils, aerosols, rubber tyres, canisters etc as this can release toxins into the environment and possibly explode. Remember to check for small animals and hedgehogs that may have crawled into your bonfire.

environment, they contain heavy metals which are used to make

the colours and chemicals and are used to accelerate them and make them explode. Smoke, chemicals etc damage and litter the

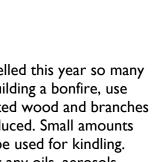
A new range of Eco bonfire pyrotechnics are currently being produced which should be available in the near future. The eco

2. Fireworks

Fireworks are frightening to animals. Try to keep your pets in as animals such as cats and dogs are frightened of fireworks. If possible keep other outdoor pets such as rabbits and guinea pigs indoors or in a garage or outbuilding.

Fireworks can be harmful to the





A ROCHA

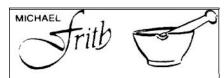
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Choir Practice See no	ext page	MOLE VALLEY CARERS	640020
	ere p	MOLE VALLEY DIAL A RIDE	01372 383333
Bellringing Practice Paul Beeken	887538	MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL	88500 I
Juniors and adults	00/000	For emergencies outside office hours	01372 376533
Mondays at 7.30 pm		Parentline Surrey - see FAMILYLINE SURREY above	
Mothers' Union		POLICE STATION, Pippbrook 101 o	r 01483 571212
Elizabeth Cotton	711994	PRIORY SCHOOL	887337
(Holmwood Branch)		PROBATION SERVICE	01737 763241
Bible Reading Fellowship No	otes	RELATE (Marriage Guidance)	01737 245212
Sally Lowe	884467	ROYAL ASSOCIATION IN AID OF DEAF PEOPLE	881958
Women's Fellowship *		ROYAL BRITISH LEGION	875058
Sadly, the group have decided to close		ROYAL BRITISH LEGION SURREY HQ	01372 386500
Julian Meeting		ST CATHERINES' HOSPICE	01293 772414
3rd Tues 7.15 pm in Upper Lour	nge of	ST JOHN AMBULANCE	887333
Christian Centre	(40775	ST MARTIN'S C of E SCHOOL, Ranmore Road	883474
Chris Watts	640775	SAMARITANS 01372 375555 d	or 01737 248444
Friends of St. Martin's	741502	TRAINS: National Rail Enquiries	08457 484950
Treas: Liz Lloyd Kendall 741503		UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE (Bob Crooks)	01306 740062
Children's Society Boxholde		VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION for SURREY DISABLED	01372 841148
Janette Masters	889590	VOLUNTEER CENTRE, The Point, Mayflower, Lyons Court,	
* Denotes a change		Dorking RH4 IAB vcdorking@vamidsurrey.org	01306 640369
-			

at St Martin's Church: Church Street, Dorking RH4 IDW

CLERGY

Vicar and Authorised Methodist M The Revd. Derek Tighe Day off is Friday	linister 882875
Associate Minister (non-stipendiar The Revd. David Cowan	ry) 885341
We are also pleased to have the assistance of * The Revd. Stuart Peace The Revd. Mike Stewart The Revd. David Williams	883002 884153 889754
Christian Centre Lay Chaplain Rowan Nunnerley	886830
VERGER Brian Smith	887608

THE CHURCH OFFICE

Vicki Judd and Michelle Lelliott	884229
stmartinsdorkingchurchoffice@g	mail.com
The office has limited opening	hours.
Please email or phone and le	ave a
message.	

Marriage Enquiries:

arrangements should in the first instance be made by telephoning Vicki or Michelle in the church office.

Baptism Enquiries: arrangements can be made by telephoning Vicki or Michelle in the church office.

CENTRE MANAGER *

Janette Masters	
for bookings, enquiries etc	886830
9.00am - 2.15pm Monday to I	riday

CHURCHWARDENS *

Nick Hands-Clarke	887870
Veronica Watts	640775

DEPUTY CHURCHWARDENS

Christine Francis	889617
Christine Lawrence	882316
Anne Whibberley	500288

METHODIST STEWARDS

Elizabeth Dobson (Senior Steward)	
	881479
John Oborn	881518

LAY READERS AND LOCAL PREACHERS

PREACHERS			
881518			
640775			

VICE CHAIRMAN OF PARO CHURCH COUNCIL Canon Peter Bruinvels	CHIAL 887082
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	2 741100 <u>e times</u> Dam)
BELL RINGERS Paul Beeken (Tower Captain) 07739	366434
LAY PASTORAL ASSISTAN Cathy Merrikin PASTORAL TEAM Diana Burges Mary Cowan Elizabeth Dobson Myrtle Haire Rowan Nunnerley Aveley Parker Judy Peace Rosie Pegram	F 885273 881291 885341 881479 882352 889507 880771 883002 631125
CHURCH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS Sue Jamieson Anne Whibberley	740954 889039
SACRISTAN Di Sutherland	880148
SECRETARIAT Sue Jamieson (JCC) John Oborn (MCC)	740954 881518
TREASURER Elizabeth Dobson (JCC) Nick Hands-Clarke (PCC) Sue Jamieson (Methodist Churc	881479 887870 h) 740954
ENVELOPE SCHEME Cathy Merrikin (Anglican) Sue Jamieson (Methodist)	885273 740954
COMMUNITY/ELECTORAL Elizabeth Dobson (Anglican) John Oborn (Methodist)	ROLLS 881479 881518
MAGAZINE TEAM Anne Brown (advertising) Christine Francis Janet Housden (subscriptions) Sally Lowe Mary Peckham	884424 889617 883011 884467
MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTION Freda Goddard	740682
FLOWERS Sandy Hine	889807

at St Mary's Church, Pixham: Pixham Lane, Dorking RH4 IPT

CLERGY See St Martin's	
STEWARDS	
Tony Hall	882770
Julie Mellows	889404
•	-01/00
SECRETARY	
Julie Mellows	889404
CHURCH BOOKING SECRE	TARY
Julie Mellows	889404
CHILDREN'S CHURCH	
Anne Brown	884424
	001121
MESSY CHURCH	005241
Dave and Mary Cowan	885341
at St Barnabas' Church,	
Ranmore:	
Ranmore Common Roa	d
Dorking RH5 6SP	-
RECTOR	
The Rev'd. Derek Tighe	882875
PARISH PRIEST & ASSOCIA	TE
RECTOR	
The Rev'd. Mike Stewart	884153
carolandmikestewart@outlook	.com
VERGER	
Brian Belton	884950
CHURCHWARDENS	
Dr Robin Luff	884093
Mr Nicholas Grealy	882168
,	
LAY PASTORAL ASSISTAN	
Sandra Lowry	885932
TREASURER	
lan Hudson	888281
SECRETARY	
Vacant	
MUSIC DIRECTOR	
Position Vacant	
Paul Beeken (Tower Captain)	887538
	88/338
* Denotes a change	