

# *St. Peter's Ardingly*

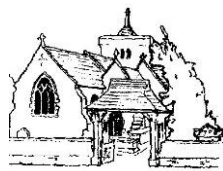
**Parish Magazine**

**April 2021**



Visit our web site [www.ardinglychurch.org.uk](http://www.ardinglychurch.org.uk)

**50p**



## **St Peter's Church, Ardingly**

### **Who's Who at St Peter's**

Rector	Revd John Crutchley	892332
Associate Priest	Revd Chris Sutton	07903 068366
Readers	John Witherington	892277
	Philip Kelly	892540
Wardens	Nigel Cheater	892769
	John Witherington	892277
Secretary to the PCC	Jane Taylor Cheater	892769
Treasurer	Jean Jeffery	415317
Organist	Jill Veasey	892442
Safeguarding Coordinator	Caroline Steer	892108
Church Centre Manager	Jill Veasey	892442
Church Centre Bookings	Carol Grossman	416707
Magazine Editor	Sue Laker	892117
Pastoral Care Authorised	Kathy James	891047
Lay Ministers	Sue Laker	892117

### **SUNDAY SERVICES**

**9.00 am A traditional form of Holy Communion**

**10.30 am Morning Worship – our main service – see Services page**

**The church is also open on Sundays and on Thursdays  
from 10am to 4pm for private prayer**

## RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,



This time last year I was finalizing my plans for our Easter services and celebration when everything came to a shuddering halt with the first lockdown. I could not have imagined then that one year on my plans for Easter would still be affected by lockdown. But they are and we won't be able to celebrate Holy Week in quite the way we have in previous years. However, the exceptionally good news is that from Easter Sunday the church building will be open again for our services as normal. We will still need to wear masks and be careful so as to allow others to have plenty of space, and we can't sing or share a coffee or indeed gather at all after the service. But we will be able to share the good news of Easter together and say (not shout!) 'Hallelujah – Praise the Lord!'

I could not have imagined either, just a year ago, how 'Zoom' would become so important in enabling us to continue worshipping together as a church family. But it has and it's been so good to meet and worship together over the last few weeks. Zoom will continue to keep us together now that we have a really good Wi-Fi link in the church. Those who are unable to come along to church and those who would prefer not to return just yet will still be able to worship with us via a Zoom link each Sunday at 10.30am. And of course, another benefit of Zoom is that if you want to invite family or friends to join us in our worship, from wherever in the country or the world, they can do so. All are always welcome.

Zoom will also be taking a part in our annual twenty-four hours of prayer in Holy Week. This year we're going to begin that at 11.00am on Maundy Thursday and continue it through to 11.00am on Good Friday morning. The church building will be open from 11.00am through to 6.00pm on Maundy Thursday, but thereafter it will be open 'virtually' via Zoom right through to 11.00am on Good Friday morning. So, if you want to take one of the prayer slots that will see us through Maundy Thursday evening and across the night into Good Friday, you will be able to do so from the comfort of your

own home but also 'virtually' in the church building just by clicking on to Zoom. Phil Kelly will be putting together a rota for us to sign up to for prayer and Nigel is working on the Zoom link which we will send out in the usual way and also make available on the church website. There is so much that we need to be praying for right now and thanking the Lord for as well. So, I hope that you will 'sign-up' so that for twenty-four unbroken hours we can make our prayers known.

We are also going to have the chance to pray together on Zoom as a part of the twenty-four hours of prayer with a service of Evening Prayer on Maundy Thursday beginning at 7.00pm. The focus of this service will be the Last Supper and a separate Zoom link will be sent out and available via [homeworship@ardinglychurch.net](mailto:homeworship@ardinglychurch.net). So, with all of this prayer and then an hour at the foot of the Cross on Good Friday, also via Zoom and beginning at 2.00pm, I hope that we will all feel ready and excited to return to our beautiful church building on Easter Sunday morning so as to celebrate Jesus' resurrection.

Because that is the principal fact of Easter and that matters over and above everything else. It is what everything else rests upon, the fact that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead, and so the fact that Jesus Christ is alive. By his resurrection Jesus has broken death's defences once and for all and he now holds the power of death. That's what is most important about Easter and that is something that should cause all of us to shout (Sorry! Say quietly behind our masks!) 'Hallelujah!'

The story is told of how after the battle of Waterloo the Duke of Wellington sent the great news of his victory to England using a series of stations, one in sight of the next that had been established to send code messages between England and the Continent. The message to be sent was: "Wellington defeated Napoleon at Waterloo." Meanwhile, however, a fog set in that interrupted the message sending. As a result, people only saw the news of "Wellington defeated." Later, the fog cleared, and the full message continued which was quite different from the outcome that the people originally thought had happened! And the same is true with the message of Easter. When many look at what happened on Good Friday, the death of Christ, they see only "defeat".

But on Easter Sunday, and with Jesus' resurrection, God's message is completed. The resurrection spells "victory" because HE IS RISEN!

Jesus Christ is Risen. He is Risen indeed. So why not join us this year to pray, to reflect, to remember and then to respond to that good news with (a loud!!) 'Hallelujah.'

Praise the Lord!

With my prayers and best wishes for Easter,



## Need a helping hand?

Serving the community in simple ways  
If you have a problem there are people willing to help



## AT YOUR SERVICE

Call 892442 or 892307

A community project managed by St Peter's Church

## **Services in April 2021 (and for HOLY WEEK and EASTER)**

### **Maundy Thursday (1<sup>st</sup> April) to Good Friday (2<sup>nd</sup> April)**

Twenty-four hours of prayer in church beginning at 11.00am on Maundy Thursday and continuing through to 11.00am on Good Friday.

The church building will be open from 11.00am on Maundy Thursday through to 6.00pm. Thereafter, the church can still be accessed 'virtually' via Zoom. So, if you wish to take an hour of prayer 'in the church' between 6.00pm and 11.00am on Good Friday, you still can! All you will need to do is to log on to Zoom. Zoom invitations will be sent out and will also be available via the church website ([ardinglychurch.org.uk](http://ardinglychurch.org.uk)).

And as part of that twenty-four hours of prayer there will be a service of Evening Prayer via Zoom, with music, readings, and prayer as we remember the Last Supper. It will begin at 7.00pm.

#### **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

7.00pm                      **A Service of Evening Prayer** (via Zoom)

#### **GOOD FRIDAY**

2.00pm                      **A Meditation on the Passion** (via Zoom)  
*A service that through music, quiet reflection, meditation, images, hymns, and songs will help us to focus upon the death of Christ on the Cross.*

**EASTER SUNDAY**                      (In Church and via Zoom)

9.00am HC [BCP]                      1 Corinthians 15: 1-11; John 20: 1-18

10.30am                      **"He has Risen!"**

**Holy Communion [CW]**                      *A service of Holy Communion for Easter Sunday morning*

### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> April**

9.30am

**Holy Communion [CW]**

### **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April**

9.00am HC [BCP]

10.30am

**Morning Praise**

### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April**

9.00am HC [BCP]

10.30am

**Holy Communion [CW]  
with prayer for healing  
and wholeness**

**APCM**

### **The Second Sunday of Easter**

Acts 4: 32 – 35; John 20: 19 – 29

### **The Third Sunday of Easter**

Acts 3: 12 – 19; Luke 24: 36b – 48

Luke 24: 36b – 48

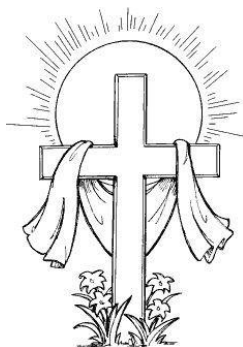
### **The Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 4: 5 – 12; John 10: 11 – 18

Acts 4: 5 – 12; John 10: 11 – 18

The **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

will be held in the church after the 10.30am service.



## NOTICES

**The Hub**, in the lobby at Hapstead Hall, has changed its opening days. It is now open on Wednesdays and Saturdays.



## NEW ADDRESS



If all goes to plan, **Gina Paul** will be moving on 29<sup>th</sup> March. Her new address will be 11 Ardings Close, Ardingly, RH17 6AN. It may take a week or two for the telephone/internet to be sorted out, but Gina can be reached on her mobile in the meantime.

## THANK YOU

Sandy Hett would like to thank everyone who sent him Christmas cards and letters/cards after his recent move to Compton House. He is very grateful.

## FLOWERS FOR EASTER

As we will be back in church for Easter Day, we plan to make the church look lovely with lilies and other flowers. We usually do this in memory of the loved ones we have lost. If you would like to give a donation for flowers in memory of your loved ones, please let me know as soon as possible so I have an idea of how many flowers to order. It would also be lovely to remember the many people in our country who have lost their lives in the past year because of the pandemic. Thank you.

Belinda 01444 892368



## Children's Society boxes

The annual collection of the boxes is now due. We would be grateful if you could bring your boxes to Church during April and let us have them, if this is convenient. We normally attend the 10.30 service. If it is easier for you, we are happy to collect your boxes from you. Our home telephone number is 01444 415317 so please let us know if you would like us to arrange a suitable time to collect from you.

Thank you all for your generosity in supporting this worthy cause.

Jean & Tony Jeffery

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## Foodbank

The Haywards Heath Foodbank is part of [The Trussell Trust's network of 428 foodbanks](#).

In 2020 the number of families in crisis helped by the foodbank rocketed to 3,205 between April and November, compared with 1,346 in 2019. In that period more than 28 tons of food were donated.

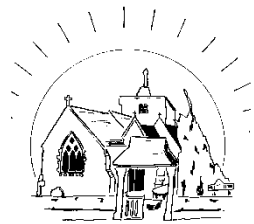


The foodbank currently has three sites - one off Janes Lane, Burgess Hill, and two separate units on the Ditchling industrial estate - but now they are looking for larger premises. They ideally need one central location of approximately 1,500sq.ft. near Haywards Heath.

Families unable to buy food have told the Foodbank team how thankful they are for the service. One said: "I can't express how deeply grateful we are, just know it has meant so much. Thank you so much." Another said: "We just wanted to say thank you again for helping us in this difficult time, you truly are angels. "

## Wardens' Words

At the time of writing, Palm Sunday is only nine days away and we look forward to Holy Week. If the restrictions have limited what we would normally do at this time, there will still be many occasions on which we can focus on Christ's Passion with the same commitment to prayer, praise and service. Our spiritual journey through Lent has been enriched by some wonderful Sunday services on Zoom and the Lenten Explorations, also via Zoom, have been consistently well attended - the first part each week all together, the second part in Home Groups. It has been particularly pleasing to have been able to include those who work during the day by having an evening session as well.



Easter Sunday, of course, is the day we are all looking forward to, not only for the joy of celebrating our Lord's resurrection, but this year especially so, as we are able to return to church. After a three-month separation, it will be hard to restrain our hymns of praise behind the masks! Please be aware that social distancing will still be in place and congregating outside the church is still, for the time being at least, not allowed.

We would like to thank the many individuals who give so generously of their resources to maintaining the church and its property: Jim and Sarah who maintain the inside of the graveyard hedges, the churchyard yew hedge and verge; and all who have responded so promptly to any need for Centre maintenance, especially Jill who has continued to keep the Centre under her careful eye. The usual teams of brass cleaners, flower arrangers, cleaners and bell-ringers have had to be put on hold over the past few months but we are grateful especially to all those church members who have played their part in keeping the building covid-safe. We would also like to thank Sue for continuing to publish this magazine, whatever the changing circumstances and whether it be in printed or electronic form. It has been a reassuring 'constant' in otherwise unpredictable times!

Nigel and John, Churchwardens

## Preschool News

We have had a busy month at Preschool. The children have continued exploring their interests in nature, construction and animals. We dressed up for World Book Day and made cards for Mothering Sunday. We're going to spend the next few weeks continuing to enjoy learning about Spring, growing and Easter. Hopefully also enjoying a hot cross bun or two, and going on an egg hunt!



St Peter's Pre-School and Toddler Group  
St Peter's Church Centre, Street Lane, Ardingly RH17 6UN  
Charity Number 1022794 registered in England & Wales  
Tel: 07969 890907

**<http://www.st-peters-preschool-ardingly.org/>**

### Last call for magazine subscriptions!

Most people have now paid their magazine subscriptions for 2021, but a handful have not! If you would like to have the magazine delivered to your door (in Ardingly) or sent by post, please could you let me have your subscriptions as soon as possible? (minimum £3 locally or £6.50 this year by post) If I don't hear from you I will assume that you no longer wish to receive it. Thank you.  
Sue Laker (892117)



When lockdown really does stop  
My hair will need a good crop.  
I'll be really glad  
Because things got quite bad  
When my wife mistook me for the mop.

## NEWS FROM NEPAL

Hello and greetings to you from Nepal in the precious name of our Lord Jesus. We hope and pray that this will find you in good health and spirit. We know life has not been normal and we are all facing different kinds of challenges, fears and frustrations since last year.



We are so thankful to the Lord for his faithfulness and for the love and prayers from friends like you, who have been with us in prayer. We thank God and thank you for making our lives special so that we could serve many people in their need, caused by Covid19 and natural disasters\*.

Nepal only lost around 2,000 people to Covid19 but millions of people became jobless and for many their businesses came to a standstill or even closed down. Now Nepal is normal and all sectors are open again, and people aged over 55yrs are getting the Covid jab. Tourism businesses are still suffering but other sectors are slowly recovering.

Churches are open and we are operating normally. God has been good to us as most of our believers are around and attending church services. We had 8 weddings since last March. A few people were baptised and a few accepted the Lord as their personal Saviour. Praise God!

God has been so gracious to one of our believers as the Doctor gave up hope for him but he has been saved by the intensive care unit.

All the work of our Charity is going well and we could bless many families through our projects. We praise God for the Agricultural Farm that we started in Sindhuli. Vegetables are being grown and we have now got goats and the shed is ready for chickens too. It was also our joy to distribute 5 Sewing machines to 5 ladies in the village so that they can learn tailoring.

Though we are away from you physically, somehow lockdown became our time to reflect on all our past times with God's people like you, whom we have met and who helped us in many ways. We love you and ask the Lord to bless you with His abundant grace.

May God bless you and be with you. Love, Milan

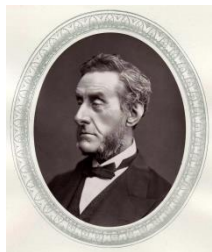
*\* At Christmas the Aanandit church distributed baby chicks (which have now grown into chickens) and goats to families in need and to landslide victims:*



## CPAS: HOW IT ALL BEGAN

For 185 years, CPAS (The Church Pastoral Aid Society) has been responding to the key challenges and opportunities of the time to equip leaders and churches for mission, so that many, many more men, women and children can come to know our wonderful Saviour.

CPAS was founded on 19 February 1836 by prominent Christians, including the pioneering social reformer Lord Shaftesbury. It was established as a Christian response to the massive social change brought about by the Industrial Revolution. What were once small village churches found themselves with the new urban poor on their doorsteps. Lord Shaftesbury and his friends stepped in to set up a new charity that would resource these churches to cope with this change. Their aim was simple: the gospel should be taken 'to every person's door, with a single eye to the glory of God'.



For many decades this aim was achieved through making grants to enable parishes to employ extra lay and ordained workers in fast-growing urban parishes. What was controversial – though hardly a surprise to us today – was that CPAS gave grants for the employment of lay staff as well as those who were ordained. One of the first recipients of a grant was the Rev Patrick Bronte, Rector of Haworth, and father of the famous novelists, who was able to employ Rev Arthur Nicholls as curate.



By the 1920s, CPAS was at the forefront of helping churches become more effective in sharing the gospel in a variety of ways, including the start of holidays for young people, which were originally known as Fresh Air Fund camps. Today, CPAS runs around 100 holidays a year for 8-18s, now called Ventures and Falcons.

Over the years CPAS has overseen the production of some of the most significant resources of the period including Youth Praise, Michael Botting's Family Worship and Journey into Life by Norman Warren.



In the 21st century the evangelistic commitment of CPAS focuses on equipping and resourcing lay and ordained leaders for kingdom-building work across the UK and Republic of Ireland. CPAS wants every church to be a pathway to faith, every leader to be a catalyst for evangelism, every child to have the chance to explore Jesus and every Christian to be a courageous witness.

*(taken from the CPAS website)*

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## **SAMARA'S AID**

The new Medical Centre in Syria is almost ready and now attention has turned to equipping it.

The charity has some equipment from previous centres, but there is a need to replace some which is broken and buy other brand new items such as ventilators, patient monitors and syringe pumps. Because of spiralling and ever-changing costs in Syria the charity will be buying these outside Syria, which also means that equipment of a more reliable quality can be purchased.



Samara is passionate about providing care for anyone who has a need, having heard too many stories of people who have sold their houses to pay for the hospital care of their elderly mother or relative. Yet because the care given was inadequate their family member died anyway. Samara and Dr A (a specialist doctor in a number of areas) are aiming to address this type of situation and ensure that the services they provide are the most helpful and relevant.

Fundraising has begun and Samara has received some excellent quotes, offers and some generous donations. God is Good! He is once again providing amazingly as the needs arise.



## MY EYES WERE BLIND

*A song written by Jill Veasey when she was at College in the 1960's*

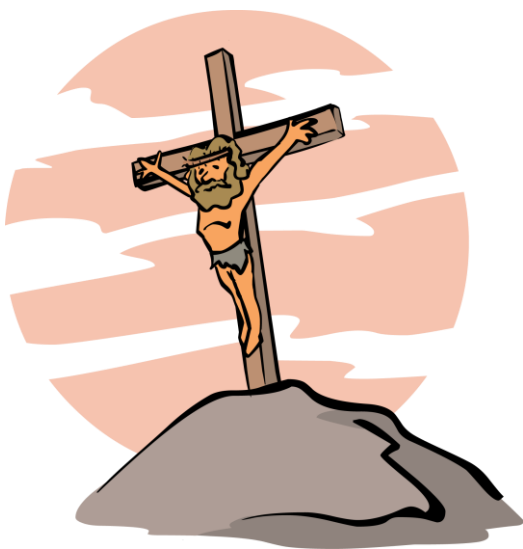
My eyes were blind, I could not see  
What wonderful things God had done for me.

Then Jesus laid his hands on me  
And opened wide my eyes to see.

And I looked up and saw his face.  
I saw my sin, but more his grace.

I saw by faith his riven side;  
The wounds he suffered when he died.

Now since he gave his life for me,  
'Tis Jesus only would I see.





## St Peter's C.E. School



Well, we're BACK!!! It was wonderful to welcome back all the children to the school on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Parents and carers have been incredibly supportive and have done such a good job working with the children learning at home. To see the children back in the classrooms, with their friends and all our staff is heart-warming. They are obviously pleased to be back too! Attendance has been wonderful and, with only one or two minor blips (to be expected), we are back up and running as normal.



Parents' consultation evenings have taken place with a slightly different slant this time. Rather than teachers telling parents what was happening with their child in school, instead, parents were able to tell staff how their son or daughter had been coping with home learning and also explain any concerns that they had. The consultations took place online via Zoom, which meant that parents were able to log in from home. The sessions ran smoothly, and many parents were very complimentary about the arrangements.

At St Peter's, we believe in making learning fun and this has continued this term. We celebrated World Book Day as usual, with children being invited to dress up as their favourite book character and, for Red Nose Day, everyone is invited to dress up as their favourite superhero (or maybe create their own) or to dress in red. It should be fun and will raise money for Comic Relief.



Hard though it is to believe, the Easter holiday is almost upon us. Our last day of term is Maundy Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. As a surprise for the children, St Peter's Church is providing an Easter party bag for all the children, with things to do, crafts etc and, of course, chocolate! It's a good way to finish for the holiday!

Kathy James

## **An Update from Chichester Cathedral**



Over the last year, Chichester Cathedral has faced many challenges and developed new means of staying connected with the wider community and providing means of support and resources.

When public worship was suspended last March, the Cathedral began live-streaming a weekly Sunday service. As limited public worship returned, additional services continue to be live-streamed and made available on the Cathedral's website. Other special services are live-streamed including those on Remembrance Sunday, Advent & Christmas, Holy Week and more.

The Cathedral developed resources for worship and prayer at home, and has run online lectures, concerts, choral music, and arts events.

It has continued to support its partners including Chichester District Foodbank, UK Harvest and Stonepillow. Earlier this year with the Sussex Pub Group and Pallant House Gallery, the Cathedral launched the Friday Lunch Club which offered a free two course lunch to vulnerable or isolated residents in the city.

As we look forward to the easing of restrictions, the Cathedral hopes to welcome back more worshippers, visitors and other groups in the coming months.

Like many other institutions there have been serious financial implications: one important way of providing regular support is through the Chichester Cathedral Friends. Through project funding the Friends have made considerable contributions in maintaining and improving facilities and services and developing the Cathedral's mission.

Current projects cover all areas of Cathedral life, including new toilet facilities in the North Transept (currently facilities are only available outside), new IT infrastructure, and improved Cathedral lighting.

In normal times, the Friends like to socialise and have fun too! Events throughout the year include talks, day trips, lunches and holidays. Joining the Friends is a way to enjoy new experiences and friendships whilst supporting the Cathedral's work and sacred heritage.

### **Cathy Clark**

Communications Assistant, Chichester Cathedral

**E:** [cathy.clark@chichestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:cathy.clark@chichestercathedral.org.uk) |

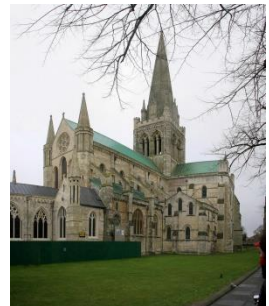
Chichester Cathedral, The Royal Chantry, Cathedral Cloisters, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 1PX

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## **Chichester Cathedral offers to be a vaccination hub**

Earlier this year the Chichester Cathedral team made direct contact with the NHS locally to assess whether Chichester Cathedral would be a suitable location for a vaccination site.

Following discussions, it was learned that the Cathedral had not been considered as a vaccination hub for several reasons: All hubs need to have adequate handwashing and toilet facilities, parking, be easily cleanable and have the capacity and ability to store fragile vaccines. The Cathedral would need to be closed to all other activities whilst this programme (which is likely to last several months) is underway. The Cathedral is currently open every day, for private prayer during the week and services on Sundays.



## Ardingly Connected Together



It seems hard to believe but Ardingly Hub has been up and running for over a month now. It has proved to be very popular with people in the village so, if you haven't been, do make a visit. We have a fantastic selection of books,

DVDs, jigsaws and board games for you to borrow (for free). We have fiction, non-fiction, children's books, games, jigsaws to test your patience and DVDs to supply many a movie night..... It's open between 8am and 4pm on Wednesdays and Saturdays so do come and browse.

Thank you to everyone who has donated the books, games etc. We are really grateful to you for making this venture successful. Incidentally, if you would love to have a movie night at home but don't have a DVD player, all is not lost! We have had *TWO* DVD players donated to the hub so please get in touch.

We have continued to provide support to village families who need a little extra help at this time. Your donations of non-perishable food and household items and cash have been incredible and, along with help from Ardingly College, the Old Post Office, Plawhatch Farm, Impact charity and Fellow's bakery, have enabled us to deliver substantial food recipe bags to help our village families. Please don't forget that if you, or someone you know, need some help at all, please do not hesitate to contact us (contact details below). We are here waiting to help. The COVID support service has been running for a year now – who would have thought that would ever be the case? If you need essential shopping, medication, lifts to medical appointments (including vaccinations), please contact us. If you would like to have a chat any time, we are all here and waiting – we aren't people you don't know, we are just friends you haven't met yet!



Did you think we'd forgotten that it's Easter? No chance! On Easter Sunday, starting at 2pm, we have an Easter Egg Hunt around the village! Prizes await and there will be LOTS of eggs hidden, just waiting to be devoured, as well as stickers to hunt down for a prize.

Maps will be made available on the village Facebook page and will also be printed and available to collect between 2 and 3pm from the village car park, opposite Ardingly Inn. (Please be aware that social distancing regulations will apply when picking up the maps and people will be asked to wear masks and comply with COVID rules.) Fresh air, exercise and chocolate – what could be better!!

Kathy James

Tel. 891047,

Mobile: 07703 295081

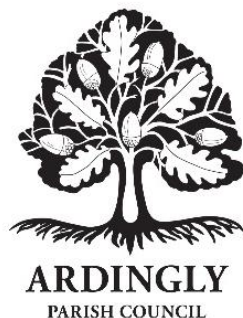
Email: [kathrynjames7@sky.com](mailto:kathrynjames7@sky.com)

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## **EASTER EGGS**

For thousands of years the Greeks, Persians and Chinese gave eggs as gifts in the Spring, celebrating new life in nature. For Christians today eggs are a symbol of the empty tomb and of new life. Eggs look dead but they contain life. In some countries eggs used to be painted red to symbolise Christ's blood. The chick is small, yellow and fluffy, but soon grows into a large hen which will lay the eggs from which other chicks will be born. The cycle of life goes on, giving rise to the question, "Which came first, the chicken or the egg?".





## **Parish Council News**

The Parish Council met on 9 March at 7pm. As has been the case for the last year, this meeting was held virtually, using the Microsoft Teams platform. A number of members of the public were in attendance at the meeting, having contacted the Clerk for the appropriate code.

The agenda for the Council usually has an item relating to any planning applications submitted for properties within the Council area. These are considered by the planning committee members, with visits being arranged where appropriate. A view is then taken as to whether or not the Council will support the planning application and whether an objection should be raised, for example.

At this time of year, it is always the case that the Council needs to consider and approve the budget for the upcoming financial year. This year, Councillors took the decision that we would not look to raise the amount that comes to us from Council Tax – known as the precept. Those of you who have received your Council Tax bill for 2021/2022 will see that, of the six elements that make up the total bill, the Ardingly Parish Council element is the only one that hasn't increased and has, in fact, decreased slightly from last year.

There are many areas that the Council is dealing with at the moment, and we considered the whole action list at our meeting.

It was decided that we would prioritise a small number of items, including refurbishment of the pavilion and maintenance of the village, to ensure that these were dealt with in as timely and efficient a manner as possible. The contract to cover general maintenance in the village is to be advertised and plans continue to be discussed as to how best to progress the work on the pavilion.

The Annual Parish Council meeting will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> May. Again, this will be a virtual meeting and further details will be published nearer the time. The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 13<sup>th</sup> April, 2021.

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## **Easter Bunny**

The Easter bunny has its origin in pre-Christian fertility lore. The Hare and the Rabbit were the most fertile animals known and they served as symbols of the new life during the Spring season.

The bunny as an Easter symbol has its origins in Germany, where it was first mentioned in German writings in the 1500s. The first edible Easter bunnies were made in Germany during the early 1800s and were made of pastry and sugar.

The Easter bunny was introduced to American folklore by the German settlers, who arrived in the Pennsylvania Dutch country during the 1700s.



*Source: J John's booklet "Easter Sunrise"*





## AROUND THE VILLAGE

### THANK YOU

Once again the Rainbows and Brownies have been cheering us up (those of a certain age) with their delightful gifts of Hyacinths. Here is a message of thanks from Wendy Bearchell, and I'm sure many other people will echo this:

"Please can you offer thanks to the Brownies for the lovely gift of a hyacinth found on my doorstep today. Just the thing to cheer us up on a cool grey morning in these trying times. "



### WELL DONE DYLAN!



Dylan Humphries ran 2 kilometres every day while he was not able to go to school because of lockdown (nearly 50 days), come rain - or snow - or come shine. He has run with their dog, with his dad, with his auntie, with a ball, in fancy dress and all to raise money for NHS Charities. He has raised a total of **£2020** and has a personal best time of 9 minutes 22 seconds.

**Well done Dylan!**





## NOT TOO SERIOUSLY ....

A Vicar was taking morning assembly and asked the class, "Why do you think I wear this collar?"

One boy tentatively put up his hand and answered, "Because it keeps ticks and fleas away for 30 days?"

### *True story from a Vicar:*

I was officiating at a wedding and during the preparations the bride and groom wanted to have two turtledoves on the altar as a symbol of their forever love. I politely said 'No birds or animals.'



They hid the birds in a back room anyway. Immediately after the service they went outside, each of them with a bird in its cage. They opened the cages in unison. One bird flew out and disappeared to the right. The other flew out and disappeared to the left.



We all stood there watching the symbols of their forever love fly off in opposite directions.

An eccentric philosophy professor gave a one question final exam. He picked up his chair, plopped it on his desk, and wrote on the board: "Using everything we have learned this term, prove that this chair does not exist."

Pencils flew, erasers erased, notebooks were filled; some students wrote over 30 pages.

One student finished in less than a minute. He earned an A for his two word answer: "What chair?"



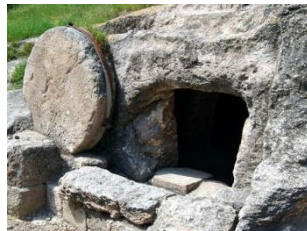
# Parish Register

There are no entries in the parish register this month.

## EASTER PRAYER

*O Lord,  
How amazing is your love.  
How we worship you, as we remember  
the moment when your love conquered.  
When out of the cave of sorrow Jesus arose  
to release forgiveness to the world.  
How we thank you for this incredible celebration we call  
Easter.*

*Amen.*



### **Flower rota for April:**

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April: Pat and Sheila

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April: Belinda

**"God loves us, everyone, as though there were but one of us  
to love"**

*(Augustine of Hippo)*

## **General Information**

**BIBLE READING NOTES:** Regular reading helps us to grow as Christians. Bible Reading Fellowship notes are available from Margaret Dale (892252).

**CHURCH CENTRE:** Hire of Centre, crockery, cutlery and chairs: contact Carol Grossman 416707

**GIVING:** Special weekly or monthly envelopes or bankers' order forms are available from Jean Jeffery (415317). Anyone paying income tax or capital gains tax is encouraged to sign a Gift Aid declaration which would enable the church to claim tax (currently 25 %) on all their giving. Please make cheques out to St Peter's Church, Ardingly.

**MAGAZINE:** Annual Subscription £3.00. Can be delivered or posted (if posted the cost is £12.50 per annum). **MAGAZINE EDITOR:** Sue Laker, 19 Ardings Close, Ardingly RH17 6AN (892117). Please submit items for inclusion by noon on the Saturday before the penultimate Sunday in the month. Email to: [emails4sue@gmail.com](mailto:emails4sue@gmail.com)

**TRANSPORT:** If you require transport to church, or if you could provide it for others, please contact Jill Veasey on 892442 or Jonathan Summers on 892307.

**HOME GROUPS** meet for bible study, prayer and fellowship on various nights of the week in homes.

**ANGELS & URCHINS:** Thursdays 9-11.00 during term time but not during lockdown. Contact Jill Veasey 892442

# PRAYER DIARY APRIL 2021



*"Pray ... on all occasions" (Ephesians 6.18)*

- 1 John and Sally and their family
- 2 **Good Friday.** Praise God for His saving grace and mercy
- 3 May the Good News of Easter bless many this weekend
- 4 **Easter Sunday.** Jesus is alive! Praise God for his victory over death
- 5 Pray for family and friends and give thanks for times together
- 6 Chris Sutton and his ministry in Nuthurst and Mannings Heath
- 7 Coronavirus worldwide and the delivery of vaccines
- 8 Milan and the Aanaandit church in Nepal
- 9 All teachers, pupils and university students starting a new term
- 10 Our Lay Readers and Wardens, John, Phil and Nigel
- 11 Praise God, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life
- 12 The Royal Family, living life in the spotlight
- 13 All chaplains, especially those in hospitals and prisons
- 14 Myanmar and other places where there is conflict
- 15 All who work in the NHS and Care sectors
- 16 Our government and all Members of Parliament
- 17 Refugees around the world. The Rohingya and all in camps
- 18 Our services today. All Bishops, clergy & other worship leaders
- 19 Give thanks for our green spaces and pray about Climate Change
- 20 The Samaritans and all who offer counselling support
- 21 Heather Johnston and the work of the Rehema Project
- 22 All who are suffering in any way or grieving
- 23 Yemen, Syria and other countries where there are great needs
- 24 All who reach out with the Good News to the 12 million young people who don't go to church\*
- 25 Our services today and the Annual Church Meeting this morning
- 26 World leaders – for good relations, peace and justice
- 27 All who have suffered loss due to Covid
- 28 The Samara's Aid team. Orphans & Widows supported by the charity
- 29 Our Parish Council and the Showground development
- 30 Give thanks for God's love and constant presence through another month

\* *(Scripture Union statistic)*

**The deadline for the May magazine is midday on 17<sup>th</sup> April**

Printed for St Peter's by Ardingly College