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# Hailsham

## Parish Church

# News



***“KNOWING JESUS—  
MAKING JESUS KNOWN”***

# August/September 2018

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*Registered Charity No. 1132922*

## THANK YOU!

The weather, it's a constant cause of conversation isn't it? One of our favourite national pastimes! The long, hot, dry days of the last few weeks, which some have enjoyed and others have endured. But whether it's the weather or dare I mention it, bollards along the High Street, we do seem to enjoy complaining. Sometimes it feels as if moaning is the another national pastime. I wonder why? Why does our culture today seem set on extinguishing 'thankfulness'.



There are a number of reasons, I think. First, we've grown more cynical and sceptical, reluctant to trust and quick to criticise. Of course, our current politics doesn't help, we prefer the easy soundbite and assured promise, which usually turns out to be false, to the hard struggle of grappling with difficult questions for which there may be no easy pain free answers. Then, again, our culture, driven by



consumerism, tells us repeatedly that we need and deserve more. There's a growing mood of "we deserve it", more and better, a mood that pours cold water on feelings of thankfulness for what we have. And then again, as with the weather, we just like to grumble! About the trains, the queues, the government and .....! Grumbling is so much easier than gratitude, just think of the conversations that begin "I'm so fed up ... " but so rarely begin "I'm so thankful!"

Of course, there's a deeper issue here that our culture prefers to avoid. Thankfulness acknowledges someone else. Someone else has been kind and given us what we don't deserve. Thankfulness, it's not just being glad in the moment with something we're enjoying, but thankful for someone. It is acknowledging our dependence on someone else who has been the giver.

Not surprisingly the Bible is full of thankfulness because it is full of the Someone Else, the living God. Try reading Psalm 136.

*"Give thanks to the Lord, (again, again) for He is good. His love endures forever."*

*"Give thanks to the Lord, (again, again) for  
He is good. His love endures forever."  
(Psalm 136)*

Thankfulness is acknowledging God's goodness to us and our need of Him, from the world He has made and everything in it for us to enjoy to the amazing love He has showered upon us in Jesus. Thankfulness is so much more than simply a word of appreciation but an attitude of heart that looks to God because He is good and we depend on Him, and through Him valuing so much more others who love and serve us too. In fact, being thankful in that way is a huge antidote to so much that is unhelpful and destructive. An antidote to our pride and cynicism, to our greed and envy and a medicine that heals enabling us to forgive, to show kindness, to make sacrifice for others.



It's a real challenge, isn't it? To be grateful rather than to grumble, but how refreshing, how rewarding and above all how true for instead of life being all about us it becomes, as it rightly is, all about Him whose love endures forever.

So have a great summer and whatever you're doing and whatever the weather remember we have so much to be thankful for!

*David Bourne*

Here is a traditional prayer that beautifully echoes that idea of thankfulness to the Lord.

Almighty God, Father of all mercies  
we your unworthy servants give you most  
humble and hearty thanks  
for all your goodness and loving kindness  
to us and to all men.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
For the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And give us, we pray, such a sense of all your mercies  
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful,  
and that we show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips but in our lives,  
by giving up ourselves to your service,  
and by walking before you in holiness  
and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honour and glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

*(In various forms from the Book of Common Prayer)*





## **WELCOME TO THOMAS ALEXANDER ISAACS**

### **GOODBYE TO HAILSHAM**

Please find a photo attached, including the latest member of the Isaacs family - Thomas Alexander, born on our last Sunday in Hailsham weighing 6lbs 15oz. We were very sorry not to be with the HPC church family and to be able to say farewell to everybody in person, but we will be back later in the summer in order to do a 'proper' goodbye. So we hope to see everybody then.

*James, Monica, Rebecca, Isabella, and Thomas*

# HOME GROUPS



There is nothing like someone asking you how your prayer life is going to induce an attack of guilt. However the state of our private prayers and our praying together as a church is a very good indication of our general spiritual health. So although the question might be uncomfortable, it is still a good one to ask.

This autumn the Home Groups at HPC are going to be looking at the how and the why of prayer. We would all like to be more biblical, thoughtful and consistent in our prayers, so the plan is to do what Jesus' disciples did and ask "Lord teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1).

The sessions will include some practical tips to help us with our prayer lives and most importantly some time to pray in our groups. If you wanted to get a head on thinking about prayer here are three books which would make great summer reading. They are in increasing order of number of pages.

- Enjoy your prayer life – Mike Reeves
- A Call to Spiritual Reformation – D A Carson
- Prayer – Tim Keller

Home Groups meet fortnightly during school term times and are an excellent way to be encouraged as a Christian. There are groups which meet during the day as well as in the evenings. If you are interested in finding out more information do be in contact with Rory Graham - [office@hailshamchurch.org](mailto:office@hailshamchurch.org)



# BITE IN ON THE CHURCHYARD

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> June which turned out to be a bright, sunny day, the Bite In team offered Ploughman's Lunches in addition to hot and cold drinks and cakes in the Churchyard.

Although numbers were somewhat down on our last Bite In on the Churchyard event in 2012 when we celebrated the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, a good number of people did join us including several who had never see the inside of the Church and entered into friendly conversation. Some even asked why don't you do this every week—



something, which regrettably is not possible with the team available to us.

*The team were kept so busy that they had no time to take any photos except near the end.*



## OPEN CHURCH ITEM

A couple of weeks ago a couple from Australia came into church on a Tuesday Open Church and were running out of time before their return home. They were trying to trace relatives, ancestors, friends or neighbours of the time when their family lived in the Common Pond/Bell Banks Road area. Mrs. ————Was nee Pope and the family was apparently made up of Popes and Sherwoods.

If anyone has this kind of background or any information, I can give them the address in Australia or if there are just snippets of knowledge available I will happily send them off.

Dot Pollard.



# CHURCH WEEKEND AWAY

Over the Whitsun bank holiday weekend approximately 100 of our Church family enjoyed a weekend away to Coldharbour Meadows (just 10 minutes away for most of us!). Based in beautiful surroundings, the weekend included worship, teaching, time for fun and relaxation, fantastic food, and lots of time together as a church family seeking God.

**Friday** – campers (around 60 adults and children) arrived in the afternoon and set up their tents, then enjoyed a brief welcome meeting whilst the catering team were busy preparing a delicious meal of sausage casserole (we could smell the onions frying whilst we pitched our tents!).

**Saturday** – after an early start, breakfast was served and then ‘day-visitors’ arrived in time for the first of four teaching sessions. We were blessed to have Rev Dave Fenton leading our teaching sessions entitled ‘Growing with God’ and taking us on a whistle-stop tour of Nehemiah. During the day there was plenty of time for tea & cake, a ploughman’s lunch,



games (stilt-walking, table tennis, cricket, kubb, & other ball games) walks or sitting and sunbathing. The children had great fun getting wet on the slip and slide, and many adults (as well as some children) enjoyed a glass relief workshop with Jazz! In the evening we had a fish and chip supper

delivered and then finished off the day with singing songs around a roaring campfire (with lots of fun, albeit slightly reluctant, audience-participation!), followed by hot chocolate and toasted marshmallows.





**Sunday** – yet another early start, then breakfast before the campers began to pack up... we all returned to HPC for the morning service before returning to the campsite for a 'bring and share' lunch (around 100 people). There was time to relax, play games and enjoy the sun... and the weekend finished with a final teaching session and in fellowship around the Lord's table.



*Joshua seemed to be enjoying it all!*

Many thanks to everyone that was involved with helping make it such a fantastic weekend.



## **CHURCH WEEKEND AWAY**

### **BY OLLIE & ISAAC ROBSON**

Yet another year and nature was on our side with lovely weather. The venue was as amazing as ever, this time with a new arrival of the **FUN TENT!**

We felt that the catering was excellent, as per usual, and the atmosphere was fantastically friendly, we felt this way because people helped us to set up our tent.

Also the music was really good because we heard quality praise hymns that we enjoyed. The music leaders were brilliant by organising all the songs and really got our feet "tapping"

We thought the fun tent was excellent because the games were great and the way they taught us was amazing

All the young church activities were excellent.

Last but not least there was the entertainment. We found the after tea cool-down really nice. The Saturday night campfire was excellent; especially with this year's "Patagonian sheep song" (A song led by Chris and involving ALL the vicars).

All in all, we believe the lord was shining upon us as we found out more about him. And we pray we may be able to do this again next year.



# PIMMS & PUDDING EVENING

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July, nearly 50 women gathered in the Vicarage garden for our annual Pimms and Pudding evening. We were blessed with good weather, which made for a very pleasant evening of good food and drink, and great conversation. Just as it says on the tin, the supply of puddings was ample, and the major food groups of chocolate, fruit, cream and pastry were all well represented!



Liz from All Souls Eastbourne spoke to us, sharing something of her life as a wife and young mother, and the importance Jesus has in her life. She challenged us to think about what we think we really need – do I *really need* a glass of something, or another slice of cake, or just a nice sit-down and conversation after a long week? And then she introduced us to a man with a really desperate need: a man who was paralysed.



This man's friends brought him to Jesus; in fact, they were so desperate to get him to Jesus that they dug through someone's roof to do it. But in one of the most surprising moments in

the Bible (and there are a fair few surprises!) Jesus responded by forgiving the man's sin. Jesus knew that the paralysed man's biggest need was his



need to have his relationship with God put right. He needed to have his sin (all the ways he failed to treat God as God) forgiven, even more than he needed to be able to walk.

But Jesus didn't just say "your sins are forgiven" – after all, anyone could say that. If I punch you in the face, it's no use me asking someone else for forgiveness. *You're* the one who can forgive me. And because our sin is against God, only God can forgive us. So Jesus showed that he has the right to forgive sin – that he is actually God – by healing the man's paralysis too. The man's biggest need, forgiveness of sin, was sorted, and his smaller (but still very big) need was sorted too!

So the question is – do you know that your real biggest need is to have your sins forgiven? And do you know that Jesus can do that for you? (If you want to read the whole story—look at the beginning of Mark chapter 2).

*Cori Bromfield*

## **OASIS SUMMER SOCIAL**



Oasis summer social at Sharnfold enjoying fellowship and cake in the sunshine after a term studying Nehemiah together

# MY WORTH IS NOT IN WHAT I OWN

*My worth is not in what I own* is a song we introduced at our recent church weekend away. It's the result of a collaboration between Graham Kendrick and Keith and Kristyn Getty. In reflecting on the song, Graham Kendrick comments: 'We know that our culture calibrates human worth by measures of wealth and status, skills and achievement, beauty and youth, power and so on, but we don't always appreciate how deeply those values are ingrained into us and how effective they are in driving our behaviour. Christians are little different. We need to sing about our worth from God's perspective, not ours or our culture's, and God's perspective centres in on the cross.'

Shortly after we sang the song for the first time at Coldharbour Meadows, Andrew Risbridger penned a couple of additional verses, with those suffering from dementia and those suffering from depression particularly in mind. These are shown below in bold within the original song text. Thank you, Andrew.

My worth is not in what I own;  
not in the strength of flesh and bone.  
But in the costly wounds of love  
at the cross.

My worth is not in skill or name;  
in win or lose, in pride or shame.  
But in the blood of Christ that flowed  
at the cross.

*I rejoice in my Redeemer –  
Greatest treasure, Wellspring of my soul.  
I will trust in Him, no other;  
my soul is satisfied in Him alone.*

**My worth is not in memory full  
nor in the clarity of thoughts.  
But in that Christ loves me so much  
at the cross.**

**My worth is not in strength of mind  
nor in the feelings of my heart.  
But e'en in darkness Christ loves me  
at the cross.**



*I rejoice in my Redeemer...*

As summer flowers we fade and die;  
fame, youth and beauty hurry by.  
But life eternal calls to us  
at the cross.

I will not boast in wealth or might,  
or human wisdom's fleeting light.  
But I will boast in knowing Christ  
at the cross.

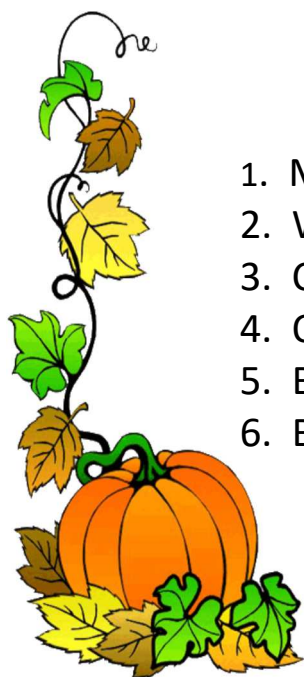
*I rejoice in my Redeemer...*

Two wonders here that I confess:  
my worth and my unworthiness.  
My value fixed – my ransom paid  
at the cross.

*Keith & Kristyn Getty and Graham Kendrick © 2014 Getty Music Publishing (BMI) and Makeway Music, CCL 932*

To listen to and/or purchase the music, please visit [www.gettymusic.com](http://www.gettymusic.com)

*Chris Taylor*



## **HARVEST CARE HOME DATES**

1. Marshview	Mon 24th Sept,	3.00 p.m.
2. Woodside Hall	Thu 27th Sept,	2.30 p.m.
3. Caroline House	Thurs 4th Oct,	3.00 p.m.
4. Quinnell House	Wed 10th Oct,	3.00 p.m.
5. Bentley Grange	Fri 12th Oct,	3.00 p.m. (tbc)
6. Bowes House	Wed 17th Oct,	11.00 a.m.

If you'd like to attend one or more of these services,  
please contact Chris Taylor  
[office@hailshamchurch.org](mailto:office@hailshamchurch.org)



# **“IF YOU GO DOWN TO THE WOODS TODAY”**

## **Teddy Bears Picnic with ABCs**

Lots of children, parents and teddies came to join us at our annual Teddy Bears Picnic. We had a lovely morning – the sun shone, the children ran



around happily and had fun climbing and playing in the swing.

Lyn brought along her parachute for some games, then Michelle led everyone in a very interactive rendition of “We’re going on a

bear hunt” – then, most importantly, we all sat together to eat our picnics.



During the morning the children also had chance to go on a real bear hunt - some pictures of teddies were lost near the picnic area, when the children found one, they could exchange it for a yummy teddy bear treat!





## MEN @ HPC SOCIAL

Men at HPC had a great evening out at the driving range in June—testing their golfing prowess and enjoying each others company—and then (of course) a drink and a meal in the clubhouse.

Apparently most of them managed to hit most of the balls most of the time!



Retired? Wanting a break?

How about a

### 'Holiday@Home'

at Hailsham Parish Church

Monday August 6<sup>th</sup>—Wednesday August 8<sup>th</sup> 2018

10.00am—3.00pm

#### Various activities include:

Thought for the day

Daily newspapers

Gentle exercises

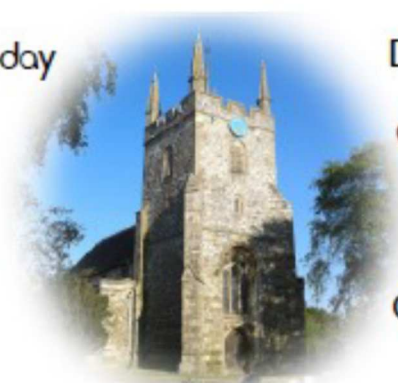
Quizzes & puzzles

Flower craft

Board games

Jigsaws

Outing



Refreshments—including light lunch

£7.00 a day; £18 for 3 days

A chance to meet new friends & have fun  
trying some different activities

## SOME OF THE GROUPS @ HPC

### ABC Playgroup

Meets Thursdays 9.30—11.30am  
term time



Meets Wednesdays 7.30—9pm  
term time



Meets Thursdays 8.00pm  
term time



Meets Wednesdays 12 noon  
except 7.45pm on 19 September  
*For details update, please check  
Sunday service sheets*



Meets 4pm Sunday  
16 September



Meets Tuesdays 3.15—5pm  
term time



Meets Saturdays 7—8.30pm  
term time



Holiday@Home:  
August 6—8th.  
September 3rd, AGM, 2pm  
in Lounge,

**The Bite In** 9.30-  
12noon Fridays for  
tea/coffee & cake.

**Bellringing** 7.30pm  
each Monday

For details of other activities do look at  
the back of church or speak to someone  
at the door on a Sunday.





# **SERMON SERIES**

## **SUNDAYS @ 10.30AM**

### **The Hidden King (Esther)**

If you know just a little about the Book of Esther you'll probably know it's the one book of the Bible that doesn't mention God. So, there's a problem, what can a book that never mentions God tell us about God?! Well that's exactly what we'll discover over 4 summer Sundays! If you've not read it through do take time to do so, it will leave you asking lots of questions. It's a gripping story of intrigue, genocide and savage justice. The sex and violence are at times ugly and bleak. But according to Jesus this on the edge of your seat drama is in the end good news because it tells about him, the hidden King, in Esther, who rescues his people. That's the prelude to an even bigger and better story!

### **The Great I AM (John)**

Alongside Esther we'll be turning to John's gospel we are confronted by stunning statements from Jesus about Jesus. I AM the good shepherd, the true vine, the light of the world, the resurrection, the life and more!

### **The Servant King (Isaiah 40-55)**

As we move into the autumn we are returning to Isaiah to pick up we're we left off last December – Isaiah 40. As Isaiah, God's messenger 700 years before Jesus, looks into the future and sees the coming of One who is both servant and king, both humble and mighty. A great way to prepare us for Christmas!

## **SUNDAYS @ 6.30PM**

### **The Rescuing God (Luke 14-16)**

In the evenings we return to Luke's gospel and his aim to show us the outgoing God who reaches to save the lost.

**Don't forget you can always listen to our sermons on the website**

## **MAKATON LESSONS AVAILABLE LOCALLY**

Makaton uses signs and symbols to support the spoken language to help children and adults with communication difficulties or disabilities.



## **SUNDAYS @ HPC:**

### **AUGUST/SEPTEMBER**

- 5 August** 8.00 am Holy Communion  
10.30 am All Age Service with crèche  
*(The Resurrection and the Life – John 11:17-44)*  
6.30 pm Evening Prayer  
*(Heavenly Hospitality – Luke 14:1-24)*
- 12 August** 8.00 am Holy Communion  
10.30 am Holy Communion with crèche and children's groups  
*(Faith in the Face of the Enemy – Esther 3+4)*  
6.30 pm Evening Prayer  
*(Reality Check – Luke 14:25-35)*
- 19 August** 8.00 am Holy Communion  
10.30 am All Age Service with crèche  
*(The True Vine – John 15:1-8)*  
6.30 pm Holy Communion  
*(Joy in Heaven – Luke 15:1-10)*
- 26 August** 8.00 am Holy Communion  
10.30 am Morning Service with crèche and children's groups  
*(Justice Done! – Esther 5:1 – 8:2)*  
2.45 pm Evening Prayer @ Emmanuel  
6.30 pm Holiday Club -Prayer and Commissioning Service
- 2 Sept** 8.00 am Holy Communion  
10.30 am All Age Service with crèche  
*(Holiday Club Special – Luke 18:18-30)*  
6.30 pm Evening Prayer  
*(The Prodigal God – Luke 15: 11-24)*
- 9 Sept** 8.00 am Holy Communion  
10.30 am Holy Communion with crèche and children's groups  
*(The Empire Overturned – Esther 8:3 – 10:3)*  
2.45 pm Holy Communion@ Emmanuel  
6.30 pm Evening Prayer  
*(Lost at Home – Luke 15:25-32)*

**16 Sept**

8.00 am Holy Communion  
10.30 am Battle of Britain Sunday  
Morning Service with crèche and children's groups  
(Speaker – Brigadier Ian Dobbie: SASRA)  
4.00 pm Families@4  
6.30 pm Evening Prayer  
(*Finish Well!* – Luke 16: 1-18)

**23 Sept**

8.00 am Holy Communion  
10.30 am Morning Service with crèche and children's groups  
(*This is your God!* – Isaiah 40: 1-31)  
2.45 pm Evening Prayer @ Emmanuel  
6.30 pm Holy Communion  
(*Invest Wisely* – Luke 16:9-31)

**30 Sept**

8.00 am Holy Communion  
10.30 am Morning Service with crèche and children's groups  
(*A Light for the Nations* – Isaiah 42: 1-17)  
2.45 pm Evening Prayer @ Emmanuel  
6.30 pm Evening Prayer  
(???)

All 10.30 services (Morning Service & Communion) have a crèche and children's groups and All Age services have a crèche for those who wish to use it.

**LOOKING FORWARD...**

**DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

**HARVEST CELEBRATIONS AT HPC**

Harvest Supper—Saturday 6th October

Speaker; John Ibbett

## YOUTH ZONE BOAT TRIP & BBQ

A group of youngsters were lucky enough to be invited out on a boat trip with the [Maritime Volunteer Service](#) on Saturday!

They met at Sovereign Harbour on a gloriously hot and sunny morning, then walked around the Marina to where the 'East Sussex 1' and her crew waiting for them. After a safety briefing and donning life jackets, the boat headed towards the first bridge and waited to enter the lock. When the lock was full (including some very impressive sailing boats), the gates shut so that the water level could drop and then away they sailed!

The East Sussex 1' headed West and, to great their excitement, each of the children were given the chance to take the helm... upon reaching Cuckmere Haven they turned about and headed for home, where they had to wait patiently as the lock was very busy!

The children had an amazing time – thanks to the Maritime Volunteer Service and Neil Hunter and Dan Saxby for organising the outing.

Youth Zone also gathered later the same day for their Summer Social – for more information and pictures visit the [Youth Zone](#) page.



First of all, I'd like to say a big thank you to Neil and Dan who organised this boat trip for us. I thought it was going to be very rocky, with big waves out at sea, however I was pleasantly surprised to find it relaxing as the sea was flat. It was really cool

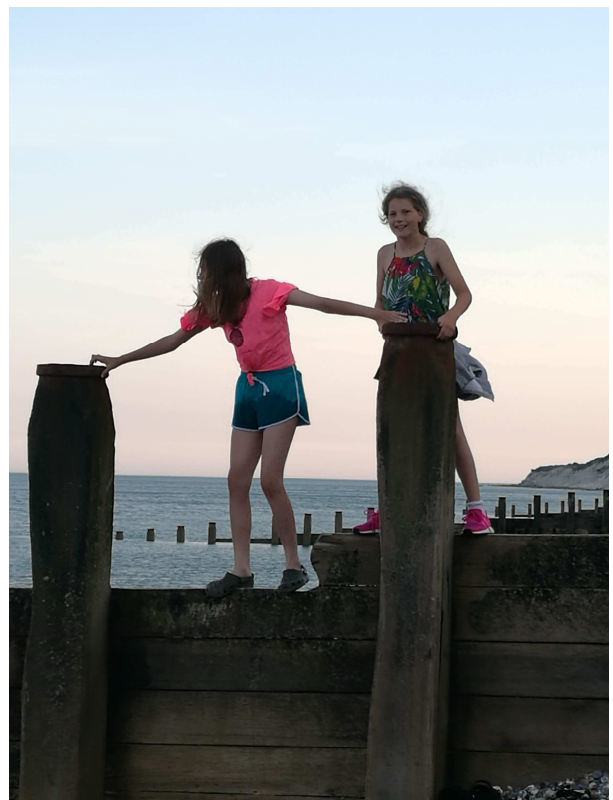


how we all had a turn of steering the boat. We sailed round the coast to the Seven Sisters and returned to the harbour - where 3 seals were basking in the beautiful sun! On the way back into the harbour, we had to wait for there to be room in the lock - it was interesting to watch the water pour in from the harbour so that the level in the lock became the same as in the harbour. The crew were very welcoming and seemed to enjoy sharing their knowledge with us all, so a big thanks to them as well."

Hannah  
Dadswell



In July, Youth Zone met at Holywell for the end of term social – a BBQ on the beach....





## YEAR 3 UPDATE

This summer marks the end of my third year at Oak Hill Theological College in London, where I'm a part-time student, studying Theology for Children's and Youth Ministry. This year, like previously, I've studied a mixture of units including Bible



handling, theology and practical ministry issues, and spent time growing in my faith and dependence on the Lord Jesus. Some particular highlights of the year include:

**Biblical Studies** – We studied the Old Testament historical books from 1 Samuel onwards, and many of the prophets. Looking at the “minor prophets” (Hosea—Malachi: the term ‘minor’ refers to their length, not their significance!) was particularly exciting, as I saw for the first time how the different books fit together to produce an overall story of sin, judgment and ultimately God's gracious

restoration of sinful humanity. It was wonderful to have fresh insights into parts of the Bible that can sometimes feel more obscure.

**Biblical Counselling** – This was a very practical course run by Steve Midgley, who is both an experienced psychiatrist, and now a church leader. He used his experience to teach us about providing pastoral care to people experiencing suffering and trials. We also thought about how all Christians can grow in godliness. With the Holy Spirit's help our sinful behaviour patterns can change; and each of us was encouraged to develop in our own lives, and not just treat it as theoretical knowledge.

**Practical Youth & Children's Ministry** – Another change of pace, but a really enjoyable and helpful course, training us for the different varieties of youth and children's work we might be engaged in. We gave talks, wrote plans for imaginary events, and argued about *Star Wars*. I was encouraged when my choice of assembly illustration was deemed “absolutely disgusting... the children would love it!”

The support I receive from Hailsham Parish Church is so enormously valued. Thank you once again for your prayers, for being the setting for some of my assessments, for encouraging me when deadlines loom, for your feedback, and for the financial support that enables me to go. It is all very much appreciated.

Please pray for the college, which is in the middle of significant staff changes, and for the students graduating this year, many heading for full time ministry in the UK and overseas. Please also pray for wisdom for decisions that need to be made in the coming months about what I will be doing this time next year (wow, it's gone quickly!).

Thank you once again.  
*Cori Bromfield*



Ride and Stride [formerly the Sponsored Bike Ride] returns again this year on Saturday 8th September giving a unique opportunity for riders, either on bicycles (or horseback!!!!) and walkers to explore some historic churches, some of which are not normally open and at the same time enjoy the lovely Sussex Countryside.

Alternatively a good number of Town Churches can be visited without undue effort on foot with Eastbourne, Lewes and Chichester [where there are a large number of historic churches in a small area] being particularly fruitful territories.

As our team of riders are now for the most part are 'of more mature years', it would be good if some younger riders could be encouraged to take part in this worthwhile event. There is no set route, but riders can either go in a group or as individuals visiting open or listed churches of their choice.

Monies raised support the Sussex Historic Churches Trust which gives grants towards the cost of repair to all mainstream churches and chapels more than 100 years of age something which is particularly helpful to small congregations in rural parishes. Also up to 50% of the monies raised come back to help fund repair works to our own church.

Volunteers to church Sit will not be required this year as the Church has been let out to Wealden Writers for a member's only event and participants taking part in Ride and Stride will be directed to the Link to sign in.

*Ron Timms*

# DAVE & MEG'S UPDATE - SUMMER 2018

Dear Friends,

When we last wrote we were gearing up for the annual conference we run in Derbyshire at the end of May for our retired workers. It is always a pleasure to see the lengths they will go to be there. This year was no exception, in all 45 were able to come with two 95 year olds making the



*Spring Prayer Conference*

trip and joining in activities that varied from hearing developments in various ministries in UK and overseas from our active workers, to an art/prayer workshop from our **Arts Release** team. There was also time for outings to beautiful gardens, walks and relaxation. Retirement is a strange concept for our long serving missionaries and many of them are fully engaged with reaching out to people from other cultures who have settled in England with a healthy dollop of empathy and understanding in order for the seed of the Gospel to take root.

Another aspect to this role is keeping them informed throughout the year of prayer needs within the WEC fellowship. A number of these requests come from folk handling serious illness and home calls. As we write our former UK director who had returned to the Far East to mobilize a new generation into mission contracted an aggressive cancer resulting in his Home call.

We also have the privilege following up enquiries from people in the area interested in becoming involved with mission and sitting down with those returning to our area for a short break or looking for future direction. We are delighted to witness the spiritual growth we uncover in these interviews clearly indicating that God has been at work in their lives.





*Visitors at Engaging Nations Event*

A new venture that we are involved with is '**Engaging Nations**' which is an event we stage in local churches that have an interest in wider involvement with prayer for the nations. It brings together "**Operation World**" prayer issues with "**Arts Release**" who have teams of people around the country using their Ethnomusicology gifts to intersperse worship with prayer. Our first event was well attended at Christ Church Tunbridge Wells on the May Bank holiday.

Outside the mission Dave stepped down from the diaconate in April at the end of 4yrs in this role. (*Eastgate Baptist Church, Lewes*) Much of this time we were without a Pastor but thankfully Oliver Stopp and his wife Jackie were able to accept our invitation and he was inducted on 19<sup>th</sup> May. This has come as a big encouragement to the congregation.



*Students at the International Tea*

For some time now '**International Teas**' have been run in the town for overseas students

Lewes & Brighton to come together to improve their English and absorb something of our culture and traditions. We have joined a number of volunteers from local churches providing food and interaction with the students. There are noticeably more Chinese students in recent months that provides a wonderful link with Dave's past.

in



Thank you to all of you who prayerfully support us throughout the year,

*Love from Dave & Meg*

## PIP AND PLOD

One morning, I think it was in May as it was not too hot and it was definitely Spring-like,

I took Pip and Plod across the fields on a working walk. I'm Jim, the local farmer's son, Pip is our sheepdog (a border collie) and Plod is our house-dog (a black Labrador-retriever). The two were great friends and I sometimes wonder if they think alike, or however it is that dogs communicate. I'll tell you why. They might go straight to the same toy to play or to the same corner to have a nap and many other things like that.



Well, on this particular morning, Dad wanted the ewes and lambs moved into fresh pasture, so Plod and I waited by the gate and I sent Pip off to round up the flock. Pip did a good job as always and we moved them off to the new field and shut the gate. "Right, come on then you two, time to go home." I didn't look at them, I don't usually have to when I give them an order, they just obey but the dogs were not by my feet as I expected so I looked up and there they were, away off up the edge of the field, Plod in front and Pip following, which is unusual. I wondered what they were playing at when Pip sat down in her waiting-for-an-order position so I wandered over to see what had got into the pair of them. As I got closer Pip began to bark. I could see two waggy tails and they turned to join me. They were no longer alone though; Plod had a mouthful of fur. Well, not just a mouthful, a very large mouthful of half-grown cat, which she dropped very gently at my feet. "Mum's going to be very pleased with you Plod" I said as I picked up puss-cat Jenny, "this one has been missing for two days" Puss-cat Jenny had not been very well and sometimes cats will hide away until





they feel better.

Jim was right, Mum was very pleased indeed to see her cat. "I'll try her with a drink and some food and if she won't have them, it will have to be some medicine from the vet," she said.

Mum laid the cat in her basket and then spoke to the dogs "Come on you two, you have really earned your breakfast" she said with a smile. "What about me? Don't I get breakfast." piped up Jim, teasing his lovely Mum. "Of course you do, you big softie" she replied as she fed the dogs.

The end

Love from Grandma Dot.

God's Word. - Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might,  
....Ecclesiastes 9 v 10

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* **BITE-IN 2018** \*

\* As requested in the weekly church notices, Bite-in really  
\* needs more help to carry on the weekly Friday morning  
\* sessions. These are greatly appreciated by our customers  
\* but we are finding staffing increasingly difficult as there is  
\* no wish to impose on our band of volunteers as often and  
\* we would very much appreciate more numbers in order to  
\* spread the need to ask as often. Obviously the more  
\* helpers on the list, the less often a duty comes up—it is not  
\* arduous and has a great sense of Community.

\* Would anyone who could consider a Friday morning at the  
\* Bite-In therefore please contact

\* Ron, Elizabeth or Dot via email -  
\* [office@hailshamchurch.org](mailto:office@hailshamchurch.org)

\* Thank you. Bite-In Team.

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# NEWS FROM NAMUGONGO

Dear all brothers and sisters at Hailsham Parish Church,

As we write it is hotter in Hailsham than here in Uganda, so you know exactly that feeling of being slightly overheated continually! We trust that you are all continuing on in the grace of the Lord.



*These are the groundnuts that the kids (and Ros) harvested today from our little Garden. They were SO chuffed*

We're pleased to say that after our trip back to the UK for 4 months in 2017, 2018 is running smoothly and successfully, broadly speaking! We're obviously still at Uganda Martyrs Seminary (UMS) helping to teach and train men and women to be faithful, Christ-centred church leaders. We're keeping ourselves busy, Ros with homeschooling our 3 kids Josh (8), Dan (6) and Chloe (4), leading weekly Bible studies in

Nehemiah with female students, and reading the Book of Romans 1-2-1 with some students also. I'm enjoying this term teaching on New Testament epistles, Youth and Children's Ministry, and Biblical Doctrine, as well as running the college Bible study programme on 2 Timothy. Please pray for us all as we continue our 'day-to-day' ministry in these various ways.

We thought you might be interested too to hear a bit more about the situation our students are in when they finish their theological training here at college and go out into Anglican church ministry.

- The first thing that often surprises people is that clergy in Uganda have absolutely no say in where they minister. Clergy will get a letter from the bishop telling them that in two to four weeks they will be moving to a different parish, potentially hundreds of kilometres away. Most will stay in a parish for three to four years before getting shifted on. You can imagine how stressful it is to suddenly be told you're off in a month's time, when your children are settled in a school, your wife is content, and you are enjoying your ministry.
- The average minister in Uganda is in charge of between 7 and 15 churches as soon as they leave bible college. I have one former student with 38 churches and another with 42. In many ways it isn't possible to lead so many individual congregations, but they give it their best shot! Churches are distant and transport is expensive – many have to walk long distances



to visit their flock or spend the little money they do have to get to them.

- In rural areas churches often have around 50-100 members, most of which are subsistence farmers. The church may meet in the shade of trees, or in a mud-walled and grass-thatched building. In churches where seats are just mud benches, the big desire is to upgrade to plastic chairs – or even nice pews!
- The services feel quite familiar to some Church of England services – hymns, Lord's prayer, creed, readings, announcements, sermon, offertory. Sometimes people don't have cash so they give a chicken or some maize they've grown and this will get auctioned off to be bought by someone with cash and thus 'monetarised'. Services can be anything between three and six hours long. Most churches don't run a regular Sunday school so children either sit in the service or hang around outside.
- Preaching itself here is very different to what many of us might be used to in the UK. It's often full of 'audience interaction' (call-response, questions etc.) and generally speaking is based around story-telling and anecdote (common in cultures like this with strong recent roots in orality). Altar calls are very common here and often involve people coming up not necessarily as a first-time conversion, but rather to 'recommit' to Christ after a time of spiritual weakness or faithlessness (I've seen someone respond to an altar-call at their own ordination service!).
- There's no proper salary schemes here – most clergy just get a certain proportion of the weekly offertory. The rare few - in Kampala or other towns - can support themselves well and drive a car, send their children to good schools and eat well, but these postings are few and far between. As one bishop once told me, clergy here need to have 'a bible in one hand and a hoe in the other.' The financial challenges are hard: to watch your children get kicked out of school for non-payment, or your wife suffer in sickness because you can't afford treatment, or to know that a poverty-stricken retirement awaits you, all because you've chosen the life of ordained ministry. Well, "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied." These verses are as precious to our students as they are neglected in UK circles.



*And carrots!! 27 July*

Please pray for our students and alumni, that they would seek first the kingdom of God and keep their eyes forward on the 'crown of righteousness' that all believers are set to inherit.

Love to you all at Hailsham,

Chris, Ros, Josh, Danny, and Chloe

# 100 YEARS AGO

## ***From the Hailsham Parish Magazines of August/September 1918*** **August 1918**

The Crown Prince's army is in full retreat all along the Marne and will not stop, I expect, till it gets to the Aisne. So terrified are the German Authorities of their people knowing this that their bulletin yesterday was a "quiet day". Why are they so frightened? How did it all happen? In September, 1914, they were 30 miles from Paris. Suddenly, I have seen three or four explanations - none satisfactory - they exposed their right flank and the result was a hasty flight to the Aisne. They tried fry hard at Ypres to cross the Marne and did so. Again they exposed their right flank and General Foch seized his opportunity and the retreat is the result. It was a "bolt from the blue" in 1914j. it is again the Divine Hand saying "hitherto and no further". "Let us humble ourselves beneath the mighty hand of God and He will in due time exalt us."

The Rev H J Jackson is appointed officiating Minister to the Polegate Aerodrome. His congregation at St. John's should appreciate the opportunity, do everything to further it and consider it as their special work and back up their Pastor by their prayers. What influence one man may have amongst soldiers and sailors, if he is backed up prayer, and himself is a servant of God.

August 4<sup>th</sup> we celebrate the fourth anniversary of Declaration of War by a day of prayer and thankfulness to God. Morning Prayer at 10, Holy Communion at 11, Offertories for French Red Cross; Children at 3, Evening Prayer at 6.30 and a combined Outdoor Service at Leap Cross at 7.30.

If Mr C U Jenner, at 86, can, on his own imitative, take up war work, let every idle man under that age be ashamed of himself!

Sent in by Mr A K Burtenshaw, by instruction of the Ministry of National Service.

There are at the present time a considerable number of men of a military age, who are employed in keeping in order lawns and pleasure grounds. It is important that such work should be reduced to a minimum in order to allow the men to assist in agriculture up to the end of the harvest. The Ministry of National Service is of the opinion that the work in which they are engaged is not at the present time of national importance and that they would be as they possess some



agricultural knowledge, better employed in helping the harvest. It is hoped that employers, having regard to the food position and the crisis through which the country is passing, will do all in their power to release such men for the harvest.

### **To destroy Poison Gas.**

For this purpose, and by doing so to save the lives and prevent the suffering of our brave soldiers at the front, our Government are requiring all the Stones from Plums, Cherries, Dates and Prunes, Nutshells, Walnut shells, Cocconut shells that can be collected.

The explanation is that charcoal is largely used in the making of Masks and Respirators, and no other charcoal is at all equal to that made from these materials.

Collectors are required throughout the Parish who will start at once collecting and send in or bring to the garden entrance of "The Acacias", No. 13 High Street, on the 26<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> September, to C U Jenner who undertakes to see that they are promptly sent to the right quarter for use.

### **September 1918**

**Fruit stones.** Mr. C U Jenner desires to tender his thanks to all those who have already responded to his appeal for Fruit Stones and Nut Shells to assist the munition workers in providing a safeguard for our soldiers against the clouds of poisonous gas thrown over them.. If the stones are dried in the open air before being sent in, it is a great advantage. He hope to receive a large quantity before the end of September.

### **Blackberries 1918**

While our brave Soldiers and Airmen are driving back the enemy in France so splendidly and our sailors sinking the "U" boats, the public at home are asked to give up their pet crop, the Blackberry, for Jam for H M Forces.

The Correspondents of the Schools have received a very urgent letter from the Education Committee of East Sussex, inspired from the Ministry of Food through the Board of Education, directing them to do all they can to assist this endeavour.

"Teachers should do all in their power to organize and superintend the work of picking, and if fruit is gathered prior to the receipt of further instructions from the Divisional Food Commissioners, the Local Food Control Office should be consulted as to its disposal."



## PEOPLE FOR

Joan Ayres  
Roy & Shirley Bland  
Bill Brooks  
John Brown  
Mabel Burton  
Daphne Elphick  
Virna Hunnysett  
Ann Horwood

Ron Keeley  
Ann Keeling  
Dawn Kimpton  
John Read  
Diane Seeby  
Pat Stepney  
Tim Welch  
Les Winchester

We give thanks for the lives of Win Jenner &  
Gordon Hillman

## PARTNERS IN MISSION

Chris and Ros Howles	<i>Crosslinks, Uganda</i>
Julian & Nicky Milson	<i>Crosslinks, Spain</i>
Meg & Dave Northcote:	<i>WEC International</i>
Asha & Sangster	<i>Bangalore</i>
The Crosslink Trust	

## THE RECORDS

### MARRIAGE

31 May Steven Cherryman & Katie Collins

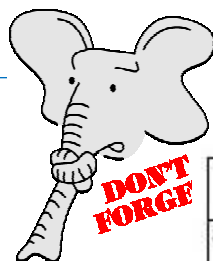
*Congratulations!*

### FUNERALS

6 June	Hilda Bolt
20 June	Barry Jones
9 July	Geraldine Jacobs
23 July	Archibald Murphy
26 July	Gordon Hillman

*We extend our prayers and sympathy to their families*





Closing date for the  
October/November  
mag is Wednesday  
19th September.

Email Rosie via  
[office@hailshamchurch.org](mailto:office@hailshamchurch.org)

## ACROSS

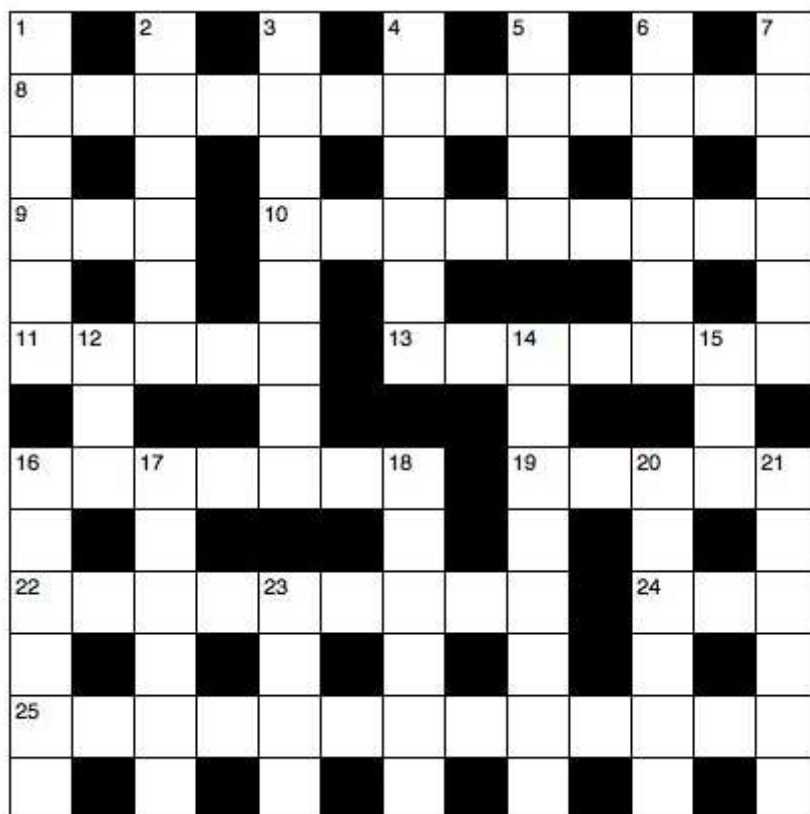
- 8 One of the titles given to the Messiah in  
Isaiah's prediction (Isaiah 9:6) (6,2,5)  
9 International Nepal Fellowship (1,1,1)  
10 Single (1 Corinthians 7:27) (9)  
11 Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn's seminal book  
about Soviet prison camps, The —  
Archipelago (5)  
13 Treachery (2 Kings 11:14) (7)  
16 Of India (anag.) (2,3,2)  
19 'God has put us apostles on display at the  
end of the procession, like men condemned to  
die in the —' (1 Corinthians 4:9) (5)  
22 Follower of a theological system  
characterized by a strong belief in predestination  
(9)  
24 'Put these old rags and worn-out clothes  
under your arms to— the ropes' (Jeremiah  
38:12) (3)  
25 They brought together all the elders of the  
Israelites in Egypt (Exodus 4:29) (5,3,5)

## DOWN

- 1 The season when kings 'go off to war' (2  
Samuel 11:1) (6)  
2 Simon Peter's response to Jesus by the Sea  
of Galilee: 'Go away from me, Lord; I am a —  
man' (Luke 5:8) (6)  
3 Beaten with whips (1 Kings 12:11) (8)  
4 'You shall not — adultery' (Exodus 20:14) (6)  
5 Encourage (Hebrews 10:24) (4)  
6 Service of morning prayer in the Church of  
England (6)

# THE CROSSWORD

(answers next time)



- 7 'Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ  
died for you, and — him in your heart by faith  
with thanksgiving' (4,2)  
12 Run (anag.) (3)  
14 Member of 17th-century party that denied the  
right of autonomy to the Church (8)  
15 'We will triumph with our tongues; we—our  
lips' (Psalm 12:4) (3)  
16 Earnings (1 Corinthians 16:2) (6)  
17 'I rejoice greatly in the Lord that—you have  
renewed your concern for me' (Philippians 4:10)  
(2,4)  
18 How Paul described Philemon (Philemon 1) (6)  
20 Multiple territories under the rule of a single  
state (Daniel 11:4) (6)

## JUNE/JULY SOLUTION

**ACROSS:** 1, Wickedness. 7, Harpist. 8, Teach.  
10, Side. 11, Impostor. 13, Encamp. 15, Saddle.  
17, Ignorant. 18, Tent. 21, Grass. 22, Olivier.  
23, Wrongdoers.

**DOWN:** 1, World. 2, Crib. 3, Entomb. 4, National.  
5, Started. 6, Whispering. 9, Harvesters.  
12, Imprison. 14, Centaur. 16, Unload. 19, Evils,  
20, Give.

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**£1** per child  
per day



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Cruise

**Tues 28th - Fri 31st Aug**  
**9.45 am - 12.30 pm**

You're invited to join in the fun  
crafts, games, bible stories, songs & The Watt Family drama

**Family Picnic/Games on the beach Saturday 1st September 11 am- 1 pm**  
**All Age Service-Holiday Club Special: Sunday 2nd Sep 10.30 am**

For more info contact Lyn Gooding 441868  
or email us at [holidayclub@hailshamchurch.org](mailto:holidayclub@hailshamchurch.org)