St. Peter's Ardingly

# **Parish Magazine**

## October 2021











# 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 Philip Kelly	892277 892540
Wardens	Nigel Cheater John Witherington	892769 892277
Secretary to the PCC Treasurer	Jane Taylor Cheater Jean Jeffery	892769 415317
Organist	Jill Veasey	892442
Safeguarding Coordinator	Caroline Steer	892108
Church Centre Manager Church Centre Bookings	Jill Veasey Carol Grossman	892442 416707
Magazine Editor	Sue Laker	892117
Pastoral Care Authorised Lay Ministers	Kathy James Sue Laker	891047 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 5pm for private prayer

See the following pages for full details of all this month's services

## **RECTOR'S LETTER**

Dear Friends,

Harvest time is, for me, one of the important markers of the year. The Summer has drawn to a close and now there's a different feel and taste in the air. Early mornings are sometimes misty, leaves are beginning to turn brown, the season of Remembrance will soon be upon us



and then it's into Advent and so on towards Christmas. But for me, that all begins with Harvest and with all of its wonderful nostalgias: thoughts of ploughing fields, the good seed scattered on the land, the gathering in of abundant crops. Times may have changed and that link between the production and consumption of our food lost to so many, but somehow Harvest is embedded in our souls.

The writer of Psalm 65 catches the mood of harvest thanksgiving and wonder quite beautifully. As others have written, Psalm 65 is more than a Psalm, it is a truly lovely poem. A sort of harvest hymn that makes everything else look plodding and contrived. It is 'a feast of poetic fantasy and freedom' as one commentator has observed. And he is right! "*The meadows are clothed with flocks of sheep, and the valleys are carpeted with grain. They all shout and sing for joy!*" writes the psalmist (Psalm 65: 13). Just reading the psalm makes you want to smile, to give thanks - to give thanks to our God of grace, of abundance, of might and of plenty.

Of course, as we all know, there is tragedy in nature as well. There are floods and there are droughts. There are earthquakes, hurricanes, wind, and fire. But none of it, none of those fears, and none of our own current fears and anxieties should make us lose the discipline of gratitude for a world of astonishing abundance that was 'created in exuberant colours, anticipated in ravishing smells, and experienced in mouth-watering tastes'. The season of harvest celebration is a moment, I think, to pause and to remember again; a moment to stop and to show gratitude.

Why? Well, as the poet writer of Psalm 65 also reminds us in the language of his poem, it's because Harvest reminds us that God is present and active, taking care, providing, softening, and blessing. It's the very same divine care and abundance that is seen when Jesus lays down his life for us at the Cross and then takes it up again through his resurrection. To look into the blood-stained face of Christ on the cross is to look into the face of God himself and so to see God himself overcoming our greatest fear, satisfying our greatest need, and providing for all those who believe in Him, abundant life eternal.

For me, the season of harvest with its celebration of all God's good gifts is a reminder that the God who is outside of us is also and always right here with us. And for that, we should be always thankful. In our harvest celebrations and then throughout October we'll be thinking about our good and generous God and about how we respond to his generous, loving, provision for us. Do join us!

With my prayers and best wishes,



# **Notices for October**

### **Meeting Point Coffee Mornings**

These will take place on 4th and 18<sup>th</sup> October in Hapstead Hall from 10.15 to 11.30. All are welcome. We are looking forward to seeing you all again. Belinda (01444 892368)



#### Ardingly History Society

Exhibition of archives, maps, memorabilia and much more 10am-5pm on 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> October in Hapstead Hall All welcome

#### Harvest

There will not be a Harvest Supper this year but we have been invited, as in previous years, to hold our **Harvest Service Service** outdoors at the Norfolk Pavilion on the Showground. This will be on **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 10.00am**. For free entry you will need to have a special wristband, and these are available in advance from John Witherington (892277).

WI Cheese & Wine

21<sup>st</sup> October 7.30 in Hapstead Hall New members are welcome

#### Services in October 2021

#### "HARVEST – A Season to celebrate God's great Generosity"

Deuteronomy 24:19 (ESV)

"When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it. It shall be for the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands."

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Harvest Celebration and Praise
9.00am Holy Communion [BCP]	Joel 2: 21 - 27; Matthew 6: 25 - 33

**10.00 am Open Air Harvest Celebration** Service for all ages outside the Norfolk Pavilion, South of England Showground

6.30pm **Open to God** *A quiet and reflective service for the end of the day* 

Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity – Our Generous God (1)
9.00am Holy Communion [BCP]	Bible Readings TBA
10.30am Holy Communion [CW]	Bible Readings TBA
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> October 9.00am Holy Communion [BCP]	The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity – Our Generous God (2) Bible Readings TBA

Sunday 24th October	The Last Sunday after Trinity – Our Generous God (3)
9.00am Holy Communion [BCP]	Bible Readings TBA
10.30am Holy Communion [CW] with prayer for healing and wholeness	Bible Readings TBA
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	The Fourth Sunday Before Advent
9.00am Holy Communion [BCP]	Hebrews 9: 11 – 14; Mark 12: 28 - 34
10.30am Morning Praise	Hebrews 9: 11 – 14; Mark 12: 28 - 34



# **CMS** News Heather Johnstone

Dear friends,

It is so easy to become bogged down with your own personal situation – finances, permits, challenges and tragedies of COVID-19, the tedium of the day-to-day – and sometimes it's hard to stay positive.



I am, however, always encouraged by stories from our own Rehema Project. For example, Cesilia Joseph, my friend and colleague, an artisan at Rehema, recently asked for a loan against her small pension to help her repair her house which had been severely damaged by the recent rains and storms. The rains were particularly severe and mud houses do not withstand the elements like a bricksand-mortar building. It got me thinking that I have known Cesi for nine years, and in that time, she has rebuilt her mud house at least three times due to the adverse weather conditions. Because she is always spending her small income on makeshift repairs, she will never be able to afford to build a proper brick home. With that in mind, I recently ran a fundraiser to enable her to build a house that will protect her and her family from the elements and stop that cycle of exhausting her small financial resources on regularly patching her mud house together. Our wonderful supporters dug deep, and we met our target, in fact, praise the Lord, we exceeded our target. The house we are building does not have a toilet, like most houses in the village of Nyambeshi. However, if we have enough money left over, we will also be able to build an outhouse for Cesi, which will be a bonus.

We told Cesi that through the generosity of supporters in the UK she is going to get a house built for her. She was so excited and incredulous. I bet there was a lot of singing and dancing in her household that night!

Here in South Africa, I also recently learned of a project in an extremely deprived community called Ocean View in the Southern Cape Peninsula, where two remarkable women are doing the most extraordinary work. Their feeding scheme is supported by Ladles of Love and feeds thousands of people every day – the two women cook up pots and pots of flavoursome, nutritious food, which is then shared with scores of women who open their homes as serving stations. Within minutes of the food arriving, people of all ages bearing bowls line up to receive a meal.



People with so little are filled with so much gratitude and camaraderie – it is very humbling.

I have been volunteering for a Christian NGO called Living Hope, who work in five disadvantaged areas, including Ocean View. Recently, they seconded me to assist at the COVID vaccination clinic in the area. The clinic is under-resourced, and the staff are run ragged, but extremely keen to vaccinate the community, many of whom are malnourished and have co-morbidities. It is an honour to assist them with registration, admittances and administration.

The Delta variant is spreading like wildfire in South Africa. Currently, in our household, my brother, his girlfriend, and my 13-year-old nephew have COVID. We are all isolating. Thankfully, they are recovering well, and their symptoms were not too bad. Bishop George reports that the Delta variant has also hit Tanzania very hard. He tells me that when they wake up in the morning, they are deeply thankful to God, as they never know who will be alive the following day.

Almost a year ago, I wrote with great excitement that my work permit had been approved. The next step, a mere formality, was the application and approval of my residence permit. Now, I must face the unfortunate reality that my "final grant" work permit expires on 30 September 2021, and my residence permit has still not been approved. It breaks my heart, but it seems unlikely that I will be able to return to Tanzania to serve as a full-time mission partner. I am in discussion with the Diocese of Mara about my situation, and with CMS, who will endeavour to find me another placement, if necessary.

I believe in my heart that things happen for a reason and in God's timing. I trust that although I have felt like I am in limbo waiting in

South Africa, waiting is never a waste of time in God's economy, and he has been preparing my circumstances so his plans and purposes can be worked out. I trust in him. I believe in his leading.

**Please pray for my future**. Pray for discernment, for wisdom, and that God will speak to me through his word and lead me so that I might find myself where he wants me to be. I am staying at my brother's house at the foot of the iconic Table Mountain. Every morning I admire its beauty and majesty and reflect on Psalm 121. I lift up my eyes to the mountains – where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. God bless you, Heather

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#### Race to Remember

Combat Stress are organising this fund-raising event on 13th November to raise money for ex-servicemen and women recovering from mental health problems, sometimes many years after they have left the Forces. I have signed up to do the 36 kilometre walk from Petersfield to Portsmouth. Our servicemen and women are amazing people who put themselves in danger for us, and some pay a heavy price for that courage. If you want to know more about Combat Stress, go to <u>combatstress.org.uk</u>. If you would like to sponsor me for Race to Remember, either donate online to my fundraising page at

https://events.combatstress.org.uk/fundraisers/carolinerich

or send a cheque to Combat Stress giving my name as the fundraiser. Feel free to ring me on 01444 891958 for more information. Wish me luck!, Caroline Rich

#### TEARFUND: Farming God's Way

In many developing countries, sustainable farming practices can be a matter of life and death. The climate crisis is making extreme weather events such as droughts more common, and farmers have to be prepared. An initiative called 'Farming God's way' is helping them do just that.



At the heart of the initiative is the practice of 'mulching'. Essentially, the soil is covered in a layer of dead leaves and grass. This helps retain the soil's moisture, which is crucial in harsh climates. When these materials decay, their nutrients are passed into the soil. The need for extensive ploughing, which is labour intensive and can damage the health of the soil, is eliminated. This mimics natural processes – hence 'farming God's way'.

The results can be life-changing. Moyo\*, a father of four from Malawi, spent much of his life in a near constant state of hunger. Prolonged droughts meant he couldn't harvest enough either to feed his family or sell to make a living. His children couldn't go to school as he was unable to pay the fees.

When one of Tearfund's local partners taught him about Farming God's Way, all that changed. Within two years, he had quadrupled the yield of his crop. Now he has more than enough to go around. What's more, he's teaching other members of his community the same methods.

As well as higher crop yields, Farming God's Way produces benefits to people such as improved income from the sale of surplus food, reduced manual labour, and greater resilience to climate change. It's great for the environment too, with outcomes such as healthier soil, erosion control, water conservation, and keeping carbon in the ground rather than releasing it into the atmosphere.

\* Not his real name

## TESTIMONY

In the Autumn many hundreds of thousands of international students arrive in the UK for the first time. Many go to university here and others begin English language courses. It can be very hard for them – but some meet God here. Here is Leah's story:



The Chinese often say that "studying changes destiny". So, under the influence of utilitarianism and pragmatism, I came to Sheffield for a Master's degree. Yet, under the guidance of God's goodness I met Friends International\* workers, Carol and Caleb and I had the privilege of attending a 'Word Alive' conference.

To be honest I didn't fully understand what the talks were about but the message I heard every day was "He loves you forever" and "you are my precious" ; words that awakened my long dormant heart.

For me, growing up in a single parent household I always thought love was conditional. A deep sense of abandonment gripped me, especially when I couldn't get my father's affirmation – even when I tried my best. As a result, I was reluctant to believe that a perfect God would love an imperfect me.

I used to think that if God loved me, he should have made my father repent and apologise to me. But I realise now that God had watched over me since I was a child, and that He has given me the most radiant and dazzling love in this world. As I found my value and security in Christ, I began to accept myself and believe that I was complete. No longer did I need to prove who I was by my grades, social status, wealth etc. God's unconditional love also gave me the power to forgive, so that I was released from hatred and bitterness and I was truly set free.

<sup>\*</sup> Friends International offers Christian support and friendship to international students in the UK and Ireland

#### Online shopping and raising funds for St Peter's Church

Many of us now use online shopping for both our day-to-day essentials and for those important items, with the convenience of these being delivered to our doors. As online shopping is likely to remain important to us all, why not take the opportunity to raise valuable funds for St Peter's Church at the same time?



St Peter's Church is now registered with easyfundraising, which means you can help us raise funds, at no cost to you, just for shopping! Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! Big names like eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Tesco, Sainsburys, Argos, ASOS, Expedia, M&S, Just Eat, Uswitch and many more are included in this scheme. This means you can raise FREE donations for us, no matter what you're buying.

All you need to do is to sign up and remember to use easyfundraising whenever you shop online. It's easy and completely FREE! These donations really mount up. To get started, just sign up to support us at <u>www.easyfundraising.org.uk</u> and select St Peter's Church, Ardingly.



AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on amazon.co.uk. The difference is that when you shop on smile.amazon.co.uk, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price (excluding VAT, returns and shipping fees) to St Peter's Church.

Just go to www.smile.amazon.co.uk and select St Peter's Church, Ardingly

#### **Pre-school news**

We are enjoying getting back in the swing of things after the Summer holidays, and have welcomed some new children to Preschool. We are really pleased with how they are all settling in. So far we have been focusing on getting to know each other, building friendships and discovering our similarities and what makes us unique.



The children have been enjoying mark-making and creating collages, playing with toy animals, exploring sensory materials such as playdough, sand and water, baking, building with giant wooden blocks and pretending to fix the Wendy house using tools, among many other activities.

All 3 and 4 year olds are entitled to up to 15 hours of free early years education, so please get in touch if you would like to know more and visit the Preschool to have a look around. We have a few spaces available.





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/

## FSW update

Dear Friends,

The new school year has begun and we can look back on a lovely summer of activities supporting our families as well



as many events where we were able to catch up with supporters. Over the school

holidays our practitioners were able to organise a huge range of trips and outings for their families, including some visits to the Mothers' Union caravan in Selsey, cinema outings, beach and picnic days and trips to Drusilla's. Although we weren't able to hold our annual teddy bear's picnic at Warnham Park it was still fantastic to see families out and about, enjoying fresh air and the chance to try new things after so long spent in lockdown.



We were also delighted to welcome 50 walkers to our sponsored Amberley-Arundel Walk last month. It was a perfect day for walking and catching up with old friends. At the time of writing, just over £3000 has been raised through sponsorship and we are hoping that this total will reach £5,000 in the coming

weeks. Thank you to everybody who took part or sponsored somebody else – these funds are vital to ensuring the continuation of all of our services across Sussex.

We know that many churches will be planning Harvest Festival collections in the coming weeks. Our foodbank stocks are still very low, and we would be very grateful if you could consider organising a collection for us (tinned fruit, tinned vegetables, soup and tea are particularly welcome).

Thank you again for your continued support of our work through prayer, donations and practical help.

#### Nikki Kerr, FSW Director of Fundraising and Marketing



# **Ardingly Parish Council**

After a summer break in August, the Parish Council met on 14th September 2021. One of the first considerations for councillors was whether or not the meeting could and should be held faceto-face or continue online. Councillors decided that, in order to ensure continued safety with regard to COVID, this meeting would continue online. However, consideration would be given, prior to the next meeting in October, as to whether it would be sufficiently secure for future meetings to be held face-to-face in Hapstead Hall.

A number of planning applications were looked at. Councillors felt that it was unnecessary to view any of the sites mentioned in the applications and the Council's views would be submitted to Mid Sussex planning.

The Parish Council is responsible for a number of Assets in the village: Hapstead Hall, the Royal British Legion building, the Pavilion and the recreation ground. It was decided to establish a working party to review the state of repair and usage of these assets. To do this effectively, it was agreed that the working party would liaise with parties who use these buildings. It was anticipated that the working party would present an interim report for the November Council meeting.

A number of other items were also Matters on the Agenda, including an update on the plans for total refurbishment of the pavilion.

The Council was also happy to support financially the work of Ardingly Connected Together as they help to facilitate the Great Big Green Week.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 12th October.

### ST PETER'S C.E. PRIMARY

It was so good to welcome back our pupils to school this month! As for excitement, it was hard to decide whether the staff or the children were more excited to return - new classrooms, new teachers, new topics, so much to do and never enough time!!!





The cycle of school life continues - we waved goodbye to last year's year 6 pupils at the end of term in July and already our new year 6 pupils need to be planning with their parents for moving to Secondary school! Of course, we have new pupils who joined us in Greenfinch class. They have settled in so well

and are now well and truly part of the St Peter's school family.

The school's open mornings will take place on Tuesday 5th October and Wednesday 3rd November. There will be two sessions on both mornings, 9.30am and 10.30am and, after a presentation by Mr Savage, our current year 6 pupils will show parents round so that they can see the school in action. Please contact Ms Griffin in the school office if you would like to book a place at an open morning. It would be great to welcome you and your child to be part of the school family and part of our school life cycle!

Kathy James

# LAUGHLINES ....

A young monk was assigned to help other monks copy out the old canons and laws of the church by hand. On his very first day he noticed that all the monks were copying from copies, not from the original. So, the new monk pointed out that if



someone had made even a small error in the first copy, that error would be continued in all the subsequent copies.

The head monk said: "You make a good point, my son.' So he went down into the dark caves underneath the monastery where the original manuscripts were held in a locked vault that had not been opened for hundreds of years. Hours went by and nobody saw the old abbot.

Finally, the old monk returned, looking distraught. "We missed the R ! We missed the R ! The word was... **CELEB R ATE**!"



The previous month's Harvest Festival donation from the Genetic Modification research laboratory was proving to be a useful stop-gap until the steeple restoration fund reached its target

# CHILDREN SOMETIMES WRITE THE MOST AMUSING THINGS:

It was about dusky when I aroused from my slumble

Some people can tell the time by looking at the sun but I have never been able to make out the numbers

Romeo and Juliet tell each other how much they are in love in the baloney scene

Trigonometry is when a lady marries three men at the same time

Parsimony is money left by your father

A barrister is a thing put up in the street to keep the crowds back

A millennium is something like a centennial only it has more legs

Henry the Eighth had an abbess on his knee, which made walking difficult

A skeleton is a man with his inside out and his outside off

Algebraical symbols are those used when you don't know what you are talking about

Name the four seasons: Salt, pepper, mustard and vinegar

I'm not sure how clouds get formed, but the clouds know how to do it and that's the important thing

Mandolins are high officials in China





# AROUND THE VILLAGE

#### **GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK**

As this magazine goes to print Great Big Green Week has just begun and Ardingly is participating with a wonderfully full programme of events. The first events were an Open Day at the Allotments with surplus produce on offer, a Scarecrow Making workshop and an opportunity to recycle a range of things which cannot go in our blue bins. The event was very well supported, in beautiful weather.

WSCC's Waste Adviser, Colin McFarlin, was present on 18<sup>th</sup> to give lots of helpful information and you can find one of his tips, on recycling aluminium foil, below.

Recycling tubs



Colin McFarlin taking questions



Open day at the Ardingly Allotments

Jim making fresh apple juice





Scarecrow making workshop





Waste Freighter driver answering questions

**Is it okay to put lightly soiled aluminium foil into our blue bins?** "Like aluminium cans, aluminium foil is 100% recyclable, and a valuable recyclable material as it doesn't lose any quality during the recycling process. The more food waste you can scrape off used foil, the better. Small amounts will be okay. Cut out larger amounts and put the really damaged foil into your black bin. Scrunch all your clean foil, both big bits and small, into a ball until it is at least the size of a tennis ball and put it in your blue bin."

# Parish Register

There are no entries in the Parish Register this month.



#### **Flower Rota**

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October: Jean, Pat and Sheila (Harvest) Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October: Pam and Angela Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October: Ann

#### **Meeting Point Rota**

October 4<sup>th</sup>: Jill, Alison and Deb October 18<sup>th</sup>: Lyn and Belinda

#### **Brass Cleaning Rota**

23<sup>rd</sup> October: David and Clare Hadden



### **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). It is also possible to donate on our website. 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 Friday before the penultimate Sunday in the month. Email to: <u>emails4sue@gmail.com</u>

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 weekday afternoons and evenings in homes (subject to Covid restrictions)

ANGELS & URCHINS: At St Peter's Centre on Thursdays, 9-11.00 during term time. Contact Jill Veasey 892442.

## PRAYER DIARY October 2021

" Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests" (Ephesians 6 v 18)



- 1 John and Sally Crutchley and their family
- 2 Chris Sutton and his ministry in Nuthurst & Mannings Heath
- **3** Harvest Festival service on the Showground.
- 4 Meeting Point; all who help and attend
- 5 The Coronavirus situation in the UK and around the world
- 6 Our home groups and those who lead them
- 7 Milan and Shusma and the Christian church in Nepal
- 8 The sick and those who live with long term medical conditions
- 9 World Hospice & Palliative Care Day. Pray for our local hospices
- 10 May the love and power of Jesus be experienced today
- 11 The situation in Afghanistan and the Middle East
- 12 Prisons Week: Pray for all who live and work in prisons
- 13 The new Chaplain at Ardingly College and his family
- 14 Lynn Wilson and the bell ringing team
- 15 All who suffer for their Christian faith
- 16 The outreach of Christian Unions in schools and universities
- 17 Our worship today. Give thanks for all who lead worship & for Christian music
- 18 All migrants and refugees and those helping them
- 19 Air Ambulance and all who rescue people in trouble
- 20 Praise God for his creation and the beauty of Autumn
- 21 Those suffering from addiction or abuse; organisations which support them
- 22 All who look after the church building and St Peter's Centre
- 23 Our Parish Council, District and County Councils
- **24** Our services today. Give thanks for the Bible & the power of God's word
- 25 Rest & refreshment for all teachers and pupils on half term
- 26 Missionaries and their families; children often boarding far away
- 27 The pupils sponsored by IMARA; Belinda, Kevin and other leaders
- 28 The Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal
- 29 CPAS and all who train clergy and evangelists
- 30 The homeless and organisations which help them
- 31 Praise God for the difference he can and does make in our lives

#### <u>The deadline for copy for the November magazine is</u> <u>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October</u>