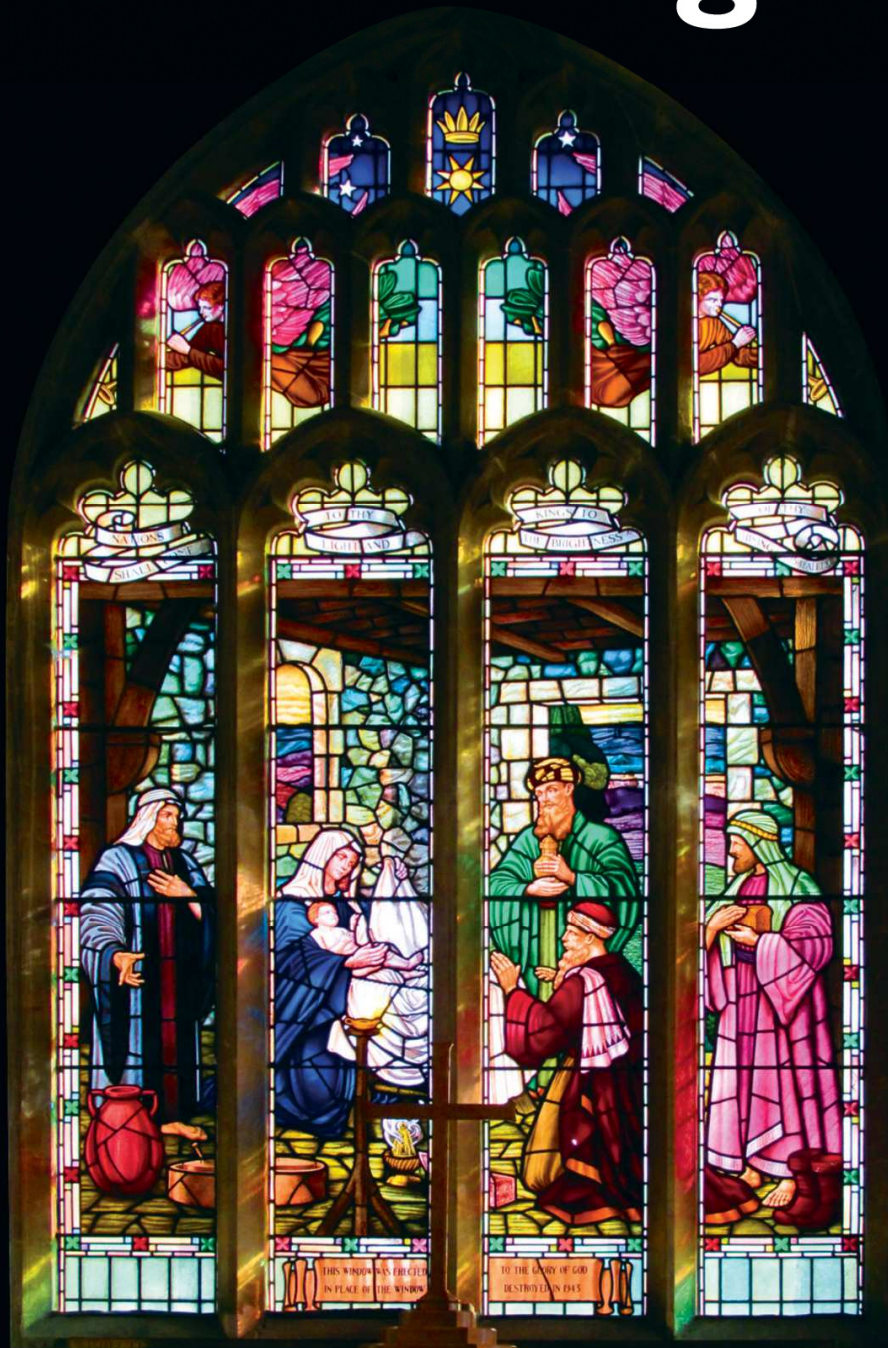


Christmas Greetings





Hailsham

Parish Church News

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

December 2018 - January 2019

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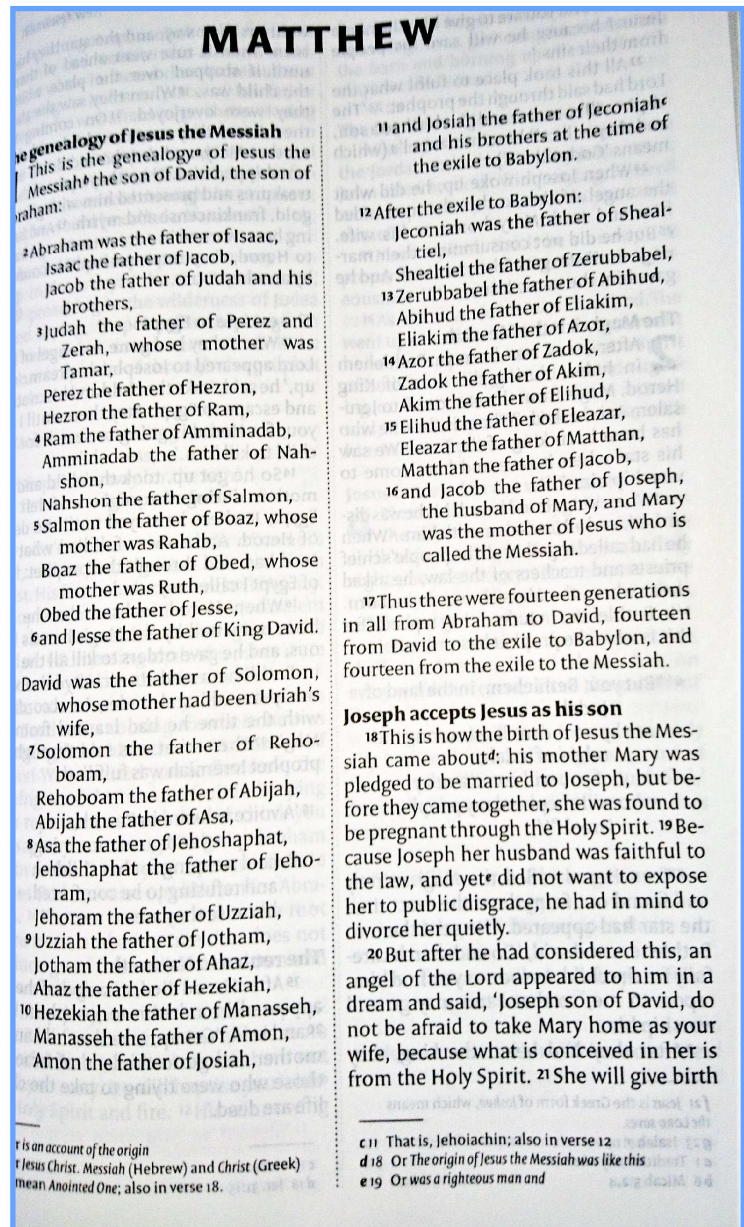
CHRISTMAS ROOTS

Our recent emphasis on remembrance, marking the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War, got me thinking again about my family and those who fought and died in that conflict. It was a reminder that I really do need to find out more about them, how and where they served and beyond, to a family with roots in rural Leicestershire and in the industrial towns of Stoke-on-Trent. I really must do some work on the family tree!

But then can you imagine writing a book (presumably with the intention that someone will read it) and beginning with a long list of names, Perez, Hezron, Ram, Amminadab, Nashon and another 43 to add to them? It hardly sounds, to our ears, like a riveting read.

And yet that's precisely how Matthew begins his account of the birth of Jesus. Not with the star, the shepherds and the manger but with a genealogy, a family tree and very long one! In my own genealogy, following one line, I'm thrilled to have managed to get back to around 1720, maybe 8 or 9 generations, but this one comes to 42 generations!

But what's the point and what's it got to do with Christmas? Matthew doesn't, you see, start his story of Jesus birth with the usual, 'once upon a time'. That's the way fairy tales and legends begin, a code to signal this probably never happened but it's still a beautiful story. Not so Matthew. He writes up a family tree, 'the genealogy of Jesus Christ', it's code to signal this really happened. It's true, it's history. Christmas isn't an inspiring morality tale about how to live life well and be nice to our neighbours. Matthew isn't telling us what **we** should do but



what **God** has done. It's not about self-improvement but about God's rescue; God coming into the world to save, to forgive. So, celebrating Christmas begins with believing the message of what has happened, what God has done. Did God really come? Did Jesus really live and suffer and die for you? Did He really rise victorious from the grave? If He did then everything else about life begins to make sense. On the other hand, if in the end it's just 'once upon a time' then Christmas and all that goes with it is no more than nonsense.

But if it is true, what difference does it make? Well, back to the family tree. Now back in the first century it was common for important figures to doctor their genealogy in order to impress. Matthew does just the opposite with Jesus. To begin with there are five women listed – Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba and Mary. Nothing surprising to us but in the ancient world women were not usually included. Add to that, three, at least, were foreigners, outsiders. And what's even more surprising, by including them, Matthew highlights some of the most sordid, broken, immoral incidents in the Bible. From a sad tale of family incest to a deeply flawed king prepared to murder in pursuit of his lust. Here are outsiders, flawed, broken men and women – failures. Yet here they are acknowledged both as ancestors of Jesus and those who came to trust the promised coming, to trust the Son who would bring forgiveness from God. I guess you could say that Matthew announces that Christmas is for everyone no matter your background, no matter who you are or what you've done. There is no one, not even the greatest in human achievement who does not need the forgiving grace of Jesus and no one who is too far gone to receive it. Male and female, Jew and Gentile, prostitute and king, moral and immoral, equally broken, equally lost and equally loved by the coming Child.

Yes, Christmas is for everyone, for all to enjoy, who would believe the message and trust in the One who comes with love and hope to rescue and forgive. And, yes, it really happened. Maybe that list of names isn't so boring after all!

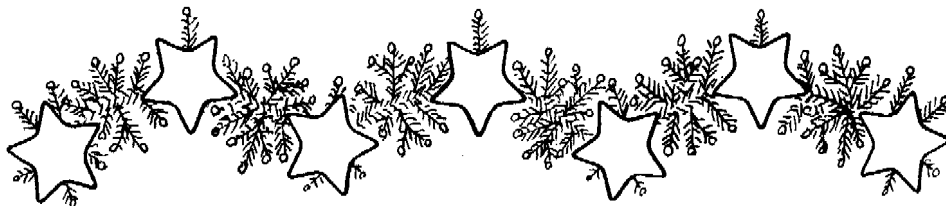
Do join us this Christmas in discovering more of the promised rescuer – Jesus Christ.

With every good wish for Christmas

David Bourne

CHRISTMAS CARDS—CHRISTMAS GIVING

Every year we make a point of giving away at Christmas. Naturally we like to give cards to friends in the congregation but why not send a card to everyone with your Christmas greetings. So from Sunday 2nd December there will be a big decorated display card with a large supply of greeting cards to fill the board and create a great festive picture. All you need to do is put a donation (minimum £1.00) into the box provided, add your greeting and pin the card to the board and there's a communal card for everyone to enjoy as well as a significant donation to Christian mission around the world.



CHRISTMAS MISSION SUPPORT

The loose collections from all our Christmas services from 16th December and from the special communal Christmas card will be given to Tear Fund, Release International and the Children's Society.

Home Alone Christmas 2018

If you will be on your own this Christmas day, we would like to invite you to join us at The Link Coffee Shop, Market Square, Hailsham for Christmas lunch.

The Coffee Shop will be open from 11.30 a.m. for coffee and lunch will be served at 12.30p.m.

There will be various amusements during the afternoon and we will finish the day with the Queen's speech and a piece of Christmas cake at 3.30p.m.

There is no charge for the day, but donations are welcome for Tear Fund.

Places MUST be booked, so if you would like to join us, please call in at The Link for a form or email - office@hailshamchurch.org

Limited transport is available so if you cannot get here any other way, please let us know.





Family Friendly services ...

We have a number of Christmas services and some that are particularly aimed at children and families which we would love to invite you to...



Christingle Services

Christmas Eve - 3.00 pm, 4.30 pm and 6.00 pm

As the excitement builds on Christmas Eve why not come and join us at one of our Christingle services?

Carols, Christingles and a short Christmas talk.

Three identical family friendly services - choose one to suit your family.

Christmas Day - Morning Service 10.30 am

Come and celebrate with us.

Bring or wear a Christmas present to this all age service.

All Age Service - Sunday 30th December at 10.30 am

As we approach the end of 2018 why not come and join us at this all age service?

And Saturday 5th January 2019 at 6.00pm, Pantomime

The Nutcracker - Saltmine Theatre Company. Fun for all the family.

Tickets (£5) from Lyn

www.hailshamchurch.org





Families @ 4

Starts 4.00pm Sunday 20th January 2019 and on the 3rd Sunday of each month.



ABC Playgroup

**Parent & Toddler Group
(birth to pre-school)**

Starts back on Thursday
10th January 2019,
9.30am - 11.30am.



After School Club

Starts back on Tuesday
8th January 2019 from
3.15pm - 5.00pm.



MEN'S GROUP GAMES EVENING

A great night of fun and games was enjoyed by about 20 men on Tuesday 20th November at Emmanuel. The focus of the evening was the

Scalextric* racing (thank you to Colin Dadswell for organising the races), which became increasingly competitive during the evening. Some interesting reasons as to why the performance of some drivers was not as good as they expected were provided, the main one being equipment failure rather than operator error (a bad workman). Those who came along also enjoyed the chance to play table tennis and pool.



Snacks and refreshments were in plentiful supply and pizza was expertly cooked by David Gooding. A short very thought provoking talk was given by Rory Graham. Overall the

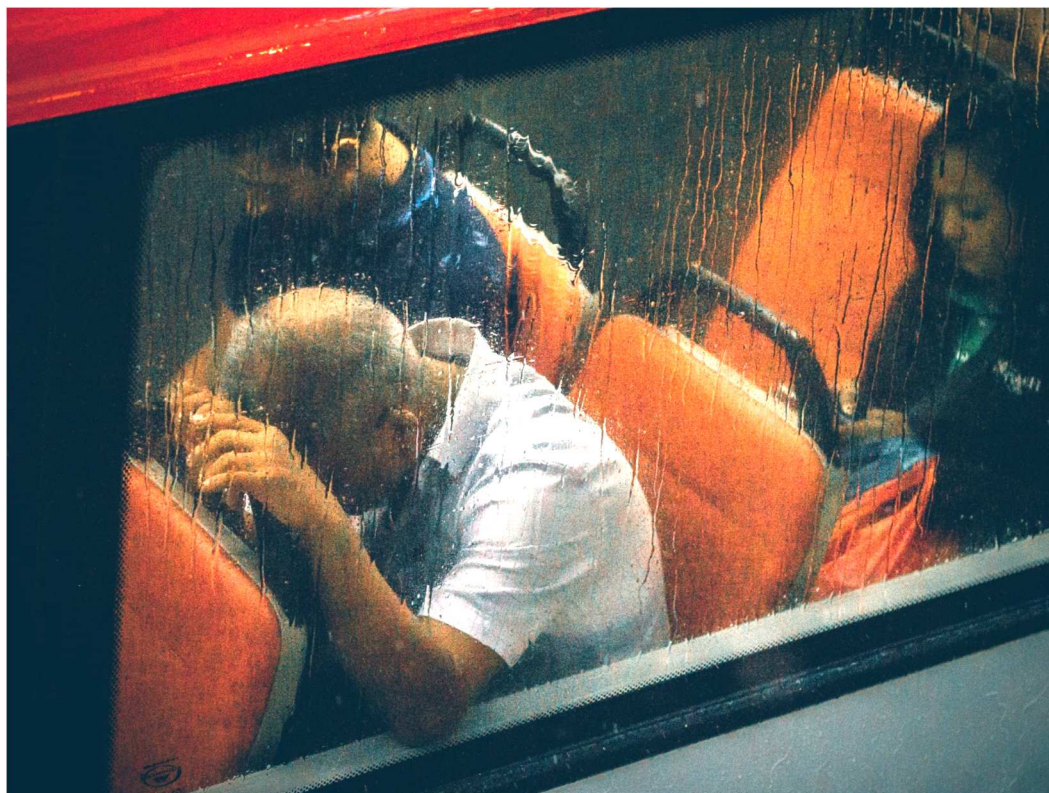
night was a great success and forms part of the range of activities organised by Men@HPC.

* From Bridge Racing which is just one of the groups organised through HPC.



HOME GROUPS SPRING 2019

GOD IN THE EVERYDAY; THE BOOK OF RUTH.



Why bother with Ruth? She is a nobody, young, vulnerable, alone and poor. The book of Ruth records no famous events or famous people – just an average family suffering misfortune in an agricultural backwater.

But beneath the surface, the hidden hand of God is at work in the lives of these utterly unremarkable people.

The book of Ruth will show us how God's great plan for the whole world is being played out in the lives of ordinary people. We'll discover that these seemingly ordinary events in the lives of ordinary people are part of a chain that ends with the coming of the promised Saviour King who will redeem people of all nations.

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, email - office@hailshamchurch.org



CHRISTIANITY|EXPLORED

WHAT'S THE BEST NEWS
YOU'VE EVER HEARD?



Who is Jesus?

Why did Jesus come?

What does it mean for us?

What is Christianity? It is all about one life, the life of Jesus. The Christianity Explored course is a simple introduction to the Christian faith

If you have ever asked these questions or are curious to find out, the Christianity Explored course is a simple introduction to the Christian faith. It's accessible to all and will answer these questions - it is also a great refresher for those who have been Christians a while.

Come with a friend or on your own, we won't embarrass you or assume anything. We promise a fun evening and to take your questions seriously.

When?

The course will run on Thursday evenings at 7.45 pm in the Church Lounge.

Sessions will start with cake and hot drinks on the following dates:
10th, 17th, 24th and 31st January, 7th, 14th and 28th February

How can I find out more?

If you would like to know more please contact Rory Graham, Associate Minister (email office@hailshamchurch.org)

CHRISTINGLE MAKING

Sunday 24th December, 11.15, just after the morning service.



The **orange** represents the world.



The **red ribbon** indicates God's love wrapped around the world and the blood Christ shed on the cross.



The **dried fruits and sweets** are symbols of God's creations. For many people, they also represent the four seasons.



The **lit candle** symbolises Jesus, the light of the world, who brings hope to people living in darkness.

Women2Women

*reaching out & building up; encouraging
Christian women to share their faith.*

Women2Women are having another Women's Breakfast in the Lounge on February 2nd 2019. The breakfast starts at 8.30. There is opportunity to meet, eat and listen to a speaker as we hear and encourage one another from God's Word—the Bible. More details later.



NEW ADVENT-THEMED ALL-AGE SONG

Hooley Dooley, Wop Bam Boom!

Complete with its Australian slang (*Hooley Dooley* means Wow!), this catchy song by Colin Buchanan will help us fix our eyes on Jesus' certain return. We're singing it for the first time as part of our all-age Advent service, *Countdown to Christmas*, on Sunday 2nd December. Why not visit the new songs page on our church website (it's on the Resources tab) to listen to this and other recently-introduced songs?

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL

Candlelit Advent carol service at 6.30 pm on Sunday 2nd December.

The service provides us with an opportunity to mark the arrival of our new organ, and we're pleased welcome Colin Hughes, Hailsham Choral Society's accompanist, who's coming as a guest organist for the occasion. Our own church musicians who are, of course, busy with preparations for our Christmas Carols by Candlelight service (16th December), won't be involved 'up front' in the Advent service -- but their voices should swell the sound of the congregation.

Invitation to sing carols at the farmers' market

Why not join us as, once again, we sing some Christmas carols at the Festive Farmers' Market? Saturday 8th December, 9.50 for 10.00 a.m. for about 40 minutes, followed by a hot drink in the cafe for those who want to stay on afterwards. It's a lovely opportunity to serve the local community whilst singing gospel truths and inviting people to come to our Christmas services. Please contact Chris Taylor if you'd like to come or want to know more.



Hooley Dooley, Wop Bam Boom!

*Jesus Christ is coming soon.
He'll appear in might and power.
No-one knows the day or hour.
It's sure to happen some day soon.
Hooley Dooley, Wop Bam Boom!*

*In the clouds, just like he said,
(In the clouds, just like he said,)
he'll judge the living and the dead.
(he'll judge the living and the dead.)
Woah...
(Woah...)
Hooley Dooley, Wop Bam Boom!...*

*Only those in Christ will stand.
(Only those in Christ will stand.)
Sing, "Worthy! Worthy is the Lamb!"
(Sing, "Worthy! Worthy is the Lamb!")
Woah...
(Woah...)
H/oooley Dooley, Wop Bam Boom!...*

*Eve*ryone who's been forgiven
(Everyone who's been forgiven)
he will welcome into heaven.
(he will welcome into heaven.)
Woah...
(Woah...)*

*Hooley Dooley, Wop Bam Boom!
Jesus Christ is coming soon.
He'll appear in might and power.
No-one knows the day or hour.
It's sure to happen some day soon –
morning, evening, afternoon.
Satan gonna change his tune:
Hooley Dooley, Wop Bam Boom!*

*

AFTER 100 YEARS OF REMEMBRANCES

World War 1 was so awful; ...so relentlessly awful, that it still fascinates and appals us 100 years after it finished and after the last surviving combatants have all died.

Are we in a better place ? Are we a better people? Are wars less likely? Has the awfulness of that war and its solemn annual remembrances inoculated us against the contagion of war and against the mistakes or the attitudes of hatred, hostility, war-mongering and wanton mass destruction of fellow humans? Or are we OK with war as long as we can win? Does winning war justify our atrocities whilst totally condemning those of our enemies?

Just posing these questions feels quite uncomfortable and may seem somewhat dishonouring of those who died in conflict or to their loved ones who mourned their loss or who cherish their memory. We want to honour them and to emphasise that they did not die in vain; yet human sacrifice and endeavour seems to have, at best, a short lived effect and subsequent generations have to fight to preserve freedom and liberty. So there is a need to face these issues. There was rejoicing despite the carnage that World War One would be "the war to end all wars" and there was talk of making Britain post-war 'a land fit for heroes'. It is important to acknowledge that neither of these proclamations were fulfilled as they were hopes or aspirations and there was no power to deliver. We feel in our hearts that after something so monstrous and ghastly as the slaughter on the Western Front in World War 1, (60,000 died in one day at the Somme and about 150,000 have unmarked graves in the intense destructive battle-zone at Verdun,) that there should be a better world... there must be a better world. Grand statements were made. The hope for a better, less divided world was there as illustrated by the formation of the League of Nations. "Never again!" it was said but 21 years later the world was hit with the commencement of World War 2; (which brought with it new horrors.)

Strong words, intense feelings, the desires of millions of people, yet still not enough to prevent.... It is this painful fact that has to be acknowledged. And with it one other disquieting thought. Even if World War 1 had never happened, even if all those events and decisions that joined up to unleash the devastation of that war had somehow be diverted, decoupled, thwarted; yet still the whole of that generation would still now be dead. We have not, despite all mankind's cleverness and ingenuity conquered death.

World War 1 was particularly brutal because the ingenuity of human inventiveness with its application in mass production was applied to the design, manufacture and production of weapons, munitions and war machines and these were produced in huge quantities and were very effective in killing people. We find it easier to destroy than mend. All human inventions and discoveries seem to have found an application in weapons of harm.

It is against this backdrop that Christmas comes as a message of hope. This is not the message of commerce, consumerism, tinsel and Xmas jingles. The hope of the world is not to shop.

This is the original Christmas message that was described as 'Good News to all people'. World War 1 was savage, at times almost beyond imagining, so little wonder that surviving soldiers talked little about their experiences. It was fought between the advanced 'civilised' countries of the time so what hope could there be for mankind? Even less hope later as one appalling war has been followed by another.

What it shows is that mankind needs saving from itself and only a God of unimaginable greatness could be big enough to deal with the brokenness of our world and with it each one of us.

The Christmas message is stunning. It says that God Himself chose to come into this world to effect a rescue.

He comes not as an overwhelmingly powerful super-hero who defeats everyone and uses awesome powers to keep himself from harm but he came as a suffering servant. He demonstrates his powers to heal, control nature, to raise the dead and to forgive sin but he himself submits to death both to defeat death and to provide payment for our sins, our wrongdoings, our selfishness, our abuse of all we have been given, our rebellion and insisting we want to go our way.

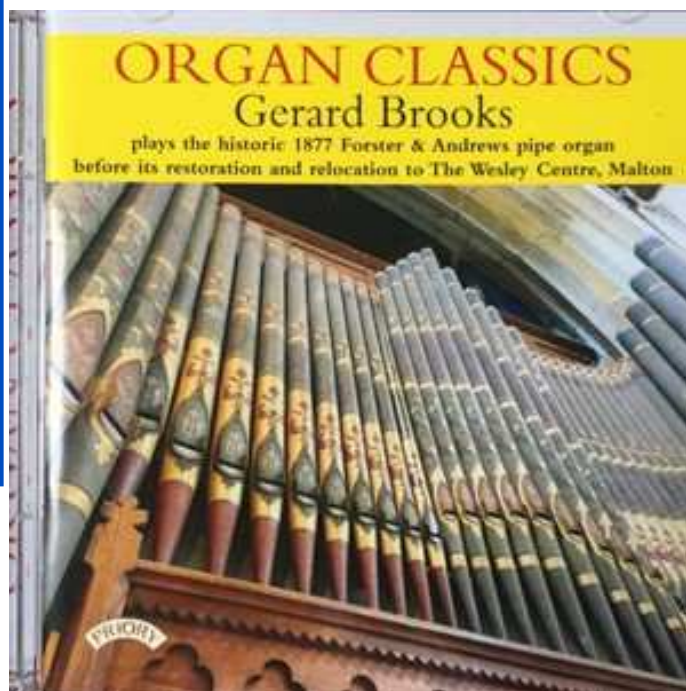
Christmas says that there is hope despite the large scale carnage and heartbreak of the two World Wars, despite the smaller scale carnage, loss and heartbreak in every terrorist atrocity and every death from any cause. It even addresses that yearning for a better world, a place of peace.. between nations, between people, between generations, even in our divided minds.

Jesus came to rescue us and the message of hope and peace is the answer we need, is the answer we are looking for; even if we are often looking in the wrong place with modern Xmas excess.

100years on, come, submit to the true Christmas message, truly the hope of the world..

(Reflections from a member of HPC)

Organ Classics played by Gerard Brooks on the historic organ in Hailsham Parish Church prior to its restoration and relocation at The Wesley Centre, Malton. For further details or to purchase ask in Church, contact Southerden Books in Market Square, Hailsham (01323) 441079 or directly from the Wesley Centre (maltonwesleycentre.org/our-shop) for £9.99 plus £2.00 postage where appropriate.



NEWS UPDATE ON THE BUILDING

The new organ console has arrived and is now being installed with sound checks etc. It's first significant outing will be for the candlelight service for Advent on 2 December.

The final stages of the tendering process for the west end works are nearly complete and we expect to confirm our preferred contractor shortly. It is, however, now expected that the main works will not begin until early March and will last about 4 months.

Immediately after Christmas the remaining pews will be removed – please let us know if you would like to buy one – and new chairs will be installed. These will include some with arms which will be of particular benefit to the less mobile among us.

We are currently planning for an official 'opening' of the west end in the early autumn. A week of mission, showcasing the building, celebrating the completion of ten years of reordering and improvement and giving thanks to God. Please put the weekends of 28/29 September and 5/6 October in your diaries now! The 'open house' events will include a family fun morning (Bertie Pearce is coming back), an organ recital, a history evening and the Bishop joining us on Sunday 29th.

SERMON SERIES

SUNDAYS @ 10.30AM

The Servant King (Isaiah 40-55)

Christmas is Coming! (Luke 1 and 2) - December

Getting ready for Christmas with Luke as he sets the scene for the birth of the King!

The Servant King (Mark 9-16) – January/February

For the New Year we return to Mark's gospel moving now from the identity of promised King to his mission.

The King who comes to give his life as 'a ransom for many'.

SUNDAYS @ 6.30PM

Out of the Storm (Job) – January/February

I suspect that the most troubling questions we face as believers centre on suffering. The big question is 'why'.

Why is there suffering, why do I suffer? So, is God really good? Is he really in charge?

Lots of tough and often painful questions which the Old Testament book of Job begins to answer. And the answers are surprising because what we'll discover is less about suffering and more about God, so much bigger than ever we imagine!

ISSUES @ 6.30 pm

There are many issues in life with which we struggle, often troubling situations and we're not sure how we should respond as Christians.

Starting in February and every 3 or 4 months we'll be devoting Sundays @6.30 pm to tackle some of those issues. The style will be different, informal and with refreshments as we go but wanting to get to grips with what the Bible has to say in challenging times.

For 2019 – Thinking right when things go wrong. Christians living in the face of sickness and suffering. (February)

When the darkness close in – living with depression and anxiety (July)

Dying Well – a sure and steadfast hope (November)

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



SUNDAYS @ HPC:

DECEMBER 2018/JANUARY 2019

2 December ADVENT SUNDAY

8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am All Age Service with crèche
(Countdown to Christmas – Romans 13:11-14)
6.30 pm Advent Carol Service - One True Light
(A candlelight service of readings and carols for Advent)

9 December 8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Morning Service with crèche and children's groups
(Christmas is Coming: Revealed in the Bible – Luke 1: 1-4)
2.45 pm Holy Communion with carols @Emmanuel
6.30 pm Evening Prayer

16 December 8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Holy Communion with crèche and children's groups
(Christmas is Coming: Announced by John – Luke 1: 5-25)
6.30 pm Carols by Candlelight
(A service of carols and readings followed by mulled wine and mince pies)

23 December 09.30 am Holy Communion with crèche and children's groups
(A short reflective service to begin Christmas –
Christmas is Coming: Born of Mary – Luke 1: 26-38)

24 December CHRISTMAS EVE
3.00 pm Christingle Family Carol Service
4.30 pm Christingle Family Carol Service
6.00 pm Christingle Family Carol Service
(Three identical services, choose the time that suits you best)
11.00 pm Holy Communion
(A quiet, reflective service as Christmas arrives)

25 December CHRISTMAS DAY
8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Christmas Family Celebration
(Informal and fun – Christmas joy for all – Luke 2: 8-20)

30 December 8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am All Age Service with crèche

6 January EPIPHANY

8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Morning Service with crèche and children's groups
(A Glimpse of Glory – Mark 9: 1-13)
6.30 pm Evening Prayer
(Epiphany – Matthew 2: 1-12)

13 January 8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Morning Service with crèche and children's groups
(Through the eye of a Needle – Mark 10: 13 – 31)
2.45 pm Holy Communion@ Emmanuel
6.30 pm Evening Prayer
(What kind of world do we live in? – Job 1 and 2)

20 January 8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Holy Communion with crèche and children's groups
(A King's Ransom – Mark 10: 32 - 52)
4.00 pm Families@4
6.30 pm Evening Prayer
(Weep with those who weep – Job 2:11 – 3:26)

27 January 8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Morning Service with crèche and children's groups
(Here comes the King! – Mark 11:1-25)
2.45 pm Evening Prayer @ Emmanuel
6.30 pm Holy Communion
(What not to say to a suffering believer! – Job 4 - 27)

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.

THE NEW HPC “VIRTUAL” PIPE ORGAN

THE NEW ORGAN HAS ARRIVED AT LAST!

It has taken around 18 months of research, planning and detailed design. It arrived in mid- November and is now installed in the north aisle. The oak console has been custom-built for us by a firm in north Devon, who also build consoles and casework for pipe organs, so is of very high quality. The size, style and layout of the console very much follows that of a traditional pipe organ, and it has three keyboards (manuals) and a full-sized pedal board and a total of 44 stops. However, inside it is computer-based, and the sound of the pipes that it produces has been “sampled” (a digital



recording of the individual pipes) from a real pipe organ. This technique has become possible as computers have become more powerful, and if an adequate audio system is installed and the loudspeakers are carefully placed, a very high degree of realism can be achieved.

Of course, this is just the final stage of the installation work, and many will remember that back in August scaffolding was used to install the twelve main loudspeakers up in the roof of the nave, and then in September the bass loudspeakers for the pedal pipes were installed high up at the east end of each aisle. The amplifiers are located in a cabinet in the office.

Internally the console has the very latest high-performance computer hardware running a “virtual pipe organ” software package called Hauptwerk (which is the German term for the “great” manual of a pipe organ). Originally developed in the UK, the software is now being used to

power new “virtual pipe organs” around the world – a recent example being the new organ for the 500-year-old Cathedral Basilica of Lima in Peru. It is also used to add “extensions” to real pipe organs where it operates in conjunction with the existing stops to add “virtual pipes” that play through loudspeakers in cases where there are insufficient funds or not enough space for more real pipes. The key feature of the software is that it does not have any built-in organ pipe sounds, instead these are added into the installation as “sample sets” which are being carefully recorded by producers in a number of countries. The system has become so well respected that permission has been granted to “sample” some of the world’s best pipe and famous organs, including, in the UK, the very fine organs in Hereford and Salisbury cathedrals. When a “sample set” is produced the sound of every pipe is carefully recorded as a digital file, including the starting and release sounds, so that this can be reproduced by the computer when the organist presses the keys.

Our organ uses the sample set from the Hereford Cathedral organ. This organ was built by “Father” Henry Willis in 1892, and is considered to be one of the finest in the country. It is therefore from the same era as our previous organ which was built in 1877, so the sound is very similar, but of course, unlike our previous organ, the cathedral organ is very well maintained, so every pipe actually plays! The Hereford Cathedral organ actually has four manuals and 67 stops, and such an organ is too large and loud to be installed in a typical parish church, so on the advice of the Diocese, we are using a “cut-down” version. With just 44 stops, this is still 14 more than before, as the old organ only had 30 stops. Our 44 stops require nearly 2,400 “virtual pipe” samples and these are all held in the computer memory as digital files ready to play whenever the applicable key is pressed.

“Pulling out all the stops” is a common enough phrase, and we all know what it means, but not everyone will know that it originally meant to play an organ as loudly as possible! On a pipe organ a



“stop” is the control that switches a complete set of pipes on or off – it literally “stopped” the air flow to the pipes. Normally an organ will have several (perhaps many) sets of pipes, with each set usually containing one pipe for every note on the keyboard. Historically, the control was a sliding wooden bar or rod operated by pulling it out to turn the pipes on, and pushing it in to turn them off (“stop” them), and over time, the sets of pipes have become known as “stops”. When several stops are played together, all the pipes connected to a given key all play at the same time. They normally play the same note (or possibly an octave above or below) but each set of pipes is made to sound different, and it is the combination of pipe sounds that creates the typical “pipe organ” sound. So, if all the stops were pulled out, the maximum possible number of pipes would sound at the same time.

We have omitted some of the loudest and lowest stops, for example the 32' Trombone stop, as when played at an authentic volume it would be far too loud. We do however have a 32' “open bass” stop. Its bottom note is very low (16 Hz for the technically-minded) so is quite a challenge to reproduce, even for dedicated organ subwoofers. When installed as real pipes, the biggest is 32 feet long, so would reach from the floor right up to the nave roof! A lot of time was spent adjusting these “pipes” as the notes are so low, they were making the windows rattle! This “tonal finishing” process has now been completed, and every one of the 2,400 virtual pipes was checked and adjusted in the software to ensure that the sound suited the acoustic of our building which has a significant effect on the final result.

The console is on a mobile plinth, which will allow it to be moved to the front of the nave for concerts, and possibly to the south aisle or the west end to be out of harm's way during Holiday Clubs. This is possible because modern computer technology allows the sound to be transmitted to the amplifiers using a digital “data link” along a single cable.

Of course, for lovers of pipe organ music, there is no substitute for the real thing, but they are very expensive to build and maintain. However, using the latest technology, “virtual pipe organs” can produce a sound that is very realistic, and at HPC, where space is so much at a premium, and funds are limited, this was the only option. I believe our new organ should serve us well for many years.

Ken Thomas

23rd November 2018

Note: if you would like some more information about the new organ, or the old organ, please ask Ken Thomas or Roger Tipping.

MUSIC TEAM MEAL



'On Friday 16th November our church music team, who rarely come together all at the same time, spent an enjoyable evening together at The Cottage, an Italian restaurant on the outskirts of Hailsham. A good time was had by all!'



NEWS FROM NAMUGONGO

Dear friends at HPC,

Chris and Ros here...hope all well with you all! As I (Chris) write here in mid-late November I'm just preparing to Leave for a 2-week trip to Fuller Seminary, Los Angeles, to continue work on this opening year of my 4-5 year doctoral studies in missiology (the study of Christian missions). Do pray that this whole programme in the coming years would be of great practical benefit to Ros and I as missionaries, and by extension to the Bible college here in Namugongo, Kampala. We have learnt a lot over the past 7 years here about serving the Lord in a different culture in the training of church leaders, but we have so much more to learn and we hope this course will be a blessing therefore.

I guess by the time you read this it won't be long until Christmas! Our students here (remember, all of them from across East Africa coming to the college to train for 2 years in how to be missions-minded, gospel-focussed, Biblically-based church leaders) are finishing studies,



The leaders of the college bible study groups studying 2 Timothy this semester

submitting course works and revising for exams in December as I write. Do continue to pray for them please that they would do exactly as our college motto say – 'Know Christ and make Him known'...that's what we're here for! Pray for Ros as she continues with homeschooling our 3 little ones (Josh, who turns 9 on Saturday, Danny, 6, and Chloe, 4) and also as she co-ordinates the building of a new 32-bed dormitory that the seminary is putting up.

Finally, as ever, we're grateful for the opportunities we have here to train church leaders. Ros does 1-2-1 Bible studies with a female student in the book of Romans, and group ladies' Bible studies each week from the Book of Esther. I'm currently finishing a lecture course on 1 Peter (this week looking at Christ, suffering and submission in 1 Peter) and 'Old Testament law' and 'teaching Jesus from the Pentateuch'. A real highlight has been the whole student community this semester doing 7

Good first day of studies in person here at Fuller Seminary, Pasadena. Wonderful place and wonderful people. However I remain very unconvinced by American roads (FAR too straight) and American money (FAR too samey). Otherwise, it seems a rather nice country, (Chris sent this tweet on his first arrival)

Bible studies from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Each week I go through the passage with the 10 or so student group leaders, then I attend a couple of groups each week as the leaders lead that passage with groups of 8-10 students. It's been a delight. Challenging, encouraging, fascinating, and Christ-exalting. Please pray that the Lord would work through His word to prepare our students for gospel-ministry ahead.

And so have a wonderful Christmas at HPC! There's very little turkey here, so we will continue our now regular tradition of roast goat for lunch after church, then watching a traditional Christmas movie with our neighbours!

Love to all, from Chris, Ros, Josh, Dan, and Chloe

OPEN CHURCH

HAILSHAM CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON



It's great that the church building is positioned right in the centre of town -especially when town events are taking place. Once again the church building was open as part of Hailsham town Christmas light switch on and we

had the opportunity to welcome over 70 visitors in from the cold with hot chocolate and marshmallows. There were good conversations and we were able to invite people to services and events over Christmas. Thank you to all the team involved. As the Christmas lights are illuminated in Hailsham for all to admire let's be praying that people will seek and put their trust in the one true light - Jesus.



SILLY OR WILFUL

HELP! At least that's the sound I heard; the word itself was b-a-a-a. I shook my head in disbelief as I moved towards the sound of fear and panic some distance away. One of my sheep was definitely in trouble and I had a good idea which one. He is



called Jacob, not because that's his breed but because unlike the rest of the flock his fleece is patchy-coloured. I hurried toward the sound and noted that I was getting nearer the stream. This portion of the stream is fenced off because it is so muddy and only the

pool above is kept clear for the animals to drink.

'What pickle have you got yourself into this time Jacob' I muttered. He certainly did look sad, bleating away for someone, anyone, to rescue him. All I could see was body, his legs were down in the mud somewhere. Oh dear, this was not like his usual 'bit of bother' this looks like real trouble. I noted that the fence wire had been trampled down and remembered not for the first time, how single-minded a sheep can be if it wants to go somewhere out of bounds. I got out my mobile, thanking God for such a tool and called the farm. 'I'll need a tractor and ropes; this one is well and truly stuck,' I reported. In a very few minutes I could hear an engine's throb and help had arrived. Thankfully Jacob had given up struggling so he was unlikely to sink further, but no amount of gentle words could stop the



bleating. Making sure Jacob wasn't damaged we slowly hauled him to safety.

'That'll teach you to want what you shouldn't have my lad' I said to him. We heaved Jacob into the tractor and took him back to the farm for a hose down and a feed before moving the whole flock to safety while we repaired and strengthened the fence. 'Stupid sheep' the youngest and newest member of staff said in passing. 'Whoever told you that' I replied. 'Stubborn and wilful is what they are and that's why they often need a good shepherd to rescue them.'

The End. Love from Grandma Dot.

in John 10 v 11 Jesus says "I am the good shepherd.."

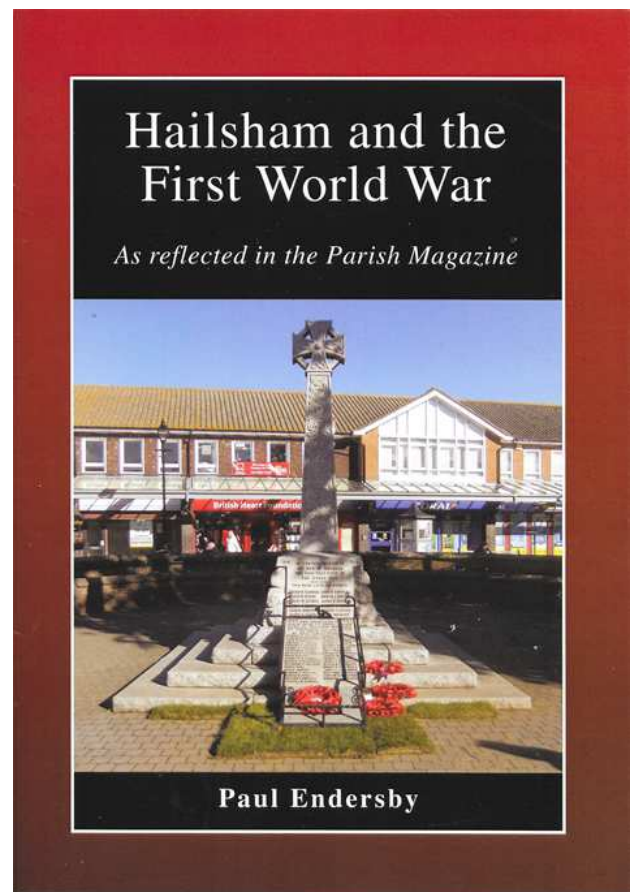
HAILSHAM AND THE FIRST WORLD WAR

Hailsham and the First World War - as reflected in the Parish Magazine
This new book looks at how the First World War affected Hailsham as recorded in the Parish Magazine. It also provides additional background information on the issues raised and how the people of Hailsham responded to the war.

£5. Copies for sale at the back of church or via Church Office
Email - office@hailshamchurch.org.

Note from HPC Magazine editor: I have a copy of the magazines and, like Paul, have found them fascinating reading. The excerpts I put in our Hailsham News focus on the way the people of Hailsham lived, and especially during the war years the ways they coped, and Francis Clyde Harvey's comments on it. as the book states.

Rosie Hibbs





SALTMINE



Saturday 5th January 2019 at 6pm
Hailsham Parish Church (BN27 1BL)

Tickets: £5

To book call 01323 441868 or email office@hailshamchurch.org

It's almost that time of year again....

Oh no it isn't!

Oh, yes it is...

We are excited to tell you that we are able to

welcome back

Saltmine Theatre Company

with their production of...

THE NUTCRACKER

Tickets available now – see Lyn Gooding or contact
the Church office- office@hailshamchurch.org

CARE HOME CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

Marshview	Monday 3 December,	3pm
Woodside Hall	Friday 7 December,	2.30pm
Luke Lade Court	Tuesday 11 December,	3pm
Bowes House	Wednesday 12 December,	11am
Bentley Grange	Tuesday 18 December,	3pm
Quinnell House	Wednesday 19 December,	3pm
Caroline House	Thursday 20 December,	3pm

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

100 YEARS AGO

From the Hailsham Parish Magazines of December 1918—January 1919 **December 1918**

Dear Friends

Now that Peace seems near, we may well ask if the Way has been all loss and no gain? Putting out of the question material gain, for which we did not go into the War – have we gained anything? “Sweet are the uses of adversity, which like the toad, ugly and venomous, bears yet a precious jewel in his head.” What is the jewel in this Prussian Toad? We have learned, I hope what blessing is our “Daily Bread” and how terrible to go without it. The spring of 1917 found us very near that terror!

The Parish Council is taking the initiative in providing by public subscription a permanent memorial after the War. I should like to see some monument such as a Window in the Parish Church with the names of all those who made the supreme sacrifice, on a brass tablet underneath so as to endure as long as the Church lasts, and also something in the shape of an institution, or some other scheme to be developed.

How we kept the Signing of the Armistice, Nov. 11th, 1918.

On Sunday, Nov. 10th, we half hoped we might hear the news. The Flagstaff was ready; the Bellringers were to be ready at noon Monday, hands on their ropes. Sunday passed. No news. Monday morning, 11 am, information was sent me from the Churchwarden that a well-known officer had gone through with a private telegram that it was signed, but it was 12.45 before I received the official news at the P.O.. then up went the Flag, the Factory Hooter screeched forth prolonged and jubilant hoots, and at 1.30 the Bells broke out. Then work ended; people came out of their shops, the market square began to fill, every one talked to every other. I went into the Church to find women already there praying; on to the square, met by a woman who excitedly asked “What time is the Service?” “What service?” I said. “How can you get people to a service? Look at them!” “Give it out” she said, “and your church will be full” “Shall I” I shouted to a group of men, “Certainly” So the crier went round and at 7 the church was crammed to and outside the porch, and the huge crowd expressed in hymn and prayer its deepest emotions. “Not unto us, o Lord, but unto Thee be the praise” I was prevented from being there but Mr Shaw spoke exactly to the point, and then the whole mass followed the Fire Brigade and Volunteers followed the town to the inspiring strains of the band.

Thanksgiving Sunday was celebrated Nov. 17th, and the Church Porch decorated with evergreens and a text “King of Kings and Lord of Lords”

The Passing of the Red Cross Hospital, Hailsham.

Dec. 6th will see the last of the patients gone, and Dec. 18th will see the Hospital closed. It became during those four years and Institution – part of us – we were

proud of it as Hailshamites, loved it as patriots for if we did not fight the enemy, we fought his wicked work, and every soldier we set up again we felt undid that wicked work somewhat.

[The Hospital was at The Laurels, North Street which was lent by Dr Thomas Taylor. The Laurels having long been demolished along with other houses, would have been roughly where Tesco's entrance is now.]

This Magazine has lasted all through the War with, I hope, no uncertain sound. It has been carried on at a loss, amounting now to nearly £20. A return to normal times may help us to pay this off. All can help by advertising or by making the notices, etc. they send me into advertisements, and for a paltry sum getting such delivered in nearly every house here and beyond our borders.

The Plum Stones and Nut Shells sent from Hailsham, amounted to about one hundredweight. The Munitions Department have issued a Statement thanking those who have contributed. C U Jenner

January 1919

Dear Friends

The Services were well attended on Christmas Day. The Communicants 20 less than last year, which may be accounted for by the prevailing illness; Many thanks again to the Magazine Distributors. It calls meetings; it advocates everything; it is generally used, and it cheerfully faces 1919 with twenty pounds of debt on its back. I see looking ahead a Jumble Sale in which everybody will take part because the Magazine is everybody's, and one penny does not nearly pay for such a treasure! We must not give up on the Intercession Services yet. Peace has not been declared yet, here are dangers ahead!

Mr Lynn and Sergt -Major Cornford are carrying on the Gymnastic classes. Mr Lynn is adding to the apparatus.. the Class is composed of the Choir Boys and 1st Bible Class. Mr Lynn's friends will of course be included. The Parish Council have called a meeting for January 8th to go into the subject of the Peace Celebrations and a permanent memorial. The Decorations were full this Christmas. Windows and everything as before the War. We must get rid of the blinds and darkness in Church and return to happier times.

As the Red Cross Hospital has now ceased to exist, I am wondering if the people of Hailsham, who used to send old illustrated papers, magazines (or light novels) to the Hospital would like to continue their kindness by sending them out to men at the Front. Never before was there a greater need of such literature than there is now. If they are sent to the Chaplain: 8th Middlesex Regiment, R E F, (or to the Vicarage to be forwarded), and not only I, but more especially the men concerned, will be deeply grateful.

PEOPLE FOR

Vivienne Allan
Roy & Shirley Bland
Bill Brooks
John Brown
Mabel Burton
Daphne Elphick
Bryan Fulliick

Virna Hunnisett
Ann Horwood
Ron Keeley
Dawn Kimpton
John Read
Diane Seeby
Pat Stepney
Tim Welch

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

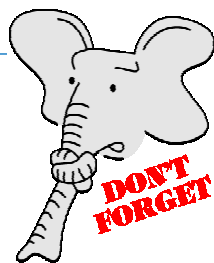
BAPTISM

7 October Joshua Denis Simmons

Congratulations!



Closing date for the
February/March mag
is Wednesday 16th
January



Email Rosie via
office@hailshamchurch.org

ACROSS

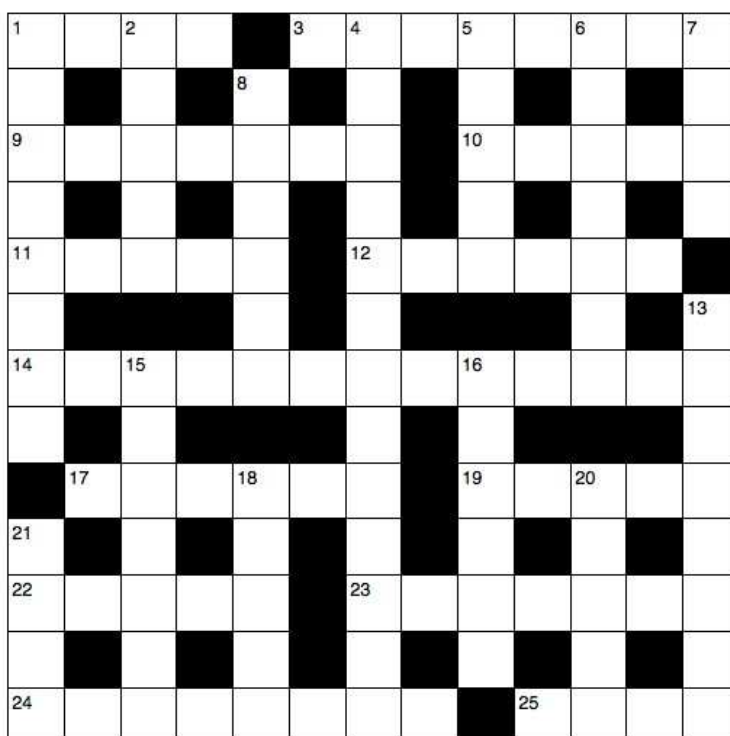
- 1 Tertullus, who presented the high priest's case against Paul in his trial before Felix, was one (Acts 24:1) (6)
4 As balm (anag.) (6)
8 Having explored Canaan, he and Joshua urged the Israelites to take possession of it (Numbers 13:30) (5)
9 On becoming king of Judah, he had all six of his brothers killed (2 Chronicles 21:4) (7)
10 'Even the — has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself' (Psalm 84:3) (7)
11 Banishment (Jeremiah 29:1) (5)
12 'And now I will show you the most — way' (1 Corinthians 12:31) (9)
17 'Titus did not exploit you, did he? Did we not — the same spirit and follow the same course?' (2 Corinthians 12:18) (3,2)
19 Mice den (anag.) (7)
21 How Egypt is often described in the Old Testament: 'the land of —' (Exodus 13:3) (7)
22 One of the first Levites to resettle in Jerusalem after the exile in Babylon (1 Chronicles 9:15) (5)
23 'As a sheep before her shearers is —, so he did not open his mouth' (Isaiah 53:7) (6)
24 Paul's birthplace (Acts 22:3) (6)

DOWN

- 1 'Then Moses raised his arm and struck the rock twice with — —' (Numbers 20:11) (3,5)
2 'You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, " — — murder"' (Matthew 5:21) (2,3)
4 One of Paul's many hardships endured as a servant of God (2 Corinthians 6:5) (13)

THE CROSSWORD

(answers next time)



- 5 'We ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, — inwardly' (Romans 8:23) (5)
6 Changed (Daniel 6:8) (7)
7 'My yoke is — and my burden is light' (Matthew 11:30) (4)
8 Recoil (Revelation 12:11) (6)
13 'O Lord, you have — me and you know me' (Psalm 139:1) (8)
15 ' — to me the joy of your salvation' (Psalm 51:12) (7)
16 Express sorrow (Isaiah 16:7) (6)
18 'Then he said to Thomas, " — out your hand and put it into my side"' (John 20:27) (5)
20 'God has said, " — will I leave you; — will I forsake you"' (Hebrews 13:5) (5)
21 Son of Onam and brother of Shammai (1 Chronicles 2:28) (4)

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER SOLUTION

- ACROSS:** 1, Lawyer. 4, Balsam, 8, Caleb.
9, Jehoram. 10, Sparrow. 11, Exile. 12, Excellent.
17, Act in. 19, Endemic. 21, Slavery. 22, Galal.
23, Silent. 24, Tarsus.
DOWN: 1, Locust. 2, Welfare. 3, Ember. 5, Athlete.
6, Sarai. 7, Member. 9, Jewellery. 13, Condemn.
14, Temples. 15, Causes. 16, Scales. 18, Trail.
20, Dogma.

HPC CHRISTMAS SERVICES
We wish you all a very happy Christmas
and invite you to join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Sunday 2 December

8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Countdown to Christmas
A child friendly telling of the Christmas story
6.30 pm Countdown to the Future
A candlelight carol service for Advent

Monday 3 December

6.30 pm Meeting Point Carols

Thursday 6 December

7 pm Lights of Love Service - *St Wilfrid's Hospice*

Sunday 9 December

8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Morning Service
Christmas is Coming – Revealed in the Bible
2.45 pm Holy Communion with Carols @ Emmanuel
6.30 pm Evening Prayer

Saturday 15 December

2.30 pm A Concert of carols and Christmas music
with Wealden Brass and festive refreshments

Sunday 16 December

8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Morning Service
Christmas is Coming – Announced by John
6.30 pm Carols by Candlelight
(A service of carols and readings followed by mulled wine and mince pies)

Sunday 23 December

09.30 am Holy Communion
Christmas is Coming – Born of Mary
A short reflective service to begin Christmas

Christmas Eve

3.00 pm Christingle Family Carol Service
4.30 pm Christingle Family Carol Service
6.00 pm Christingle Family Carol Service
(Three identical services, choose the time that suits you best)
11.00 pm Holy Communion
A quiet, reflective service as Christmas arrives

Christmas Day

8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Christmas Family Celebration
Informal and fun – Christmas joy for all

Sunday 30 December

8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am New Year All Age Service

off the High Street, at the heart of Hailsham