

PARISH NEWS



The Parish of Aldingbourne, Barnham & Eastergate

50p



Artwork by Francesca Ross

IN
REMEMBRANCE

IN THIS ISSUE

REMEMBRANCE DAY

PARISH KENYA PROJECT

OUR PARISH CANAL

www.parishofabe.org.uk

November 2020



**BARNHAM AND EASTERGATE PARISH COUNCIL
REGRET TO INFORM THE COMMUNITY THAT DUE
TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, WE ARE UNABLE
TO HAVE OUR USUAL REMEMBRANCE
CEREMONY AND ROAD CLOSURE AT THE WAR
MEMORIAL MONUMENT ROUNDABOUT IN
EASTERGATE THIS YEAR.**

PLEASE REMEMBER AT HOME SAFELY.

*Gone, but not
forgotten*

**WREATHS WILL BE LAID BY OUR LOCAL AND
DISTRICT COUNCILLORS.
A SERVICE WILL BE SHOWN ON OUR SOCIAL
MEDIA SITES.**

**Honor the memory of those who
sacrificed their lives at home.**

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2020

For reasons we all understand, we are unable to hold our usual ceremony at our war memorial in Eastergate on Remembrance Sunday. Our remembrance this year will take a different form:

- 8am: Short wreath laying ceremony at the war memorial [only representatives from the organisations concerned should attend]
- 10am: A service in each of our three churches
- 11am: Family groups are encouraged to make their own private tributes by walking past the poppies on lamp posts along the Barnham Road
- Online: All the above events will be available for viewing on YouTube and via the Parish website, www.parihofabe.org.uk, from 1pm on Sunday 8th November.
- In addition to Remembrance Sunday, there will also be a short service at the War Memorial at Aldingbourne Church stating at 10.45am on 11th November

We hope everyone will feel they can join us in this unusual year in one of the above ways.



What is it that you put your trust in? It is a foundational truth in pastoral care that progress can only be made with another when there is built up a certain level of trust.

Mistrust causes cynicism and scepticism. It tends towards a loss of control and a degree of powerlessness. It makes us question what lies behind other people's motives, what agendas that are being forced upon us and what boxes are we being manoeuvred into; boxes not of our own making. As a result we may become hard, closed off, forever questioning other people's motives. Sometimes we need a certain degree of this in order to protect ourselves, but too much of it and it becomes unhealthy.

Our culture at this present time does not engender a great deal of trust. To rehearse a few of the areas where trust is hard to achieve will come as no surprise. Probably politicians will be at the top of the list. Can we trust what they say about the pandemic, about restrictions about anything? And, although it shames me to say it, the Church is probably not that far behind. It has lost a lot of trust over these past years with its record on safeguarding. We mistrust the media, journalists, and large corporations. The police are often in the firing line of mistrust. We often mistrust the smaller things like a bargain because "you don't get something for nothing" and more and more we mistrust the phone caller or the email

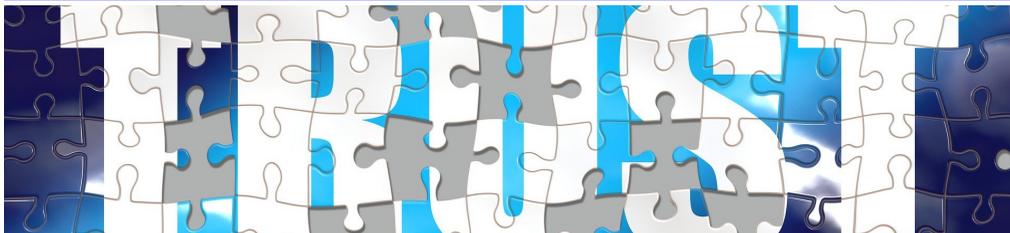
because in the back of our head we know that there is a scam around every corner.

Sadly, we sometimes lose trust in those we thought were our friends because something happens when a word or an action would have helped but nothing is forthcoming. And then there are times when we don't even trust ourselves maybe because we succumb to a certain temptation or are not sure whether we can do the right thing when the need arises.

So where can we find trust? There are occasions in the services of the Church (such as the Eucharist every Sunday, morning and evening prayer at a baptism) when we say "I believe in God the Father Almighty" (or "We believe..."). These are the words that begin the Creed which is a statement about the Christian Faith. It can be interpreted another way, for it also means "I trust in God the Father Almighty". This trust in God permeates the whole of the Bible. The events and words that make up the life, death and ministry of Jesus Christ is to see trust in its fullness; and those who strive daily with every fibre of their being to be faithful Christians those who effectively and bravely take responsibility for God are those who are able to renew society's attitude towards what trust look likes.

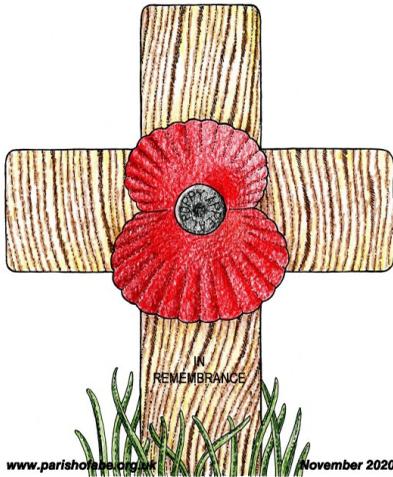
If the holding on to trust is becoming ever more difficult and there are fewer and fewer refuges or spaces where trust can be renewed, step into one of our Churches where our doors are always open and there find the possibility that within those walls there is something that can be trusted.

Fr Graham



PARISH NEWS

The Parish of Aidingbourne, Barnham & Eastergate 60p



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ABE INFORMATION

Our Churches are now OPEN for public worship and private prayer during daylight hours. See page 8 for a list of services.

We are also continuing to record services to view on the ABE website for those not able to be physically present.

For more details, including parish resources, information & service recordings, visit our website at www.parishofabe.org.uk

THE PARISH OFFICE

Fr Tony will be holding an office hour in The Parish Office from 9am to 10am on Saturday mornings for Wedding, Baptism and other enquiries.

The office will remain closed at other times. Up-to-date information is on our website www.parishofabe.org.uk, or via email at: parishofabe@btinternet.com

FOODBANK

Could you please leave your donations in the basket in the Barnham Co-op or Trading Post. The donations will be taken regularly to the Bognor Foodbank which now has restricted access.

Donations can also be made at either Sainsburys or Tesco in Bognor Regis.

At the moment, the Foodbank particularly needs items including tinned vegetables, tinned pasta and rice pudding.

PARISH KENYA PROJECT

Sadly, I heard in October from the Education secretary in Nyahururu Diocese that the diocese is having to close down Mercy secondary school.

Those of us who were able to visit in 2019 are not surprised about this because we could see they were struggling. The main reason was that the Kenyan government is now providing free secondary education as well as primary.

This means that the church funded fee paying schools are in direct competition and although we could clearly see that the quality of what was being provided at Mercy school was better than the much bigger state schools and also that the distinctive Christian atmosphere was a huge added bonus, it was clear that survival would be difficult. The last straw has been the coronavirus.

I have spoken to them and made it clear that we would, as a parish, want to continue to support Eunice and Eric. Their home situations are such that if they are going to be able to fulfil their dreams for the future they will need our continued support.

They were transferred during October to other Anglican sponsored secondary schools to complete their schooling and their exams will be next year. Eunice still aims to be a lawyer and Eric an electrician.

I aim to keep in touch with their situation and will let you all know when there is specific need.

As far as the ongoing link between our church school in Eastergate and St Peter's Academy in the diocese of Nyahururu, the Covid situation makes it difficult to carry that forward at the moment but again I will let people know when we are able to develop further.

Rev Sheila

HOME DELIVERIES FOR THE ELDERLY AND VULNERABLE

It is possible in the present situation to have food deliveries to your door simply by making a phone call. Just call Morrisons on 0345 6116111 and use option 5 when directed. Morrisons are offering this extra help to those who are isolating, vulnerable who are not able to order online. The deliveries will come to your door but note the only payment allowed is by bank card.

Too good an offer to miss!!

Rev Sheila



B.E.A.D.Y.S. SUPPORTERS OF ST. WILFRID'S HOSPICE

Throughout this pandemic, the St. Wilfrid's Hospice rehab team are delivering their services to patients virtually – offering them support and giving advice and coping strategies to help them get through these unprecedented times.

A reminder that if you would like a collecting box in your house or workplace please >>

ABE CHRISTMAS FAIR

We are planning to hold our Christmas Fair on Saturday 5 December all being well.

With this in mind we are starting to collect gifts, bottles, confectionery, tombola items. If you are able to help please phone me on 01243 545877 to arrange collections.

Raffle tickets are available at the churches in Aldingbourne, Barnham and Eastergate and also at Pegasus Properties in Barham. Or phone Richard on 01243 554001.

We are very grateful to you all and thank you in advance.

Lynne Stephens

<< e-mail fundraising@stwh.co.uk. Another way to raise much needed funds for St. Wilfrid's Hospice is to play the local hospice lottery's weekly draw. This costs £1 per week and you will have a chance to win £2,000 every Friday, plus 152 other cash prizes and a roll-over which can reach up to £25,000! Visit www.stwhospice.org/lottery to play.

Don't forget to visit BEADYS' Bookshed next to Barnham Windmill. It is full of books in all genres. Since March this year the Bookshed has raised approximately £1,038 which is a much lower amount than usual, due to the lockdown etc., and the fact that some patrons of the shed forget to bring any cash with them ! We suggest 50p each for paperbacks and £1 for hardbacks, and just 20p each for children's books. Thank you to everyone who does continue to contribute towards the Hospice's much need funds.

Gill Kelly

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

WESTERGATE

Oh Dear! Just as we thought everything was perhaps getting back to normal and we could think of Christmas get-togethers we have got to be more careful again. Never mind, we have got the hang of things now. We need to buy our Christmas cards, purchase the knitting wools and craft materials and get busy during the autumn nights. How many grandchildren will be receiving jumpers this year I wonder? And will every Christmas tree have homemade decorations perhaps? Communication is vital and this year we will have time to write a personal note in our cards and then hand deliver them as well as catch up on all those letters we meant to write.

The W.I. are still meeting but now it is by Zoom instead of in person so the grapevine is

still working. When a member was feeling low because her cat had died another member offered her a kitten from a new litter. No doubt it will keep her busy rescuing the decorations on her tree.

Keep going ladies. It will end one day; we just can't say when. Maybe we will have time to read all those books we had good intentions of reading one day. War and Peace anyone?

Catherine White-Aldworth



ADVERTISING MANAGER

We are looking for a volunteer to take over the role of advertising manager for ABE Parish News.

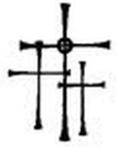
This would entail contacting all existing advertisers on an annual basis with a view to renewing their adverts, preparing and sending out invoices and receipts, including new advertisers as appropriate and keeping an up-to-date waiting list. A good working knowledge of desktop publishing is required, currently Microsoft Publisher.

ABE Parish News raises approx. £8,000 annually through our loyal advertisers, and is a major part of our fundraising to support our three medieval churches in the parish.

For more information contact Sarah Tripp on 01243 699820 or at sarahetripp@yahoo.co.uk or Vera Saunders on 01243 542410 or at parishofabe@btinternet.com.



St George's



Sunday Seekers

Sunday Seekers is back on!

At the new time of

11.30am

At St George's Church, Eastergate

All children welcome and their parents too if they wish!

- Adults and children age 12 and over to wear a face covering
- Please arrive no earlier than 11.20am
- Please "Book In" via Facebook at "Family at St Georges church, Eastergate" or follow the link from the ABE website.

And
don't
miss..



FAMILY SERVICE 1st NOVEMBER 11.30am
ST. MARY'S, ALDINGBOURNE

NEWS FROM OUR COUNCILS



ALDINGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

A report from Aldingbourne Parish Council's meeting held on the 6th October 2020.

Lichfields: Questions were raised regarding the separate consultation on Lichfields master plan by Arun District Council (ADC). Councillors raised concerns there were no published dates and from closer inspection the consultation ran from 7th September to 9th October, however, the public was not made aware.

WSALC: Comments were made in relation to the WSALC and the forthcoming briefing and surveys due to come out to parish councils within the county. Aldingbourne Parish Council will make a decision based on the recommendations of the briefing.

ADC: District councillors Isabel Thurston and Christopher Hughes mentioned that they have attended meetings with regards to the BEW masterplan but will confirm any future dates. There will be a meeting due to be held on the 26th October 2020 which they will both hope to attend.

Councillor Thurston also mentioned that Arun District Council unanimously passed a bio-diversity action plan to raise the importance of nature within the district.

Westergate Street bus stop: Aldingbourne Parish Council have formally adopted the Bus Shelter on Westergate Street and will now include this within the asset register and maintenance programme.

Footpaths: Complaints have been received about footpath 315 (North Fields Lane) regarding the residents only signs. Currently

the footpath unregistered. Members of the public could make a planning application to have the use of the footpath changed.

Footpath 299 has now been largely resurfaced, however the east end has not at present due to flooding.

Footpath 314 – Questions were asked about maintaining the footpath. The council resolved the current situation is due to the fact that this footpath forms part of the bio-diversity corridor of the community with the wild spring daffodils and herd of deer.

Allotments: These will now come under the remit of the parish council – if anyone has any questions please do get in touch.

Aldingbourne Community Sports Centre (ACSC): It was mentioned that a legal advisor will need to be appointed and currently the ACSC is financial stable given the current climate.

Vacancies: It has been good to see people enjoying the countryside adjoining the villages and the recreation field at ACSC during Covid. If you appreciate these facilities on your doorstep, please consider joining Aldingbourne Parish Council.

The council currently has two vacancies for councillors, working parties for footpaths, allotments and communications, and works closely with trustees of ACSC, all which need extra volunteer support to help manage facilities.

Contact the clerk for information at clerk@aldingbourne-pc.gov.uk.

Attendance: Residents can attend online meetings - contact the clerk for a link. West Sussex councillor Derek Whittington sent apologies.

Louise Shaw
clerk@aldingbourne-pc.gov.uk



BARNHAM & EASTERGATE PARISH COUNCIL

The latest meeting of the full council took place on 13th October. Apologies for the meeting were received from Rob Bates, and also from county councillor Derek Whittington. The meeting was again held virtually and following latest guidance the council has agreed to continue to hold all meetings virtually until at least the end of March 2021. The public can ask to join any meetings by contacting the clerk to obtain the telephone dial-in details. The agendas for all meetings are placed on noticeboards across the parish and on the council's website.

The chair opened the meeting by reporting the resignation of parish councillor, Terry Bedford, and took the opportunity to thank him for all his work during his period on the council this time and in previous times. This means there will now be a vacancy on the council which will be advertised in due course so if anyone is interested in joining or wants to know what is involved please do get in touch.

Isabel Thurston, in her capacity as district councillor, mentioned the following Arun District Council matters including the current gypsy and traveller consultation exercise; the biodiversity motion that has been passed by council and has resulted in an action plan being put in place; and that consultants have been engaged to undertake an active transport study for the district.

Police update: PCSO Caroline Wilson gave the Council an update on various issues that continue to occur in the parish. In particular, she mentioned the work she has done, and continues to do, with various agencies to help

reduce the amount of anti-social behaviour in certain areas across the parish. She also mentioned several bicycles had recently been stolen and that following reports of speeding from the memorial roundabout along Barnham Road she was looking to place some 30mph reminder signs along the road and also along Fontwell Avenue. Councillors supported this and reported their own issues with speeding in other areas of the parish and also problems with quad bikes being raced across the Parish. PCSO Wilson agreed to look into these and to also speak further with the road policing unit to see if radar speed checks could be deployed in the parish.

Finance: Under the finance item the council noted recent payments made and the end of quarter two financial position. The clerk also sought, and obtained, agreement to looking at the potential costs and process to obtain some form of vehicle activated speed signs for the parish. She also reported that an approach had been made by the ABE CLT (the organisation looking to provide affordable housing in the area) asking the parish to consider a funding contribution towards potential future legal costs to secure affordable housing for local people within proposed developments in the area. The council agreed to assisting when/if the need arose, but would set an upper limit of £5000 that would be included in the next budget and precept.

Planning: The chair gave an update on a meeting he and representatives of the planning committee had had with representatives of Gleasons, the developers promoting a proposal for a development of 200+ houses on a site south of the Barnham Railway line. Those present had expressed their extreme disappointment that the developer had not sought to engage with the Council before the consultation leaflet was distributed to residents and received an >>

<< apology that this had not take place. The developers were told most vehemently that the Council would oppose the development on the grounds that the site was not included in the District Local Plan, the current Parish Neighbourhood Plan, nor the emerging Neighbourhood Plan. However, those present at the meeting also took the view that they would work with the developers on all matters to ensure that if it did get approval, either directly by ADC or on Appeal, that it would be the best development it could be.

Neighbourhood Plan: As has been reported previously the Council has been working hard on reviewing the current Barnham and Eastergate neighbourhood plan, through a small team of dedicated volunteers led by our neighbourhood plan administrator, Maureen Chaffe, to identify potential sites within the Parish to provide a minimum additional 80 houses (a figure imposed on us by ADC) and to review the policies and recommend changes and new policies for inclusion in a revised plan. The stage has now been reached where the council needs to seek the views of local residents on the three potential sites that have been identified and assessed as suitable sites to provide the necessary additional homes and to get thoughts on some new and amended policies in particular relating to

biodiversity and parking. All residents will shortly be receiving a letter encouraging them to complete an online survey – for those without internet access paper copies of the survey will be made available at various businesses across the parish and at the two community halls (where we can facilitate access to the documents if you get in touch with me). We have to agree sites or run the risk of sites being imposed on us that might be deemed even less suitable than those identified so we urge your support or, if not, your suggestions for alternative sites for inclusion would be welcomed. Following analysis of the results of the survey the Council will move to the formal regulation 14 consultation process that will seek views on the proposals from statutory consultees. It is hoped that all of this might be completed by the end of the year. Please do look out for the communication and respond.

The next meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 1st December 2020 when the draft budget for 2021/22 will be considered that will inform the level of precept to be set at a meeting of the council in January 2021.

Alison Crabb
**clerk@barnhamcandeastergate-
pc.gov.uk**

SCAM WARNINGS

I just wanted to inform you this month of a few new Scams that are doing the rounds. The new and ingenious ways criminals are devising to part us from our money are quite astounding and incredibly frustrating.

This first scam is an email purporting to be from the DVLA. They ask that details are updated via a link, and noncompliance could result in it affecting your licence. Having received this email myself, I can confirm that it is very professional.

Another scam I have seen reported on a NHW round robin this week is an email which claims you have driven through a road that is part of a charging scheme. It gives date and time only, but no location as to where this may have occurred. There is a link to click on, as always, as well as a Penalty Charge reference number, and list of escalating fees if it is not paid within a time frame. The first charge is only £13.24, so one assumes they are hoping that people will attempt to pay it without thinking (although other than the London Congestion Charge I don't believe >>

there are any other charging schemes in general use) but I don't know if the criminals aim is to phish for details or to make money with the false fine. Probably both...

The third Scam on the rise in texts being received to mobile phones purporting to be from your Bank. They could be stating they have blocked a suspicious payment and ask you to call their Fraud Team on a given number, or possibly that their Security Team has tried to contact you regarding your online login. There are many, many different types of texts you could receive but the action they request you to do are all the same – either ring a number that they have supplied, or click on a link.

The last one I wanted to highlight was the raft of Covid-19 related scams. The most shocking are those that prey on peoples

anxieties by sending phishing emails and links claiming that the recipient has been in contact with someone with Covid-19. These lead to fake websites that steal data and personal details.

These are only a fraction of the scams we have highlighted to us. Please check out the Action Fraud website if you are able, and pass the message on!

If you come across one, or are worried about something that you have heard or seen, or even worried that you yourself may have fallen victim to something, please feel free to email me on caroline.wilson@sussex.pnn.police.uk in complete confidence.

PCSO Caroline Wilson
Arun and Chichester Neighbourhood
Policing Team

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL FRIENDS

SUPPORTING OUR CATHEDRAL

The Friends' primary objective is "to assist and support the Dean and Chapter in maintaining and improving facilities and services, and to develop and promote the Cathedral's mission".

The most tangible and visible way in which the Friends do this is through its project funding and recent activities in this regard have been considerable.

Specifically, the projects that the Friends have funded over the last year are many and varied and represent a monetary value well in excess of £200,000. Included in this are:

- Sponsorship of last year's highly successful Southern Cathedrals' Festival

- Refurbishment of the Vicars Hall Kitchen
- Nave seating frontals
- New cassocks for the Vergers
- Weekday chasubles
- New altar linen cloth
- Chorister scholarship
- The majority of the costs for the new Cathedral database project

The Friends take pride in the grants that have been made to the Dean and Chapter in the last year, none of which would have been possible without the support of the members of the Friends.

For further information about what the Friends do and how to join, please visit the Cathedral website and select 'Getting involved'.

The Friends are a registered charity. Membership costs £15 per year and £25 for a couple.

Howard Castle-Smith

NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS

Walberton Pre-School

Well, Covid doesn't seem to be going anywhere soon and whenever I'm out (which admittedly isn't often!) people that I meet often ask how things are at pre-school.

Pre-school is open but it's different than before. We are only using the large hall at the Village Hall, at the moment as this makes the thorough cleaning that we have to do easier. It is also easier to manage staff deployment when staff are absent, which happens more often due to the self-isolation rules. No parents are allowed inside anymore, instead our families queue outside, keeping their 2 meter distance, just like we all do outside a busy supermarket. When it's time to come in, the children say goodbye to their grown up and are met inside by the pre-school staff, temperatures are taken, hands are sanitised, coats are hung up, lunches, snacks and drinks are put away in their places and then... it's time to play! Needless to say, the children's independence is growing fast and it's amazing to see how they adapt to all the changes.

Do we still give cuddles? Yes, we do. We avoid face to face contact as far as possible, but if a child needs comforting, we will sit them on our knee, facing away from us and cuddle them from behind, or maybe give a back rub. That does the trick! We are playing outside more and are so grateful to have our fabulous outdoor areas which offer so many play and learning opportunities.

There have been a lot of new enquiries for pre-school places, and we have a new Covid show around procedure—meaning

prospective parents and children can come to have a look around pre-school without coming inside the building. We start with a tour of the garden, which takes place before our children who are attending for the day go outside, then we follow that with a look through the large windows. It's weird, but it works!

Unfortunately, children get poorly at this time of year – that is completely normal. But the common signs of illness are also Covid symptoms. This means that when a child has a temperature, a cough, can't smell or taste or has a poorly tummy, they have to isolate and arrange a Covid test. I've heard on the news that teachers are being blamed for overwhelming the testing process, but we are only following government guidelines. If I could tell who has Covid just by looking at them, that would indeed be a useful skill! We are aware that if a child has symptoms, that has a knock on effect on the family they live with, who also have to isolate at home until a negative test result is received. This is a big stress for everyone involved. All of the above procedures have to be documented by us, in addition to the usual admin. It is very stressful and can feel overwhelming. I've taken to bringing my laptop into the hall and setting up an 'office area' in the corner, because I like to be close to the hubbub of the happy children when I'm embroiled in paperwork. The most important thing is that the children are happy and getting a good start to their education, and they are. Even if one little boy complained to his Mummy, "at pre-school we are not even allowed to socially isolate!" He's three!

Helen Baxter

GREEN GROW'TH THE HOLLY

A music manuscript from about 1515 and attributed to King Henry VIII has the words:

*Green grow'th the holly,
So doth the ivy,
Though winter blasts ne'er so high
Green grow'th the holly.*

The next three verses take us through spring, summer and autumn, so this is clearly not a Christmas carol, unlike the familiar 'The Holly and the Ivy'.

What may not be known is that holly and ivy are two of the very few native evergreen trees, and in past times must have been especially popular in providing greenery during winter months.

With its shiny spiky dark green leaves, holly is surely one of the most easily recognised trees in this country. Though often bushlike, holly can grow up to ten metres high with a straight trunk and pyramid shape. It is dioecious, meaning each tree is either male or female, explaining possibly why the one in your garden never has any berries!

Nowadays we associate holly with Christmas wreaths and garlands, cards and carols. Pre-Victorian times saw holly branches used as



Christmas trees, with the spiky leaves representing Christ's Crown of Thorns and the red berries as drops of blood. Holly brought into the house was regarded as protection against evil spirits and as a refuge for good 'faeries' who would guard the residents of the house in return.

It is interesting to note that where no person or animal brushes by a holly, the leaves lack all spines except the one at the tip. This includes upper leaves on mature trees. A bit like people – be nice and they won't be scratchy!

Back to 'Green grow'th the Holly'. The final verse ends:

*The God of life can never die,
Hope! Saith the holly.
How wise. Where would we be without hope?*

Kirsty Steele

REMEMBERING ENGELS

It was 200 years ago, on 28th November 1820, that Friedrich Engels, the German socialist philosopher, was born. He collaborated with Karl Marx to found modern communism and co-write the Communist Manifesto and Das Kapital.

Although he had revolutionary and even violent views, Engels was also a businessman. His father owned textile factories in Prussia and Manchester, and Engels spent much of his time in England, where he lived with an uneducated Irish woman called Mary Burns, who stoked his radical leanings. He never married her, but after her death he lived with her sister Lizzy, whom he did marry.

Engels' family was Protestant, but he was agnostic until he fell in with the Young Hegelians, who attacked Christianity and transformed him into a militant atheist.

Engels met Karl Marx in Paris, and they became close, working to convert socialists into communists. He led a kind of double life, as a mill owner and keen foxhunter, who pursued communist ideology even more enthusiastically.

He eventually sold his partnership in the business in 1869, receiving enough to live comfortably until his death in 1895, and to provide his friend Marx with an annual grant of £350 until he died in 1883.

Tim Lenton

OUR PARISH CANAL - A SEQUEL

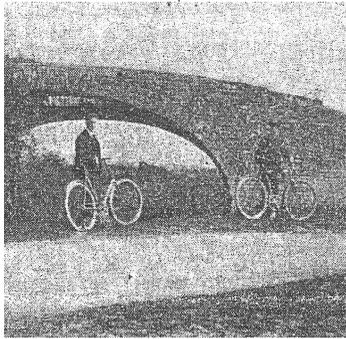
When you drive south through Aldingbourne on the A29 to Bognor Regis and reach the double-bend at Lidsey you are crossing a remnant of the nineteenth century canal that passed through our three villages (as recalled recently by Gary Courtinade in his article for Parish News in May). This slight gradient and S-bend is the result of the removal of the former Lidsey Bridge which spanned the Ford to Hunston and Birdham section of the Portsmouth and Arun Canal. Gary, who graciously allowed me to write this sequel, outlined the unfulfilled, long-term aspirations of the Portsmouth and Arundel Navigation Company and the reasons for the canal's early closure.

To reach Bognor (later Regis) from Chichester our forebears crossed the canal at Runcton or Colworth, from Arundel they took the bridge at Ford or Yapton, while those descending off the South Downs came south through Westergate and thence over Lidsey Bridge, one of 18 brick arc bridges along this section. Bricks were made on site using local clay and brickearth. The 1906 photo was taken nearly 60 years after the canal's demise but through the arch the empty bed can be seen stretching eastwards towards Barnham while the main A29 road in the foreground has already bypassed the bridge and is crossing a filled-in portion of the canal as it does today. Geoffrey Lemmon, the photographer, stated that the old red-brick bridge was in a state of decay with a hole in the span of the arch to prevent its usage and that the bridge was demolished around 1920 with only the ramps remaining. But some cottages on the former

canal bank remain as does the former mission room (now a plumber's headquarters).

Canals were called "inland navigations" and the large gangs of workmen moving around the country digging out the waterways with picks, shovels and wheelbarrows were named "navigators" or "navvies". They worked on this 12 mile cut moving westwards from the Arun to Chichester Harbour for roughly five years from 20th August 1818. At Lidsey, two "aqueducts" took the canal over the Aldingbourne Rife and the Lidsey Rife both west of the bridge. "Waste" soil or spoil was used to lay embankments.

This canal began at Ford (using two locks that allowed the canal to drop 12 feet down to the river with a pumping station to feed that end of the canal) and ran via Yapton, Barnham, Eastergate, Aldingbourne, Colworth and



The Lidsey Bridge in 1906

North Mundham to Hunston (where there was a junction branch to Chichester) and Birdham by another two locks for Chichester Harbour and so on to Portsmouth. John Rennie the Elder surveyed the canal and was most celebrated for designing the Waterloo, Southwark, Old Vauxhall and London Bridges plus the Kennet & Avon Canal. When he died in 1821 his work was fully passed to his already resident engineer, James Hollinsworth, who lived at Rumboldswyke.

The whole project, a direct inland connection from Chichester to Littlehampton and London, was opened on 25th May 1823 with great pomp and ceremony and "the booming of cannon". From Ford, investors and friends of the Navigation Company were invited to join the Third Earl of Egremont as his pleasure barge led a near mile long

procession that included the Duke of Norfolk, barges of the mayors of Arundel and Guildford plus eight goods barges to the accompaniment of a Sussex Militia band and private bands, colours flying and guns firing. Crowds thronged the bridges along the route and the day ended with much wining and dining at The Swan, 5-6 East Street, Chichester, a coaching inn near the Market Cross much given to ceremonial feasting until the



The Royal Oak at Hookway

railway's arrival deprived it of business. The Earl and the Duke each invested in the Company as did 302 others including a couple of viscounts and a naval captain but no dividend was ever paid! The Earl commissioned JMW Turner's well-known canal oil painting viewed from Hunston with Chichester Cathedral in the background.

The canal's 24-year run to and from London brought coal, pottery, groceries and drink down; timber, corn, bark (particularly oak bark) for tanning raw hides into leather, soldiers' baggage from Portsmouth and gold and silver protected by redcoat soldiers for the Bank of England were returned as a payload. But by 1855/56 the canal's bed began to dry out and its only traffic was pleasure craft.

Two of the Lidsey cottages had become an ale house in 1810 and this business did very well when the many navvies slaked their thirst. After the bridge was built this hostelry became The Bridge Inn finding its new customers among the barges. A very early publican was a Mr Ainger (afterwards a Birdham lock-keeper) whose son, Alf, attended a local school on payment of one old penny per week.

Those of us familiar with The Royal Oak, Hooksway, will be fascinated to learn that Alf, of Aldingbourne, eventually became its legendary licensee when it was still an old-

style ale house lit by oil lamps, heated by an old, open grate, with a tenure that lasted for 64 years (1907-1971). Keeping a shotgun on the wall behind the bar, and from his own private chair, Alf would regale his customers with his memories of the Prince of Wales and King

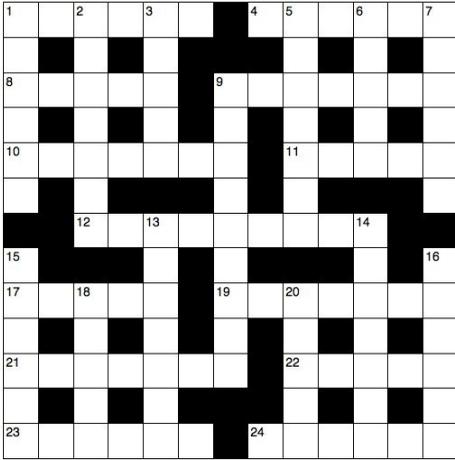
Alphonse of Spain shooting on his land and Professor Joad of the BBC Brains Trust being a pub regular, also of the building's resident ghost, William Shepherd, sheep rustler, shot by angry farmers after being pursued by them to The Royal Oak and how, because it was largely a pub for men, when ladies asked the whereabouts of a convenience they were directed to nine acres of his surrounding countryside!

In 1910, one of Alf's customers, a maker of chair legs, "married" a young couple, holding hands but without a ring, in the pub using the words of the prayer book. In return the couple gave him two gallons of bitter and lived happily ever after!

Alf's wife, Carrie, was a descendant of Tom Cribb (1781-1848) the world champion English bare-knuckle boxer, defeated only once, who was mentioned by Charles Dickens in *Martin Chuzzlewit* and by Thomas Hughes in *Tom Brown's Schooldays*. Dave and Sarah, the current owners for 30 years, and with more modern facilities, claim to have snapped the ghost standing in front of the main fireplace. You can access the image on their website.

Tony Wheatley

NOVEMBER CROSSWORD



Across

- 1 'The Lord Jesus... took bread, and when He had given — , he broke it' (1 Corinthians 11:24) (6)
- 4 'He has taken me to the banquet hall, and His — over me is love' (Song of Songs 2:4) (6)
- 8 Surrey town that hosts the National Christian Resources Exhibition (5)
- 9 Also known as Abednego (Daniel 1:7) (7)
- 10 Liken (Isaiah 40:18) (7)
- 11 A son of Etam, descendant of Judah (1 Chronicles 4:3) (5)
- 12 A part of the temple where the blood of a young bull was to be smeared (Ezekiel 45:19) (9)
- 17 'They make many promises, take false — and make agreements' (Hosea 10:4) (5)
- 19 Roman province to which Paul returned after evangelizing it on his first missionary journey (Acts 16:6) (7)
- 21 Material used to make baby Moses' basket (Exodus 2:3) (7)
- 22 'And feeble as — , in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail' (5)
- 23 'The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep — to his voice' (John 10:3) (6)
- 24 Stalk carrying the sponge of wine vinegar given to Christ on the cross (John 19:29) (6)

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Down

- 1 Elijah dug one round the altar he built on Mount Carmel and filled it with water (1 Kings 18:32) (6)
- 2 'I am not — of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes' (Romans 1:16) (7)
- 3 Buddhist term relating to belief in reincarnation (5)
- 5 Damascus disciple who, at God's command, restored the sight of the blinded Saul of Tarsus (Acts 9:12) (7)
- 6 and 16 Horses: their sound (Jeremiah 50:11) (5) and their gait (Joel 2:4) (6)
- 7 A three (anag.) (6)
- 9 Athenian council addressed memorably by Paul (Acts 17:22) (9)
- 13 Abide by (Galatians 3:5) (7)
- 14 Persian princes (Daniel 3:2) (7)
- 15 Force (Galatians 6:12) (6)
- 16 See 6 Down (6)
- 18 Paste (anag.) (5)
- 20 How the cedars of Lebanon are described (Isaiah 2:13) (5)

OUR COMMUNITY

Clubs, events and meetings, walks, talks and fun...



Due to the ongoing social distancing measures in place because of the Covid-19 pandemic, most local community events remain suspended.

This section of the magazine will return as soon as possible once the situation returns to normal

EDITORIAL TEAM

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Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Lk 8:40-56, Mt 9:18-26, Mk 5:21-43

Jairus, a town leader, had a 12 year old daughter who was ill and about to die. He came to Jesus and knelt at his feet...

Please come! If you touch her she will be healed.



Jesus went with him.

In the crowd was a woman who had been ill for 12 years.



If I touch his cloak I will be healed

Jesus felt power go out of him



Who touched me?

Jesus waited...



and the woman knew she had to tell him.

She knelt at Jesus' feet and told him everything



Go, daughter. Your faith has healed you.



Then Jairus was told his daughter had just died.



But Jesus said



Don't be afraid, just believe and she will be healed.

When they got to Jairus' house, it was filled with people mourning.



She is not dead, but asleep.

They laughed at Jesus. He sent them out of the house.



Little girl, get up!



At once she stood up!

Her parents were amazed.



Give her something to eat, and don't tell anyone what has happened.

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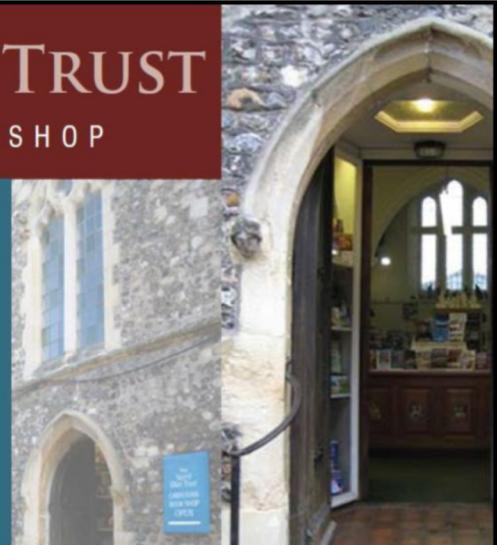
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The Revd. Tony Brant	01243 544735
The Revd. Sheila Higgins	01243 553901
The Revd. Graham Reeves	01243 265209

Parish Administrator:

Vera Saunders	Email: parishofabe@btinternet.com	01243 542410
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PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office is situated at “**The Church in the Market Place**”

35 Barnham Road, Barnham, Bognor Regis, W.Sussex. PO22 OER

Tel: 01243-553955. (Answer machine out of office hours)

Email: parishofabe@btinternet.com **Website:** www.parishofabe.org.uk

The Office is open Weekday mornings, 9.30am to 12.30pm. Office Hour every Saturday morning at “The Church in the Market Place” from 9am-10am, no appointment necessary.

CHURCHWARDENS

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Julian Buxton	01243 543930
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Barnham

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Bradley Smith	07931 527724
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Eastergate

Gary Courtnadge	01243 552099
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Richard Brown	01243 554001
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PCC Secretary:	Maggie Courtnadge	01243 552099
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PCC Treasurer:	Andrew Dunlop	
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Parish Safeguarding Officer:	Peter Higgins	01243 553901
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Mothers' Union: Branch Leader	Sharon Priest	01243 555905
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Sunday Seekers:	Hedda Wells	01243 696811
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Younger Sunday Seekers:	Kate Holland	01243 544186
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Parish Play 'n Pray time:	Hedda Wells	01243 696811
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Parish Magazine Editor:	Jonathan Stapleton	07776 137617
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PARISH DIRECTORY

LOCAL SOCIETIES & INFORMATION	CONTACT DETAILS	LOCAL SOCIETIES & INFORMATION	CONTACT DETAILS
Aldingbourne Bell Ringers Monday 7-9pm	Sue Kennedy 01243 543530	<u>Arun Councillors</u> John Charles Christopher Hughes Isabel Thurston	07889 988612 07479 211391 07410 441589
Aldingbourne and District Bowls Club	Alan Rust 01243 866482	Aldingbourne Parish Council (Clerk) clerk@aldingbourne- pc.gov.uk	Lindy Nash 07523 243068
Aldingbourne and District Target Shooting Club	Roger Ayling 07450 367357	Barnham & Eastergate Parish Council (Clerk)	Alison Crabb 07565 052617
Aldingbourne Tennis Club	Joy Gardiner 01243 552049 Hilda Bashford 01243 553365	Aldingbourne Community Sport Centre enquiries@acsc.org.uk	01243 543948
Barnham Scout Group Mark Guy gsl@1stbarnhamscouts.org.uk www.1stbarnhamscouts.org.uk		Barnham Community Hall Bookings/Enquiries	Ali Tarbard 01243 278110
“B.E.A.D.Y.S” St Wilfrid’s Hospice Support Group	Gill Kelly 01243 552230	Eastergate Parish Hall Bookings/Enquiries assistantclerk@barnhamand astergate-pc.gov.uk	Nina-Maria McMaster 07849 356 097
Eastergate Cricket Club Chairman: Steve Grant lamb784@gmail.com Colts Director: Chris Radford christianradford@btinternet.com		Five Villages Community Minibus	Mr B David 01243 553635
Eastergate Players		Chris Playford 01243 542574	Eastergate Primary School Hall Bookings/Enquiries
Peregrine Explorer Scouts 14—18 years	Toby Hewson 01243 554959	Five Villages Society	Joanna Williams 01243 551524
Rangers, Guides, Brownies and Rainbows	Mrs Sue Simpson 01243 542387	Village Friends	07925217843
St Andrew’s by the Ford Evensong Choir	Eileen Keough 01243 552577	WI, Westergate 2nd Tuesday, 2pm	Jacky Barugh 01243 545910
		WI, Eastergate & Barnham 2nd Friday 7.30pm	07932 057589
		WI Eastergate Friends, 2nd Monday, 10am eastergate.friendsWI@hotmail.com	
		Six Villages Archery Club	www.sixvillages archeryclub.org.uk