

St. Peter's Ardingly

Parish Magazine

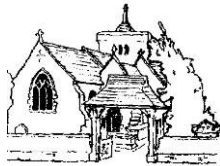
December 2021/January 2022



*We would like to send our very best wishes to everyone
in the village and to all of those who read this magazine
for a very happy and holy Christmas
and for a peaceful New Year*



From John and Sally Crutchley



St Peter's Church, Ardingly

Who's Who at St Peter's

Rector	Revd John Crutchley	892332
Associate Priest	Revd Chris Sutton	07903 068366
Reader	John Witherington	892277
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	Jane Taylor Cheater	892769
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 5pm for private prayer**

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

RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

I am hoping that as you read this, I will encourage you to sing! To sing some of the Christmas carols that are such a joy and reminder of all that the wonderful season of Christmas means.



Everyone has a favourite Christmas carol. One of mine is 'Hark the Herald Angels sing.' Why not start by singing that one now? Can you hear it? "*Hark the Herald angels sing, glory to the newborn king!*" Actually, there are angels everywhere in the Christmas story. An angel turns up and informs a man called Zechariah that his elderly wife is going to have a baby boy – who would grow up to be John the Baptist. An angel turns up to tell Mary that she's going to give birth to the Son of God. And the same angel then turns up to tell her husband-to-be, Joseph, that his fiancée is pregnant as a result of the Holy Spirit and that he should go ahead and marry her anyway. An angel turns up to tell the shepherds who were watching their flocks that a Saviour had been born in the little town of Bethlehem – and he's followed by a whole choir of angels singing God's praises. "*Hark the Herald angels sing, glory to the newborn king!*" You see, everywhere you look in the story of Jesus' birth-angels are found to be playing a critical role. So, we need to listen to those angels, and to all that they have to say, and to give them a place in our hearts' warmest love this Christmas. Because theirs is a message of delivery but also of deliverance.

Let's try another one. How about 'O little town of Bethlehem'? Are you singing? Actually, this is another of my favourites: *Oh, little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie. Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by, Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light. The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.* Four beautiful verses that remind us, as someone else has written, that '*the hinge of history is to be found on the door of a Bethlehem stable.*' There's definitely something in that. History's greatest figure was born not in a palace, not in a mansion, not in luxury anywhere – rather, he was born in that Bethlehem stable. And he was born to change the world.

So, we should take time this Christmas to be aware that in the very midst of all of our busy preparations for the celebration of Christ's birth in ancient Bethlehem, Christ is reborn in the 'Bethlehems' of our homes and daily lives. Let me urge you to take time, to slow down, to be still, and to be awake to what looks so common and so ordinary – and yet is so wondrously present.

There's time for a couple more. How about 'In the Bleak mid-winter' - that great reminder that Christmas is based upon an exchange of gifts. The gift of God to us all of his Son; and the gift of us all to God – when we first give ourselves to Him: *What can I give him, Poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; If I were a wise man, I would do my part; Yet what I can I give him – Give my heart* (Christina Rossetti). That's certainly a lovely carol, as is 'Silent Night.' I can never sing that one without hearing the words of Psalm 4: 8: *I will lie down in peace and sleep, for you alone O Lord, will keep me safe.*

Are you still singing? I do hope so. As I hope that you will keep singing all across the Christmas season and join with us to sing carols with others as we gather for a Christingle service around the oak tree in the village on Saturday 4th December at 5.00pm (details of how to make a 'Christingle' to bring with you to the service are on the church website). Then you can sing again at our Carols by Candlelight service in the church on Sunday 19th December at 6.30pm and again at our Crib and Carol service for everyone on Christmas Eve at 5.00pm.

At each of those services we shall certainly be singing one carol that I think is on everyone's list of favourite carols, 'O Come all ye Faithful.' Because that's a carol that pulls together in a way, all that we have already sung. It calls us to come to Bethlehem to behold the baby Jesus. It calls us to come and adore him. It reminds us of the angel choir that accompanied Jesus' birth – and of the shepherds who gathered around his cradle. But above all it reminds us that God calls us, too, to sing Christ's praises – and to give him glory in the Christmas season. In everything else that we have to do this Christmas let's remember to come and adore the Christ who came into the world to bring us light for our darkness – and joy – and life eternal.



With my prayers and warmest wishes to everyone for a peaceful, happy and Holy Christmas.



Christmas gifts for FSW

On 5th December we will have our usual 'FSW Toy Sunday', when you are invited to donate gifts of toys and other gifts for children, gift cards, wrapping paper and sellotape, so that at Christmas they can be given to families within our Deanery who are supported by FSW. If you are unable to bring items to church that day, please phone me on 892717 to arrange collection/delivery of these.

Packets and tins of food are welcome at any time of the year and these can be placed in the box at the back of church.

If you would like to make an independent financial donation you can do so by following the link:

<https://www.familysupportwork.org/get-involved/donate/>

Thank you!

Deb Ruse, St. Peter's FSW Representative

Need a helping hand?

Serving the community in simple ways

If you have a problem or need a lift somewhere there are people willing to help



AT YOUR SERVICE

Call 892442 or 892307

A community project managed by St Peter's Church

Services in DECEMBER 2021

'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today, and forever.' (Hebrews 13: 8) *In the season of Advent we remember Christ's Incarnation over two thousand years ago. We yearn for and welcome Christ's presence in our lives today. And we look forward to the future coming of Christ in glory.*

Saturday 4th December Carols and Christingle

5. 00pm

A service for all held around the oak tree in the village with Christmas music and carols, and the story of Christmas told through the CHRISTINGLE

Sunday 5th December THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9.00am

Holy Communion [BCP]

Philippians 1: 3 - 11; Luke 3: 1 - 6

10.30am

Morning Praise

Philippians 1: 3 - 11; Luke 3: 1 - 6

5.00pm

Open to God: Darkness to Light

A service of readings, prayer, and quiet reflection to celebrate the season of Advent

Sunday 12th December THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9.00am

Holy Communion [BCP]

Philippians 4: 4 - 7; Luke 3: 7 - 18

10.30am

Holy Communion [CW]

Philippians 4: 4 - 7; Luke 3: 7 - 18

Sunday 19th December THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9.00am

Holy Communion [BCP]

Hebrews 10: 5 - 10; Luke 1: 39 - 45

10.30am

Morning Praise

Hebrews 10: 5 - 10; Luke 1: 39 - 45

Sunday 19th December

6.30pm

Carols by Candlelight

A traditional service of readings, words, music, and carols for Christmas presented in a beautiful candle-lit church and followed by mince pies and mulled wine

Friday 24th December

CHRISTMAS EVE

5.00pm

A Crib and Carol service for all the family

The message and meaning of Christmas, favourite carols, candles, and fun!

11.00pm

A Christmas Celebration of Holy Communion

Holy Communion [CW]

A quiet and reflective candle-lit service for the beginning of Christmas

Saturday 25th December CHRISTMAS DAY

9.00am

Isaiah 9: 2 - 7; Luke 2: 1 - 14

Holy Communion [BCP]

A traditional service of Holy Communion for Christmas Morning

10.30am

Christmas Morning Praise

Morning Praise

A service of Christmas Carols and Christmas Praise to celebrate the birth of Jesus our Saviour and Lord

Sunday 26th December

Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr

9.30am

Acts 7: 51 - 60; Matthew 10: 16 - 22

Holy Communion [BCP]

"Joy is the true gift of Christmas, not the expensive gifts that call for time and money. We can communicate this joy simply: with a smile, a kind gesture, a little help, forgiveness. And the joy we give will certainly come back to us....Let us pray that this presence of the liberating joy of God shines forth in our lives." [Benedict XVI]

Services in JANUARY 2022

Sunday 2nd January

The Epiphany

9.00am

Holy Communion [BCP]

Ephesians 3: 1 – 12; Matthew 2: 1 - 12

10.30am

Morning Praise

Ephesians 3: 1 – 12; Matthew 2: 1 - 12

Sunday 9th January

The First Sunday of Epiphany (The Baptism of Christ)

9.00am

Holy Communion [BCP]

Acts 8: 14 – 17; Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

10.30am

Holy Communion [CW]

Acts 8: 14 – 17; Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

Sunday 16th January The Second Sunday of Epiphany

9.00am

Holy Communion [BCP]

1 Corinthians 12: 1 - 11; John 2: 1 - 11

10.30am

Morning Praise

1 Corinthians 12: 1 - 11; John 2: 1 - 11

Sunday 23rd January The Third Sunday of Epiphany

9.00am

Holy Communion [BCP]

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21

10.30am

Holy Communion [CW]

With prayer for healing and wholeness

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21

Sunday 30th January

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)

9.00am

Holy Communion [BCP]

Hebrews 2: 14 - 18; Luke 2: 22 - 40

10.30am

Morning Praise

Hebrews 2: 14 - 18; Luke 2: 22 - 40



St. Peter's Church

**Welcome
to the
Advent in Ardingly
Trail 2021**

This December explore the story of Christmas in a series of Advent displays around the village. Each display has been designed by an Ardingly resident to tell a part of the Christmas story. Use the map (which will be available from the church and on the website) to navigate your way around the village to see the drawings, paintings and displays in windows and gardens during Advent.

You can also follow the Kings as they follow the Star. They will move around the village during December appearing in different displays until they arrive at St. Peter's Church. Have you seen them today?

Where will they travel to next?

Enjoy the trail!



NOTICES

Meeting Point Coffee Mornings

The Meeting Point Christmas Party will take place in Hapstead Hall on 13th December from 10.15 to 11.30. The next Meeting Point dates will be 10th and 24th January 2022. All are welcome.



Link to Hope Shoeboxes



A very big 'Thank You' to all who supported the Link to Hope Shoebox appeal this Autumn. With the help of St Peter's Primary School we sent a total of 19 shoeboxes to the collection centre. The boxes are now on their way to Romania, Bulgaria, Moldova and Ukraine.

Sue Laker

Angels & Urchins dates

Our last morning before the Christmas holidays will be on Thursday 16th December. We'll meet again on Thursday 13th January 2022.

Jill Veasey



ARDINGLY CHORAL SOCIETY

Advent Carol Concert
at 7.30pm in the College Chapel
On Thursday 16th December 2021
In aid of St Peter & St James Hospice

POSTBOX in Church



As in previous years, we will have our Christmas Postbox in church on 5th, 12th and 19th December. You are welcome to post in it your Ardingly village cards but please no cards for outside the village! There will be a small box for donations towards this service and the total raised will be given to a local charity. Deliveries will be made on Monday 20th December, and help with this will be much appreciated! Sorting will begin at 10.00am in the Church Centre that day. Please let me know if you can help. Thank you!

Jill Veasey (892442)

NEW YEAR WALK AND LUNCH

To mark the start of 2022 we are planning to have a meal at St Peter's Centre on Saturday 1st January, as we have done in previous years. George Ruse will lead a walk (weather permitting) for those who would like to work up an appetite and the walkers will join the rest of us for a meal at about 1pm. Coffee will be available from 11.45 and again after lunch, and we will pack up at about 3.30. The meal is free but donations are welcomed and the proceeds will be shared between Old Jeshwang and IMARA.

If you would like to come to the meal please contact Deb Ruse (892717) – preferably *before* Christmas! Offers of help with transport would be welcome and please speak to George for details of the walk. We look forward to seeing you there.

Deb and George Ruse (deb_ruse@hotmail.co.uk)

ANGEL TREE UPDATE

A big 'thank you' for all the donations that have been given to me for Angel Tree this year. You have all been most generous and it is much appreciated! Judging by the application forms that have come in so far, it looks as if we will be providing for about 80 children of Lewes prisoners this year and the buying of presents is well underway! I will let you know in the February magazine all that we have accomplished! Meanwhile we would value your prayers that all will go smoothly.

Adele



Nick and Jeannie Leadsom have moved.
Their new address is:
Martlet Manor
Butler's Green Road
Haywards Heath
West Sussex RH16 4DA
Tel. 01444 450682

MUSIC AND MINCE PIES:

After being on hold due to Covid, this event is back again. It is for Senior Citizens and will take place on Monday 13th December at 11.30 at Ardingly College.

MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS for 2022

Firstly a very big 'thank you' to the many people who contribute to, and help with, the parish magazine during the year – to the team at Ardingly College who print it for us, to Ann Phillipson who proof reads it each month, to Glynis Doerr who bundles and distributes all the magazines each month, and to all the deliverers who put them through our doors! **THANK YOU!**



Now it's the time of year when annual subscriptions become due. If you would like to have the magazine delivered to your door (in Ardingly) the minimum subscription will be £3 (and grateful thanks go to all those who round it up to £5!). For those people who receive it by post, the subscription for 2022 will be £12.50.

Subscriptions can be delivered or posted to Sue Laker at 19 Ardings Close, Ardingly RH17 6AN or to Michael Denman at 35 High Street, Ardingly RH17 6TB. Cheques should be made payable to "St Peter's Church, Ardingly" please.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy Christmas, and God's blessing in the New Year,

Sue Laker

NEWS FROM OUR FRIENDS IN S.E. ASIA

Dear friends,

After about 18 months here in Europe, we are close to returning to Southeast Asia. A has received his visa and B's is being processed. So we hope to leave Europe by the end of November. We thank God for this development!



Meanwhile, we have been busy coming alongside our international team-mates and we also have new people who have joined the team. (They have also just received their visas!) The pandemic has posed challenges to face-to-face meetings with contacts and new believers. We have been able to keep in touch with a few via the internet, to share and encourage. One couple in particular are gifted in prayer ministry and God has used them to heal people who are physically sick or spiritually oppressed. Many have professed faith through their ministry, but unless people are rooted in God's Word, their faith in Christ fizzles out when they feel better. So we are hoping to give our local teammates some training in leading Bible studies with new believers.

At a recent retreat for national gospel workers in our area both stories for praise and challenges were shared. One common challenge was the difficulty in learning the local language. Another was the need to disciple new believers who are either illiterate or have a low literacy level. Many discipleship resources and methods are geared towards Western educated believers and we need wisdom and creativity in helping new believers to grow in their faith. The pandemic has definitely pushed us to explore ways of using social media in order to sow the gospel more broadly.



Our family is now divided, with our son doing a foundation year in Europe and our daughter in year 12 back in her host country. In December she will move from a German speaking, to an English-speaking dormitory (another transition for her) while we will be returning to the country where we were based prior to the pandemic. Thank you so much for standing in prayer with us.

News from Nepal

Greetings to you from Nepal in the precious name of our Lord Jesus! We trust in God that you are well. Our hearts are always full of joy when we think of you, and it's such a privilege to share God's faithfulness with you. Thank you for your love and prayers.

We have so much to thank God for in Nepal and quite few things to pray for too.



This is the time of the Diwali (Hindu) Festival in Nepal. Me and my wife have been invited by a group of churches in the North of Nepal, near the Tibetan Border, to speak at a Youth Conference for 3 days. May God speak and bring His revival amongst young people.

The house (next to the church) we wanted to purchase for the Aanandit Charity is still on sale but we've dropped our proposal for now due to lack of funds. We would like to bring all our projects on one site i.e. Children's Home, Girls' Hostel, Vocational Training, Elderly Care, Day Care for Toddlers, Guest House, Play Ground and Vegetable Farm etc.

We had a fantastic few days in Pokhara as a refreshment retreat for the Aanandit Charity staff, children and girls from the Girls Hostel and Children's home. We were 48 all together and for many it was the first time they had had a holiday together with their family.

A few weeks ago Nepal faced a terrible and untimely heavy monsoon which caused 121 deaths and over 11 billions of Rupees worth of rice to be washed away. Many roads, bridges and villages were hit by floods and landslides. Please pray for the poor farmers who lost all their crops for a year.

After a 2nd wave of Coronavirus in May, now things are more normal. Most businesses, educational and religious places are open. So we are worshipping God in our church again, which is so wonderful. Nepal got more vaccines from China.

Thank you so much for reading and praying. May God bless you very richly. Love, Milan

The Innkeeper by O M Keve

Yes, they came to my inn at Bethlehem, and how well I remember the couple; it seems but yesterday.

He was a manly sort of a man, the kind that would cause you to look again if you saw him once; kindly and dignified, with a long beard; a strong man with a quiet manner. There was something that charmed me about the woman who was with him, and...well, I just can't tell you... anyway, one could see that she might soon become a mother.



It rather worried me that I didn't have a place for them, but so many had come for the registration, you know. Sanballat, rich merchant, had come down from Damascus; Thaddeus, one of my old customers, had come up from Gaza. A party from Hebron came just at nightfall, and, since I knew them all, I could not turn them away.

Joseph told me that he was from Nazareth, up in the hill country of Galilee. He thought, of course, he could have a place to stay. And, as he asked me, he looked toward Mary and knew that I would understand. I did understand, and I tried to think which of the men I could ask to move and make place for the couple. But how could I ask these customers of mine to inconvenience themselves? After all, I did not know Joseph and Mary.

I said to myself, O well, somebody will look after them. I must not disturb the others, and it is a beautiful star-lit night. Here, I have it, I finally said to myself, we can make room for them in the stable, and somehow they will get along.

I have wondered a lot about them since they have gone. He was a manly sort of man with his long beard and dignified look and quiet manners. And the woman, she was like a princess. I wish now, that I had said to the men in my inn, "We must make a place for this man and this woman from Galilee!"

But I didn't, and I am sorry. After all, they might have been people of consequence.

Taken from: christmas.spike-jamie.com/inspirational

On 13th November Caroline Rich completed the COMBAT STRESS RACE TO REMEMBER

The deed is done! I completed the 20 miles walk from Petersfield to Portsmouth on Saturday, and can truthfully say that I enjoyed it!

About 40 people signed up for the event and the majority were runners - long distance runners. The walkers were a very elite and select bunch of people. Quality not quantity!



The route between Petersfield and the north side of Havant was rural and pretty. We walked to Buriton (pretty), up over the South Downs (steep), through Head Down Plantation (woody) on the Shipwrights Way, to join New Barn Lane. The lane continued South, keeping alongside the railway on our left and skirting the village of Charlton on our right, to Finchdean. Just beyond Finchdean we followed the Sussex Border Path to Rowlands Castle and to our 1st break/stop at the Scout Hall in Uplands Road. Rowlands Castle did have a castle, built between 1066 and 1199, but the village was apparently pretty much abandoned by the 1400's. The castle was damaged when the railway was laid between Petersfield and Plymouth. Now all that is left is a motte and bailey. Rowlands Castle is a pretty village with a large and unusually shaped green with some attractive cottages and houses. It felt like a perfect setting for Miss Marple.

The catering standards at the Scouts Hut were pretty good. The Combat Stress team had been up all night baking cakes and cheese blinis, and roasting peanuts. They were tremendously encouraging and cheerful, which was good for our morale. A few runners had passed us in ones and twos, looking pretty tired, but always with a wave and a cheer. There was great camaraderie amongst the runners, and between the walkers and runners (except we could talk more).

Leaving Rowlands Castle, we joined the Shipwrights Way (that name must tell a story) and crossed the B2148 onto Prospect Lane. Somewhere between the end of Prospect Lane and the Bedhampton Cricket Club (2nd break/stop) we managed to see a lot of Havant and somehow added about 1.7 miles to the prescribed route.

This is a Mystery, which I cannot explain! All I know is that my Garmin recorded 22.03 miles for the whole walk.

Bedhampton Cricket Club meant lunch. A hot lunch too! Then we were off again.

The next section between the Cricket Cub and Hillsea Lagoon was a strange contrast, with the very noisy A27 on our right and Langstone Harbour, the Farlington Marshes and Ports Creek on our left. About half a mile south of the Cricket Club, we joined The National Cycle Route 22, which runs from Banstead, Surrey to Portsmouth, driving distance 70.6 miles. We walked between two competing worlds. To our right, noise, hassle, pressure, fumes. To our left, water, marshes, sea birds, tranquillity, and in the distance, the Spinnaker Tower.



The last section was in the dark, along the Pilgrims Trail, and into the street lighting of Portsmouth. We turned into the Historic Dockyard and walked towards a little crowd of CS team. We had finished!

(The total raised by sponsorship for this event will be announced when all the donations are in.)

CHRISTMAS IS COMING...

In case of a turKey shortage ...

Plan B:



NEW REPAIR CAFÉ IN LINDFIELD

There is now a Repair Café in Lindfield! It is located in the United Reform Church in the High Street and is open from 10am to 1pm on the first Saturday of the month (with the exception of January, when it will be open on 8th).

We are invited to bring along our broken household items and the volunteer team will repair them.

Children are welcome and “can have fun taking things apart on the kids’ table”.

More information at this address: www.lindfieldrepaircafe.org



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## Visiting Sandy Hett at Compton House

Sandy would be delighted to have visitors, but Compton House do currently have a procedure which visitors need to follow. So if you are planning to visit Sandy please first call the Rector, John Crutchley, so that he can explain what is required.

## Festive Rubbish and Recycling Collections

Mid Sussex District Council have announced that because Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day all fall at the weekend, there will be no change in waste and recycling collections this winter.



## **Ardingly Parish Council**

The Parish Council was delighted to welcome two new Councillors, David Port and Vivien McCaig. David and Vivien filled the two vacancies on the Council, restoring us to a full complement of members.

Many residents have asked for an update on the potential development on part of the showground. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide any more details as the decision still sits with the planning inspector. As soon as we have any further information, we will communicate this to everyone in the village.

We continue to move forward with the refurbishment of the Pavilion. In the not too distant future, the Council will need to go out to builders to invite tenders for the work - exciting times! In the meantime, repairs continue to be effected to various areas in the village, such as gates and benches. We are slowly renovating the village assets.

As we head towards Christmas, we are endeavouring to work with other groups in the village, such as Ardingly Connected Together, to make sure that the whole village experiences some joy and happiness during this season. May I take this opportunity to wish each and every person in the village a very happy Christmas and a joyous New Year.

**Derek Stutchbury, Chair of Ardingly Parish Council**

## ST PETER'S C.E. PRIMARY



It has certainly been an exciting time in school! Our reception and key stage one children had the thrill of a visit from West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service! Learning about what firefighters do and having a virtual



tour of the fire station was fun but then the children had the chance to help spray water from the hose....!!

It isn't only our younger children who have exciting times. Robin and Swallow classes had a visit from a real life palaeontologist. They were able to examine fossils and learned through games how animals and plants have to adapt to their living conditions.

While all this has been going on in the classrooms, the Friends of St Peter's School made sure that parents and carers didn't feel neglected. They organised the famous (or should it be infamous!) FOSPS quiz which took place on 12 November. Great fun was had by all!

Plans are afoot for Christmas already with rehearsals underway for our reception and KS1 Nativity play. Of course, we will be having our KS2 carol service at the church, which is such an important point in our school year. With Christmas lunches, a Nativity Christmas Show, parties... when will there be time for learning??



Kathy James

## **The tale of an Ardingly hedgehog**

**Please help us**



This summer we had a dear hedgehog visitor to our garden. Not only was he a lovely little chap but he was also most helpful because he ate a lot of slugs which were eating up our plants. Sadly, when the farmer cut the field next to our house, he was badly injured by the rotary blades, which were set a bit too low, and not long after, our poor hedgehog died. We wrote to

our farmer who was saddened by this and he answered our letter kindly and helpfully. We thought that, in memory of our little garden visitor, we would learn how to help hedgehogs and write to everyone in the village about helping them too.

We found out that hedgehogs do not have a 'fight or flight' response to danger, so rather than running away from danger, they curl up in a ball. This makes them vulnerable to injury from machinery such as strimmers and mowers. Hedgehogs nest all year round; they use hibernation nests in the winter and nests for day time resting during the rest of the year. They nest in bramble patches, log piles, open compost heaps, areas of rough grassland, loose leaf piles and garden vegetation.

Please be aware of the possible presence of hedgehogs when strimming wild patches or mowing long grass. The best thing to do is to cut brambles or long grass initially to about one foot high and then check the area for hedgehogs before cutting any lower. Hedgehogs also nest in bonfire piles so please check those too before setting them alight.

What else can we do to help our hedgehogs? There is a very helpful section on the People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES) website, at <https://ptes.org/campaigns/hedgehogs/> and you can also visit [www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk](http://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk) for tips and advice. Thank you for your help.

Pat & Sarah Holman



## **AROUND THE VILLAGE**

### **Memorial bike ride**

In October everyone was shocked and saddened when a young man, Thomas May, suffered heart failure whilst on a bike ride through the village. On 13<sup>th</sup> November friends, his family and work colleagues, plus Dale West from Ardingly, joined in a memorial cycle ride, following the route Thomas had taken. They stopped at The Oak Green for refreshments and to remember Thomas and they were joined by a number of people from the village. It was a lovely way to remember Thomas, and the family plan to do the same next year.



## REMEMBRANCE POPPIES

Ardingly remembered the fallen last month and many of the benches in the village were decorated with knitted poppies and labels naming those who lost their lives in the two World Wars. St Peter's Church was also decorated with a beautiful cascade of poppies. All these had been painstakingly made by the WI ladies and other residents over recent months and looked beautiful.



# **Bluebell Railway Christmas Carol Service**

with the

## **Bluebell Railway Band**

**Revd. David Murdoch**

**Bluebell Railway Chaplain**

## **Horsted Keynes Station**

### **Tuesday 7th December 7.30**

**Station open 6pm Service approx. 50 minutes**

**Collection for St Giles Church  
and the Station: "The Jewel in the Crown" Repair fund.**



# Parish Register

There are no entries in the parish Register this month



Dearest God,  
Please never let me crowd my life  
full to the brim,  
So like the keeper of Bethlehem's inn  
I find I have no room for Him.  
Instead, let my heart's door be ever open,  
Ready to welcome the newborn King.  
Let me offer the best I have  
To Him who gives me everything.

*On pinterest, author unknown*

## Flower Rota

17<sup>th</sup> December: All flower arrangers and as many  
helpers as possible please for candle decorations.  
Holly and foliage is needed.  
7<sup>th</sup> January: Pat and Sheila  
21<sup>st</sup> January: Pam

## Meeting Point Rota

13<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas party  
10<sup>th</sup> January: Adele and Diana  
24<sup>th</sup> January: Jill, Alison and Deb

## Brass Cleaning Rota

18<sup>th</sup> December: Rosemary Hodgson  
and Rowena Chalk  
15<sup>th</sup> January: Mick & Barbara Lucas



## **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: [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 weekday afternoons and evenings in homes. New members are very welcome. Contact: John Witherington 892277.

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

## PRAYER DIARY DECEMBER 2021

*"This is how God showed his love among us:  
He sent his one and only Son into the world  
that we might live through him." (1 John 4 v 9)*



- 1 John and Sally Crutchley and their family
- 2 Our Prime Minister and government and all MP's
- 3 Cross Channel migrants and arrangements to care for them
- 4 The PCC, meeting this morning. Carols around the Oak Tree
- 5** Our worship today; the Light of Christ
- 6 The Advent Trail around the village
- 7 Bambi & Andreas, settling back into life & work in S.E. Asia
- 8 Jill Veasey and the choir, preparing for Christmas
- 9 Ardingly Parish Council
- 10 The Coronavirus situation
- 11 Open House & Off the Fence; all who are homeless
- 12** Our worship today; all bishops and clergy
- 13 All who are suffering from domestic abuse or violence
- 14 Give thanks for friends & family and all who encourage us
- 15 Our local hospices and Care Homes
- 16 Heather Johnstone and her work with CMS
- 17 Countries suffering food shortages due to climate or human causes
- 18 Foodbanks and other organisations helping people in need
- 19** Our worship today and the Carol Service this evening
- 20 All who will find the Christmas season difficult
- 21 Prison inmates and their families. Prison staff and chaplains
- 22 Salvation Army, Samaritans and Crisis – so busy this season
- 23 Everyone who will spend Christmas away from home
- 24 All the Christmas church services and those who lead them
- 25 The Saviour is born!** Give thanks and praise
- 26** Our worship today; all who have heard God speaking this Christmas
- 27 The Police and all who help to keep us safe
- 28 The NHS, our local hospitals and health workers
- 29 Samara's Aid, supporting the poor, orphans & widows in Syria
- 30 Journalists and all who work in the media
- 31 Look back over the year and give thanks

# PRAYER DIARY JANUARY 2022



*"To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
In you I trust, O my God" (Psalm 25 v 1)*

- 1 Commit the New Year to God. Ask for his blessing on it
- 2 Pray for our faith & love to grow today and in the year ahead
- 3 John and Sally Crutchley
- 4 Our Churchwardens, John and Nigel
- 5 Staff and pupils at our village schools as the new term begins
- 6 Pray for opportunities to share the love of Jesus this year
- 7 Milan & Shusma and the work of the Aanandit Church in Nepal
- 8 Pray about the environment and the promises made at COP26
- 9 Our worship today: may God's kingdom grow
- 10 Pray for peace wherever there is conflict and for all world leaders
- 11 Christians around the world who are suffering persecution
- 12 The ACTS and At Your Service teams and the help they provide
- 13 Angels and Urchins; the babies, carers and leaders
- 14 Pray a blessing on all our village businesses this year
- 15 All who are struggling financially this winter
- 16 Our worship today; praise God that we can know him
- 17 Church finances and St Peter's Centre
- 18 Carers and all who live with long-term illness or special needs
- 19 Tearfund, providing sanitation, clean water and other help in poor countries
- 20 The Queen and all the Royal Family
- 21 Those who are lonely or grieving
- 22 All refugees and aid workers, in the UK and around the world
- 23 Our worship today: praise God for our freedom to worship
- 24 All young people and youth workers
- 25 CPAS, providing training and resources for parishes
- 26 Give thanks and pray for Old Jeshwang in the Gambia
- 27 All who clean the church, arrange flowers and help in other ways
- 28 Belinda Maclean, the IMARA team and sponsored students
- 29 All vulnerable people, especially those who are housebound
- 30 Our worship today: praise God for all who help us grow in faith
- 31 Praise God for prayers answered during the past month

**The deadline for the February magazine  
is Friday 21st January**