

From the Parish of Ewhurst with Okewood & Forest Green

news&views

- AUTUMN 2020 -





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The photograph of Twiglet and Edie in the last issue should have been attributed to Aidan Edgar.

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From the editor

Well, I simply couldn't let Summer go by without a little celebration. It's been such cracking weather and we've missed so many top events from the Ewhurst Carnival to Secret Gardens and Okewood Flower Show. That's why we celebrate the glory of a selection of gardens in the Parish in full-colour on pages 26-30. And elsewhere we continue to champion the passions of the inspirational people in our community. I hope you enjoy this issue and it gives you a bit of joy in these rather odd times!

Will

Will Shepherd | Editor
will.shepherd@mac.com



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What do you want?

REVEREND CLARE ASKS US A DECEPTIVELY SIMPLE QUESTION

What do you want? Sometimes it's hard to decide exactly what we want in life. Jesus often asked people what they wanted him to do for them. It seems pretty obvious that the blind person would want to see, that the lame person would want to walk.

However, he still wanted them to ask.

For myself, I want to have all the people I love and like living close enough to me that we can pop into each other's houses for a cup of tea. I know that is not going to happen in this life, but I want to work towards it. So that means making friends where we are.

In my work as a priest in our parish, I want people to be able to meet Jesus, in any way possible. That is my main task as Rector here. We are told that as Christians we are part of the body of Christ. This part of the body has been looking rather different in the past months.

We are

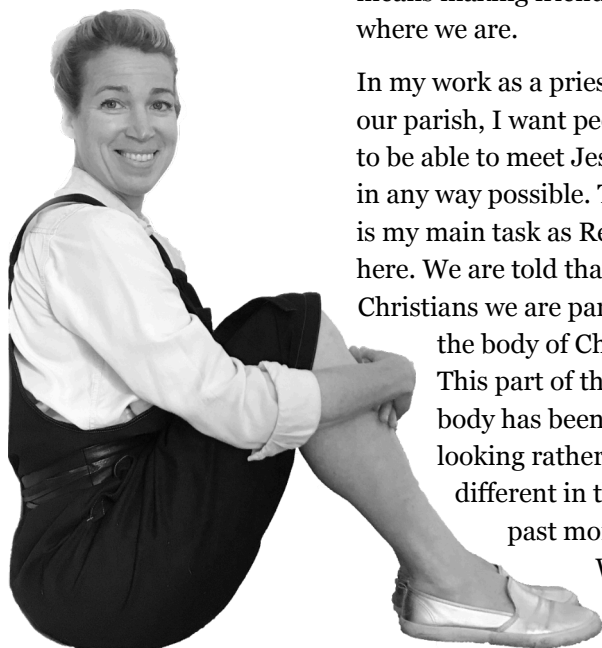
now starting to meet outside in our garden on Sunday mornings which has been wonderful. This will continue for the moment, as will our Facebook Live broadcasts. In the very near future we are looking forward to working with Stephen Backhouse who features in this magazine. We are going to be thinking about celebrating our faith through some of the things that are important to us in this parish. So look out for a launch party soon!

What do you want? I would love to hear.

Call the Rev.

Reverend Clare is available to chat most days (Friday is her day off) but has a specific telephone surgery on Wednesdays 9-10am

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Captain Qwerty and the Strange Neighbours

SIMON FRASER INTRODUCES HIS CARTOONIST ALTER EGO

In June 2017, I got myself an alter ego – Captain Qwerty. Don't worry, you won't see me running around Ewhurst



iron / ironic

dressed as a superhero. He only exists on social media; Twitter and Instagram to be precise.

Those of you who know me

may be aware that I write for a living. I'm in marketing, working for an agency in Shere. If memory serves me right, our office is behind the church. However, I'm also a cartoonist/ caricaturist, but this creative side of me, up until three years ago, only got the occasional outing, usually when I was asked to produce a mildly insulting leaving card at the office.

But then Captain Qwerty came along. Initially, he was a little sporadic, tweeting only a handful of times before he went quiet in February 2018.

However, during this time, he did hit on a unique idea: grab a dictionary, find two unrelated words that appear next to

each other, and construct a cartoon out of them. So, goose and gooseberry, linger and lingerie, swan and swank. You get the idea.

In February this year, almost exactly two years since his last post and just before lockdown, he came back into life and #strangeneighbours has been going ever since. He's posted over 150 cartoons to date on Twitter and recently started posting on Instagram, too. He's followed by a pathetically small number of people, but it keeps my illustrative hand in and you've got to start somewhere.



swan / swank

You'll find him/me on Twitter @CaptQwerty and on Instagram captqwerty22.

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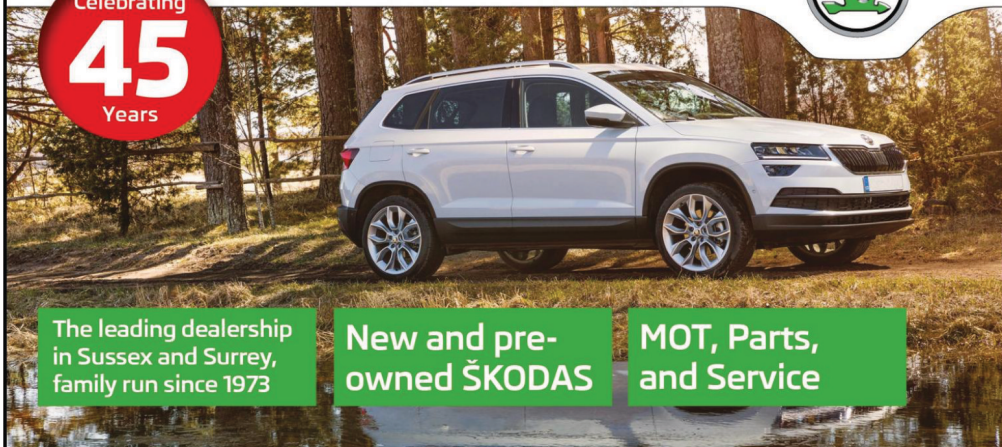
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Ferrets galore!

One night in May my Mum and I heard some squeaking noises from our ferret shed. We thought it was just play fighting. But when we looked, there were these ugly, pink, squealing things. Can you guess what they were? Yes, that's right, baby ferrets. After a few pictures, we let them be so their mummy could get used to them. We went back to bed.

The next day we were woken by more squeaking and - guess what - more baby ferrets! We weren't expecting this many! The next day we went to check they were okay. Did you know that ferrets will eat their young if they're not doing well. But all ours were fine and feeding on mummy's milk.

Fast-forward two months and the babies' eyes are open and they are very independent, looking out for themselves and their siblings. All the babies survived, which means we have about 19 baby ferrets who are now growing big and strong. They are so cute, just look at the picture. TOLD YOU!

Bella Matthews

A mine of inspiration

In the 60s, when I was still at school we used to drive across Cornwall to the Folk Club held at the old Botallack Mine buildings in West Penwith. We listened to singers like Brenda Wooton and John the Fish who became well known in their own right. People would also read poetry in the Cornish dialect. Here's one by St Ives' man John Harry (no relation!) called *The Chapel Organ*.

Geoff Harry

The Chapel Organ by John Harry

*One Saturday, we was caught in a stream o' rain.
So we sheltered in the chapel, top of the lane.
While we was waitin' for 'un to clear away
The chapel organist comed in to play.*

*She hailed forth stops, then set down 'pon the seat
And peddled 'pon the bellas with her feet
The organ gived a gro-o-oan then a squeak.*

*Now hark to 'un said my friend,
She da make 'un speak
And speak 'a did
A-a-a-w, you should ought 'bin there
Why, talk about Whitelegs organ in the fair
'Es, as I said, You should ought 'bin there.
She made the largo sound like Maiden's Prayer.*

*Well, back and forth she flinked her hands about
She hailed forth stops, she scat the knee swells out
And as she was aplayin' Beulah Land
A horgan stop come clean off in her hand.*

*She tried her Hand 'pon 'lijah, went all thru 'un
Then sang The Lost Chord to a Sankey tune
Then somethin' other 'bout "Faithful until Death".
And then the organ stopped for want of breath.*

*Says I, " 'Tis some hard thing to play I sh-think"
"No 't isn't" says she with a knowin' wink.
"I da play 'un 'ccordin' to the scriptures, tell 'ee the truth ...
Let not the left hand know-eth what the right hand do-eth."*

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Drive-in cinema a hit at Hurtwood



The polo club in Ewhurst got creative by showcasing outdoor drive-in movies on its grounds. One eager viewer wrote: "Just got back from this evening! It was honestly amazing!! Everything about it: very organised and the setting was stunning!" Ewhurst residents were even offered free entry to the last one on Tuesday 4th August.

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A note from the Ewhurst Carnival Committee

We were so sad not to be able to go ahead with this summer's Carnival.

Despite many tries at organising a different format adhering to social distancing rules it wasn't possible to put together an affordable event that was safe for all.

So we've postponed to next summer - Saturday 7th August. We hope that all Ewhurst groups & residents will be there to make it an extra special village event. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Cat, Cornelia, Fee, Harriet, Jess, Joanna, Kate, Katy, Lucy, Sarah & Val

Let any of us know if you'd like to be involved, or email ewhurstcarnival@gmail.com



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per week. And the types of care span everything from companionship through to end-of-life palliative care.

Above all, we believe in building relationship. So please, if you'd like to discuss how we could help you, please drop by our Cranleigh office for a chat. The kettle is always on!

Visit Brightcare at 264 High Street, Cranleigh or call 01483 617 121
Email: lindsay@brightcare.co.uk



The Cranleigh Brightcare team (from left to right) Gemma Chabinga, Lindsay McClive and Tracey Comrie.

A Life in Cars

THE EDITOR MET DAVE BIGGINS AT EWHURST PLAYERS. THEY GOT CHATTING AND AN INCREDIBLE LIFE STORY UNFOLDED

N&V: Is that a Northern accent I detect?

DB: I grew up in Norton on the edge of Sheffield. We had no money but my parents were enlightened enough to allow me and my brother to go to grammar school - High Storrs - and stay on to get our A-levels. The school had a fabulous metalworking shop. I learned how to use a lathe, forge, braze: normal skills for Sheffield folk.

I followed in my brother's footsteps, going to London University. I hadn't a clue what subject to take. My brother said: 'Geologists! They're always on field trips'. I was a rock climber, mountaineer and loved my cycling, so I thought: where do I sign up! I finished my degree in 1962 and did a PhD in Geology, conducting a paleoecological study of the Derbyshire dome.

I was then lucky enough to get a job with an embryonic oil company. I finished up as managing director. We sold the business in 1992 for £92 million. I was 52.

N&V: When did a passion for cars start?

DB: By the time I was nineteen, I was driving Austin 7s. I found I had this ability to make them go. At uni I used to buy one for a fiver, restore and sell it for twenty five quid. I probably traded over twenty Austin 7s. I even had a weekend job at an Austin restorer. I got so good, I remember replacing a whole engine overnight under a streetlight.

N&V: When did Jane come on the scene?

DB: At university around 1959. We used to run these fabulous jazz hops at Chelsea College on the Kings Road. We got all the best bands: Ken Collier, Chris Barber and The Temperance Seven. One night I saw Jane arrive and thought wow. I did something you don't do at

a jazz dance. I did an "excuse me" and cut in. She agreed. It was the start of a lifelong love affair. She changed my life in so many ways. We complimented each other. She was very artistic. It was Jane who got me into the Ewhurst Players. And she loved children. She had this dream of lots of kids - even wanted an orphanage. We didn't do ➔



Dave on Dave: "I suppose I'm an opportunist. Some people don't take opportunities. I do."



Dave, with PhD and job, is already going places with his 1939 Steyr-Daimler-Puch.



Headhunted by a Canadian oil entrepreneur in '68, Dave steps it up with an Alfa Romeo Giulietta Sprint.



Dave in his 1937 Riley 12/4 "Bigley Special" at one of the Vintage Sports Car Club trials in Derbyshire. The VSCC trials were established in 1935.



The 1974 petrol crisis and Dave buys a Ferrari 250 for £1300. He sells for £30k when prices normalise.



1976: Jane strikes a pose on a family Bavarian tour. Dave's had the 1924 Bullnose Oxford over 50 years



Dave has flirted with a couple of Lotus head-turners. This Elan and a Lotus 7 too short for his long legs.



Dave records the fastest Prescott Hill Climb in a classic Vauxhall (1926 Rowley Special) - 49.5 seconds.



A virtual rebuild of a 1927 Vauxhall 30/98 Velox Tourer. Dave has toured over 100k miles in it.



Dave restores and relives the might of the Mercedes 90hp Grand Prix racing car, 1913



The Suffragettes choice: Dave takes Jane for a spin in the restored 1914 Saxon Roadster



The Sicilian Dream: Dave buys the Nazzarro Tipo 3, a sister car to the one that Felice Nazzarro won the Targa Florio 606-mile race around Sicily in 1913. It inspired Dave to make a film documentary about the race.

that, but she ran playgroups in Forest Green and Holmbury. The latter till just before she died. She was 76, still teaching and caring for children.

N&V: When did the more elaborate cars appear?

DB: Around 1962 when I got a bit more money. The job I had while doing my PhD wasn't lucrative. I remember the employment letter: "Nine till five, £12 a week and we don't work Saturdays". But it meant I could move beyond Austin 7s - for example, an original Beetle, a Porsche 356A, a Steyr-Daimler-Puch. I still had some doer-uppers on the side: a Flatnose Morris Oxford and Austin 7 Chummy.

But when gas was discovered in the North Sea and the industry really got going, I got headhunted and tripled my salary overnight. I could afford to live. We had three kids by then. And of



Dave's wife Jane who he married in 1964, with one of his first-of-many Austin 7s

Lotus Elan, Porsche 924, Porsche 928 and others.

My restoring went up a level too. A few come to mind. There's the 1924 Bullnose Morris Oxford I found in a terrible state; a 1934 Lagonda Tourer (I picked up my OBE for supporting British business from the palace in that); a Rolls Royce 20 (never again!); a rebuild of a Vauxhall 30/98 (done over 100k+ miles in that); a 1914 Saxon Roadster (the suffragette's choice); the 1913 grand-prix-winning Mercedes (over 100mph with ease); a 1913 Nazzaro Tipo 3, a sister car to the one that won the famous Targa Floria 606-mile perimeter race of Sicily. They're ➡



The condition of a Bullnose Morris Oxford before Dave restored it to its former glory.

course, it meant I could afford a better class of car. So then came along the 1965 Alfa Romeo Giulia Sprint GT, the Ferrari 250 I bought for £1300 (cheap because of the petrol crisis), a Lotus 7,

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The churchwardens are currently devising ways of services to resume in church buildings. Thank you for your patience. In the meantime, peruse below the other ways to meet up for Christian prayer, study and fellowship.

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the cars that stand out for me.

N&V: What are the stand-out memories?

DB: My most impressive drive was the Prescott Hill Climb in the Vauxhall Rowley Special. I did it in 49.5 seconds which for a 1927 Vauxhall is stupendous. The next fastest was 51 seconds.

Touring-wise my first trip from London to Cape Town in 1998 was the most challenging. I did that in the Vauxhall 30/98. We were often doing 500 miles a day. I broke down in Turkey with a clogged radiator. Didn't stop me though. I bought a Ford Explorer and carried on. I caught up within 2 days! After 12,000 miles in 6 weeks I made it to Cape Town.

Besides competitive touring I do cherish the fantastic holiday we had with Jane and the kids in 1976. We spent several weeks in the Bavarian Alps driving the Bullnose Oxford - a truly wonderful time with the family.

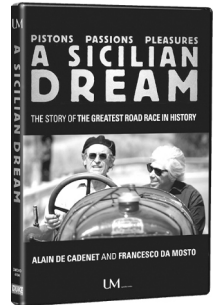
N&V: Beyond the cars, you've made a film as well?

DB: Well that started with me discovering that Felice Nazzaro had won the Targa Florio (the 606-mile race around Sicily). My friend was teaching English in Turin and one of her pupils was selling cars. She gave me the list and I saw the name "Nazzaro". I only knew of the racing driver, an Italian Stirling Moss of his day. But Nazzaro made about 23 cars before WW1, only

most were sacrificed to make arms for the war. The owner tried to sell it as the actual winning car of the 1913 Targa Florio but I showed them some pictures that proved it was the sister car. So I got it for half the price. It's been fantastic. Hardly had to repair it. Anyway, I thought: I've got this historic and original car. So in 2006 I took it to the centenary of the Targa Florio.

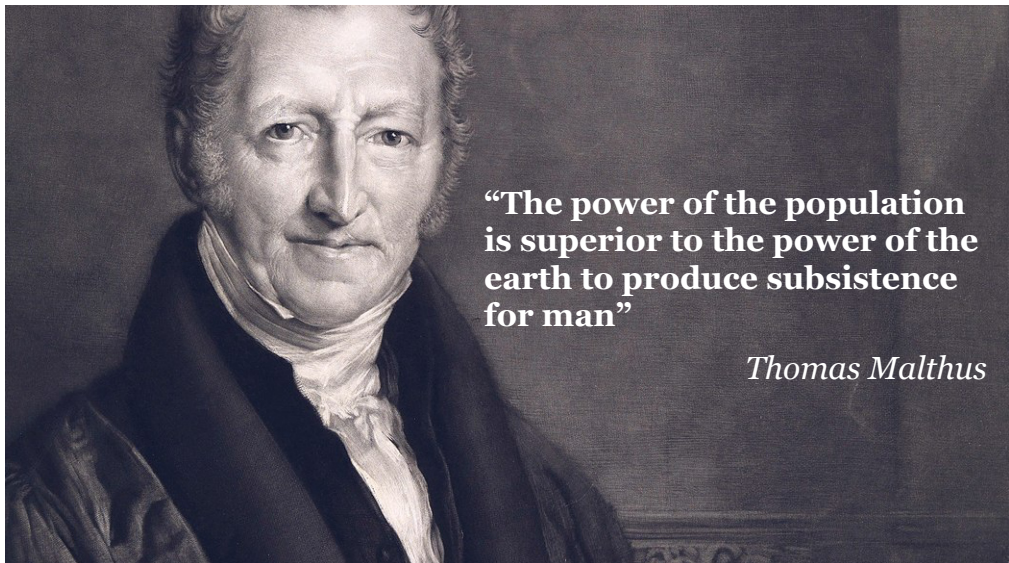
That trip gave me the nub of the film idea. The car was going to be 100 years old in 2013. It was also the year that Nazzaro won the Targa Florio race, so I felt I had to celebrate those two events.

Initially it was going to be just a camcorder affair with a few friends. But it finished up being a full-blown documentary called "The Sicilian Dream" about the history of the race from 1906 to 1977. It was presented by BBC documentary-maker Francesco da Mosto (BBC 2 series Francesco's Venice and Francesco's Italy) and had a Leicester Square premiere with Nick Mason. We never got it onto the telly but today we're selling DVDs and it's doing very well on a US streaming service.



Dave's documentary has done well on streaming services during lockdown.

Watch Dave's film of his Life In Cars at <https://vimeo.com/115663796>



“The power of the population is superior to the power of the earth to produce subsistence for man”

Thomas Malthus

Malthus and more

BARRY THOMSON CONCLUDES THE HISTORY OF OKEWOOD CHURCH

Okewood church has international significance due to its world famous Curate in the 18th century.

Those of you with a background in economics or history will be aware of the significance of Thomas Robert Malthus who was a Curate at Okewood Church in the 1790's.

The importance of Malthus was brought home to us in 1985 when we were contacted by the BBC who were doing a programme on the Domesday Book asking for permission to film in the church and churchyard as part of their programme.

Malthus, who was born in Dorking, noticed during his curacy at Okewood that he was baptising far more people than he was burying, and in 1798 he wrote his world famous work *Essay On The Principle Of Population*, predicting a failure to provide sufficient food for an ever expanding population leading to chaos and famine.

His essay was a counterblast against the enlightenment theories expounded by William Godwin and Jean-Jacques Rousseau whose notions centred on the innate goodness of man. Malthus became hugely influential in economic, political, social and scientific thought

and his work had a significant impact upon the scientists who became known as Evolutionary Biologists such as Charles Darwin.

Just think, Thomas Malthus preached from the pulpit of St John the Baptist, and baptised in the font here!

A final story from Okewood church is provided by our archivist Dr Briony Thomas. The world famous baptist Preacher Charles Spurgeon whose tireless travels all over the country included him preaching a sermon on Ockley Green just a couple of miles away. Apparently in his sermon here he used the analogy between the many

footpaths which approach Okewood Chapel with the statement that “there are many ways of coming to Christ”.

Okewood Church is indeed a very special and important place. Although being first and foremost a house of God it is an ancient building of real significance a highly valued part of our heritage.

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A place of peace

DEBBIE HORNBLow INTRODUCES THE MEMORIAL WOODLAND

The Quick Response Memorial Woodland in Holmbury St Mary was launched in 2014 by chairman Paul Cooling as a place of peace and respite for ex-service personnel; many suffering from conditions such as PTSD, anxiety, depression and various mental conditions. The woodland also provides a space for memorials, ashes and trees planted by loved ones. Paul was so upset seeing young soldiers coming home in their coffins he felt he had to do something, and after a long time searching, he found the woodland



Founder and ex-serviceman, Paul Cooling

in Holmbury St Mary which he purchased in 2011 out of his own money and started to transform what was a totally overgrown and derelict piece of woodland with the help of his ex-army colleagues. The woodland was officially opened by Sir Paul Beresford on 1st June 2014 and was awarded full charity status by the Charities Commission in September 2017.

PLEASE VISIT: the woodland is open 24/7 to the public: Pasture Wood Road, Holmbury St Mary, Dorking, Surrey, RH5 6LG | qrmwcharity@gmail.com

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Twinkle twinkle Okewood Stars!

LIZ THORNE REPORTS ON THE NON-STOP FUN AT OKEWOOD NURSERY

Each and every one of our parents and children have been absolute stars during the very tricky times we've been living through lately. Although our annual leavers' morning was not able to go ahead with the usual wonderful performance, picnic and Sports Day, we still had a fun-filled final week involving lots of water, balloons, games, getting messy and making the best memories!

And it wasn't a final 'goodbye' as several of our leavers were back with us at Summer Club in August – which at the time of writing is fully booked and in full swing in record breaking temperatures!

We certainly made the most of lockdown by creating several exciting new outside areas. We now have a beached dingy, water-play rock pool, nature area with a tree platform, outside reading area and an art shack.

We can't wait to welcome all our children back in September, as well as several new starters and two new members of

staff. We're delighted to have Kim and Scarlett joining us. Kim brings a wealth of experience from her time with Parenta – a national organisation that supports and works with hundreds of childcare providers, including us.

The learning themes we're covering over the next few months include: 'Clean and Tidy'; 'Different houses and homes'; 'Let's go to the shops!'; 'Caring and sharing'; 'Space, planets and science' and 'Celebration!'.

Also new for this term, we are including 'Mini me yoga' as part of our Magic Mindfulness sessions. This teaches yoga poses which have a myriad of benefits for little growing bodies. These sessions also feature calming music and relaxation techniques which play an important part in learning how to deal with frustrations and little anxieties.

If you would like to come and meet us and have a tour around the Nursery, please give us a call on 01306 627067. www.okewoodnursery.com and follow us on Facebook.



Annual leavers made T-shirts to celebrate their time at their special nursery.

The Glory of the Garden

LET'S CELEBRATE SOME WONDERFUL GARDENING IN THE PARISH,
OPENING WITH A POEM BY RUDYARD KIPLING

Our England is a garden that is full of stately views,
Of borders, beds and shrubberies and lawns and avenues,
With statues on the terraces and peacocks strutting by;
But the Glory of the Garden lies in more than meets the eye.

For where the old thick laurels grow, along the thin red wall,
You will find the tool- and potting-sheds which are the heart of all ;
The cold-frames and the hot-houses, the dungpits and the tanks:
The rollers, carts and drain-pipes, with the barrows and the planks.

And there you'll see the gardeners, the men and 'prentice boys
Told off to do as they are bid and do it without noise;
For, except when seeds are planted and we shout to scare the birds,
The Glory of the Garden it abideth not in words.

And some can pot begonias and some can bud a rose,
And some are hardly fit to trust with anything that grows;
But they can roll and trim the lawns and sift the sand and loam,
For the Glory of the Garden occupieth all who come.

Our England is a garden, and such gardens are not made
By singing:—"Oh, how beautiful!" and sitting in the shade,
While better men than we go out and start their working lives
At grubbing weeds from gravel-paths with broken dinner-knives

There's not a pair of legs so thin, there's not a head so thick,
There's not a hand so weak and white, nor yet a heart so sick.
But it can find some needful job that's crying to be done,
For the Glory of the Garden glorifieth every one.

Then seek your job with thankfulness and work till further orders,
If it's only netting strawberries or killing slugs on borders;
And when your back stops aching and your hands begin to harden,
You will find yourself a partner in the Glory of the Garden.

Oh, Adam was a gardener, and God who made him sees
That half a proper gardener's work is done upon his knees,
So when your work is finished, you can wash your hand and pray
For the Glory of the Garden, that it may not pass away!
And the Glory of the Garden it shall never pass away!



"Every year in Spring, my garden gives me new life, and a feeling of new hope." STEPHEN ROOT



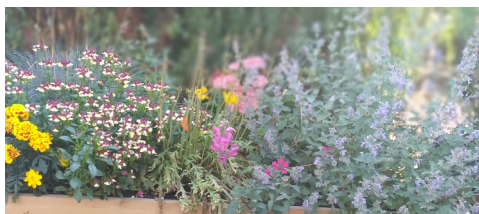
"Every time I look at these I am just overwhelmed by the beauty of God's creation." JAN MOIR



"Gardens give contentment, achievement and space for contemplation." MARIAN & BARRY HEATHCOTE



"One who plants a garden, plants happiness." MEG & ALAN BRAY



"My garden gives me freedom even though I'm in a wheelchair." CELIA COX



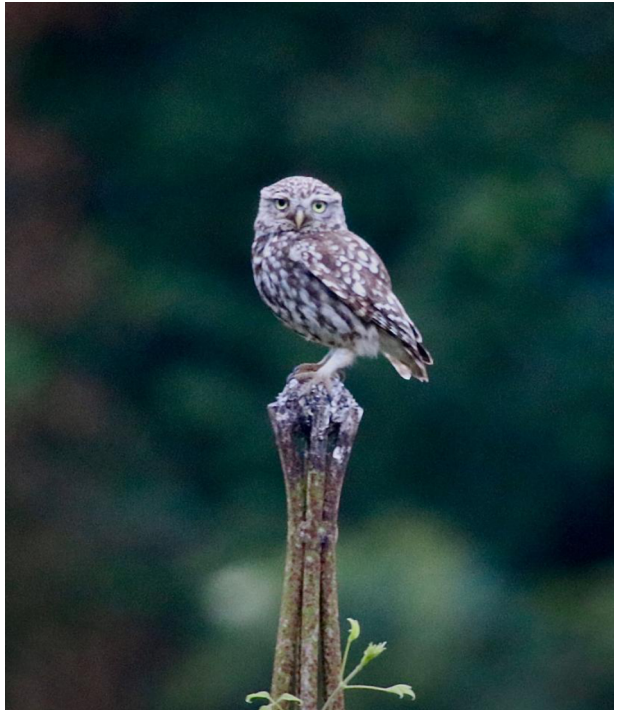
"Our garden gives us joy. Every flower is a smile." JOHN & CHRIS BUCKMAN



"I take no credit for our rhody.
All God's work." LIZ COLEMAN



"My garden is my happy place."
LIZ THORNE



"An interesting garden attracts interesting visitors."
MIKE HUMPHRIES (Photo by Andy Pitztucker)



"For me a garden balances the aesthetic and the practical: the beauty of flowers and shrubs combined with the bounty of fruit and veg." JOHN DYBALL



"These sunflowers make me believe anything is possible." HAYLEY ROBERTS



"Look what my garden grew!" OLIVE POCKOCK



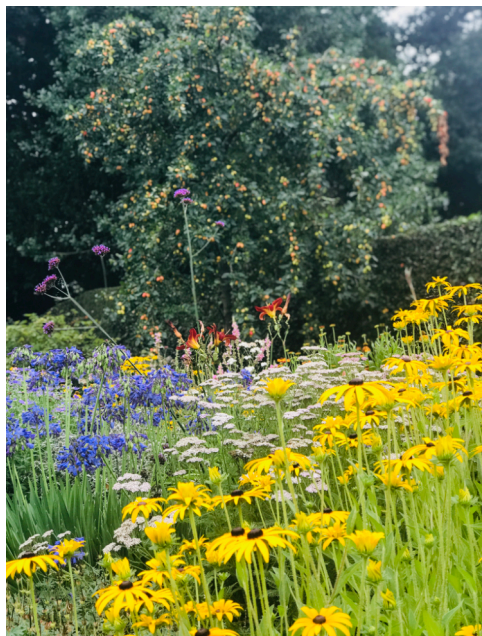
"We love the tranquility a garden brings, watching the plants grow and observing the creatures passing through." SALLY & MILES THOMPSON



"My garden is simply my sanctuary!" WENDY WORBY



"I love picking a cob of corn from the garden and having it straightaway for dinner" JAN JESSON



"My garden gives me different perspectives all year round." ANNE BARRETT-LENNARD



"I have loved the peace of our garden during lockdown. The Hibiscus reminds me of tropical holidays." PAM BELL



"This just makes us think of God's abundant provision" TONY & HELEN BRIMLOW



"And God said: Why not round courgettes!"
MARIAN COPUS

**THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO SENT IN THEIR GARDEN PICS.
KEEP UP THE BRILLIANT WORK!**

Family Tree Surgery

JOHN WHITE DISCOVERS NEW SHOOTS ON DORMANT BRANCHES

I admit it, I am not fond of gardening. Instead I like to carry out research into my own family; it is a project I started nearly 30 years ago after I was made redundant. When I returned to employment, it was put on the back-burner until retirement but even then other things kept getting in the way. Over the last few years I have managed to visit several history centres to trace my roots and to carry out research on documents that are not available through websites. A change of direction was necessitated

by lock-down and it gave me the opportunity to use the internet to trace little-known living relatives. It turns out I was not the only family history buff to adopt this tactic. I knew that I had a cousin called Cheryl Ann living in California. We share great grandparents (which makes her my 2nd cousin) and the only information I had comes from a name on the back of a photo taken in the mid 1950s of a little girl standing outside a house in Los Angeles. I always



The only information I had to go on.

wished I had asked questions of my parents whilst they were still around. I did know however that her grandparents had emigrated to Canada from the UK in the 1920s and then moved to California in the 1930s. Not

much to go on, but it is surprising what is available online: their immigration papers into the US and later their naturalization papers in which they had to declare, amongst other things, that they were neither anarchists nor polygamists.

I hesitatingly put part of my family tree on one of the genealogy websites (showing only deceased members of the family) and within a week or so I received a guarded response – it was indeed that same cousin now aged 60 with children and grandchildren living outside Los Angeles. We are now in regular contact. One of these days we may be able to meet but as she is unable to undertake long air journeys, I might have to find an excuse to travel there!



The Parish of Ewhurst
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Music (OK/FG) | Call the Parish Office

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The Ark Function Room Bookings

Liz Coleman 01483 277584

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Adventure on our doorstep

MANAGER ROB SQUIRRELL GIVES US THE LOWDOWN ON SAYERS CROFT

N&V: What is Sayers Croft?

RS: We're an outdoor activity centre in Ewhurst with 60 acres of woodland and meadows with ponds and rivers. There's space for 200 kids to come residentially. We draw mainly from primary schools to do activities up to five days. Then we have the Sayers Croft Trust which is the charity focused on engaging the local community, especially young people, in the enjoyment and care of the environment.

N&V: There's a bit of confusion about who can come here. Why is that?

RS: I think that's from its history. Originally Sayers Croft was built as a WW2 evacuee site. With those links, it became a residential centre for children from Westminster. We still have a lot of groups from there. But we're available to any school or youth group.

The trust set up in 1996 is focused on engaging the local community. We run a free monthly club for 0-5 year olds, an afternoon Really Wild Club (subsidised at £4 per child) for 7-12 year olds, and we do Action Stations days for children with additional needs - for example

autism or wheelchair users - which are just £8 a day.

N&V: What do the kids love most about coming here?

RS: Well first of all the choice. We have around 60-70 activities to choose from. There's adventure that features high ropes, rock climbing, bouldering, caving, raft-building and archery. Then there's exploration that includes orienteering, nature trails, pond-dipping, river studies. There's History too. We've got a replica Iron Age roundhouse where we learn about the Romans and Celts. Not forgetting the WW2 link, so the site itself becomes a history lesson.

N&V: Can customers tailor a day out?

RS: Yes, we can create packages to suit you. For example we developed a Dads & Daughters camping weekend for a local school. We do a lot of birthday parties, usually for children, but recently for an 80-year old lady. It's all possible.

N&V: What are the costs like?

RS: A birthday party of up to 16 would be £125 for an hour and a half, which includes activities and the use of the

Contact Sayers Croft: Tel 01483 275 541 | Email trust@sayers-croft.org.uk

dining hall. Day visits for exploration activities would be £200 a day for a class of 30. Adventure activities are £385 a day. Local schools can enjoy small subsidies. Get in touch to find out.

N&V: Has Covid affected you?

RS: Very tough at the start but as of July 20 we're open and have run holiday clubs for 1 to 14 children in their bubbles. We'll be open for school day visits from September and hopefully residential from January 2021. For now, we keep it all outdoors, applying 1m+ social distancing and operating hand washing across the site. All kit gets sanitised after use. Again, if you're a teacher or youth leader, get in touch and see how we can offer you a fantastic day or afternoon this Autumn term.



Adventure activities build confidence.



Children construct their own rafts before launch



Teamwork and bushcraft skills are combined.



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Everyone can be included in the fun.

The common quail, or European quail, is a small ground-nesting game bird in the pheasant family. It is notoriously difficult to see, keeping hidden in crops, and reluctant to fly, preferring to creep away instead. Even when flushed, it keeps low and soon drops back into cover. Often the only indication of its presence is the distinctive "quip-quip-quip" repetitive call of the male.

In 1537, Queen Jane Seymour, third wife of Henry VIII, then pregnant with the future King Edward VI, developed an insatiable craving for quail, and courtiers and diplomats abroad were ordered to find sufficient supplies for the Queen.



The intriguing tale of the Ewhurst quail

ROBIN STRIDE REVEALS A PIONEERING BIRD FROM OUR PARISH

I've a passion for birds, as anyone who reads my monthly 'Crane Spotter' column in Cranleigh Magazine might have guessed.

Bella Matthews' article 'Having a quail of a time' in the News&Views' last issue reminded me of a unique and exciting find I had near Ewhurst some years ago. The 'quip-quip-quip' call coming from a field of flax was a wild quail, a rare summer migrant to Surrey.

I had first heard of this tiny gamebird in Sunday school when we learnt about the Israelites complaining to Moses about the lack of food on their desert journey.

Numbers 11 records how a wind 'went out from the Lord' and drove migrating quail in from the sea. Huge numbers dropped on top of one another all around the camp 'as far as a day's walk in any direction'. The people ate well!

Quail numbers are not what they were but many thousands on migration have in more recent years been captured, ringed and released for research purposes in Sinai. Which brings me to another quail back in 1965 which was trapped and ringed by Mr Les Weller on his Ewhurst farm.

It was subsequently shot on migration four months later in September in north west Spain. This was the first foreign recovery of a British-ringed quail. Not a lot of people know that....

Robin Stride @Crane_Spotter



Search "The Strasbourg Clock Virginia" on YouTube for a film presentation (Start from 10 min in)

Simply Astronomical

BOB FOLEY ENTHUSES ABOUT THE STRASBOURG CATHEDRAL CLOCK

In 1955 I was given my late grandfather's fob watch for my twelfth birthday. I loved that watch. Sadly, I no longer have it but ever since I have had an interest in mechanical timepieces and, in particular, clocks. In my teens I read a fascinating story about the great astronomical clock in Strasbourg Cathedral which, as a boy, captured my imagination. I decided that one day I would, somehow, get to see it for myself. In the austere, post-war years of my youth this was not possible at the time, and the idea was put "on hold".

So, sixty years later my wife and I stood, excitedly, outside the impressive façade of Notre Dame Cathedral in Strasbourg.

There have been three astronomical clocks in the cathedral. The first, known as the Three Kings Clock, was completed in 1354 by an unknown clockmaker. It was deemed to be one of the seven wonders of Germany and featured several automata, one being a

fully jointed crowing cockerel. Apparently, the ingenious clock maker did such a wonderful job that the town Magistrate ordered his eyes be put out so he could never build another magnificent clock elsewhere.

The first clock stopped working and a new one was started in the 16th century and completed in 1574 by Conrad Dasypodius and Isaac Harbrecht. This clock was remarkable for its complexity as an astronomical device, incorporating many dials and indicators - the calendar dial, the astrolabe and the indicators for planets, and eclipses. A popular feature of the new

clock was the original crowing cockerel, a relic of the first clock, which perched on the top of the cupola and entertained the onlookers at noon every day until 1640, when it was struck by lightning. Sadly, due to rust and dirt, the clock stopped and it is now preserved in the Museum of Decorative Art.

The second clock stopped working →



Most ingenious: an ecclesiastical computer which calculates, among other holy days, the date of Easter.

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GCSE NEWS FROM DUKE OF KENT: Year 11 GCSE and IGCSE results are in. Highlights include: 62% of all grades are 7/8/9 (the equivalent of A or A*); 100% of students achieved 8 GCSE passes including English Lit., English Lang. and Maths; 67% achieved 7/8/9 in Maths (A-A*); 67% achieved 7/8/9 in English Language (A-A*), 35% of total grades were 8 or 9 (A*); 94% achieved 7/8/9 in Design & Technology; 90% achieved 7/8 in Art; 80% achieved 7/8/9 in Spanish; 98% achieved grade 6 and above in Biology, Chemistry and Physics).

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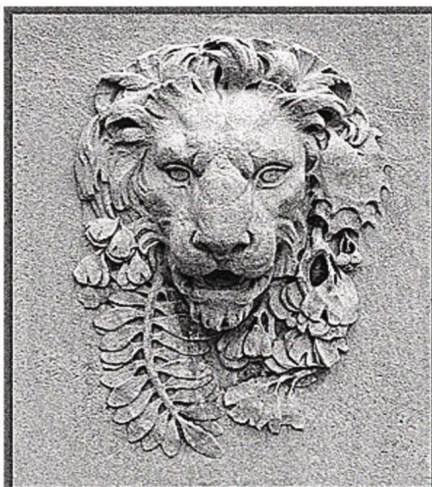
Andy Curwell

B.Sc Hons (Botany), RHS (Horticulture), Dip (Terrain Evaluation)

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Second Nature Landscapes

around 1788 and stood still until 1838, when Jean-Baptiste Schwilgué started to build the current clock. He designed new mechanisms to replace the old ones which had been considered state of the art. Schwilgué had wanted to work on the clock since his boyhood, but he only got the contract fifty years later. In the meantime, he had become acquainted with clockmaking, mathematics, mechanics and cosmography. It had taken him more than thirty years to design a suitable mechanism for the clock which stands about sixty feet tall. It is the work of a genius and is one of the most complex timepieces ever built. As well as the animated figures of the Apostles parading past Christ and being



The large clock at the base shows the rising and setting of the sun and calendar of saints.

blessed every hour, it shows official time, weekdays and date on a huge calendar dial, including leap years! Also shown are the positions of the planets, sun and moon including dates and times of eclipses. The most ingenious section of the clock, however, is an ecclesiastical computus which automatically activates at midnight every 31st December. It then calculates, with great accuracy, the date of Easter, and many other holy days which are then displayed on the calendar dial.

There are far too many facets of this incredible mechanism to describe here and I thoroughly recommend a visit to see the real thing if you possibly can. You will not be disappointed.



Visitors are treated to views of the different ages of life, personified by a child, a teenager, an adult and an old man, who parade past Death.



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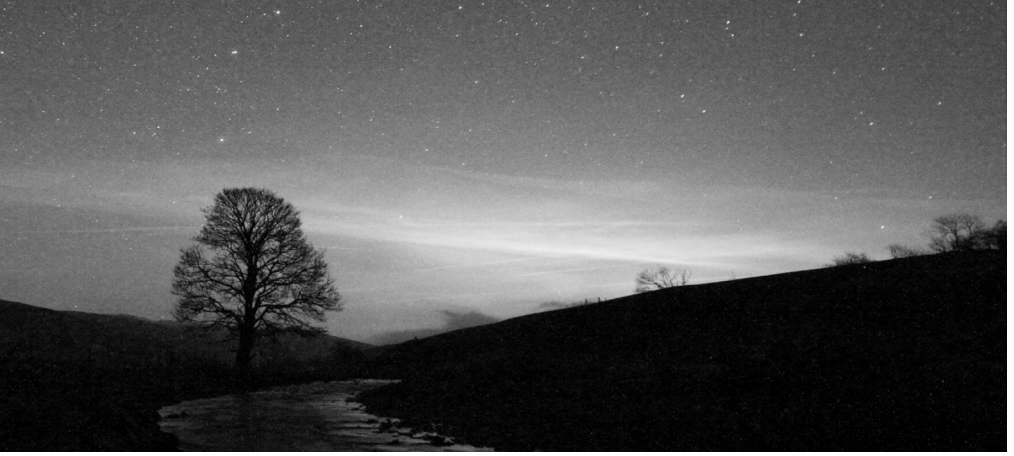
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Walking ‘hits the spot’

MARY PRICE SHARES HOW A GOOD STROLL FILLS HER SPIRIT AND HER SENSES



Mary recently enjoyed night walking. She found with her sight dimmed, other senses were heightened. She observed and noticed more. Even ordinary, familiar places looked different.

I have enjoyed walking since I was a kid - apart from during my early teens when it was ‘uncool’. I love it because it ‘hits the spot’ physically, mentally, and spiritually.

Walking provides myriad ‘wow’ factors. Sea breezes on a coastal path. Wild-flower meadows. Feeling exhilarated on reaching a mountain peak and seeing the aerial view. Tuning in to the sounds of the birds and insects, watching damsel and dragonflies hovering over the water, and spotting a mewing buzzard high up in the heavens.

All this - and much more – makes me full of wonder and appreciative of our awesome God, who I believe is the creator of it all.

The challenge of fell-walking in The Lakes was irresistible when I was younger. Following a meandering river, a sun-dappled forest path or meadow now calls me more. Walking and talking with friends also bring great benefits.

My latest walk was a bit different - Pitch Hill at night with my eldest grandson, watching the stars coming out under a moonlit sky and the comings and goings at Gatwick Airport. It was so atmospheric and peaceful under the cover of darkness.

I am so thankful that I am still able to enjoy walking, to be free to explore our amazing county and beyond, with all its wonders.

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Open-air church in Rectory Gardens

Since July 19, Rev'd Clare has done Morning Worship each Sunday at 10.30am from the Rectory garden in Ewhurst. Congregations have averaged around 40 and some have visited purely on hearing the music. The plan is to keep going while the weather holds. Everyone is welcome from across the Parish.



No they haven't all lost their keys on Ewhurst rec. This is Surrey Outdoor Fitness in action. It's group fitness sessions for all levels happening every day of the week. First class is free. Whatsapp 07543 310 591 | Email info@surreyoutdoorfitness.co.uk

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	06:30		06:30		06:30		
SO BOOTCAMP	09:30	19:30	09:30	19:30	09:30	08:00	
	18:30		18:30		16:30		
SO ACTIVE	10:30	12:00	10:30	12:00	10:30	10:30	

SO FITNESS



Patrick Good wasn't going to get bored in lockdown. So he learned from YouTube's Chainsaw Chad how to carve a bear. The bottle of Corona is Patrick's little twist. He's done about ten. The one pictured is called Bruin. Of course!

Have you tried the Pizza Oven yet?



Watch out for their van. Ewhurst Village Car Park. Mondays and Thursdays, 5pm-8.30pm. They take cards and cash.

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The Political Jesus

DOCTOR OF THEOLOGY, STEPHEN BACKHOUSE, REVEALS A JESUS WE NEVER KNEW

When hearing that I am a teacher and writer who works in the field of political theology, people will often say: “But Jesus was a religious teacher who had nothing to do with politics.”

This is certainly a deeply rooted, oft-claimed, and highly popular belief. It also just happens to be entirely incorrect.

The four Gospels are not the first words anyone wrote about Jesus. Mark, Matthew, Luke and John are accounts written down and stitched together a generation or two after the events they describe. The people who knew Jesus were dying, so the people who knew the people who knew Jesus preserved their stories. The salient point here is that the church already existed in fine fettle before it had four biographical accounts of the words and life of its founder. For the best indication of what it felt like to be around Jesus we have to turn to earlier sources. Here we find the epistles and letters that make up the bulk of the New Testament, most of which are



Dr Stephen Backhouse is an expert from Oxford University on the political theology of nations and nationalism. He'll be teaching in our Parish imminently.

ascribed to the Apostle Paul. Paul's letters, it is worth reminding ourselves, were written for and about people who had living memory of Jesus. And Paul, it is also worth noting, was not always writing new material. He often quotes sayings of Jesus or teachings of the first

disciples well known to his contemporaries. And, in one notable passage in his epistle to the congregation in the Roman city of Philippi, Paul incorporates a poem into his text that he did not originally pen. This hymn, found in Philippians 2 thus has a credible claim to being one of the earliest things ever written about Jesus,

by people who probably knew him and who knew what it felt like to be around him.

It is worth quoting in full:

4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. 5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of humankind. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the

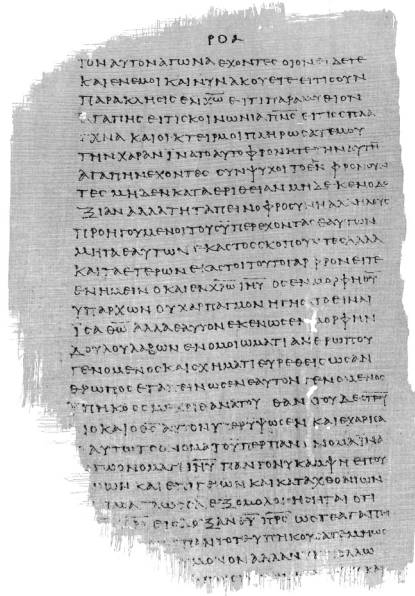


point of death, even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:4-11, ESV)

This earliest hymn has a socio-political aspect. Two thousand years of tin ears has led us to overlook how many overtly political slogans and symbols are being used – and subverted– in this hymn. The first is the Greek phrase *isa theo* (“equality with God”). *Isa theo* is not a “religious” statement, if, by that, you think that the religious and the political can be easily delineated. In the Greco-Roman imagination, the more powerful a human was, the more of a little god they were. It is the phrase Augustus used when he threw his hat into the ring to become Caesar. It is the phrase applicable to people gunning for the top job of Emperor, King, Prime Minister or President. And it is the phrase that the earliest Christians thought was most appropriate for describing what it felt like to be around Jesus as he pronounced the coming of a new Kingdom and formed a new movement of followers around him. Significantly, in this hymn, people being equal to God is not the problem. It is how they go about achieving this power that is being subverted.

Jesus was equal to God, but he did not consider being equal to God a matter of “grasping” (or “exploiting for his own advantage”). The word in view here is

another technical political term: *harpagmon*. This is the garnering of political resources and directing them towards getting what you want. If you have ever been asked to sign a petition or join a protest rally, you have been on the sharp end of *harpagmon*. When politicians gather together their “base”



Philippians 1:30-2:12 (circa 175-225 C.E.)

or canvas support they are hoovering power in order to use it to their own advantage when the crunch time comes. This is the way politics works. You grasp at what power you can find in order to shape the world according to your vision and the vision of those who have pledged their support. *Harpagmon* is a matter of gathering, filling-up and focussing in order to dominate one’s Will. ➔



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Yet Jesus, who is *isa theo*, does not consider *isa theo* a matter of *harpagmon*. Instead, insists the people who knew him, he “emptied himself”: *kenosis*. And with this, we unravel most forms of politics. For to “empty oneself” is not to become a doormat or a cringing worm. It is to be like a servant rather than a dominating bully imposing his Will on the world. The prime mark of a servant is that they exist to enable other people. *Harpagmon* gathers and subsumes other wills in the service of ramming home one Will. *Harpagmon* suppresses dissent, conversation and divergence. Tyrants and bullies and most politicians fill the room with their ego. The kenotic person controls their self. They embody “emptiness” insofar as their egos do not flow to fill the space. Following priest and theologian Sarah Coakley, to

practice *kenosis* is to practice “gentle space-making”. In the presence of *harpagmon* the world gets smaller and tamer. In the presence of *Kenosis* the world gets larger and more wild. And this, says the apostle Paul, is to be the mind we share among ourselves.

And, lest it be forgotten, using our individual and corporate power well, in service of the common good, is not a religious act. It is political. Before their movement was even called “Christian”, followers of the way of Jesus cared much more about how they held themselves politically than how they imagined themselves religiously. And this was all because of their founder, the one they called a King.

More at: <https://tent-talks.simplecast.com>



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GMO. The way to go?

EILEEN SLATER SHARES CONCERNS ABOUT GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

A Government consultation this autumn will decide on whether to allow GM (Genetically Modified) crops to be grown in UK. I'm passionately against the idea.

Our natural environment is currently suffering from a dangerous loss of bees, birds and vital pollinators, and soil compaction/poverty. Climate change is also contributing to an unprecedented loss of native species.

The perceived advantage of GMOs is to hasten the production of crops but it involves removing genes which would destroy crop pests. I believe this could destroy many invaluable insect pollinators.

And accidental GM contamination of organically grown food could destroy the growing healthy organic industry.

Make sure you have your say in the next few months.

MORE INFO: <https://www.food.gov.uk/safety-hygiene/genetically-modified-foods>



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Rainbow's Reports

GILL NEAL UPDATES US ON EWHURST'S FANTASTIC PRE-SCHOOL

I don't think anyone thought we would have finished our pre-school year in the way we have but it's been great nonetheless! We waved goodbye to 17 school leavers with a pirate party in July and look forward to welcoming seven new families in September.

The new school year is always an exciting time for the staff. And we have begun preparing. The toys are cleaned and checked, and new ones are bought in anticipation of the children's return.

We have new faces to welcome as well as their families. Having a good relationship with parents allows us to develop a great working bond. We share information on the children's interests and achievements and giving the children a great big WOW is one of the highlights of our day. And parents lead on our committee which makes the decisions on spending, recruitment and fund-raising.

Our garden refurb was a big project this year and is looking fantastic, with a painted tree to read stories under,

bubble machine and stars to gaze at. Our amazing outside area will allow us to be outside even more and soon we hope to install a climbing wall and paint our benches bright colours.

During lock-down the staff have been undertaking lots of home-learning and

will return to put it into practice: yoga, language development, providing a healthy food environment and improving learning through play.

One area where I am particularly passionate is Forest School which we offer to all school-leaving-age children. Here, they have the opportunity to spend time exploring, learning about plants and

animals and taking a few risks: climbing trees, slipping down the muddy slopes, hunting for mini-beasts or working together as a team to move logs or play in the woodland car and mud kitchen.

As always, at the end of the Autumn term, there will be our celebration of Hindu Festival Diwali and our unforgettable Christmas nativity.

rainbowsendpre-school.org.uk



At Forest School, children learn how to explore the natural world and take a few risks.

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Ready for the new normal

JANE DYER HAS THE TEAM READY FOR THE NEW TERM AT EWHURST INFANTS

We are looking forward to the whole school returning in September. We are delighted to welcome 30 new children into our reception class. Members of staff have been busy preparing for a 'new normal'. All safety measures will be in place and in line with government guidance. The children will be adapting to new routines. In addition to our topic-led curriculum we will be focusing on children's well-being.

Each year the Governors continue to upgrade the facilities within the building and this summer a number of internal and external doors have been fitted along with a new hot water system.

Our site uses the outdoor environment, including Forest School activities to enhance learning opportunities and along with our creative curriculum

develops the skills young children require to become independent learners. As a small school we are extremely well staffed for the number of children in the school which means that every child is well known to every

member of staff. Each child's learning pathway is well supported as a result.

We are very keen to welcome prospective parents to the school, but our traditional tours will be different this year.

Information for school tours for prospective parents will be advertised on our school website www.ewhurst.surrey.sch.uk in September. Alternatively

please contact the school office by telephone 01483 277291 or email info@ewhurst.surrey.sch.uk to hear about the arrangements.

www.ewhurst.surrey.sch.uk



Jane Dyer, headteacher at Ewhurst Infant School.



My pride in my Dad

PETE BENNETT RECALLS A DEFINING DEED FROM HIS CHILDHOOD HERO

As I get a bit older there are times when I reflect on aspects and people in my life. The Covid lockdown has given me the time to do this.

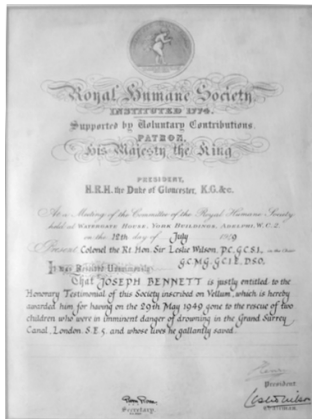
I am an only child and was by no means planned during the dark days of WW2. In fact, my parents told me that in those difficult times having children was furthest from their thoughts. I was brought up in fairly poor circumstances. My parents' rented home was bombed and destroyed whilst my Mum was evacuated to St Albans to have me. Without doubt I was a spoilt only child, getting the best my parents could afford and there was plenty of love for me. However, there was never a lot of money to go round.

We lived for a few years with various aunts and uncles until late 1947 when we finally moved into another rented terraced house in Walworth. Dad worked as a general foreman for a local building firm and only got one week off for holiday each year. In that week there were generally some days off to the coast in a

charabanc, if it could be afforded. However, Dad's big day out each year was his firm's beano trip to the coast. In May 1949 the day out was looming, and he somehow found the cash to buy himself a new outfit – jacket, trousers and some sandals. A big spend for him. He was quite chuffed with his look and one weekend, before the trip, decided to walk around to Uncle Jim's, his younger brother, to show off his new purchases. It was a relatively short walk from where we lived in Walworth to Camberwell. I think it must have been a Sunday as we were not allowed to be at Uncle Jim's on a Saturday

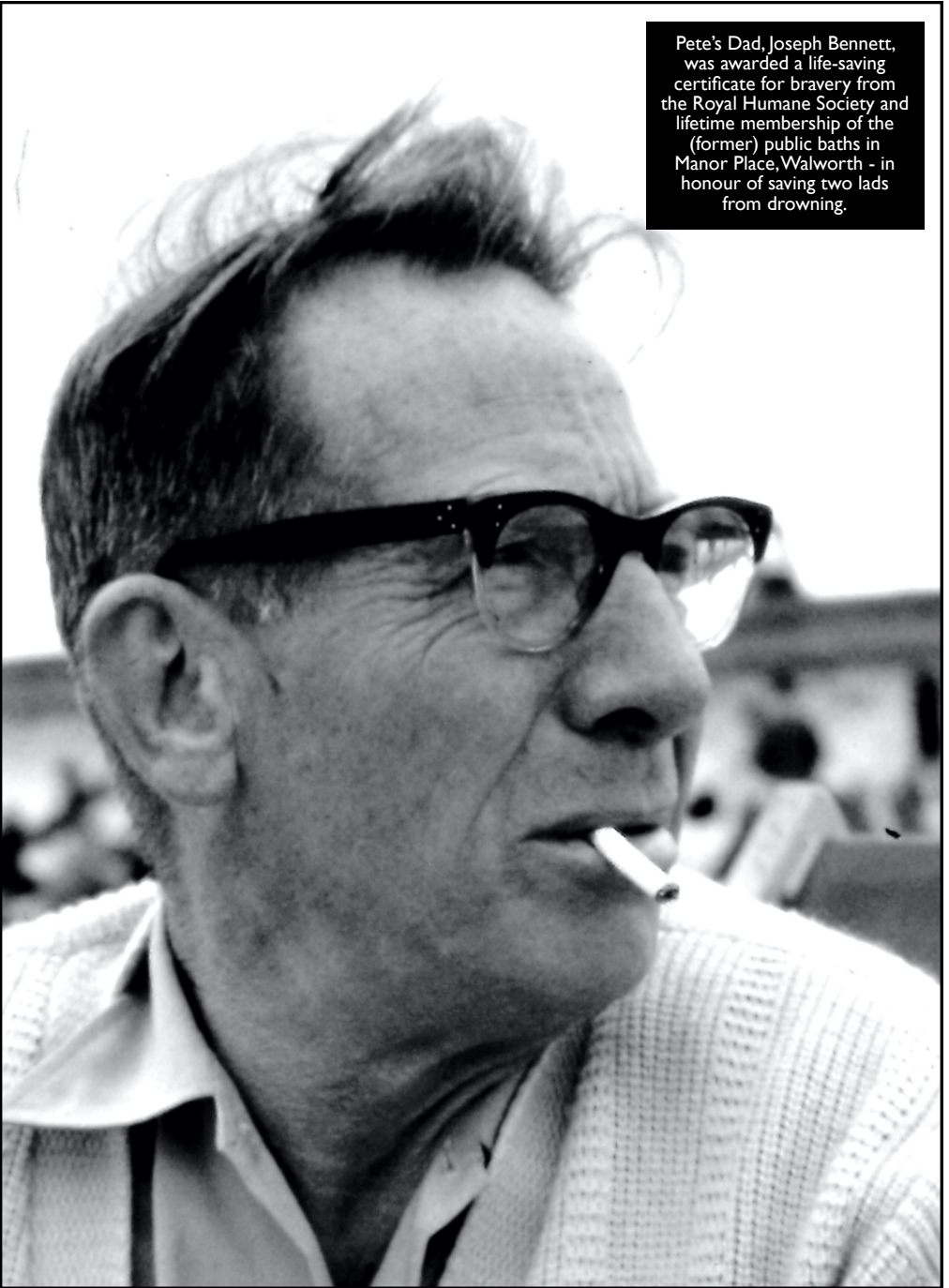
when his racing pigeons were homing from a race.

With me on my three-wheeled bike, we (Dad & I) embarked on the walk to Uncle Jim's. This took us across Albany Road and up Wells Way and over the canal bridge. Dad was in his brand-new gear and thought he looked great. I can recall looking through the bridge railings and saying to Dad that there was a boy swimming in the canal. He looked and ➔



Joe's certificate takes pride of place in Pete's home.

Pete's Dad, Joseph Bennett, was awarded a life-saving certificate for bravery from the Royal Humane Society and lifetime membership of the (former) public baths in Manor Place, Walworth - in honour of saving two lads from drowning.



realised the boy was not swimming but in some difficulty. In a flash he was gone and jumped off the bank into the canal, fully clothed, minus his precious sandals which he had kicked off. Having got the boy over his shoulder and wading back to the canal side he went to sweep some white-in-colour, underwater detritus out of his way only to realise it was another child that was fully submerged. He got both boys to the bank and gave them artificial respiration that he had learnt during his time in the Auxiliary Fire Service in the war. Both boys' lives were saved. Obviously, the Police and Ambulance service were called, and the

boys recovered in hospital.

My Dad's new clothes were ruined, much to his disgust. Later, he received the *Royal Humane Society Award For Valour* on vellum in honour of saving the boys' lives. The Mayor of Southwark also awarded him a life pass to the local swimming baths!

I have now the time to wonder if those two boys (Christopher Hobson and Kevin Henney who, if still alive, would be a similar age to myself) have the time to reflect that they owe their lives to Joseph Bennett.

It's certainly why I'm so proud of my Dad.

Harvest Collection (Ewhurst) for British Humanitarian Aid. Please donate (new or as good as) items for distribution to schools and orphanages in Ukraine, a greatly deprived part of the world with over 80% unemployment. Underwear and Toiletries; Hats, Gloves and Socks; School Stationery; Toys and Sweets. Your gifts will arrive in time for Christmas, so be as generous as you can. Please start collecting now – we will arrange collection points at the end of September. Gifts can be taken to the Harvest Festival (date TBC). THANK YOU!

Afterthought

BILL BRUFORD

I'm a person of science: God doesn't exist because there is no proof that He does. I need sensory or factual evidence before I believe.

I'll believe it when I see it.

I'm a person of faith: God might exist because there is no proof that He doesn't. I accept belief without evidence. In 1964 President John F. Kennedy had faith and no evidence that we could fly to the moon, but he believed we could.

I'll see it when I believe it.

Simple, isn't it? Most of us lean one way or the other.

Which way do you lean?

Repairs done. Onto the next!

At Ewhurst church, the south nave roof, the bell tower buttresses and the stonework to the west porch have been repaired, funded by Heritage Lottery. However, the wooden plates on the walls of the west porch were in a worse state than we realised, so we have halted that part of the repairs. We now need to find a way to strengthen the wood without spoiling the appearance of the porch. We will approach HLF for the extra funding

once we have details and hope they say “Yes”!

We continue to need funds to keep our historic church in good repair as it is still on the “At Risk” register. To help with this, we are in the process of setting up a new charity, *The Friends of St Peter & St Paul, Ewhurst* which is focussed solely on building maintenance.

In the meantime, if you wish to donate towards the repair and restoration of the church, please



Next step: Strengthen decayed wood, right side of porch.

contact Clive Ward at clive@ward.global or 07769 349 525.

Jane Harry on behalf of the *Roof Repair Project Group*



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Gift Day Generosity

Thank you to everyone who supported Ewhurst Gift Day at this difficult time. You raised almost £2000 - a great result!

Future events are very unsure but you can help church funds by checking for suitable photos for the Parish Christmas cards.

Anything Christmassy is good, you may even find looking at snowy scenes helps you cool down!

Any photos you wish to submit need to be landscape layout and sent as jpgs to the Parish Office before Monday 14 September.



Gift Day raised over £2000. Thank you to all, and if you'd still like to give, get in touch.

Jane Harry on behalf of the *Fundraising & Events Team*

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