

*A Magazine
For the Villages of Folkington, Milton
Street and Wilmington*



*March 2023
£1*

**SAINT MARY AND SAINT PETER
WILMINGTON**

PRIESTS

The Reverend Peter Blee
01323 870 512

The Reverend Shirley Pearce
01323 318 231.

CHURCH WARDEN

In A Vacancy

Dates and Events for Your Diary

3rd March	'Pub in the Club'. Just drop in!	6.30 pm
10th March	Selmeston Curry Night	7.00 pm
13th March	Long Man Parish Council Meeting	7.30 pm
15th March	Arlington Village Market and Coffee Morning	10.00 am
15th March	Wilmington Parochial Church Council Meeting	7.00 pm
31st March	'Pub in the Club'. Just drop in!	6.30 pm
3rd April	Long Man Inn Scheduled to Open	
8th April	Easter Egg Hunt	2.00 pm

FROM THE VICARAGE

There is a legend of a king who decided to honour his greatest subject. A large gathering was held in the palace and four finalists were brought forward. The first person presented was a wealthy philanthropist. This man was deserving of the honour because of his humanitarian efforts; he had given much of his wealth to the poor. The second was a celebrated physician, deserving of the honour because he had rendered faithful and dedicated service to the sick for many years. The third person was a distinguished judge, deemed worthy as he was noted for his wisdom, his fairness, and his brilliant decisions.

The fourth person presented was an elderly woman. The quiet little lady hardly looked the part of someone who would be honoured as the greatest subject in the kingdom. People were puzzled: who was she? What chance could she possibly have, when compared to the others who had accomplished so much?

The king was intrigued; he walked over to her and asked who she was. She smiled and answered: "You see the philanthropist, the doctor, and the judge? I was their teacher!" The king nodded and turned away. He gave the award to the judge. We need people of integrity, of courage, and ability, especially at times of upheaval, uncertainty and division. In society with strikes and financial stresses, and further

afield, places of earthquakes, hunger and war. At present, only one person stands out as award-winning: Ukraine President Zelensky, and yet there are so many who are giving so much, even risking their lives to help others.

The Church too, has times of crisis, as now. This week Synod adopted proposals from the bishops to offer blessings in church for people in same sex marriages. No decision ever satisfies everybody; what is seen as a triumph for some will be viewed as weakness, surrender, even betrayal by others. But, as Richard Coles wrote, (Sunday Times, 12.2.23) 'I suspect most people without a dog in the fight think it a sensible move.'

From his body language seen on TV, Archbishop Welby knows that this decision may well cause an irretrievable split in the worldwide Anglican Communion. This will affect thousands of Christians in their worship, and in their walk with God. Jesus prayed for his followers, that 'they may be one, just as we are one'. How can we seek unity in such times? I will draw an analogy, an anecdote, which I would like to share with you.

Leonardo da Vinci had started working on a large painting in his studio. He worked on the picture for a while, outlining its composition, colours, detailing etc. One day, he stopped working on the painting and asked one of his students to complete the work. The anxious student protested that he was both unworthy and unable to complete the great painting which Leonardo, his master, had begun. Da Vinci summoned him and silenced him: 'Will not what I have done inspire you to do your best?'

So to the nurses, the shop assistants, the bin collectors, the bankers, the farmers, the politicians, the teachers and the baristas making morning coffee to get people going, thank you, and God bless you.

Reverend Shirley



WILMINGTON, FOLKINGTON AND MILTON STREET VILLAGE CLUB

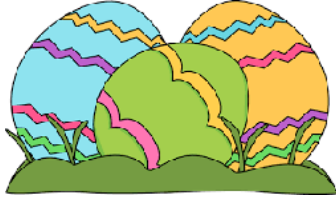
**Have You Thought About Hiring
Wilmington Village Hall?
For your next birthday party or
family event?
Or to give a class of any kind?**

For residents of Wilmington, Milton Street and Folkington it is £10 an hour. For other hirers it is nominally twice that but we will be happy to discuss the rate, particularly for regular hires. Please contact 07391 031411.

All proceeds go to the upkeep of the Hall.

BENEFICE NEWS

St Mary & St Peter's Church, Wilmington



*Join in the fun with our
Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, 8th April at 2pm
Refreshments will be served,
all welcome.*

SELMESTON CURRY NIGHT

The Curry Night has been re arranged to take place on Friday 10th March at 7 pm in the Village Hall at Selmeston.

There will be a meat/vegetable curry cooked by the Reverend Peter Blee.
Also a selection of desserts.

Prices are £12 adults and £5 for children.

There will be a raffle plus a hilarious game of Call My Bluff for everyone to enjoy.

Please call Jan on 01323 811380 or Michele on 01323 870623

Before Tuesday 7th March for catering purposes.

ARLINGTON VILLAGE MARKET AND COFFEE MORNING,

**WEDNESDAY 15th MARCH,
10.00-12.00
Arlington Village Hall.**

Everyone welcome. Bread, cakes, quiches, local eggs, regular stalls. Inquiries: Anne Hope 01323 486219, E: anntonyhope@gmail.com

On Wednesday in March only due to prior booking at hall.

The April Market will be on Tuesday 11 April, the second Tuesday of the month, as usual.

Arlington's Pop Up Museum will also be at the Village Market on Wednesday 15 March, featuring 'The Bluebell Walk' presented by John McCutchan.

For information contact Wendy: 07889 689844 E: talkingteapot@yahoo.co.uk

Thank you to everyone who visited the February Market it was a bumper morning!

The Radical Publican

Grogshop News 13



Thomas Paine (1737-1809) was one of the most influential political activists and writers in history and *The Rights of Man*, published in 1791, one of the most widely read books of its time. His radical ideas about freedom, democracy, social justice and the importance of *Common Sense* remain a touchstone for modern provocateurs.

Paine no doubt debated and explored his left-field ideas in local taverns and coffeehouses - conspiratorial places where you could meet for conversation,

commerce, learn the news of the day and discuss matters of mutual concern. Hopefully, Long Man Inn will become a 21st-century equivalent - a hotbed of social intercourse fermenting stimulating and wild discussions, while serving great coffee and refreshing beverages. A sort of oasis for the exhilarated thirsty!

People often get rattled by other people's views, as I'm sure they did back in Paine's day, perhaps even resorting to the odd punch but nobody would be trolled, globally shamed, muted or cancelled - now common place online. Debate is the hard-won prize of democracy but with freedom of speech comes disagreement and dissent and thank God, people don't always agree! *A pint of Long Man for my argumentative friend please!*



How do we disagree agreeably?

Firstly, you can't always be right so be open to other people's views and be willing to change your mind. An alternative viewpoint might not be what you believe but that doesn't mean you're right and they're wrong.

Secondly, *listen* to what is being said. Listening doesn't mean waiting for the other person to draw breath so you can jump in, it means hearing and being genuinely receptive to the other person's views and ideas. Have an open conversation not a closed one.

Thirdly, avoid slurs such as 'you're a moron' or 'shut the f*** up' because that's an emotionally-fuelled reaction, it demeans the debate, and is just downright rude and aggressive.

Lastly, be curious about why other people feel the way they do. It's often interesting and you find out about people. Even if what the person across the table is saying seems completely at odds with everything you believe, try to empathise with their view.

And finally, buy them a drink!

'Honest disagreement is often a good sign of progress'.
Mahatma Gandhi

Wrap up warm,
Wash your hands,
God Bless The Queen and
God Help The King!

Peter Bridgewater

Long Man Inn

07715490096

Cleaner Advert.qxp 23/01/2023 16:47 Page 1

CLEANERS WANTED

Long Man Inn, Wilmington require good reliable cleaners, 7 days a week.

Early mornings: 6.30am–8.00am

Lunchtimes: 12 noon–2:00pm

Email: peter@longmaninn.co.uk



FAMILY SUPPORT WORK (FSW) FEBRUARY 2023 UPDATE

Dear Friends,

The cost of living crisis is really affecting our current families (almost 250 active families as I write). Our practitioners in the field are very busy trying to help families with budgeting, helping them to access any support funds available to them and acting as emotional support when it all gets too much. We are so grateful for the wonderful response we had to our Winter Fuel campaign, which has meant that we have been able to help so many families with contributions towards their energy bills when these costs are overwhelming. Many of our newer practitioners have begun support groups in their local areas, which are a very welcome way for isolated parents to meet and find mutual help.

With events and meetings really getting into full swing now, we are looking forward to having lots of occasions to talk about our work and encourage support of all kinds. Our Easter Monday sponsored walk is now open for registrations, so if you would like to join us at Alfriston for what we hope will be a really enjoyable day then please get in touch with the fundraising team by email or phone. If you would like to invite someone to speak at a Sunday service or at any local community group then we would love the chance to let more people know about our work – please email admin@familysupportwork.org.uk.

Our Eastbourne shop is currently running low on donations, so if you have good quality second hand items you would like to donate (please no electrical items or anything you wouldn't be happy to buy yourself) then we would be very grateful. We can arrange collections of large quantities of donations so please contact Spencer in the office on 01273 832963 if you would like to discuss this.

With thanks for all your continued, and crucial, support of our work.

January's work in numbers

274 individual visits and 904 calls with families supporting 257 adults and 210 children
 248 supported meetings with other agencies
 37 group sessions held supporting 492 parents and 172 children
 105 food deliveries made

Prayer points

Give thanks for a recent successful multi-year funding bid that will be a huge support to our core work over the next 3 years
 Pray for our two new student social workers, Abbie and Sophie, who are with us until early June
 Pray for all our families experiencing mental health struggles in particular, as specialist support is extremely hard to find due to budget cuts and waiting lists of over 2 years

Nikki Kerr
FSW Director of Fundraising and Marketing

LONG MAN PARISH COUNCIL

Below are the notes taken from the Unadopted Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting. The Unadopted Minutes are circulated to the Parish Councillors and subsequently considered at the next Parish Council Meeting and if agreed, are signed as a true record. The Minutes can only be publicised after they have been approved, therefore in order for there to be no undue delay in keeping the residents of the parish informed about the meetings, the notes are printed in the Parish Magazine. The approved minutes are posted on the notice boards shortly after the meeting in which they are approved.

NOTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 9 January 2023 at 7.30pm at Wilmington Village Hall

Those present: Councillors Pam Merritt (Chair), Claire Church, Tyler Butterworth, Michael Bridges, Jeremy Christey, Helen Baulcombe, District Councillor Michael Lunn and County Councillor Stephen Shing. Claire Reynolds (Clerk). 1 member of the public was present. Councillor Merritt Chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone. Apologies had been received from Councillors Lizzie Chisholm and Alison Cotton (Tree Warden). There was no Declaration of Interest.

The Wilmington Bus shelter was discussed under the **Public Discussion**. A request was made to put a bench in the shelter and to move the rubbish bin so it was outside of the shelter. Councillor Bridges volunteered to take this forward. A query was also raised regarding reclaiming the VAT for the new bus shelter. The Clerk will look into this.

The Minutes of the meeting dated 14 November 2022 were signed as a true record.

With regard to the Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2022 - Milton Street: It was noted that The tree branch has now been removed.

Report of the County Councillor – Councillor Stephen Shing

- a. ESCC Highways: Councillor Shing reported that there will be a new ESCC Highways Contractor appointed from April 2023 – April 2030. It will then be reviewed again.
- b. ESCC Local Plan: The Public Consultation had taken place. Comments received will be integrated into the Local Plan. There will be three meetings taking place with a final decision being made in November 2023.
- c. Exceat Bridge: The planning application for this had been approved in December 2022 subject to conditions. Tenders will be put in place for contractors to be appointed.
- d. Milton Street signage: Councillor Shing had been liaising with Councillors Butterworth and Baulcombe with regards to new signage for Milton Street and thanked them for their assistance.
- e. Council Tax: There will be an increase in the Council Tax for the 2023 / 2024 year.

Report of the District Councillor – Councillor Michael Lunn

a. Wealden Local Plan

Wealden District Council and others have been lobbying the Secretary of State regarding the housing target formula regarding the south-east area protected sites. The Government have made a U-turn which means that the housing numbers will now be decided based on the local need and not the original formula. Once the Local Plan is published and approved this will then put the brake on future developments. It is good news in the long term.

b. Cuckmere

The shingle at the mouth of the Cuckmere estuary had been cleared recently. There is a ring fenced amount of money to carry out similar work as required. Flooding is still occurring but is disappearing quicker. Farmers have reported that the Cuckmere Valley sluices are not working and Councillor Lunn is meeting with the Water Levels Management Board next week to discuss this. The dialogue between all parties concerned with this appears to be working well now.

c. South Downs National Park Visitor Centre at Exceat

This is now open to all. The site includes SDNPA offices, café, car parks, etc and is being well utilised. An improved grazing regime for wildflowers is also underway.

Reports of the Parish Councillors

Folkington - Councillor Chisholm will be standing down in the not too distant future.

Milton Street - The offending branch as per the last Minutes has now been removed. Approval for the new Milton Street signs is due in March 2023.

Wilmington

- i. Village Hall Lift: Councillor Church reported that the majority of funding had now been secured to install a new lift at the Village Hall.
- ii. Wilmington Junction Planting Scheme: Councillor Church reported that the deadline for comments regarding this is the 15 January 2023.
- iii. Councillors have received queries regarding issues about building works taking place. After discussion it was advised that the owners of the properties be approached in the first instance. It can then be reported to South Downs Planning Authority if necessary.
- iv. Councillor Vacancy: Councillor Merritt will be standing down at the next election. It was agreed to put a notice in the Parish Magazine to try and recruit new Councillor.

Report of the Tree Warden – Alison Cotton -

- a. Currently collecting feedback to the Wilmington Junction planting plan.
- b. Concerns had been raised at the large volume of tree felling at a property in Milton Street and

this will be followed up.

A27 news

- a. **Roadworks:** Resurfacing of the A27 is taking place from the 9 – 14 January 2023 overnight.
- b. **Traffic Lights:** The problem with the traffic lights had been reported to Highways.

- c. **RIS3 Project:** This is ongoing.

Council Elections – 4 May 2023

Councillor Merritt explained the following regarding the Council Elections:

Forms for Councillors standing for election need to be submitted to Wealden District Council by 4.00pm on the 4th April 2023. An appointment will need to be made by prospective Councillors with WDC Electoral Services Department so that their applications can be gone through prior to the deadline.

All Councillors will need to submit their applications even if there is not an Election.

Nomination packs will be sent to the Clerk to distribute.

Councillors require to be over 18 years of age, qualified as citizens and lived in or within 3 miles of the Parish for the last year.

If insufficient nominations are received but the Council is still quorate Councillors can then be co-opted throughout the year.

Councillors will take office on the 9 May 2023.

The LMPC Meeting will therefore take place on the 15 May due to the Election timetable. Declaration of Interest and Acceptance of Office Forms and Expenses Form need to be submitted (by 2 June 2023). If expenses are nil forms still need to be submitted otherwise Councillors will not be able to sit on the Parish Council or vote.

Long Man Parish Clerk Vacancy

Councillor Merritt reported that 4 applications had been received for the position of Parish Clerk/RFO. Interviews will take place this coming Wednesday and Friday. Although her last day was the 4 January 2023, the current Clerk was willing to work up until the end of January 2023 whilst the recruitment process takes place and handover to the new Clerk.

Councillor Merritt therefore proposed that LMPC pay the Clerk up until the 31st January 2023.

This was seconded by Councillor Butterworth and all Councillors present agreed.

To receive the Report of the Clerk to the Council

Finance Report and agree the accounts for payments.

The report was circulated at the meeting which revealed a bank balance of £14,265.53 in the Current Account (as at 30/12/2022). This figure included the £5,000 ring fenced for emergencies, £2,500 designated for grants and donations and the £250 for the Milton Street Phone Box Fund.

Claire Reynolds (Clerk's Wages for December 2022 and January 2023)	£755.30
Claire Reynolds (Mobile phone monthly cost for Sept – Jan 2023)	£67.45
Wealden District Association of Local Councils (Subs for 2022/23)	£5.00
STRIPES (2 nd half year grass cutting at The Triangle at Wilmington)	£60.00

TOTAL: £987.75

Proposed Budget and Precept figure for the 2023 / 2024.

The proposed Budget and Precept figure for 2023 / 2024 was circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. After discussion the proposed figures were agreed and will be submitted to Wealden District Council.

Correspondence

A report had been received from Maria Caulfield MP and covered the following topics: Welcome news regarding housing targets, Call to boost the take-up of Pension Credit, Homeless Prevention Funding, Funding for Defibrillators and East Sussex Lane Rental Consultation. To see a copy of the full report please contact the Clerk.

Planning

The following Applications were discussed at this meeting had been received for discussion at this meeting:

SDNP/22/05718/FUL – The Giants Rest, The Street, Wilmington, E Sx, BN26 5SQ

Description: Gazebo for outdoor eating and drinking during inclement weather allowing for possible further COVID or similar restrictions.

Following discussion LMPC had no objection to this application.

WD/2022/3326/LB – Stream Farm, Thornwell Road, Wilmington, BN26 6RL

Description: Proposed internal alterations to form larger kitchen on the ground floor along with additional bedroom, new ensuite, slightly smaller bathroom on the first floor.

Following discussion LMPC had no objection to this application.

Applications and Decisions received and observations made since the last meeting. The following report was circulated:

South Downs National Park Authority

SDNP/22/05232/LIS – MILTON COTTAGE, BACK LANE, MILTON STREET, WILMINGTON, EAST SUSSEX, BN26 5RN

Description: CONVERSION OF INTEGRAL GARAGE AND ALTERATIONS TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FIRST FLOOR BATHROOMS.

LMPC had no objection to this application. Decision: Application in progress

Wealden District Council

WD/2022/2780/F – CHURCHWOOD FARM, LEWES ROAD, WILMINGTON, BN26 5RS

Description: CATTLE BARN

LMPC had no objection to this application. Decision: Approved 15/12/2022

WD/2022/2725/MFA – MILTON GATE FARM, MILTON STREET, POLEGATE, BN26 5RS

Description: VARIATION OF CONDITIONS 16 AND 21 OF WD/2020/2407/MAJ (CHANGE OF USE FROM AGRICULTURAL LAND TO A PRIVATE POLO CENTRE INCLUDING PROVISION OF POLO PITCH WITH ANCILLARY ENGINEERING WORKS TO CHANGE LEVELS; AND WILDLIFE POND; AND TEMPORARY WIDENING OF AGRICULTURAL ACCESS TRACK). TO REDEFINE "PRACTICE DAYS" AND RECTIFY A TYPING ERROR IN THE DECISION NOTICE.

LMPC had no objection to this application. Decision: Approved 16/12/2022

WD/2022/3075/F – OLD HIDES, BAYLEYS LANE, WILMINGTON, BN26 6RT

Description: CONVERSION AND EXTENSION OF VERNACULAR BARN TO SINGLE DWELLING INC NEW ACCESS AND DRIVE – AMENDMENT TO APPROVAL WD/2021/0736/F.

LMPC had no objection to this application. Decision: Pending

WD/2021/2235/FR – LAND ADJACENT TO MILTON FIELD, MILTON GATE, WILMINGTON, BN26 5RS

- Description: PART RETROSPECTIVE APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF USE TO SITE 2 NO. GYPSY STATIC UNITS TOGETHER WITH TOURER PARKING, STABLES, FENCING AND SERVICES.

LMPC responded with various comments. Decision: Pending

Application that is received too late for the agenda - none.

correspondence, enforcement letters or any other planning matter including any out of Parish applications on which LMPC has been consulted.

LMPC is currently in contact with the Wealden District Council Enforcement Officer regarding the field opposite the entrance to the Long Man Nursery.

Representation feedback from:

Wealden District Association of Local Councils - Correspondence received had been emailed round to Councillors.

Cuckmere Flood Forum - Correspondence received had been emailed round to Councillors.

Date of next meeting - Monday 13 March 2023 at Wilmington Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Details Of The New Clerk for Long Man Parish Council Are:

If you would like to get in touch with the Parish Council about any issue, or to find out the details of your local elected representative, please contact the clerk Jeanne Peterson

Email: longmanclerk@gmail.com

Telephone: 07856 520699

Correspondence: Clerk, Long Man Parish Council, 42 Chichester Road, Seaford, BN25 2DL

The clerk's hours are part-time (7 hours a week) and your enquiry will be answered as soon as possible.



8th February 2023

Penguins Help Couple P-P-P-Pop The Question!

Proposing to your loved one is a truly once in a lifetime moment for anyone, but making that once in a lifetime experience especially memorable became a reality for one couple from Kent, who shared the moment with a group of penguins.



Louise Middlewood knew without doubt that she wanted to prepare a unique proposal for her partner Naomi, and armed with the knowledge that Naomi had a particular love of penguins, Louise enlisted the help of Drusillas Zoo in Sussex to arrange for some feathered friends to help her p-p-p-pop the question!

Drusillas is home to a colony of Humboldt penguins, and although penguins may not seem like the most romantic animal in the world, they are mostly known

for having the same partner for all of their adult lives, so they really do understand love!

Drusillas' team helped Louise concoct a secret plan to be carried out as part of a penguin feeding encounter, with additional staff on hand to help execute the plan and capture the moment on camera. The day also fell on Naomi's 30th birthday, so the special fuss and attention the Zoo team were putting in didn't raise any suspicions and she had no idea a huge life moment was about to happen.



After taking part in the Zoo's feed the penguins experience, the couple were asked to hunt for a small toy egg that had been hidden on the penguin beach, which contained a note inside asking Naomi to turn around – where Louise was waiting on one knee with penguins behind her and a gorgeous engagement ring in hand – and Naomi of course said yes.



Louise commented: "Penguins were the obvious choice for my proposal, as Naomi just loves them and it has always been on her bucket list to be up close and personal with them - so it just felt right. On the day the penguins were on their best behaviour and helped to pull off a very special moment indeed!"

Marketing Manager, Tamara Nasser, who helped arrange the couple's day said "It is always an honour to be asked to help with such a special occasion, and this was particularly fun as we had to keep lots of little secrets between us and Louise on the day, I even had to 'steal' her car keys to get everything set

up before Naomi noticed! We wish them huge congratulations and a lifetime of happy memories."

Louise and Naomi have already made plans to return to the special spot at Drusillas with their son in the spring.

Located just off the A27 in Alfriston, Drusillas Park is open daily from 10am. For more information please telephone 01323 874100 or visit www.drusillas.co.uk

**For more information, please contact: Tamara Nasser
Deputy Marketing Manager
01323 874112 - tamara.nasser@drusillas.co.uk**

LOCAL DIRECTORY

Arlington P.C.C. Secretary	Diana White	01323 870680
Wilmington P.C.C. Secretary	Ian Coombs	01323 870638
Chairman, Village Club	Ruth Zacharewicz	01323 871644
Wilmington Village Hall Bookings	Christine West	01323 870426
Wilmington Art Group (at Arlington now)	David Wilson	01323 506108
Clerk to Long Man Parish Council	Jeanne Petersen	07856 520699
Long Man Tree Warden	Alison Cotton	01323 871581
		07773 481492
Police Cover Team - Hailsham	Sgt. Howard Nevill	0845 6070999
Fly Tipping Inspector(?) Connects to Wealden Reception		01892 653311
		Ext. 2723
Magazine Editor (john@imacademic.com)	John Marshall	copy by email
East Sussex County Council	Lewes	0345 6080190
Member of Parliament	Maria Caulfield	
maria.caulfield.mp@parliament.uk		
County Councillor	Stephen Shing	01323 489265
Long Man District Councillor	Michael Lunn	07894 062727
	michael@michaellunn.co.uk	
Police Cover Team - Hailsham	Sgt. Howard Nevill	0845 6070999
Wealden District Council	Crowborough	01892 653111
	Hailsham	01323 443322
ESCC Highways		03456080193
Sargeant Mark Ritchie, Local Police	mark.ritchie@sussex.pnn.police.uk	
Police:	non emergency 101, emergency 999, voice mail 101 ext. 19028	
PCSOs Janine Daly and Liz McDonagh	07787 685751 or 101 or 01273 470101	

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PUZZLE PAGE (March 2023)

We offer you two SUDOKU PUZZLES for this month,
graded as : 1: EASY and 2: HARDER

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Folkington, East Sussex a Village History

by Eric Beavis, revised by Hilary Beavis

Revised edition to update research in 1986. Historical charts record the village as peaceful and tranquil within the South Downs National Park. Descriptions of the Church and Churchyard with its notable memorials to the cookery writer Elizabeth David and the harpsicord player Violet Gordon Woodhouse are included.

A section added outlines changes that have occurred over four decades within the A27 boundaries of the South Downs National Park.



To buy a copy of the book please e-mail
Beavis401@btinternet.com for an Order form

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NOTES FROM SAINT PETER AD VINCULA - FOLKINGTON

Church Wardens

Mrs Sabrina Harcourt-Smith

01323 482 036

Mr Alan Best

01323 487 754

SERVICES IN MARCH AT FOLKINGTON

Sunday March 5th - 10.30am - Second Sunday in Lent - Holy Communion with the United Benefice Team- The Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stukes or The Reverend Christyan James

Sunday March 12th - 10.30am - Mattins for the Third Sunday in Lent - The Reverend Neville Manning

Sunday March 19th - 10.30am - Mothering Sunday for the Fourth Sunday in Lent - The Reverend Damien Brennan. Following the service all are invited to Folkington Manor for the annual Meet of the Coakham Vale Bloodhounds, to include a Blessing of the Hounds and all animals

Sunday March 26th - 10.30am - Fifth Sunday in Lent. Passiontide begins The Reverend Malcolm Elwis. Summer Time starts

Sunday April 2nd - 10.30am - -Holy Communion for PALM SUNDAY with the United Benefice Team - The Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stukes or The Reverend Christyan James

Saint Peter's continues to be open for prayer on Wednesday/Friday and Sunday, and for part of Saturday.

Mid WINTER NEWS From Saint Peter's Church, Folkington



This edition of news has both good and sad stories to tell from our village and church. On the day after Christmas, we were deeply sad to hear that The Reverend Canon David Gutsell had died on Christmas Eve aged 87. David came to take services at St Peter's over many years, especially on Sea Sunday in July and on Advent Sunday. As long ago as 2013 he devised and arranged this special Service for the First Sunday in Advent that has become one of our best - loved celebrations. He wove together seven readings from Isaiah with Advent hymns and the 'a cappella' anthems sung by Sylvia's Singers. In 2019 David took his last Advent with us, on the brink of his retirement. He brought us musical skill on the organ, gentle wisdom and guidance. A Service of Thanksgiving for him was held on February 2nd at All Saints, Patcham. A fine tribute was given by Reader Alan Packard. David and Alan were good friends for many years since their time together in Polegate, when David was the Rector and Alan a warden. In 2021 Alan took the Advent Sunday service, giving thanks to David for his inspiration.

We were also so sorry to hear of the death just before Christmas of longtime Folkington resident Mick Barnett at the age of 80. He suffered a heart attack on Christmas Eve and despite valiant efforts by paramedics and by the Critical Care Unit in the Eastbourne Hospital Mick passed away. A Funeral and Memorial Service for him was held at Wealden Crematorium near Horam, where family and friends gathered to pay respects and to remember him with love. The service included tributes, poems and lovely music. Mick lived in Folkington village from 1969, working on the Folkington Estate farms first for the Burgess family, and then for the Ellis family. After 37 hard-working years he retired, and devoted his time to tending his chickens, the garden, seeing grandchildren and craft work. On the Sunday after his funeral a tribute to Mick was given in Folkington church by The Reverend Damien Brennan.

January church Services included Holy Communion on New Year's Day led by The Reverend Stephen, with a remarkably large number of people considering the revelries of the night before! This was followed by Epiphany with The Reverend Neville Manning and Epiphany 2 with The Reverend Damien. On January 22nd our old friend of many years, The Reverend Colin Pritchard from Seaford, took a service where he talked about the Old Testament.

Bishop Martin Warner of the Diocese of Chichester has asked for 2023 to be the 'Year of the Old Testament'. Colin gave a fascinating talk on the contents of the O.T. describing the vulnerable geography of the ancient lands of the Hebrew peoples invaded by powerful neighbouring empires. He mentioned the Hebrew tribes and their history. He also reminded us of the lay-out of the Old Testament, ranging from Genesis through the turbulent histories in Exodus and Kings, with above all the familiar and stirring passages of Isaiah and the Minor Prophets. As an example of how ancient texts can be relevant to our generations, he quoted the prophetic words of Isaiah used in Handel's Messiah which resonate to - day.



At the end of January a United Benefice Service for all at Alfriston marked Candlemas, and our Nativity Manger with its Three Kings. disappeared until next Advent.

A DATE for your diaries ! Sunday March 19th ~ 10.30am Mothering Sunday Service ~ to be taken by The Reverend Damien Brennan ~ Flower posies will be shared among all

We are continuing to save milk bottle tops, ribbons, cartridges and stamps for the Friends of Eastbourne Hospitals. Boxes can be found by the organ. Many thanks.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

4	5	1	2	8	7	6	3	9
3	8	9	6	1	4	2	7	5
7	2	6	9	5	3	1	8	4
5	7	2	1	3	6	4	9	8
6	4	3	8	2	9	7	5	1
9	1	8	4	7	5	3	2	6
1	9	5	7	4	2	8	6	3
2	6	4	3	9	8	5	1	7
8	3	7	5	6	1	9	4	2

8	4	1	7	9	3	5	2	6
7	5	9	6	4	2	1	3	8
6	3	2	8	1	5	4	9	7
3	2	6	4	8	1	9	7	5
4	1	7	9	5	6	2	8	3
5	9	8	3	2	7	6	1	4
9	6	4	2	7	8	3	5	1
2	7	5	1	3	4	8	6	9
1	8	3	5	6	9	7	4	2

Benefice Services

March 5th

9.30 am
9.30 am
11.00 am
11.00 am

Second Sunday In Lent

Selmeston ~ Holy Communion
Arlington ~ Holy Communion
Wilmington Holy Communion
Berwick ~ Holy Communion

Shirley Pearce
Peter Blee
Peter Blee
Shirley Pearce

March 12th

9.30 am
9.30 am
11.00 am
11.00 am

Third Sunday In Lent

Arlington ~ Holy Communion
Alciston ~ BCP
Berwick ~ Holy Communion
Wilmington ~ Holy Communion

Shirley Pearce
Peter Blee
Peter Blee
Shirley Pearce

March 19th

9.30 am
10.00 am
11.00 am

Fourth Sunday In Lent, Mothering Sunday

*Arlington ~ Holy Communion
Selmeston ~ Family Service
Wilmington ~ Family Service

Shirley Pearce
Peter Blee
Shirley Pearce

March 26th

9.30 am
9.30 am
11.00 am
11.00 am

Fifth Sunday In Lent

Arlington ~ Holy Communion
Alciston ~ BCP
Berwick ~ Holy Communion
Wilmington ~ Holy Communion

Shirley Pearce
Peter Blee
Peter Blee
Shirley Pearce

April 2nd

10.00 am

Palm Sunday

Berwick ~ United Benefice Service

Peter Blee
Shirley Pearce

***Held at**

Pastoral Prayer or Talk

The Reverends Peter Blee and Shirley Pearce are available to speak to people on the phone and are also able to pray with people on request in church at Morning or Evening Prayer and to offer help in any way possible; telephones: 01323 870 512, 01323 318 231. or emails: peter.blee@berwickchurch.org.uk
revshirleym@gmail.com

Prayer Requests, Suggestions or Comments

If you have any prayer requests please pass them on – they can either be kept confidential or included in intercessions at our online services. Suggestions and comments as to what is offered online or what might be offered in addition are welcomed.

Please note that these service details might well change!. Please look at the website (www.sussexdownlandchurches.org.uk) and check carefully on the Sunday link emails. If in any doubt please contact Jane Grutchfield:

benefice.administrator@berwickchurch.org.uk

Our churches remain open for private prayer and reflection every day.