

# Sunrise

A monthly magazine for the Parish of the Resurrection, Alton



**November 2020**

A donation  
will be appreciated



# ***The Parish of the Resurrection, Alton***

**Vicar: Reverend Andrew Micklefield, 88794**

St Lawrence Vicarage, Church St, Alton GU34 2BW

## **Sunday Services**

**Details of Sunday services for the month can be found on the Page 10.** You will find that there is a variety of services intended to meet the needs of people of many different ages and backgrounds. You are welcome to worship with us.

## **Family Worship**

The church wants to make it as easy as possible for families with children to become part of the worship life of the church. To find out more contact one of the clergy.

## **Marriage and Baptism Enquiries**

Enquiries should be made to the Parish Office by telephone 83234 or by calling at the Parish Office or email: [potr.alton@btinternet.com](mailto:potr.alton@btinternet.com)

## **Parish Centre Bookings**

It is possible to book St Lawrence Parish Centre or All Saints Parish Hall for functions and other events. Bookings for all Church Buildings and Halls should be made to the Parish Office.

## **Parish Administrator**

Philippa Penfold 83234  
Ellie Elder

## **Secretary to PCC**

Philippa Penfold

## **Treasurer**

Colin Aiken

## **Associate Vicar**

Revd Gordon Randall 549567  
[gordon.randall@sky.com](mailto:gordon.randall@sky.com)

## **Assistant Priests**

Revd Lynn Power 07850 232995  
Revd Rachel Sturt 07411 384496  
Revd Martin East 549595

## **Anna Chaplain to Older People**

Debbie Thrower 83234  
Rachel Sturt 01252 710968

## **Churchwardens**

Alan Armstrong 88971  
Keith Arrowsmith-Oliver 542135  
Tim Duddridge 542451  
Derek Gurney 86339  
Jenny Lawrence 84858  
Angie Briggs 544138  
John Vivian 07535 188475

## **Deanery Synod Representatives**

Derek Gurney Peter Bell  
Tori Hewitt Elspeth Gurney  
Lisa Hillan

## **PCC Special Interest Members**

Sarah Neish (St.P)  
Wendy Burnhams (All S)  
Robin Kemp (SL)

## **Parish Donations Coordinator**

Tim Sturt 01252 710968

## **Pastoral Visiting**

c/o The Ministry Team via the Office

**Parish Office: Tel. 83234**

Email: [potr.alton@btinternet.com](mailto:potr.alton@btinternet.com)

**Open Monday to Friday**

**9.30am-12.30am**

**Parish Web Site:**

**<http://www.potr-alton.co.uk>**

**This month's cover picture is  
Holybourne Village**

## St Lawrence Church

### Director of Music

Tony Willman 543628

### Organist

Will Nisbet

### Head Server

Clive Muller 86064

### Captain of the Bell Tower

Matthew Watts 543886

### Teddy Bears

Sarah Broadbent 85247

### The Lighthouse

Fiona Micklefield 88794

## All Saints Church

### Organist & Choir Leader

Ken Jackson

### Bellringing

Matthew Watts 543886

### Sacristan

Priscilla Inkpen 768941

## St Peter's Church Beech

### Secretary

Jeremy Cunningham 561059

### Organist

Gloria Wills 542683

### Sacristan

Annis Mendham 83501

## Church of the Holy Rood

### Organist & Musical Director

Andrew Hinde 84056

### Bellringing

Rob Law 544865

### Flowers

Ruth Randall 549567

### Sacristan

Vacant

## St Lawrence Organisations

### Community Market

Clive Muller 86064

### Traidcraft

Jo McGregor 87680

### Children's Society

Carol Williams 588565

## All Saints Organisations

### Hard of Hearing Group

Kate Dando 83514

### Children's Society

Judy Brown 82289

## St Lawrence (CE) Primary School

### Headteacher

Mrs. Dawn Casson 84400

### Chair of Governors

Paul Susans 84400

## Andrews' Endowed CE Primary School

### Headteacher

Mrs Maria Lloyd 83094

### Chair of Governors

Nigel Green 83094

## Other Organisations

### Busy Bees @ St Lawrence (Pre-school)

Alison 549831

### Rainbows, Brownies & Guides

Catherine Morgan cathmorg@outlook.com

### Organ Society

Tony Willman 543628

### Girls' Brigade (at Alton Methodist)

Kym Burgess 01252 334814

### Boys' Brigade (at Alton Methodist)

Pete Burgess 01252 334814

### DofE

David Allan 84739

# First thoughts . . .

What has been going on this year - 2020? Coronavirus, lockdown, restrictions, pandemic all these experiences surface for us some questions that I'm sure have crossed many of your minds too:

- ❖ Why has God allowed the virus to happen and let it cause so much damage to so many people's lives?
- ❖ When will it end?
- ❖ When will life return to normal?
- ❖ How will the virus impact our lives in the long run?
- ❖ What are the long-term implications for our children's education and their mental health?
- ❖ When can we see our friends and family again, without first having to check what the rules are?
- ❖ How will people cope if/when they lose their jobs?
- ❖ What is Christmas going to be like? Will we be allowed to mix with other households? Will we be allowed more than 6 people in our homes?
- ❖ How is this going to affect the church numerically, spiritually, financially, evangelistically?

These questions, concerns and fears are common. Back in June the mental health charity Mind reported that "More than half of adults (60%) and over two thirds of young people (68%)

have said their mental health got worse during lockdown." Many people are feeling this way. Joe Wicks, famous for his upbeat and positive exercise videos called 'P.E. with Joe', recently posted a video on YouTube in which he confessed what a struggle it has been for him and his own mental health.

He said: "This is such a tough time... It's really bringing me down, I'm finding it hard to be optimistic, I'm finding it confusing, I feel like I don't understand and can't even comprehend where the end is... that feeling of powerlessness and confusion is quite a hard feeling to deal with because normally we're in control of things, and we can change things and affect things quite quickly and change the way we feel, but with this it's the realisation that's it's not just going to go away tomorrow. It's really getting me down..."

Joe Wicks is right, the feeling of hopeless can be quite overwhelming. We do not know what is happening, why, or when it will end. It is therefore no surprise that many people are struggling to cope and finding it hard to be positive and optimistic. Sadly, Joe Wickes is in the dark when it comes to where hope can be found in these dark Covid-19 times. He says the answer is to exercise more because it will give us a more positive mental attitude. While exercise really is extremely helpful Christians know that there is always hope with God in your life.

In the sixth century BC, when the Jewish people were far away from home, in exile in Babylon, God gave them a message of hope through the prophet Jeremiah. To a people who felt utterly hopeless and in the dark the LORD said:

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29:11)

We can take great comfort from this promise. We do not know or understand why God has let 2020 turn out like this, but the LORD knows the plans he has for us. We are not experiencing a series of unplanned, accidental events. God has a plan and a purpose for our lives. Our lives may feel out of control, but they are not. God is in control and he is leading us to where he wants us to be. There is a plan and a purpose behind everything that happens to us, even if we do not know the details. It is hard to be optimistic and full of hope when we don't know what the future holds BUT to some extent we do know what the future holds – it holds great blessings for those who trust and follow Jesus. God assures us that he is in control and that he has a plan to prosper us. God wants us to know that we have a great hope and a bright future, that we can trust him, and that we should trust him. Will you?

*Andrew*

## Bible Readings for the month of November

Taken from the Church of England lectionary – readings to use daily

<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> 4 before Advent</b>	All Saints' Day - Matthew 5: 1-12		
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Psalm 2	Daniel 1	Revelation 1
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Psalm 5	Daniel 2: 1-24	Revelation 2: 1-11
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 9	Daniel 2: 25-end	Revelation 2: 12-end
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 15	Daniel 3: 1-18	Revelation 3: 1-13
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 16	Daniel 3: 19-end	Revelation 3: 14-end
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 18: 31-end	Daniel 4: 1-18	Revelation 4
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> 3 before Advent</b>	Remembrance Sunday – Matthew 25: 1-13		
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 20	Daniel 4: 19-end	Revelation 5
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 21	Daniel 5: 1-12	Revelation 6
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 23	Daniel 5: 13-end	Revelation 7: 1-4, 9-end
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 26	Daniel 6	Revelation 8
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 32	Daniel 7: 1-14	Revelation 9: 1-12
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 33	Daniel 7: 15-end	Revelation 9: 13-end
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> 2 before Advent</b>	Matthew 25: 14-30		
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 47	Daniel 8: 1-14	Revelation 10
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 52	Daniel 8: 15-end	Revelation 11: 1-14
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 56	Daniel 9: 1-19	Revelation 11: 15-end
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 62	Daniel 9: 20-end	Revelation 12
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 63	Daniel 10: 1-11: 1	Revelation 13: 1-10
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Psalm 78: 1-39	Daniel 12	Revelation 13: 11-end
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Advent</b>	Christ the King - Matthew 25: 31-46		
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Psalm 96	Isaiah 40: 1-11	Revelation 14: 1-13
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 97	Isaiah 40: 12-26	Revelation 14: 14-end of 15
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 112	Isaiah 40: 27-41: 7	Revelation 16: 1-11
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 125	Isaiah 41: 8-20	Revelation 16: 12-end
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 139	Isaiah 41: 21-42: 9	Revelation 17
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Psalm 145	Isaiah 42: 10-17	Revelation 18
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Advent Sunday – Mark 13: 24-37		

## ***Prayers for November 2020***

For the health workers tending the seriously ill  
for the scientists working on a vaccination  
for the researchers analysing data and identifying trends  
for the media outlets working to communicate reality  
for the supermarket workers, hygiene and sanitation providers  
for the good news stories of recoveries and effective planning  
for the singing from balconies by locked-down communities  
for the recognition that isolation doesn't need to mean loneliness  
for the notes through letterboxes offering help and support  
for the internet and telephones and technology that connects  
for the awakened appreciation of what is truly important  
Thanks be to God.

For those who are unwell and concerned for loved ones  
for those who were already very anxious  
for those immune suppressed or compromised  
for those vulnerable because of underlying conditions  
for those in the 'most at risk to coronavirus' categories  
for those watching their entire income stream dry up  
for those who have no choice but to go out to work  
for those who are afraid to be at home  
for those who are more lonely than they've ever been  
for those who are bereaved and grieving.  
God be their healer, comfort and protection,  
be their strength, shield and provision  
be their security, safety and close companion

And raise up your Church  
to be your well-washed hands and faithful feet  
to be present to the pain  
to respond with love in action  
if even from a safe distance.

Amen.

'Love...bears all things,  
believes all things,  
hopes all things,  
endures all things.  
Love never ends.'  
(1 Corinthians 13:7-8)

Loving God,  
strengthen our innermost being  
with your love that bears all things  
even the weight of this global pandemic  
even the long haul of watching for symptoms  
of patiently waiting for this to pass  
watching and waiting,  
keeping our gaze fixed on you,  
and looking out for our neighbours  
near and far.

Instil in our shaken souls  
the belief and hope that all things  
are possible with your creative love  
for strangers to become friends  
for science to source solutions  
for resources to be generously shared  
so everyone, everywhere, may have what they need  
for your perfect love that knows no borders  
may cast out any fear and selfishness that divides.

May your love that never ends  
be our comfort, strength and guide  
for the wellbeing of all and  
the glory of God.  
Amen.



**Proclaiming the Risen Jesus**  
**Steadfast in faith**  
**Active in service**

*Come and worship with us or find out about the  
Christian faith - we are a vibrant community of  
four churches in Alton, Holybourne and Beech*

**We are part of the Church of England, Diocese of Winchester and in covenant  
partnership with Alton Methodist Church.**



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**References available**

**Tel Carol 07753178468**

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## **November Services in the Parish of the Resurrection**



### **1st November**

#### **Matthew 5.1-12 - All Saints Day**

9.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
9.30am	Morning Worship	Holy Rood
10.30am	Morning Worship	St Lawrence
10.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints

### **8th November**

#### **Matthew 25.1-13 - Remembrance Sunday**

9.15am	Morning Worship	St Peter's
9.30am	Holy Communion	Holy Rood
10.30am	Holy Communion	St Lawrence
10.30am	Morning Worship	All Saints

### **15th November**

#### **Matthew 25.14-30 - 2nd before Advent**

9.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
9.30am	Morning Worship	Holy Rood
10.30am	Morning Worship	St Lawrence
10.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints

### **22nd November**

#### **Matthew 25.31-46 - Christ the King**

9.15am	Morning Worship	St Peter's
9.30am	Holy Communion	Holy Rood
10.30am	Holy Communion	St Lawrence
10.30am	Morning Worship	All Saints

### **29th November**

#### **Mark 13.24-37 - Advent Sunday**

9.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
9.30am	Holy Communion	Holy Rood
10.30am	Holy Communion	St Lawrence
10.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints

#### **Every Tuesday (10th, 17th & 24th –November**

7.00pm	Holy Communion	St Lawrence
3rd November - Organ concert		

#### **Every Wednesday**

9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints
4th, 11th, 18th & 25th November		

**Parish of the Resurrection  
St Lawrence Mini Market  
In the Parish Centre**

**Saturday 7th November  
9.30 to 12.30**

**Books, Puzzles, Tombola, Produce, etc**

The Mini Market held on 3rd October raised £398.20

*(All government guidelines relating to COVID-19 will be adhered to)*

***Charity Christmas cards on the move***

Just when you thought it was safe to go back into Winchester Guildhall, the traditional Charity Christmas Card shop has relocated. The Tourist Information Centre was deemed too small to house all those cards as well as the TIC staff in these times of social distancing.

The former Whittards shop, just down the High Street from W.H.Smith, is the new all-singing, all-dancing Christmas Card destination. Opening on Monday 19 October, the shop will house a wide range of local and national charity cards to suit all tastes. An example of a local card in aid of the Southampton Paediatric Intensive Care Unit is shown here. Most of the cards in aid of national charities will be supplied by Cards for Good Causes.

The shop is also looking for volunteers to help man the unit; a lot of people will be needed to staff it every day from now until Christmas. If you think you could assist, please contact me, Cathy Wallis, on [winchesterCFGC@gmail.com](mailto:winchesterCFGC@gmail.com).

***Season's Greetings everyone!***



**Remembrance Sunday**  
**8th November**  
**A Message from Alton Town Council**

Unfortunately there will be no parade or public participation and no laying of wreaths by group representatives due to social distancing and COVID restrictions. There will be a road closure in place to allow live streaming of the service which will be conducted by Reverend Andrew Micklefield. We respectfully request that the public do not attend at this time. Wreaths will be laid on behalf of organisations in Alton by the Town Council in advance of the service. We will be advertising details closer to the time about how you can watch the service live online or listen on local radio.

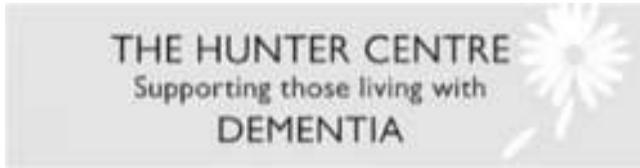
**All Souls Commemoration**

All Saints Day and All Souls Day fall on 1st and 2nd November respectively. Normally we would hold a special service where people can gather to remember those who have died over recent months and years. It is usually a full service and very moving as people come forward to light candles and prayers are said. Due to the COVID-19 restriction we cannot hold this service. The Ministry Team have been thinking creatively. Therefore we intend to ask people to build a stone cairn in the grounds of St Lawrence Churchyard. We will construct a base for this (with thanks to Mark Penfold) in front of the bell tower. The idea is that people collect a stone pebble from the passageway at St Lawrence Vicarage where there will also be pens to write a name on the stone or for you to decorate it appropriately. Then you can take the stone to the churchyard and add it to the cairn. You could of course provide your own stone with decoration or name or take the stone from the Vicarage and decorate it in your own home and bring it back. Our hope is that anytime from October 31st until 8th November we will see a noticeable and moving memorial to our loved ones who we have lost to death. We will invite people whose funerals we have taken over the last three years to take part but it is available for anyone especially if you have not been able to make it to someone's funeral this year. I believe this will be very evocative. On Sunday 1st November members of The Ministry Team will be available during the day to welcome people and pray.

Also on Sunday 1st November All Saints Church will be open for private prayer and candle lighting between 2 and 4pm. Feel free to use this space and time to reflect and pray especially for those who have recently died.

*Andrew*

## ***The Hunter Centre***



The Hunter Centre in Haslemere is a Dementia charity in the heart of the community.

The primary purpose of the Centre is to provide care and stimulation for those living with various forms of Dementia. This is done by treating each client as an individual, with respect and dignity. Day care is given by staff with many years of experience in Dementia care in a very relaxed, friendly, and happy environment.

Those affected by Dementia are not only those with the illness itself, but also their Carers. The object of The Hunter Centre is to relieve the needs of all affected by Dementia and related conditions. Staff give carers some much needed respite and are always on hand to offer advice and support.

If you, or someone you know, needs support with dementia, please get in touch. As a lot of similar centres remain closed due to COVID, The Hunter Centre is open and there is always someone at the end of the phone. For more information, visit [www.thehuntercentre.co.uk](http://www.thehuntercentre.co.uk) or call 01428 654710.



..... "When you talk you are just repeating what you already know, but if you listen, you may learn something new" Dalai Lama.

## **Organ Concerts**

The 2020/2021 Season of Organ Concerts started 13 October when David Hill gave a most proficient and delightfully popular organ concert at St Lawrence Church Alton. Despite the restrictions of Covid-19, with the help and cooperation of members of the audience, we were able to start the Season of organ concerts safely observing strictly social distancing. We now look forward to Tuesday 3 November when we welcome back Jane Watts (International Concert Organist).



It is necessary to book a seat before each organ concert so that we can plan seating, observe social distancing and keep a record of who attends. To book, contact Graham Howe at - [familyhowe@talktalk.net](mailto:familyhowe@talktalk.net) - and we will reserve you a seat. Those who have paid for season membership will **automatically have their seats reserved**.

***[Sadly, as long as the pandemic persists, we will be unable to serve refreshments.***

***In order to prevent mingling, people attending concerts will be checked against the list of bookings and then escorted to their respective places. Similarly, at the end of concert, attendees will be escorted out of the church, again to avoid mingling  
Family members may sit together up to a maximum of 6.]***

***Admission is £10 at the door which includes a copy of the programme.***

We also encourage applicants for Season Membership which costs £60 - equivalent to £7.50 per concert. The application form can be downloaded from the website - [altonorgansociety.co.uk](http://altonorgansociety.co.uk)



FOUNDED 1967

*FOUNDERS: DR DAVID HILL MBE, DR FRANCIS JACKSON CBE, DAME GILLIAN WEIR DBE AND PETER ASHWORTH*

**2020/2021 SEASON (54TH YEAR) OF ORGAN CONCERTS  
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- 13 OCT 2020     **DAVID HILL**  
INTERNATIONAL CHORAL DIRECTOR  
& ORGANIST
- 3 NOV 2020     **JANE WATTS**  
INTERNATIONAL CONCERT ORGANIST
- 1 DEC 2020     **DAVID POULTER**  
FORMER DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AT  
LIVERPOOL, CHESTER & COVENTRY CATHEDRALS
- 5 JAN 2021     **CLAUDIA GRINNELL**  
WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL
- 2 FEB 2021     **GORDON STEWART**  
INTERNATIONAL CONCERT ORGANIST
- 2 MAR 2021     **ANDREW MILLINGTON**  
FORMERLY DIRECTOR OF MUSIC  
EXETER CATHEDRAL
- 6 APR 2021     **ANDREW LUMSDEN**  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC  
WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL
- 4 MAY 2021     **MARTIN BAKER**  
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Notes from an (almost) Locked-down Choir

My castaway this week is someone whose musical knowledge, compared to mine, seems endless. An accomplished bassoon and clarinet player, she knows her major third from her perfect fourth and diminished fifth and keeps us (and especially the alto's) on our toes! Whilst I am definitely at the piano chopsticks level she is the full Wagamama! She is, of course, Anneliese Handley.

Like many of us Anneliese has had more than her fair share of life's ups and downs but I always have the impression that she is a survivor with music and playing being her salve in tough times. Here is her selection for the island...

The first memorable record that I wanted for a birthday present (I must have heard it on the radio, we were a Radio 3 household)- **Weber's Andante and Hungarian Rondo** for bassoon and orchestra. It has a melancholy slow movement followed by a whirlwind of semiquavers, and that was what I wanted to play, from about the age of 8.

Second disc - **the Nutcracker ballet** music by Tchaikovsky. If someone could wave a fairy wand I would be a ballet dancer... ballet is a great passion for me, and the first notes will put me into a trance remembering all the performances I've seen.

Third disc - **Dvorak's 8th symphony**. This was the first symphony that I played all the way through, and as one of the least competent member of the orchestra I was thrilled to be part of it. I love Dvorak's music, and it was a tough choice between several pieces, but this was the first concert that I felt that I was stepping up to a whole new level of music making.

Fourth disk - **Brahms' clarinet quintet**. I love Brahms (only one in my family) and as a clarinettist I have been lucky enough to play this. A very special piece.

Fifth disk - **Schubert's "Shepherd on the Rock"**. Another fab piece for a clarinettist - the soprano and the clarinet seem to be talking to each other throughout this piece. I've been lucky enough to hear a really fantastic performance in a small performance space, and it was a magical evening.

Sixth disk - **Chris Barber's Jazz Band** recorded live in Berlin. My dad is a great fan of traditional jazz, and as well as a lot of records we went to a lot of jazz concerts: some in pubs, some in theatres and halls, some amateur, some big names. Chris Barber was the favourite, and after a lot of soul searching I would recommend Otilie Paterson's rendition of "Easy easy baby" . (tough choice between Chris Barber, George Melly and the Blues Brothers, mind you!)

Seventh disk - **Verdi Requiem**. I didn't really get into serious choral music until I went to university (although I'd always sung in choirs) - the Oxford Bach Choir was about 200 strong and that gave me the opportunity to sing some amazing repertoire. There are too many oratorios and masses to put more than one choral work in this list, so I decided that if I was going to have a big piece I'd make it a BIG piece. If I could only have one track it would be the Sanctus, and I would be singing along!

Eighth disk - There had to be opera and there had to be Mozart so clearly there had to be **the Magic Flute**. This has the same tingle factor as the Nutcracker - it's one of those works that you can't live without. It doesn't matter that it is in fact bonkers - just sit back and absorb the magic.

Luxury item - Tim thought that the obvious answer for me would be Cadbury's Dairy Milk, and he had a good point, but in the end it had to be my teddy bear.

Book - this was actually harder than the music. The emotional punch from the music encouraged me to choose a book that would make me laugh; so I've gone for the trilogy (they are available in one single book) by George MacDonald Fraser - The General Danced at Dawn, McAuslan in the Rough and the Sheikh and the Dustbin. They are inspired by his experiences in a Highland regiment just after the end of the 2nd world war. I don't know why these books have resonated with me - I'm not a Scottish, not in the Army and I was born nearly 20 years after the books are set - but I still laugh out loud after many re-readings.

If I could only save one disk - the Nutcracker, because I could re-play the action in my head.

So , Anneliese is our first ballet dancing castaway. I once learned to tap dance to the tune "Me and My Teddy bear" but I doubt I could compete with her Nutcracker! Or her teddy.

Thank you Anneliese for letting us hear your Desert island Discs.

*Elaine Cook*

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## **News and Views from St Peter's Church Beech**



### **St Peter's Harvest Thanksgiving Service**

Our second Sunday service of the month was a really happy occasion for us all and we feel that a semblance of normality is beginning to return to our Churches. We were also able to show to those who live in Wellhouse Road evidence that we are still here, by the wonderful show of flowers outside St Peter's for the week end. This month we celebrated Harvest Thanksgiving. The Reverend Lynn Power welcomed us into St Peter's with her usual wide smile, you know, the one that she has when she greets us, wherever we are. Well, I say that her perpetual happy face welcomed us but we assumed that her mask was hiding it and you could see it in her eyes. As we sat waiting for proceedings to commence, I was taken back to past harvest thanksgiving services and the suppers that quite often preceded them the evening before. They took place (the suppers) in or around our Church and then in later years, in Beech Village Hall. Jean Armon, with able assistance from her family, produced most of the truly scrumptious food in large-appetite sized portions. We just took drink and salads and hungry mouths. Here I'd just like to pay tribute to Jean, who passed away earlier in 2020. Wholesome, very tasty meals associated with St Peter's also calls to mind the marvellous food that Sarah regularly provides for us and the Beech Luncheon Club, for which we are always grateful. However, this year, thanks to all who produced the superb decorations and in particular to our smiling Minister, Lynn, we had a memorable, really joyous service, even without a meal. We were led through Psalm 100, ***O be joyful in the Lord, all the earth***, and thence into a wonderful Harvest hymn, ***Come, ye thankful people come***. Half hidden behind the protective cloths over our faces we could see and gently hear the humming throughout the building. Even those of us with sticks to assist actually appeared to float, or bounce, out of St Peter's.

At this time I'd also like to pay tribute to two people who enhanced our services in recent years. Two people who gave a great deal of themselves to us here at St Peter's. Two who have now moved on to the next phase of their lives. The first is the Reverend Joy Windsor who took a number of services here and

always came exemplifying her name, Joy. She also brought her young choir to enliven proceedings. We all wish her well in her own, new, parish. The next person I wish to thank is Margaret Bell, she also dedicated a great deal of thought, preparation and her own personality to her services here. Sincerity and honesty shone from her at all times and she made us think. She would sit us down in groups to talk about our own journeys into Christianity and we were each invited to ask questions – and to reply to questions. At her shoulder, supporting her 100%, was her husband, Peter. On behalf of us all I'd like to thank them both and wish them well in their latest retirement, to spend more time with their family in Kettering. May God bless each and all of you.

We'll finish with a (borrowed) poem about Harvest Time.

Our great grandparents knew about the harvest  
The months of labour gathered in with care;  
The gratitude for every hard-earned blessing'  
The love for home and hearth, the need to share.  
They somehow understood, with true thanks-giving,  
The beauty in the sowing they had done;  
And when the season ended, in their reaping,  
They sensed another season had begun.  
For growing is the purpose of creation;  
We are but branches of our saviour's vine.  
The choice is ours; His table's set before us,  
What will we offer Him, come harvest time?



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## ***News from St Lawrence CE Primary School***

We are very settled into term now and the children have got used to the changes we have had to make since September.

Year 4 (8-9 year olds) have been having lessons from Hampshire Music Service once a week on the Ukelele. I have enjoyed learning with them! They very quickly picked up strumming along and are now learning chords. They have learnt to play along with "In the Hall of the Mountain King" from Grieg's Peer Gynt Suite No.1– there was a lot of concentration going on!

In response to the RE work that Year 6 (10-11 year olds) have been doing, at the end of the unit they were asked what they thought about "Is Science conflicting or complementary?" Here are some of their thoughts.....

"I think that they conflict and complement each other depending on the question. I think the Big Bang created the world's core and then God did the rest. Science is perhaps more believable for me but I think the Bible teaches us valuable lessons too."

"I'm in the middle because there are some parts that agree and disagree. Christians say that God created the world and Science says that the Big Bang started it. In the Bible Christians believe that Jesus is alive and will come back one day. But then who made God and who made the God that made God? Stars are believed by both Christians and Scientists."

"I think that Science and Creation conflict each other because they both think that things are done differently. I learnt about a lady called Dr Jennifer Wiseman and she thinks they are complementary because she is a Scientist and a Christian. I was really interested in what she had to say."

"There are just some questions that Science just can't answer such as:

What is the purpose of life?

Why do we love?

If you think of God, you think of peace, so does he let people fight?

Is heaven real?"

"I think Creation and Science complement each other. When God said "Let there be light" I don't think it would happen just like that. I think the Science part of it made the earth in a couple of centuries. I also think it is all true but there comes a point where I think Science is about the brain and Creation is about the heart."

*Fiona Micklefield*

## ***News from Holy Rood, Holybourne***

So, things have been fairly quiet at the church for months and then two special 'events' happen on one day! On Sunday 11 October we celebrated 'Harvest' at Holy Rood at the morning service; the church had been beautifully decorated with flowers, foliage, fruit and vegetables from local gardens, as well as some 'past it' bread from the Community Cupboard (which was then given to Mill Cottage Farm for the animals!). Jean Marchant had made a fabulous wreath for the church door, and people generously brought donations of food for the local Food Bank. The display made quite a sight.

In the afternoon a small group of us met local people who were taking part in the Scavenger Hunt; thankfully it was a sunny afternoon as we sat outside. Lots of families brought along their 'finds' and it was great to meet people we already knew alongside those we haven't had the chance to meet before. It was great fun and Rev Gordon was in his 'element' as he encouraged parents to award their children with the medals on the 'podium' with the adoring crowd (me, Bob, Corinne and Alan) clapping from a distance. Perhaps the most unusual find was the photograph of a squirrel 'sleeping' on the roadside shown to us by the parents of some young children...

We've now had the chance to celebrate Holy Communion twice at Holy Rood; it's certainly 'different' but we're getting used to it!

*With best wishes from everyone at Holy Rood, Ruth Randall*



***Harvest Wreath***



*Harvest Donations*



*Corinne and Alan Armstrong with their medals at the Scavenger Hunt*

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For everyone who does this I promise to give 50% of the gift I receive to POTR funds, and anyone else could do the same. A financial and environmental benefit for church members and the Parish of the Resurrection. **Well why don't you !!**

*William Blake  
All Saints Church*

### **Meet and Eat – women's group for Fun and Fellowship**

**September 7th** – eleven of us met in Flood Meadows for a socially distanced walk. It was lovely to see each other and catch up with each other's news face to face rather than on Zoom!

**October 5th** – Zoom Quiz with the lovely Sue Dell. Twelve of us joined in the fun, six rounds famous women, food, drink, women authors, Alton and my favourite guess the Carol! Who knew that the vanilla pod came from the orchid plant and that tea bags were originally made from silk!

**November 2nd** 19.15 for a 19.30 start. Talk by Sue Dell on Jane Austen and her Faith via Zoom, this should be an interesting insight to Jane. Sue has given this talk to many different groups over the years and who knows it may inspire us to start reading an Austen novel! Please do join us even if you haven't before and why not ask a friend or relative too. Details of Zoom code will be in Parish Matters.

Please do chat to Kathy Norkett at All Saints, Sarah Neish at Beech, Ruth Randall at Holybourne, Elspeth Mackeggie Gurney and Alison Parr at St. Lawrence about the group.

If you would like to be added to the distribution list or need any further information just email me at [lynda.baines@btinternet.com](mailto:lynda.baines@btinternet.com)

## **Remembrance**

Across the land, long creeping shadows spread,  
The pallid sun towards the earth's rim slides,  
November's chill predicts cold times ahead,  
But on this day this thought our memory hides,  
The roads are closed; dead leaves are swept away,  
When at eleven sharp we'll hear the clock's dull chime,  
The guns will fire and homage we will pay,  
Our debt though great has shrunken now with time,  
Forgotten are the many names in lead,  
Regiments once proud are now no longer there,  
Bugles blow for the souls of millions dead,  
While kings and princes stand in silent prayer,  
Square blocks of stone where once new widows prayed,  
Will soon be draped with bright red poppies laid.

How innocent those sons of Albion were,  
Who swelled the ranks and went to serve their king,  
But could not see the hell that would occur,  
Upon those fields where skylarks ceased to sing,  
Where death marched hand in hand with pain and strife,  
And stole the souls of those that heard him call,  
Who sacrificed their cherished right to life,  
To win the victors crown or in the struggle fall,  
The years dragged by and men returned from war,  
But not the keen faced lads who'd marched away,  
Upon those Flanders fields their blood to pour,  
Whose memories we honour on this day,  
Now children and their mothers kneel and weep,  
At lonely graves where broken bodies sleep.

*By Tim Codling  
October 2002*

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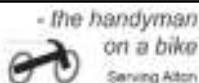


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### **In praise of peanut butter**

One quirky change of life under Covid-19 is that for some reason, we are eating more peanut butter. According to a recent report in *The Grocer*, sales of the stuff rose by 35.5 per cent in the Spring.

Peanut butter producer Kirstie Hawkins (Whole Earth brand) is delighted. "Peanut butter offers an easy way to add more nutrition to breakfast and snack choices."

Whatever the reason, sales of peanut butter, at £98.9million in the past year, are now £2million more than those for jam.

### **Diamonds are for lockdown...**

Here's an unexpected outcome of Covid-19: it has inspired more of us to get engaged.

Engagement rings sales have risen this year, in some firms by up to 73 per cent, a survey of various jewellery firms has discovered.

When, at the beginning of lockdown, Dr Jenny Harries, the deputy chief medical officer, suggested that couples could get round the coming isolation by moving in together, it seems that many listened to her. They decided to give it a go and 'test the strength of their relationship.'

"A lot of people have now resolved to go ahead and tie the knot," said one jeweller. "Perhaps they are thinking: 'life's too short, let's go for it.'"

Another jeweller said: "Maybe if you can make it through lockdown together, you can make it through anything."

### **Spare a thought for your furry friend**

Many dogs have struggled to adjust to the changes that Covid-19 has brought to their owners this year, according to the Dogs Trust.

For one thing, coronavirus has meant greatly reduced walkies for many dogs, more people around the house all day, less quiet for rest, and little or no contact with other dogs. No wonder that the Dogs Trust has reported that 82 per cent of owners have reported an increase in barking or whining.

## **Fire in Church**

The town's fire prevention officer was conducting a health and safety course at the local church. The officer said to the minister: "Now imagine this: it is a Sunday morning and you have a number of people, spread socially distanced, throughout your church building. Some are in the choir stalls, some are in the kitchen, and some are in the nave. Suddenly, a big fire breaks out. What are the first steps you would take?"

The minister thought carefully for a moment. "Really big ones," he said.

## **The Congregation**

A minister was considering a move to a busy town-centre church, and wanted to know what the congregation was like, and especially the church council. So, he rang the minister who had just retired from that church. The retiring minister hesitated a moment and then replied: "Some of them are wise; some are otherwise."

## **Don't Worry**

A little boy was told that he should try and be good, and that he could ask God for help with this. So he prayed: "Lord, please make me good, if you can. But if you can't, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."

## **Family Tree**

At a drinks party at a wealthy golf club, the conversation turned to the subject of ancestry. "Of course, we trace our family back to coming over with William the Conqueror," observed one lady with satisfaction. She turned to a second woman, who was new to the club, and asked, "What about you dear? Can you go back very far?" "Not very far," came the reply. "You see, all the early family records were lost in the Flood."

## **Medical Name**

The curate told his doctor that he was worried because he just wasn't able to do all the things around the parish that his vicar expected him to do. When the examination was complete, he said, "I'm prepared for the worst, doctor. Just tell me in plain English what is wrong with me."

"Well, in plain English," the doctor replied, "you're just lazy."

"Okay," said the curate. "Now give me the medical term so I can tell my vicar."

## And Finally . . .



"Given the state of our heating system, you'd think the vicar would be all for it!"

**Sunrise**  
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