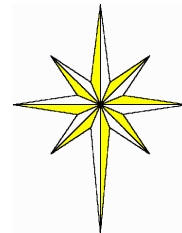




# CROSS KEYS



## A year of goodbyes



What will 2025 bring in East Blatchington and Bishopstone?



Fr. Joe Padfield



Thank you, Joe. We shall miss you very much.



The Magazine of the Parish of St Peter, East Blatchington  
Dec 2024/Jan 2025 including news and articles from our sister church,  
St Andrew's, Bishopstone



# December pastoral letter

Dear Friends of St Peter's,

As the church year winds down and we move into the darkest months, the church family begins once again its Advent journey together. Advent - the season of waiting and anticipation when we are challenged to step away from the frenetic activity of the world, even if only for a short time each day. In the dark afternoons or silent mornings, we can choose to rest in our inner places of stillness away from those endless to-do lists our responsibilities demand.

In the Advent times of our lives we live in between what was and what will be. We are betwixt and between. This is especially true for St Peter's at the moment as we await the appointment and eventual arrival of a new incumbent.

Periods of transition during a vacancy may be testing for a congregation. We thank God for our many blessings, but it is where we're *going* that is important. We can never rest upon past achievements, never reach a point where it's safe to go back. Our faith always points us forward into the future.

The difficulty for us is that scripture time and our time tells us that God's clock is wound in a very different way. We look at seconds; he looks at the ages. Waiting, not hurrying, is one of his characteristics. And this waiting God tells his people that often, they too must wait.

Even when we cannot see it, God is always working behind the scenes, aligning everything for our good. No matter how uncertain our situation may appear, God is in the business of turning the lights on. As we live through this season of dying light, we know that he is faithful, even when we aren't. He is the keeper of all seasons and we trust that nothing loved will ever be lost, that nothing good is gone forever. Our lives change and we enter and exit many seasons, but Jesus the Son remains constant yesterday, today and forever.

We journey through a world where there is little sign of God's presence, where over-consumption seems to be the only way known to mark a special occasion, where hope and faithfulness can seem fleeting and even foolish amid the turmoil. But those majestic titles from Isaiah of Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace provide assurance that he has all the resources necessary to deliver that promise of hope.

And so we travel with God's breath in our lungs and his Spirit sustaining us. We journey toward a time when all creation will sing joyously, "Rejoice! Rejoice! Emanuel shall come to thee..." Even so, come quickly, Lord Jesus.

With every blessing,

**Fr John**

Rev'd John Harrington  
Honorary Assistant Priest



## Advent Course 2024

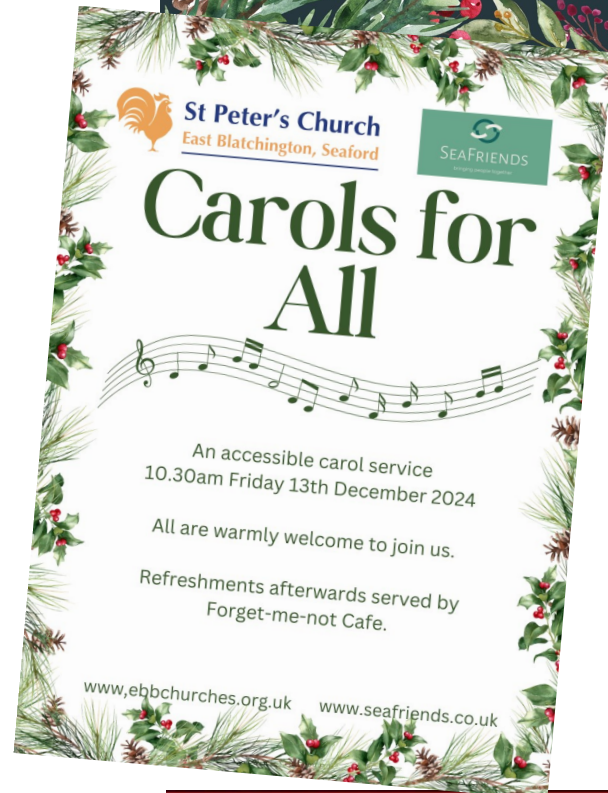
A four-week course - "**O come let us adore Him**", produced by the Church of Wales, will be starting on **Monday 2 December**. It will take the place of the Bible Group in the Upper Room from 2 to 3.30pm and be led by Aileen Rickard.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO COME ALONG, EVEN IF ONLY FOR ONE WEEK

# Events in December



We hope you will join us for one or more of these events



# Editorial



Thank you to all who have contributed the many varied articles, photographs and information for this bumper edition of Cross Keys. I hope you will find it an interesting, thought-provoking and enjoyable read.



Our thoughts recently have been about Fr Joe's departure and who will come to fill our benefice vacancy. On the 25 November Fr Joe was inducted as Rector of Henfield, Shermanbury and Woodcote at St Peter's Church, Henfield. Anne Collison writes about this happy event on p.16. In this month's magazine there are several photos of Fr Joe and Imogen's leaving events and of some moments, captured on photo, of the important and everyday things Joe was involved in during his three years with us. He will be greatly missed.

At the moment we await, with hope and prayers, news of the success of our search for a new rector.

I look forward to receiving your contributions for the February/March edition of the magazine.

*The next edition of Cross Keys will be published in early February, so please send in your contributions by 25 January or earlier, if possible.*

*Send them, preferably by email as a Word document attachment or as a jpeg, if a photo, to*

**christinecooke.xks@gmail.com**

I wish you all a very blessed and joyful Christmas and a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Christine



## Prayers for the Sick

*Please remember in your prayers:*

Harry Anderson, Tina Bacon, Devon Baker,  
Jeremy Brand, Rev'd Richard Buckingham,  
Jennifer Cartwright, Carole Clarke,  
Joanne Cooke, Paul Coles,  
Alan Dempster, Stephen Dempster,  
Deanna, The Frostick family,  
Katie Gould, Tony, Annifer Hatcher,  
Beryl Henley, Gwen Huntley,  
Kayleigh Ivers, Christa Lindner, Michael Logan,  
June Marshall, Noellie Montfort,  
Barbara Prendergast, Wendy Preston,  
Sarah Read, Ann Rix,  
Ian Rothery, Ruth, Anne Self,  
Felicity Sirc, Valerie Skues,  
Pam Taggart, Colin Tucknott,  
Peter Thompson, Hilary Warner,  
Leo (Mum) and son Felix.



## Prayers for the Faithful Departed

Now would seem a good time to remember those from our congregation who died this year; John Creasey, Brian Adams and Sylvia Wardle among others.

## Christmas 2024 Charity Collections

The PCC has decided that this year our Christmas collections will be shared between '**Friends of the Holy Land**' and the local '**Youth Counselling Project**'.

They are both very worthy causes and we hope you will give generously.

Details about both charities can be found at:

**Friends of the Holy Land**

<https://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk>

and

**Youth Counselling Project**

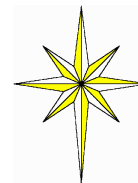
<https://www.tycp.org.uk/>

**Thank you.**

If you would like your name or that of a relative or friend added to this list, then please let Kay know (870902) or leave a note in the parish prayer book in church.

All the people on this list and those named in the weekly Bulletin are prayed for by name in church at the 8am Sunday Holy Communion service, at Monday's Morning Prayer and at Wednesday's 10.30am Mass.

# Benefice Christmas services



## Christmas Services @ St Peter's, East Blatchington

13th December - Carols for ALL @ 10.30am

22nd December - Carols by Candlelight @ 6pm

24th December - Crib Service @ 4pm

24th December - Midnight Mass @ 11.30pm

25th December - Christmas Day @ 8am

25th December - Christmas Day @ 10am

*All are Warmly Welcome to join us*



## Christmas Services @ St Andrew's, Bishopstone

1st December - Eucharist Said 8am & Sung 10.30am  
Evensong @ 4pm

8th December - Eucharist Said 8am & Matins 10.30am

15th December - Eucharist Said 8am Sung 10.30am  
Nine Lessons and Carols @ 3.30pm

20th December - Outdoor Carols @ 6pm

22nd December - Eucharist Said 8am and Sung 10.30am  
Christingle @ 3.30pm

24th December - First Mass of Christmas @ 9pm

25th December - Said Eucharist @ 8am

25th December - Sung Eucharist @ 9.30am

29th December - Eucharist Said 8am and Sung 10.30am

## Notice of forthcoming Renewal of the Electoral Roll

Every 6 years parishes are required to renew the Electoral Roll. This means that even if you are on the current roll you will need to complete a new form. These are being prepared and can be completed manually or electronically.

Why be on the Electoral Roll? If you read the explanation on the form you will see it allows you to join the PCC (Parochial Church Council) and attend the Annual General Meeting. However, it is a lot more than this. The numbers on the roll are an indication of how active the church is and are used in the Parish Profile when we advertise clergy vacancies. The numbers also govern how many lay people can be on the PCC.

When the renewal dates are formally announced please may I encourage you to either renew if you are already on the roll, or consider completing one if you match the criteria shown on the form.

If you have any queries then please feel free to contact me or speak to a member of the clergy or Anne Collison, Churchwarden.

Debbie Phipps, Electoral Roll Officer – [dehipps1985@gmail.com](mailto:dehipps1985@gmail.com) - 07929581712

# Jolly beau

You have probably noticed that the month of November has slipped past, and now of course we're getting prepared for all that December brings. But before we forget it all, may we pause a moment to remember November 21. That's when this year's assignment of Beaujolais Nouveau arrived on these shores, to be gulped eagerly by those of us who can be easily persuaded, among whom I can be found. It should be made clear right now that this is no claim for my wine expertise, more an unnecessary admission that I can often be very thirsty. Even at this time of year.



To be truthful, I suspect the actual wine in question is not necessarily that great, and certainly nothing to make a genuine connoisseur start doing cartwheels of unalloyed delight. No, it is much more an excuse to brighten this curious period after the big fireworks displays and the solemnity of Remembrance Day, and before the advent of festive frivolities.

Many a Frenchman, cynical characters to the last, chortle gently at the thought of how they dispense, at a meagre profit, their indifferent wine onto the people across the Channel who tend to treat it as something special. The French make a bit of money, the British are content with their new season wine. Smiles all round, then.

Beaujolais Nouveau Day actually marks the arrival of the youngest wine you're ever likely to drink, straight from grapes that were harvested only a few weeks ago. It's all about fresh, juicy fruit, with a soft, gluggable texture. No ageing or oak here, just bright, cheerful flavours ready to drink the moment it's released.

Tradition dictates that it's made available on the third Thursday of November – you won't see a bottle before then, no matter how eager you are. And while the days of racing crates across the Channel to be the first to sell it are now behind us, Beaujolais Nouveau can still be fondly regarded. There's something fun and nostalgic about marking the

occasion each year, even if the fanfare is a bit quieter than it used to be. It's still a way for wine bars to boost their sales.

To trace the probable origins of all this, it's really back to 1973, when a journalist challenged his fellow writers to be the first to bring a bottle of Beaujolais Nouveau from France to his office in London. Thus was born the annual Beaujolais Run (and yes, Run, rarely a mere 'race'). Well, apparently the Run was really conceived a few years earlier when those jolly imbibers Clement Freud and Joseph Berkmann were having dinner in France and came up with the idea of a race, and set off in their respective Rolls-Royces with a case of Beaujolais Nouveau each to see who could return to London the fastest.

Berkmann won, and the following year they tried it again. Rumours swirled in the wine trade and among envious food gossipmongers about this curious idea and finally, in 1973, it became more organised when a wine correspondent laid down the public challenge, turning what had been a contest between two friends into a public event.

Others were quick to join in the fun. In 1980 two barristers took to motorbikes, finishing their Run in just nine hours and 17 minutes, carrying 28 bottles with them. It should be pointed out that since a case of wine is typically made up of six or 12 bottles, the suspicion remains that they set off with 30 bottles and, ahem, consumed one each *en route*. Another chap is reputed to have worked out that it was quicker to catch Air France's Concorde from Paris to New York, then hop back on British Airways Concorde to London.

Quicker, perhaps, but much more expensive. The publicity got ever crazier, with a two-hour record set by The Savoy Hotel, who shaved precious times by having their wine dropped by parachute by the Red Devils. Finally came the moment to create the improbable record of 32 minutes, when the RAF flew the wine in a Harrier jump jet.



British Aerospace Harrier

In 1985, it was reported that around 1,000 vehicles of various sorts set off at midnight for the run back to Blighty. That year probably triggered a change though, as there were road accidents and even fatalities, and escapade started to fade in the 1990s. The French newspaper *Le Figaro* called it "the greatest marketing stroke since the end of World War II" which no doubt helped to lessen its appeal even more.

So, a faded memory now. Maybe, but Beaujolais Nouveau Day still exists, and some restaurants and wine bars duly opened early on the Day to serve this youngest of young wines to people who fancy something a bit different.

All this has sparked fond memories a few Beaujolais Jollies of my own, and especially one earlyish morning when a doughty crew arrived at a designated wine bar hot and flushed from their hurried trip from France.

Awaiting them (and us) was a triumphant breakfast that included smoked salmon and scrambled egg, and coffee, to celebrate the new bottles.

Quite why we hangers-on also got to eat, I'm not too sure, but we did as we chatted to the men from the Run. Later they went home to rest and sleep, while we tottered off to start our day's work. It was all fun, of course, which probably helped to make the wine taste better than it really was.

Never mind. I feel thirsty again already. Anyone spare a bit of their Beaujolais, perhaps? Could make a handy present. Anyway, whether glugging or not, do have a jolly Christmas.



**Roger Bing**

## Poem to the spell checker on a PC



Eye have a great spell checker,  
It came with my pea sea.  
It plainly marques four my revue  
Mistakes I cannot sea.  
Eye strike a quay and type a word  
And weight for it to say  
Whether eye am write or wrong,  
It shows me straight a weigh.  
Whenever a mistake is maid.  
It shows bee four too long  
And eye can put the error write  
It's almost never wrong.  
Eye ran this poem through it and  
I'm sure you're pleased to no  
It's letter perfect all the weigh  
My chequer tolled me sew.

Sauce unknown.

Poem from  
ACE Ideas Forum  
June 2024

# Fr Chris wonders about Lament and how to pray today...



Justin Welby, former Archbishop of Canterbury

Many of us may still be reeling after the resignation of Justin Welby our Archbishop of Canterbury. As someone said to me, 'he has fallen on his sword.' Perhaps his thoughts have turned to his predecessor Thomas Cranmer, who penned the 1549 Book of Common Prayer for the first time in English, the language of the people. With the changes of monarch and religious affiliation he was taken to the Tower and later to Oxford where he was burnt at the stake. We need a period of waiting now, of taking stock of where we really are. It is a watershed moment for our Church whatever our tradition.

But perhaps you are so tired of the daily torrent of death and dread, false words and deceit in the news. And wondering how will such broken lives be repaired and hope restored? What will happen to those who survive the wastelands of Gaza, the borderlands of Ukraine, the disintegration of Sudan, of Myanmar, of.....? What of the children who will never walk or see or with splattered minds will never know joy or even a toy? Where will our world be heading as we turn a year?

Such thoughts, bleak as they are, need to be turned into prayer. We are good at St Peter's for singing joyfully, and we know when to be more meditative. We need in these stretched and perilous days across our world (including the USA) and the Church of England, to find words to lament, in our despair, anger, disappointment and big questions

*'O God, make speed to save us. O Lord, make haste to help us.'* (Psalm 40.13 used by Cranmer)

People often say to me, 'I feel like screaming to God,' 'I want to shout at him,' and I! 'Shout, scream - He can take it. He's bigger than all of it.' So start with the Psalms – every mood, every human emotion is there.

- Desolation: Psalm 13 'How long O Lord will you forget me? For ever?.....'
- Frustration and despair: Psalm 44 'Awake, O Lord, why do you sleep? We are brought down to the dust.....'
- Needing strength for the journey: Psalm 31 'In you, O Lord, I have taken refuge, let me never be put to shame.....'

In the 1980s I was impressed by the Rev. Donald Reeves who died on All Saints' Eve. He was a radical priest in the Church of England, provocative, political, a friend of the poor and forgotten, concerned for the whole man, gay and in a same-sex partnership for 53 years. I tried to use his 'Making Sense of Religion' in parishes. He wrote this beautiful inclusive poem which says it all. It speaks into our 21<sup>st</sup> century context of mistrust and fake news, climate change, extremes of wealth and poverty, and finding our real selves in Christ.



## ‘Eucharistic Prayer’

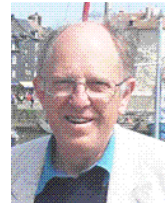
We break this bread for those who love God,  
For those who follow the path of the Buddha  
And worship the God of the Hindus;  
For our sisters and brothers in Islam,  
And for the Jewish people from whom we come.



We break this bread for the great green earth;  
We call to mind the forests, fields and flowers  
Which we are destroying,  
That one day, with the original blessing,  
God’s creation will be restored.

We break this bread for those who have no bread,  
The starving, the homeless and the refugees,  
That one day this planet may be a home for everyone.

We break this bread for the broken parts of ourselves,  
The wounded child in all of us,  
For our broken relationships,  
That one day we may glimpse the wholeness that is of Christ.



**Chris Collison**



**Bible Group**  
Monday 2 pm to 3,30 pm



Upstairs in St Peter’s Chapel  
Rooms. All welcome, friendly and  
informal

### **Bible Group**

Come and join us as we look at Scripture in order to grow closer in our relationships: with God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit and with each other, as we learn and see things from each other’s point of view. We look back at passages from the previous Sunday’s service and ask how they are relevant to ourselves and our times and then we try to apply them to our lives in a real and dynamic way. We meet on Monday afternoon 2 pm until 3.30 pm, at the latest, upstairs in St Peter’s Chapel Rooms. Please bring your Bible and your own refreshment.

Everyone is welcome.

Aileen Rickard



Please see p.2 for details of this year’s  
Advent Course

# Look upon the rainbow and praise Him that made it very beautiful



## The Rainbow

Triumphal arch that fills the sky  
When storms prepare to part  
I ask not proud philosophy  
To teach me what thou art.

And yet, fair bow, no fabling dreams  
But words of the Most High  
Have told why first thy robe of beams  
Was woven in the sky

When o'er the green, undeluged earth  
Heaven's covenant thou didst shine  
How came the words grey fathers forth  
To watch thy sacred sign

How glorious is thy girdle cast  
O'er mountain, tower and town  
Or mirrored in the ocean vast  
A thousand fathoms down

For, faithful to its sacred page  
Heaven still rebuilds thy span  
Nor lets the type grow pale with age  
That first spoke peace to man.

By Thomas Campbell

(Extracts)

Rainbows are a sign of God's redeeming grace and mercy. They are universal symbols of hope, love, happiness and acceptance, an important aspect of the welcoming and inclusive church we strive to be. The photo opposite was the inspiration for this year's tree, entered in the Christmas Tree Festival at the Union Baptist Church, Heathfield 2022.



Well from this introduction you may well guess what the theme will be for:  
**St. Peter's Church Christmas Tree 2024**

And God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant which I have established between Me and all flesh that is on the earth." (Genesis 9:17 NKJV)



Created by the children of a nursery school in Heathfield, hence the teddies.

'All of the pompoms for our tree have been made by the St. Peter's Crochet group, who also supplied all of the wool, and spent MANY tedious hours completing the task. The Rainbows and Brownie pack who meet in our Chapel Rooms have supplied the Hama bead rainbows. So it's been very much a community activity.'

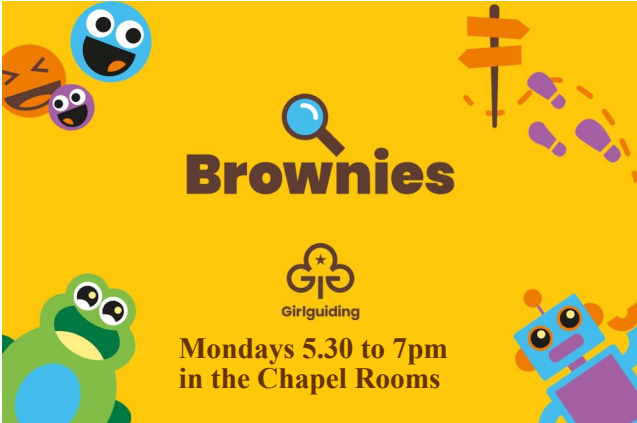
**Christa Lindner**



Brownies making the rainbow decorations with Hama beads



I can't wait to see this year's St Peter's Christmas tree!  
**Ed.**





# God speed and thank you Father Joe and Imogen from St. Andrew's Bishopstone

On Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October, Father Joe was welcomed by Reverend Elizabeth and took his last services at St. Andrew's.

Since we met him in the summer of 2021 we have got to know him so well, and as with any close friend, as he (and Imogen) was to us all, it really is a case of "parting is such sweet sorrow" but to see him develop and fulfil the calling he felt for so long has been a joyful experience for us all.

At 12 noon in the Parish Hall, there was a social get together in celebration and thanks to Fr. Joe for all his care and ministry to St Andrew's.

Hilary Norsworthy, our Churchwarden, presented Imogen with a bouquet of flowers and thanked her for all her support and contribution to Fr. Joe's ministry. Imogen will be spared the long commute to Ashington every day, as the new Parish(es) is (are) only "up the road."



Fr. Joe was then thanked by Hilary on behalf of the PCC and Parishioners for his commitment, friendship and ministry with us, and she wished them both a very happy and inspiring future.



St Peter's  
Henfield



Fr. Joe was presented with a water colour of St. Andrew's and a monetary gift and cards. Fr Joe, under Arwen's leadership, has developed a very rounded set of skills for all types of worship. He recalled his nervousness in singing the responses and chanting at his first Evensong and was grateful to Michael (our organist) for a bit of tuition and encouragement. Fr. Joe took an active role in the development of our Outreach Group and his Pastoral care was dedicated and compassionate.

Fr. Joe's great sense of humour cheered us along during fundraising events, when things were going askew and he was always willing to help with lifting, carrying and the dreaded "tables and chairs".

Some of us will attend his licencing and everyone will wish him many blessings as Rector of Henfield, Woodmancote and Shermanbury, a lovely rural area where he can pursue his hobbies, if he has time!

**Jane Lucy**

# In Remembrance at St Andrews

On Remembrance Sunday this year one of the wreaths was presented by Mrs Gladys Pople. Gladys supported the British Legion by selling poppies for over 60 years.

The wreath she presented was in memory of all those who served in Burma in World War Two. (It must be remembered that even those who were spared had lost the years of young adulthood and experienced appalling situations.) Gladys's husband (from Bishopstone) was one who served, joining the RAF in 1941 and serving until 1946.

Colin was stationed first at St. Mary's on the Isle of Scilly and Portreath Cornwall and from there to India, Bombay (as it was then) and Assam, from there to Burma and finally Sumatra. He was part of the Ground Crew, servicing and repairing aircraft on forward airstrips in the jungle, in support of the other forces serving there.

Colin was awarded the 1939-1945 medal, the 1939-1945 Star and the Burma Star.

This information was provided by Gladys's oldest son, Philip, who is a local historian with a wealth of knowledge, and a member of the PCC.



Gladys beside the Burma Star wreath

Colin returned to Bishopstone, took his place up again as a tenor in the choir and married a Bishopstone girl, Gladys, who has attended St. Andrew's from the age of four and went to school at what is now the Parish Hall. Gladys still sings in the choir and is still very involved in local events.

**Philip Pople**



## Weekly Services at St Andrew's

### Sundays

8.00am Said Holy Eucharist

10.30am Sung Eucharist

(Second Sunday of the month Matins)

**First Sunday in the month** Sung Evensong -

4.00pm November to March

### Wednesdays

10.00am Said Eucharist

**First Wednesday of each month** 10am

Wholeness & Healing Eucharist

**Last Friday of each month** 'Breathing Space'

30 minutes of quiet prayer and contemplation

4.00pm November to March

Please note that the church is now open every day from 10am to 3pm.



Rev'd Elizabeth  
Associate Vicar

# Robin facts or fiction?



## Interesting Robin facts:

- Males and females are similar in coloration.
- Nearly 75% of robins will die before they are a year old, but after that their life expectancy increases.
- Male robins exhibit highly aggressive territorial behaviour, many ending in fatalities.
- In the 15<sup>th</sup> century the bird became known as Robin redbreast, (rather than just redbreast), when it was popular to give human names to familiar species.
- Some sports organisations are nicknamed 'The Robins', typically teams whose home colours predominantly use red.
- Due to artificial lighting robins will often sing at night.
- The robin has twice been declared Britain's national bird, the first time in 1960 and the second in 2015, but it's not yet been made official.
- There is an increase in robin numbers during the winter months with migrants from Scandinavia, Russia and Europe joining resident birds when the winters become too cold and food scarce in those places.

**National Robin Day in the UK is on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December.**

Article submitted by **Sally Churchus**  
for ACE Ideas Forum



Everyone loves a robin, but why are they on the front of so many Christmas cards? It probably arises from the fact that postmen in Victorian Britain wore red jackets and were nicknamed 'Robins', so the robin featured on the Christmas card is an emblem of the postman delivering the card. In 1861 the postmen's uniform was changed to blue, but red has remained as the traditional colour of the Royal Mail, reflected in its vans and post boxes.

However, there are several legends that actually link the robin to the Christmas story. One of these is that Mother Mary was worried baby Jesus would get cold as the embers were dying in the fire. The other animals didn't help but a plain, brown coloured robin assisted by flapping his wings so the embers glowed again. He then picked up some dry sticks and tossed them into the fire, however, as he did so a flame suddenly burst forth and burned the little bird's breast a bright red. Mary praised the robin for all he had done, saying 'From now on, let your red breast be a blessed reminder of your noble deed. You will be known throughout the universe as the messenger of the Christ child, the true herald of Christmas...and you will be part of the message of Christmas until the end of time and will always be known as the Christmas Robin'. (Shortened version of that written by Henry Livingston Jr. 1748-1828, proposed uncredited author of 'The Night Before Christmas').

# A prayer for Christmas preparations



Lord Jesus,

Master of both the light and the darkness,  
send Your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.

We who have so much to do  
seek quiet spaces to hear Your voice each day.

We who are anxious over many things  
look forward to Your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways  
long for the complete joy of Your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy  
seek the joy of Your presence.

We are Your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.

To You we say, 'Come, Lord Jesus!'

Amen.

*Written by Joel Mason and printed in Northumbria Community's  
Celtic Daily prayer 2*



Isabella's birthday  
at Little Fishes



Remembrance  
Sunday buddies,  
Amelia and  
Glynis

# Who gives this Priest . . .?

What a gloriously joyous occasion it was on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November when Fr. Joe was Instituted and Collated as Rector of Henfield, Shermanbury and Woodmancote.

The Church of St. Peter's, Henfield was busy and buzzing with anticipation including a very sizable contingency from our two parishes. Several people from his new parishes commented that the number of folk who had come to support Joe spoke volumes about how much he had been appreciated and respected here, and in turn made them very excited for the future.

For Chris and myself it was a lovely home coming, to the parishes we served from 2002 to 2009, with the joy of seeing how the reordered church space, which had caused us to be out of the church for seven months, was still so beautiful and functional. The service felt even more of a completed circle when we realised that, as Bishop Ruth had Covid, Archdeacon Angela Martin was going to step into the bishop's role and lead the service. Angela had been one of Chris' curates during our time at Henfield!

Archdeacon Angela, in her usual bubbly style, talked about the joy of generous giving and it felt to me that there ought to have been a 'Father of the Bride' moment in the service with the question 'Who gives this priest to this Parish?' when all of us, from St. Peter's and St. Andrew's, could have stood up and said 'We do!' For it is with joy that we celebrate being Fr. Joe's formational curacy parishes and bless him as he steps into the ministry of his first living. Although we will miss Joe enormously and the regular sharing of life with him and Imogen, we always knew his time with us was limited and from a personal perspective, where else would I long for him to go and bless God's people, inside and outside the church?

A further joy was in meeting some teachers from St. Peter's primary school, in Henfield, who had been there all those years ago with me and who told me that Joe was coming in at 9am the next morning to meet the children – a real statement of his commitment to the covenant between the church and school. For those of you who couldn't be present, Joe rang the bell nine times (often seen as an indication of how many years someone intends to stay).

The service, which included Communion, ended with a triumphant singing of 'How great thou art' and as we all sang lustily it certainly felt that just as we have been enormously blessed by Fr. Joe's ministry so these parishes would also know God's blessing through him.



The picture shows Revd. Christina Bennett, whom Chris encouraged into priesthood during our seven years at Henfield, and has been covering a lot of the vacancy, Fr. Joe with a celebratory glass of wine, Archdeacon Angela and Fr. Chris.

**Anne Collison**

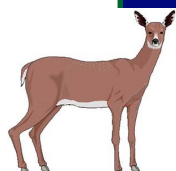






# Moon walk - another poem written on retreat many years ago

Help me to see light in dark places  
 To find hope where all around is sadness  
 Help me to be alert, to use all my senses  
*Hearing, sight, smell, taste and touch –  
 and to be thankful for them.*  
 Give me a heightened sense of the Divine in the ordinary.  
 Help me –  
*To discern colour even in the moonlight  
 To have the wisdom of the owl,  
 To have the fellowship of the badgers  
 To have the sensitivity of the deer  
 To have the sprightliness of the hare  
 To have the concentration of the fox*  
 Give me the courage to walk boldly in the night, and face the day.



**Kay Blackburn**



## From the Churchyard

I am constantly amazed at how things are changing, and really didn't expect to see roses blooming in November or Queen Anne's Lace appearing well out of season. Even the Winter Flowering Heliotrope is at least 4 weeks or more early as well. It has a lovely vanilla type scent!

Here's the link to the November slide show of the churchyard:  
<https://youtu.be/VaUn84HdYPw>



The beautiful rose flowering in November, near the porch, in front of the wisteria.



**Diana Hitchin**

## Planned Giving - How to join the scheme:

### Online

The website is <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk>

The homepage has a photo of hands and it asks if you want to donate and prompts you to select your parish

Our Parish is East Blatchington – St Peter the Apostle

The Parish code is 103050439

You will need your bank sort code and account number to complete the relevant page.

Your direct debit will be taken on the 1<sup>st</sup> of every month

You can change or stop the direct debit when you wish

You will be asked if you want your donation to be increased automatically each year and again this is completely at your discretion.

If you are a tax payer the tax will be claimed automatically and sent to the Parish

### By Telephone

Simply call the PGS team on 0333 002 1260 and they will set up your giving for you. You will need your bank details and the Parish Code of 103050439

### By Post

You will need to obtain a Gift form from me and send it in the post to  
The Parish Giving Scheme, 76 Kingsholm Road, Gloucester,  
GL1 3BD

Also if you want to make any alterations to your giving you can again make alterations on the website mentioned earlier or simply call the team on 0333 002 1271.

**Elizabeth Pay**

**Tel:** 01323 894799

**Email:** elizabeth.pay@btinternet.com



## Thank you

.... 'We are able to be such a vibrant church because of your regular generosity - every penny you donate goes into the maintenance of our beautiful building and funds the ministry of this church. We greatly thank everyone who already donates via the Planned Giving scheme and warmly encourage those who might be considering doing so'.

## Signs outside churches

- "God Recycles" – He made you from dust
- We are Soul air powered by the Son
- Under the same management for 2,000 years
- Adam blamed Eve. Eve blamed the snake and the snake didn't have a leg to stand on
- There are some questions that can't be answered by Google
- Church Parking – Trespassers will be Baptised
- Read the Bible – it's user friendly plus we offer tech support here on Sundays at 10am

A suggestion for weekly exercise to help keep you fit.

**YOGA CLASS**

EVERY MONDAY 9.30AM - 10.30AM  
ALL LEVELS ARE WELCOME

ST PETER'S CHAPEL ROOMS  
BELGRAVE ROAD, SEAFORD, BN25 2HE

CONTACT KATE  
MOBILE: 07780 114871  
EMAIL: KATE.HADLEY@GMAIL.COM

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From ACE Ideas Forum

# Groups



## LIGHTHOUSE

OUR GROUP FOR 11 - 18 YEAR OLDS MEETS ONCE A MONTH EVERY MONTH  
A FUN AND FRIENDLY FAITH LED GROUP FOR FRIENDSHIP, FELLOWSHIP, FUN AND FOOD

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE WHATSAPP GROUP AND FIND OUT WHERE WE WILL BE NEXT.  
OR EMAIL [ANNEXPLORE@BTINTERNET.COM](mailto:ANNEXPLORE@BTINTERNET.COM)  
OR CALL ON 07774003878



St. Andrew's Bishopstone  
St Peter's Church  
East Blatchington, Seaford

## EAST BLATCHINGTON CROCHET CIRCLE



A lovely friendly crochet group, for those who are experienced, just beginning or inbetween!  
Upstairs in the St Peter's Chapel Rooms  
Monday evenings at 7-8.30pm.



Scan the QR code for our Facebook Group or ring Linda 07747 533064 for more info

## THE ART GROUP



Bring along your own creative projects (all types of media welcome) and work on them within our creative social group. Tea and cake and friendly chat. We meet in the main St Peter's Church Hall Thursday mornings at 10-12pm

Ring Kay 01323 870902 for more info

## LITTLE FISHES



OUR GROUP FOR 2-10 YEAR OLDS MEETS EVERY THIRD SUNDAY 3-4.30PM  
PARENTS AND CHILDREN STAY FOR PLAY AND PRAYER ADVENTURES SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE WHATSAPP GROUP AND FIND OUT WHERE WE WILL BE NEXT.  
OR EMAIL [ANNEXPLORE@BTINTERNET.COM](mailto:ANNEXPLORE@BTINTERNET.COM)  
OR CALL ON 07774003878



St Peter's Church  
East Blatchington, Seaford

St. Andrew's Bishopstone



## Forget-Me-Knot MEMORY CAFÉ

A place to meet for those experiencing memory loss and their carers  
Friday Mornings 10.30-12 noon  
St Peter's Church Hall, Belgrave Road, Seaford

A Partnership between




01323 914689  
[hello@seafriends.org.uk](mailto:hello@seafriends.org.uk)



## Monthly Friday Lunches

you are invited to the

### Community Lunch

on the last Friday of every month

12.30-2pm in St Peter's Chapel Rooms  
Booking appreciated via the Benefice Office



# William Tyndale



By Courtesy of Dr P. Johnston – Anglican Compass

## William Tyndale: A Translator

William Tyndale was the father of the English Bible and the first to translate the text from its Hebrew and Greek original. Forced into exile, Tyndale printed his Bibles on the European continent and smuggled them back into England.

Though the authorities burned Tyndale's Bibles and then Tyndale himself, their fire did not consume his legacy but rather revealed it. As Paul taught in Corinthians, *The fire shall try every man's work what it is* (1 Cor. 3:13, Tyndale).

## Tyndale's Life and Linguistic Education

When Tyndale was born in the 1490s, both the liturgies and the scriptures were composed in Latin, the learned language of medieval Europe. But Latin was the province of the elite, known only by clergy and the professional class. Consequently, the people in England had little access to the Bible.

In the 1510s, Tyndale attended Oxford and Cambridge, where he combined a life of Christian devotion with deep learning in languages. In addition to Latin and the modern languages, Tyndale learned Biblical Hebrew and Greek. By the time he took his graduate degree, and inspired by Erasmus and Luther, he was already imagining an English translation of the Bible, accessible to the common man.

## Translator-in-Exile

Tyndale first thought he would work on his translation in London under the patronage of the scholarly bishop. But the Bishop turned Tyndale away. Tyndale realized that his project would not be

possible in England, so he departed for the European continent.

Beginning in Wittenberg and then subsequently in Cologne, Worms, and Antwerp, Tyndale translated and printed portions of the Biblical text. He was forced to move from city to city, because of persecution. An attempt to print the New Testament in Cologne, for example, ended at the 22nd chapter of Matthew, when authorities raided the print shop. The New Testament was completed in 1526, the Pentateuch in 1530, and Jonah in 1531. Tyndale also translated the other historical books of the Old Testament but never completed the prophets or the wisdom literature.

## A Revelation in English

Tyndale's translation was a revelation, both of God's Word and the English language. Most readers will be familiar with their own Bibles, of how Tyndale's translation supplies the rhythm and cadence that defines nearly all English translations to follow.

## A Controversy in the Congregation

Tyndale's translation was also controversial, and not only because it was in English. For Tyndale, the Greek word *ecclesia* was not **the church**, but rather **the congregation** (Matt. 16:18).

The *presbyteros* was not **the priest**, but rather **the elder** (Acts 14:23).

Tyndale's translation also emphasized the death of Christ as the essential and sufficient ground for the forgiveness of sins. The Greek *epaphax* was not **once** but rather **once for all** (Rom. 6:10, Heb. 7:27).

### Bible Smuggler and Martyr

The demand for Tyndale's translations was immediate and constant, but selling these Bibles was a difficult and dangerous business. They had to be shipped to England and passed through the ports without discovery. To this end, Tyndale printed them in a small octavo format, so they could be smuggled in bales of cloth.

In 1535, Tyndale was finally found and betrayed by Henry Phillips, a young English student in debt. Phillips tracked Tyndale's network until he met Tyndale, ingratiated himself, and, on the pretext of going out for lunch, delivered Tyndale to Roman soldiers. On October 6, 1536, Tyndale was strangled and burned at the stake, with his famous final words: "Lord, open the King of England's eyes!"

### Tyndale's Legacy and An Authorized Bible

Miraculously, God answered Tyndale's prayer. By the time of Tyndale's martyrdom, Henry VIII was separating England from the Roman Church to secure his annulment. In the process, Tyndale's antagonist, Thomas More, went to his own death.

Three years later, under the influence of Thomas Cranmer, King Henry authorized the publication of an English Bible. This edition, called the Great Bible, combined Tyndale's translations with the missing books translated by his assistant, Myles Coverdale. Though most of Coverdale's translations were later eclipsed, his translation of the Psalms became the standard psalter for the Book of Common Prayer.

### A Memorable Bible

Tyndale translated not only in the language of the people but also in their style, which was designed to be memorable. He used short words, organized them with clean and clear syntax, and drew especially from Anglo-Saxon vocabulary.

To illustrate the point, consider (Matt. 5:8-10), from the Sermon on the Mount. Tyndale's version was:

*Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.*

*Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.*

*Blessed are they which suffer persecution for righteousness sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

Taken together, these elements made the Bible memorable in a style that both reflected and shaped the English vernacular.

### Honouring Tyndale

William Tyndale is a brilliant example of piety, scholarship, literature, and boldness, all in the cause of Christ. On October 6, the date of his martyrdom, we remember and repeat the story of his life and witness.

Moreover, many individuals and organizations have been inspired by Tyndale to advance the work of Biblical translation, not only in English but into every language around the globe. For example, Tyndale Bible Translators is a group of American missionaries in Papua New Guinea, who actively work to translate the Bible into multiple indigenous languages.

Perhaps the best way to honor Tyndale is to make use of his work, to dwell deeply in the scriptures for which he died. As he articulates so well in his translation, *Let the word of Christ dwell in you plenteously* (Col. 3:16, Tyndale). And finally, let us rejoice.

**Dr Peter Johnston**

*This article is reproduced by kind permission of Anglican Compass.*

*Thank you to Rev. Elizabeth for sending it in. Ed*

## Piano and organ lessons

Returning to playing or beginning?

Lessons available with Coryn Roberts,  
St Peter's organist and choir leader.

Contact Coryn on tel: 0773898146 or email: [coryn.roberts68@gmail.com](mailto:coryn.roberts68@gmail.com)



# St Peter's at prayer in December & January

For Christmas  
services  
please see p.5



## Weekend Services

**Saturday 5.30pm** Parish Eucharist (1st Saturday of the month - Wholeness and Healing Service, 3rd Saturday - Taizé Mass)

**Sunday 8am** Holy Communion BCP

**10am** Parish Eucharist CW This service is live-streamed on YouTube and on Facebook which can be accessed through our website:-  
[www.ebbchurches.org.uk](http://www.ebbchurches.org.uk)

**Sunday 4pm (from 27 October)** Evening Prayer BCP (not 1st Sunday in the month when there is Evensong at St Andrew's)

## Weekday Services

**Tuesday, Thursday, Friday**

**9.30am** Morning Prayer also on *Facebook Live*

**Wednesday 10.30am** Midweek Eucharist

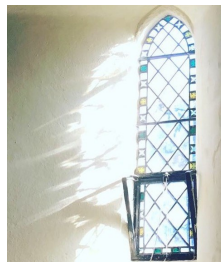
**Monday and Wednesday 8pm** Compline (online only)

These weekday services are streamed live at [www.facebook.com/StPetersEB](https://www.facebook.com/StPetersEB)

**PLEASE NOTE**  
Any changes to our services during the vacancy will be announced in the Bulletin and on the notice boards.

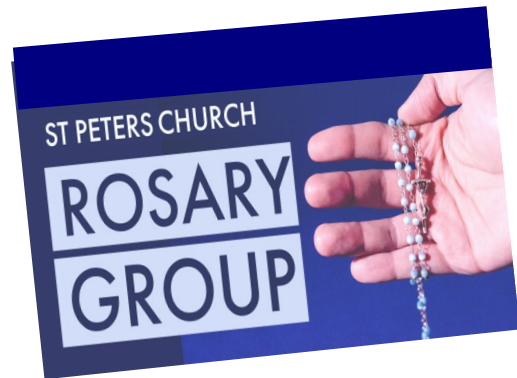
## 'BREATHING SPACE'

our silent prayer meeting,  
takes place in the church and  
online ... on Zoom  
**6pm every Monday.**



You are invited to come and keep  
this space of contemplation and peace within our  
complicated and busy world.

**The Zoom link is available from our website,**  
Meeting ID: 851 6436 0499 Passcode: letmein



This group meets in the church every 2nd and 4th Tuesday afternoon at 2pm.

New people are welcome to join the group.  
Curious? Just come along.

## PARISH PRAYER DIARY

Our monthly prayer diary is available on the church website – [www.ebbchurches.org.uk](http://www.ebbchurches.org.uk) Printed copies are available in the church porch. This is a valuable resource for those who are currently participating in the life of daily prayer in this parish and is like throwing a lasso of prayer around the church - globally, nationally, diocese-wide and here in our own community. It includes the Cycle of Prayer for the Worldwide Anglican Communion, Chichester Diocesan Intercessions, names of the roads, schools and care homes in the parish, names of individuals and groups who work and worship at St Peter's and the names of those who are sick and have asked for our prayers.

*If you would like a copy sent to you individually by email, please let Tash Tansley know.*

*tel: 899054 email: [officeebb.benefice@gmail.com](mailto:officeebb.benefice@gmail.com)*



# St Peter's Church

## East Blatchington, Seaford

**Open hearted, Open minded, Open to God, Open to all every day**

**RECTOR** *position vacant*

**ASSOCIATE VICAR** Rev'd Elizabeth Jinks 07902 715423 *email: associatevicarebb@gmail.com*

**HONORARY ASSISTANT PRIESTS** *Fr Eric Pollard 492312, Fr John Harrington 351816,  
Fr Chris Collison 892364*

**READER EMERITUS** *Kay Blackburn 870902*

**CHURCHWARDEN** *Anne Collison 892364 email: annexplore@btinternet.com  
07774 003878*

**SAFEGUARDING OFFICER** *Zena Maher 07739 984449  
email: safeguardingsaintpeters@gmail.com*

**BENEFICE ADMINISTRATOR** *Natasha Tansley 899054 email: officeebb.benefice@gmail.com*

**Website:** [www.ebbchurches.org.uk](http://www.ebbchurches.org.uk)

**Twitter:** [www.twitter.com/StPetersEastB](http://www.twitter.com/StPetersEastB) **Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/StPetersEB](http://www.facebook.com/StPetersEB)

**Wedding, Baptism and Funeral enquiries:** *contact Benefice Administrator, Tash Tansley 899054*

**Pastoral care:** To request prayer and seek any other support, spiritual or practical, please contact *Kay Blackburn, Pastoral Care Co-ordinator 870902 kayblackburn@hotmail.com*

Festivals, Holy Days, meditations, study groups and prayer vigils as announced.

The church is open every day for **private prayer from 10am Monday to Saturday**  
12pm Sunday until 6pm or dusk, if earlier.

Details of all services in church and online are on page 22.

**PCC SECRETARY:** *Christine Cooke 490548 email: pccstpeters@gmail.com*

**PCC TREASURER:** *Chris Reynolds 490944 email: cjr911@mac.com*

**PLANNED GIVING SCHEME:** *Elizabeth Pay 894799 email: elizabeth.pay@btinternet.com*

**CROSS KEYS EDITOR:** *Christine Cooke 490548 email: christinecooke.xks@gmail.com*

**HALL BOOKINGS:** *online: <https://www.ebbchurches.org.uk/chapel-rooms>*

*Enquiries: contact the benefice office, 899054 email: officeebb.benefice@gmail.com*

**HOMELINK** help for the homeless: *vacant*

**WEEKLY BULLETIN:** *Neville Chalkley 891921 email: bulletinstpeters2015@gmail.com*

**BUILDING PROJECTS MANAGER:** *Christa Lindner 07708 044270  
email: churchbuildingseb@gmail.com*

**ART and CRAFT GROUP:** *Kay Blackburn 870902*

**St Peter's reg. charity no.: 1173506**

Photos by Christine Cooke, Rev'd Arwen Folkes, Phil Sutters, Fr Joe, Godfrey Cooke, Anne Collison, Rev'd Chris Collison, Diana Hitchin, Linda Stratford, magazine contributors, and from the Internet: (Creative Commons, Wikipedia.org, Wikimedia.org, Wikimedia Commons, Commons Media, Clipart).

Should you need another copy of this magazine, there are usually spares in the church porch. If you cannot get there, please let me know and I will deliver one to your door. **Christine** 490548

**This Cross Keys can be viewed on the benefice website:- [www.ebbchurches.org.uk](http://www.ebbchurches.org.uk)**

# Farewell Father Joe and Imogen



It was with mixed emotions that we bade farewell to Fr. Joe Padfield, and his wife Imogen, on 3rd November. He has served us well during his curacy, over these past three years, giving generously of himself in so many ways as he shared in the ministry at St. Peter's and St. Andrew's. We looked back with thankfulness, acknowledged the sadness of the present moment but also the pride of a parent waving off their youngster who is ready for their next big step in the world; and we looked forward together to an uncertain future with trust in our faithful God. Amelie spoke for us all as she gave Fr. Joe the biggest of hugs!



As has become our tradition, we blessed Fr. Joe and Imogen with a pew! We also gave them a financial gift towards their new ministry and a planter for their new home in Henfield, Shermanbury and Woodmancote. We wish them both the richest of God's blessings as they take this next step.



**Anne Collison**  
Churchwarden



**Wishing everyone a joyful, blessed Christmas and a happy New Year 2025.**

