In the current lockdown we are unable to deliver door to door and therefore are not printing this magazine: it is only available in electronic form.

Many thanks to everyone who has made contributions this month which has resulted in much to read!
A WARM WELCOME AWAITS ALL WHO FEEL ABLE TO WORSHIP WITH US
Full details of services for this month will be found on the back cover of the magazine

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FROM THE PARISH PRIEST
STAYING IN TOUCH

One of the most important things we can do at the moment is to stay in touch with one another.

The Church here is communicating with people in several ways:

❑ Through the Church Facebook page - look for 'Chiddingly and East Hoathly Churches'. We are posting daily prayers and information on where online worship can be found.

❑ Through the church emailing list, which covers all sorts of information, including where to offer and find help. If you haven't been receiving regular emails from Phil and would like to, please email me on philhodgins@btinternet.com asking to be put on the list. These emails are open for anyone to receive whether you see yourself as part of the church or not and you can unsubscribe from this at any time.

❑ Through prayer: I am happy to pray for you or loved ones. I normally say morning prayers daily sometime after 7am and remember by name all those I have been asked to pray for. This is open to absolutely anyone - just contact me.

❑ A lot of people are contacting each other just to stay in touch, I am also trying to contact (by phone and/or email) as many people as possible. If you would like me or someone to contact you, maybe just for a chat, please let me know on the email above or on 01825 840270. Again, it doesn't matter whether you see yourself as part of the church or not.

❑ 'Hearing You' - a wider initiative involving the Diocese of Chichester and offering telephone support. Please see details below.

When public worship is allowed again we will post information on our Facebook page and email it out through our email list.

It seems quite possible that we will not be back in the churches for public worship until at least the end of May or beginning of June. This would mean that the whole of the period of Eastertide, the 50 days of celebration following Easter Day, will pass during the lockdown, just like Holy Week and Easter. Nevertheless, we will keep this time and recall its significant commemorations.

Ascension Day, Thursday 21st May, is the day when a number of things are remembered: Jesus’ commission to his closest friends to continue his work, the promise of help in the form of the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the end of Jesus' appearances in the flesh.

The arrival of the promised gift of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, Whit Sunday - 31st May, completes Easter. The coming of the Holy Spirit was an event that galvanized a small group of fearful and apparently leaderless Jews into leaders and messengers some of whom would travel to the ends of the known world telling people about the Risen Lord Jesus and what God had done through him - changing the world in the process.

God bless

Phil

HEARING YOU - A local response to the Coronavirus crisis

The Diocese of Chichester with Together in Sussex are launching ‘Hearing You’, a new pastoral phone line to enable the people of Sussex to feel connected and supported. It will provide pastoral support and a listening ear to the recently bereaved and people directly affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. It will be staffed by volunteers who are trained in pastoral care and listening skills: clergy and licensed lay ministers. All volunteer listeners will:

• have an active DBS and have completed safeguarding training with the Diocese of Chichester
• be able to point callers to their parish clergy
• direct callers to other organisations offering specialist support if appropriate
• offer to pray for the caller or for their concerns.

NB This is not a substitute for the emergency services (111 or 999) or a counselling service. It is a human, Christian response to anyone who turns to the Church in this time of need. Hospital chaplains within the diocese will also be able to direct people to the service. The phonelines will be open to anyone living in Sussex whether they currently attend a church or not.

The service will initially run until the end of May, Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 7.00pm. The Hearing You number is: 01273 425047.

For details about volunteering, please contact: Luci Fievet on 01273 421021 or email Luci.fievet@chichester.anglican.org
Last time we finished with Dr Luke recounting his researching of the early life of the Lord Jesus Christ and the appearing on the scene of the great prophet John the Baptist of whom the Scriptures speak in Isaiah chapter 40 verses 3-5. ‘The voice of one crying in the wilderness: “prepare the way of the Lord: make His paths straight. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough ways smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God”’. Many people came to where John was preaching to be baptized but he made it quite clear to them that in order to avoid the wrath of God they must first repent of their sin. That meant not just being sorry for sin but sorry enough to stop and make reparations which involved not only confession but also making restitutions. In other words, putting right wherever possible, and as thoroughly as possible, what we have done wrong. So it was much more than just going through the motions. It had to represent a life-changing upheaval leading to release and cleansing of conscience and a fresh flush of mental health. This is Christianity, not churchianity. (The Greek word for ‘repentance’ is ‘metanoia’ which, in its weakest form means a change of mind but leads, in its strongest form to a change of state).

Dr Luke quotes other prophetic statements in his New Testament accounts. For one example, when the apostle Peter on the day of Pentecost, being filled with the Holy Spirit, brings clarification to the multitude gathered in the temple. He says in Acts chapter 2 verse 14, ‘But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them. ‘Men of Judah and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you and heed my words, for these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel’. Dr Luke goes to the trouble to quote another prophet, one greater than Joel, the Lord Jesus Himself, in chapter 17 of his gospel, verse 26 where our Lord says this: ‘As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man, ‘they ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the days that Noah entered the ark and the flood came and destroyed them all’.

The main characteristic of life in Noah’s day was that man now made his own rules. God did not feature - hardly at all. If they felt like the need to worship they made an image from their own imagination. They worshipped ‘mother nature’ rather than Father God. He, like today, was completely ignored. Their ideas were superior or so they thought! Then the first big Climate change occurred and everything was forever different. The fact is that the Creator of the universe is always perfectly fair and just but His patience eventually will come to an end, as Scripture indicates time and time again.

We are living through what can only be described as the biggest world-wide event since Noah’s flood and it is not over yet. God always responds to truly repentant hearts as John the Baptist knew so well. In a sense, the answer lies with us. Did you see the Australian Prime minister leading the nation the other day in tears? I remember many years ago when beginning my apprenticing, talking to the men on the shop floor about Christian things and being bombarded with all sort of questions, the most common being, ‘If God is a God of love then why does He allow sickness and disease?’ The truth is that God’s character is perfectly balanced and stable. He is fair and just. He is love but He is also righteous. That is why Jesus had to come. He lived and led a perfect life but the sin of the whole world history had to be paid for. That is why He came to die. As everybody has to have an individual, natural birth so everybody has to have an individual spiritual birth. That was the point of John the Baptist’s preaching and of the Lord Jesus’ ministry and indeed, the teaching of the whole of Scripture. So if you are walking with Him by faith day by day I would encourage you to continue, come what may, and if you are not, I would encourage you to come back to God by repentance and faith and live a new life.

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**FROM GOLDEN CROSS CHAPEL**

**BY PASTOR TERRY BRINKLEY**

As the Church is locked, the Foodbank container is now kept in the porch and emptied regularly. Very many thanks to everyone who has contributed during these challenging times. At present, the Foodbank **urgently** requires:

- Long life milk, skimmed, semi skimmed, full fat or dairy alternatives.
- Tins of meat, soup, fruit, rice pudding, custard, tomatoes and veg (not pulses)
- Squash
- Nappies size 4 and 6, baby wipes
- Dog food.

Should you prefer and it is easier to give a monetary donation, please go to [hailsham.foodbank.org.uk](http://hailsham.foodbank.org.uk) and click on the link ‘donate’.

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Happy Easter!
It is my birthday in a couple of weeks and we had plans - but of course, along with the personal plans of millions of people, we have had to abandon these with new thinking about a radically different and simpler way of keeping the day. But just because we have to keep the day differently does not change the reality of what happened 60+ years ago in west London - my being born, or my being here now.

This is an Easter like no other. In the churches we have had to rework everything, put things online, suggest how people may keep these days in their own homes, point to acts of worship that our Bishop and his team have prepared for live streaming, we have had to set aside the traditions of nearly 2 millennia to make things work in our new context.

And yet what we are commemorating and celebrating remains absolutely unchanged by all this: Jesus entry into Jerusalem and the claim to kinship which it made is unchanged by our inability to process with palm crosses, His gift to us of the service we now call the Eucharist and his command to love one another as he has love us, both given at the Last Supper are unaffected, his apparent defeat on the Cross on what we call Good Friday which was in reality a triumph, stands as it always has and his Resurrection is totally undiminished by our not being able to celebrate it in our churches. These events from 2000 years ago, and the significance of them, in a week that changed the world remain - all that is changed is the way we can mark the days - for this year.

Last Sunday Her Majesty the Queen addressed the nation on the coronavirus situation and towards the end of what she said to us, pointing out that ‘this would come to an end’ she used the phrase “…we will meet again” making a direct link back to Vera Lynn’s wartime song and inviting us to draw on the same spirit of courage and resilience which the wartime generation displayed as we address the crisis of our times and our own worries about health, our families, friends and neighbours our jobs, incomes, businesses, pensions and futures.

‘We’ll meet again - don’t know where don’t know when’ was both a hope and a defiant statement in the war years. But for the disciples of Jesus reviewing their position on the late afternoon on the first Good Friday there was no realistic prospect of meeting him again, it was all over... everything was lost, all the hope that they had in him and what he said and promised had all come to nothing - he clearly was not the Messiah, he had failed and he was dead.

Yet, on the first Easter Day and the days that followed they became convinced that Jesus was alive and alive in a way that death could never touch again. It was only looking back with the 20/20 vision of hindsight that they began to understand the significance of everything that went before seen anew through the lens of the Resurrection.

The Resurrection changed things, not of course the agony and suffering of Jesus or the desperation and fear they had felt on that Friday - but it changed how they understood who Jesus was and the things he said and did, and it changed the way they understood the Cross and what had happened on Good Friday - this was not Jesus defeat by the powers of darkness but his victory over those powers and all they could throw at him. Sustained by the Holy Spirit they and their successors went on to change the world. So after the Resurrection the first disciples still thought it was ‘all over’ but the same words carried a new meaning - not failure, but a sense of triumph. Think of it like Kenneth Wolstenholme’s immortal line in his commentary on the last moments of 1966 World Cup final as with seconds to go and England leading 3-2 Sir Geoff Hurst Scored another goal to seal the victory 4-2 - with some of the crowd already celebrating on the pitch - "they think its all over...It is now!!"

Do have a truly blessed Easter

God bless
Phil

Along with this Message I posted an accompanying video from ‘The Great Commission’. It tells in 3 minutes of modern rap-style poetry just why the Cross and the Resurrection are twin triumphs and offer hope to our world speaking powerfully to our current situation - watch it if you get the opportunity.

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**FROM THE REGISTERS – MARCH 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funerals:</th>
<th>4th March</th>
<th>Doris Stella Frances MESTON</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chiddingly</td>
<td>24th March</td>
<td>John Gilbert MANSER</td>
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</table>
Butterflies on Ditchling Beacon

East Sussex County Magazine’ Summer 2018: ‘At Ditchling Common Country Park you might see commas, red admirals and peacocks – or even a tiny small copper.

Comma

One fine Sunday morning about Ditchling Beacon, I saw a young comma with tears in her eyes, her wings they were fretted as if they’d been bitten; upon a field scabious she landed and cried.

‘Dash me, you young beauty’, I called to the comma, ‘this day is a day for thanksgiving and praise, this glory God gives us for rest and enjoyment, they’ll be plenty of tears in the rest of your days.’

‘Kind Sir,’ said the comma, ‘Oh, when I was happy for periods I’d exclamation marks swap, then a tumour was found lodged deep in my colon... I feel now my life has just reached a full stop.’

She sipped a quick nectar with dainty proboscis then fluttered her wings in a delicate arc. She hung from a harebell, an inverted comma. Her subsequent life is a blank question mark.

Small Copper

I’m a dapper little chap a tiny little copper but I punch above my weight within the fuzz. My late cousin, the large copper, made a buzz, but came a cropper for leading much too colourful a life. Size nines call me the midget a sort of flying widget as they see me duck and fidget round the sorrel. I’m a sprightly little blighter but I’ve proven a neat fighter on the chalk downs where I’m known as a hard bloke. I’m a handsome little fella -- a fair cop, and I can tell ya that there ain’t many of them among the plod. When you see an orange flashing through the gorse and heather dashing and you think, ‘Well ain’t he smashing!’ That’s me, folk!

Peacock

It’s not that I’m vain, though I know I’m not plain, as on damask-rose wings I glide by, making all six eyes flutter can prove quite a strain when with buddleia buddies I fly.

Over gardens and lanes I sprinkle my glamour as I surf on my rubicund wings, and birds that would liberties take with my person when I wink six eyes just scatter in clamour.

My larvae chomp nettles, their manners quite crude, my chrysalis isn’t a beauty, but once our imagos’ wings spread, they’re so gorgeous you are dazzled by glory, not food.

I feel like a rich Persian carpet in flight, and though one year old, still I am healthy and my cardinal, gold and my blue are still bright... would you care to join me in a selfie?

Red Admiral

I gazed out to sea on a clear summer day - what perfection! Behind me a deep sigh arose, a Red Admiral, flying his rank and his colours, ‘Now what ails you, Sir, I cannot suppose.’

‘I’ve just been promoted’ (his antennae quivered) ‘hence this colouration, hence this flash of red, but my dear painted lady, imago of my heart, prefers the White Admirals’ mess dress instead.’

He preserved a stiff forewing despite his distress called ‘Ahoy!’ and ‘Avast!’ to his shipmates who passed, but I shared his despair as his spiracles wobbled, for he looked like Odysseus lashed to the mast.

‘Below decks, of course, they regard me askance (and sneer ‘Yellow Admiral’ when they’ve a chance), about my dress sense though, I’m not one to brag I’ve a deep aching longing to fly the white flag’.

(Old Naval Ranking of British Admirals: Red=Full; Blue=Vice; White=Rear; Yellow=without a squadron. Red and White Admirals and Painted Ladies are British butterflies; a Yellow Admiral is an Australian butterfly; a Blue Admiral, sadly (hence blue), doesn’t exist.)

Peter Wellby
**RAY STRONG**

I would like to say a big “thank you” to all of you who came and lined the village to say “Goodbye” to my darling Ray. My family were all so touched and it really helped us feel we were not alone as we drove through the village to the crematorium. Seeing you all there meant so much to us as being allowed only a 15-minute committal, and feeling lucky to have been able to have that with only immediate family attending and no flowers, it was a strange affair. We were able to add a little colour, which everyone knows Ray loved, and hopefully an amused smile or two with his Union Jack coffin; a nod to his Brexit support.

Thank you again for your support, and hopefully I will get to see some of you when this terrible situation ends.

Shirley & family

**VILLAGE HALL**

With no Bowls or Brownies, no Life Drawing class or Yoga, no Parish Council or Planning meetings and no WI, the hall is rather lonely. With its posh new lavatory facilities and shiny new floor it is a shame. But its usual volunteers from the committee are calling in regularly to check it is alright and keep it company. We have done what we can to reduce outgoings to a minimum, whilst making sure everything is safe and ready for any frosts.

We hope we will be able to open our doors in the not too distant future and welcome everyone back. Even if some restrictions remain, at least we know there are reliable new hand washing facilities to cope with the new regime.

Take care and stay safe.

Steve Tolhurst

**SATURDAY MARKET**

The market is closed until the current pandemic is well and truly over.

Two of our stall holders, Coopers Farm (the butcher) and River Mead Nurseries, are joining forces to deliver their goods to the Chiddingly area. If there are any of their items you would like delivered phone them on 01435 813353 (nurseries) or 07894 062727 (butcher). They will be pleased to help you.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all our customers and stall holders at this difficult time, and we trust it won’t be too long before we can re-open the market.

Christine Brinkley

If you need to go to hospital you may want access to the Christian Chaplain. Below is a format that could be printed and used – for taking to hospital with you.

**I AM A CHRISTIAN**

I wish to have access in hospital to a Christian chaplain.

Name..............................................
Next of kin name..................................
and contact details..............................
My parish church is..............................
Signed.............................................

Praying for you
When I left Chiddingly for a six-month travelling stint with my boyfriend in early February, I never imagined we would be ordered home after only two months. When we left the UK, there were only a small number of COVID-19 cases outside of China. We were on our way to Thailand, which had around fifty cases and that seemed a worrying figure. Looking back, it really wasn't all that perilous. We wandered round Bangkok with masks adorned and entered the Grand Palace with a queue much smaller than what we had prepared for. It was like getting a free fast track pass to all the main attractions.

A month later we arrived in Australia only five days before the border was closed to all foreign nationals. Instead of mingling in hostels, people segregated themselves from each other, sitting only in their own cohorts. Some solo backpackers sat alone. Whilst we had brief discussions with some travellers, we kept our distance. The opportunity to make friends on our trip would have to go amiss. We took peculiarly quiet tours to see the Great Barrier Reef and Fraser Island: an incredible experience in itself, made unique. It began gradually but what we had been avoiding started to catch up with us. Australia had begun to slowly ease into a full-scale lockdown.

Despite this, we started our East Coast road trip and visited now deserted beaches. Bars, restaurants and shops shut. Tours were disbanded. We contacted the British Consulate in fear that the UK borders would close, but to no avail: they could not issue any advice. Powered campsites began to turn tourists away and about two weeks later all free campsites were ordered to close. We were stranded. We called around three dozen campsites until we were finally offered a spot in Port Macquarie on the basis that we were to use the men's toilets, as the only other van allowed on the site was using the women's. We spent my birthday in our van on the second day of total lockdown, going out to the beach for daily exercise and managing to grab some fish and chips from a takeaway on route. The best birthday present of all was seeing a koala clasped onto a low-down branch opposite our campsite, a rare sight apparently: perhaps due to the quiet roads. I facetime my family that evening and my twin brother and I blew out our candles virtually.

The next morning, we were woken by a call from my parents: the Australian PM had ordered all foreign travellers without jobs to return home. We were devastated, we had been so careful, keeping to ourselves and avoiding others on what was supposed to be a trip where we would make friends and have fun without the burden of responsibility that came with the start of our adult lives.

Despite the stress and anxiety, it was an amazing experience, unique in itself and exciting. We got to see temples, landmarks and beaches normally filled with tourists, deserted. We were given a very rare opportunity and we are so grateful for it. We can't wait to return to Chiddingly and reunite with my parents in isolation. We'll spend quality time, rest, enjoy the peace of our tranquil village and reflect on how lucky we are to be safe, well and full of good stories.

Ellen Pitman

**RECOLLECTIONS...**

Around 1995 the Parish Council obtained some grants to undertake recordings of some of the elders of the Parish, reminiscing about times gone by. Sadly almost all of the participants are no longer with us, but we have recordings on tape of what they said, and much of it has been transcribed. A few samples will appear each month.....

"We didn't have time to listen to music or do anything really, working from half past six in the morning, until it got dark at night. I used to do 80 hours a week. That was before I was fourteen. I left school at 13 and a half, because my birthday is in February. We broke up in the Summer holidays, and my father wrote to the Headmaster, which was Mr Sturdey, and asked could I possibly leave earlier because he desperately needed me on the farm, as my brother was in the army. And the Headmaster said by all means. It suited me a treat, because I hated school. I started work and in the summer we were doing at least 80 hours a week. We used to come up and do old Mr Ellis's haying for him.

The hay was cut by hand with a scythe. And then it was turned over with hay rakes, hand rakes, and then rowed up. I think they did have a horse rake. They’d go along the furrow and get a lot, then they’d tread on a lever which lifted it up and left it behind, and they’d leave it in rows across the fields. Then they’d come along with these carts, they were called Sussex Wagons, and you’d roll it a bit and dig your fork in, and pick it up and put it up on the waggon, and then they’d put it where they wanted it. They had to be loaded in a style. You loaded one pitch there, one pitch there, then the sides and then one in the middle.
Firstly, we must all stay positive during these times and look for hope and opportunity wherever we can. Noble Jacks is primarily a full time ‘live’ touring band, so being confronted with a public pandemic has been very tough, with the heart of our livelihood ripped away as COVID19 sent the UK into lockdown the same week as we were meant to head out on our Spring tour. The uncertainty and immediate vanishing of income is incredibly hard on all affected. At the beginning of March we were riding a big wave of momentum, fresh off a full UK and Ireland support tour with Canadian bluegrass band, The Dead South, where we opened their show every night of the tour at iconic venues including Vicar Street (Dublin), Ulster Hall (Belfast), and London’s O2 Brixton Academy! We hoped to see many of the new fans from this at our own headline shows this Spring, but we’ll have to wait until Autumn 2020 with our rescheduled shows now confirmed.

However, we haven’t let our wave of momentum crash altogether: our new album “Stay Awake - Deluxe Edition” was released on March 27th, and we’ve been getting some great reviews in the press! Here’s what they’re saying:

“Played right the fiddle is a gorgeous instrument, sending a song into the stratosphere, and Noble Jacks play it damn right; the Devil lurks hopefully in the wings when these bows and strings appear. And he clears off disappointed in the roar of a Noble Jacks crowd.”
Lyric Magazine

“This is a solid collection that reflects exactly the fun you would want in a gig, demonstrating the band are highly competent and that their desire to connect with the audience is a noble enterprise.”
Americana UK

“Dominant fiddle, subtle mandolin, guitar picking, great melodies and story-telling all take centre stage on this fantastic album ‘Stay Awake is an uptempo gritty Americana album and the fiddle gives their sound a slightly Celtic feel making them stand out against a lot of other artists”
Forever British Country

“Noble Jacks should be on your “must see” gig list. With their catalog of foot stomping, arm punching anthems, I predict that many a roof will be raised when these fellas are back on the road again.”
Six Shooter Country

We are staying positive and trying to seeking opportunities. Just last week, we landed a publishing deal to help diversify the bands activity, and with a lot of time on our hands, we’re currently writing new songs, and forging a road map out the other side of this pandemic!

If you’re wondering what is the best way to support touring bands, whose livelihood is almost entirely reliant on live fees and merchandise, please head to their online stores to buy their album, tee shirt, or even stream/watch their music on Spotify, iTunes, Amazon, YouTube etc, as even these platforms offer a small amount of financial support to us. You can watch and listen to Noble Jacks at www.noblejacks.com.

Our next local shows are at Chiddfest (July 24th 2020) and The Forum (headline show on November 7th 2020). Stay safe everyone!

Will & the band!
HOME STUDY IN FRENCH
FROM ISABELLE BOUVIER

As there is no opportunity to practice your French at the moment, you might want to explore the extent of your knowledge by reading the item below written and sometime ago by one of the French Conversation Chiddingly Village Shop members, Jean Guy, revealing some little known quirky facts about France. Enjoy!

DES FAITS PEU CONNUS CONCERNANT LA FRANCE

- La France est l’un des pays le plus visité du monde avec plus de 83 million de visiteurs chaque année et elle tient la 4ème place pour le nombre de *Sites Patrimoines du Monde.
- Mais bizarrement la France est également le pays le plus déprimé du monde – on dit qu’une personne sur cinq va souffrir une dépression nerveuse pendant sa vie.
- Ce n’est pas le lapin de Pâques qui livre le chocolat, c’est la cloche volante. En France les cloches des églises ne sont pas le vendredi saint ou le samedi de Pâques, et on dit aux enfants qu’elles sont allées visiter le pape.
- La France produit plus de 246 sortes de fromage. Le Vacherin Mont d’Or est l’un des seuls fromages français qu’on mange avec l’aide d’une cuiller. Il vient de la région du Jura et il n’y a que 11 fabricants qui ont une licence pour le produire. Charles de Gaulle a dit une fois « comment peut-on gouverner un pays qui a 246 variétés de fromage ? »
- Si on quitte une fête sans dire au revoir, c’est « filer à l’anglaise ».
- Un préservatif est également connu comme « une capote (great-coat) anglaise »
- En France il existe une fraternité, La Grande Confrérie du Cassoulet, qui défend la gloire et la qualité du cassoulet à Castelnaudary. La ville prétend d’avoir inventé le cassoulet pendant La Guerre de Cent Ans, quand elle était assiégée par les Anglais. On dit que les citadins ont ramassé tous les ingrédients qu’ils pouvaient trouver, et ils les ont transformés en un repas tellement copieux et fortifiant que les soldats français ont pu repousser les envahisseurs et ont sauvé la ville. André Daguin, un chef célèbre de la Gascogne a dit « le cassoulet n’est pas une recette, c’est une méthode de débattre (argue) parmi les villages avoisinants de la Gascogne. »
- Il n’y a qu’un panneau de stop dans la cité entière de Paris!
- Le gouvernement français donne une médaille, La Médaille de la Famille Française, aux citoyens qui ont réussi à élever plusieurs enfants avec *dignité.
- Le Pont Neuf est le pont le plus vieux à Paris. Il fut construit en 1607 et à son inauguration le roi Henri IV l’a traversé sur un étalon (stallion) blanc.
- En France on peut juridiquement (legally) épouser une personne morte. En 2011, sous une loi obscure, une française a épousé son petit ami qui était mort deux années avant, mais qui avait engendré son fils. Elle a demandé l’autorisation de Nicolas Sarkozy et il l’a donné parce qu’elle pouvait prouver leur intention de se marier. Maintenant, si elle rencontre quelqu’un d’autre qu’elle veut épouser, elle devra demander le divorce. Bien sûr, cela ne posera aucun problème, car personne ne va le contester !

French Conversation Classes are normally held on a Thursday morning in the Village Shop, led by Isabelle. Beginners session is 9.30-10.30; the more fluent meet 10.30-11.30. The cost of £8 includes a hot drink and a pastry. No need to book – turn up and give it a go!

CHIDDINGLY WI

Although members were unable to meet as planned on the first Thursday afternoon of April, President Anne arranged for a quiz to be available via email to do during that time. Several members joined in and our brains had a good workout!

We also contributed photographs of flowers from our gardens, in lieu of the usual Flower of the Month competition, which were judged by Geoff Berry. The winner was Bea.

To complement the speaker, we had planned to have a competition where members would write about strong women in their families. Instead, some of us shared stories about these strong women via email and they made for fascinating reading.

With the lockdown needing to continue, there will be no meeting in May. WI members hope that you are keeping well and occupied in these challenging times. We are fortunate to live in a more rural area and so, at least to have access to some outside space.

Liz
FROM THE FLATLANDS TO THE SUSSEX HILLS

My wife and I moved back to the UK from The Netherlands in December 2019 and were very lucky to find the perfect place “back home” in East Sussex. Our parents live close by and we were looking forward to living here again after 20 years abroad.

Whilst living in The Netherlands I fell in love with road cycling, you know the racing bike “middle age men in lycra” type of cycling! Holland is the perfect place to cycle, every road, street or lane has a cycle path. Every Dutch person is first a cyclist and second a car driver. And it’s flat! The only thing you have to contend with is the wind (they call this the "Dutch Mountains").

So coming to Chiddingly presented a few challenges for me… firstly the hills! As soon as I leave my house I come across a steep hill, left or right, I cannot avoid a punchy start to any ride. Then it is the country lanes - no silky-smooth cycle paths now! Throw into the mix large tractors and other farm traffic then you get an interesting ride. But most of the time the lanes are so peaceful and beautiful I feel absolutely blessed to be able to ride here.

I often come across people walking their dogs or horse riders - and I have to say everyone will always wave and say good morning. I will always slow down and announce that I am coming with a cheery “morning - bike behind you”. I think it is important to respect all road users in this way and in particular the horse riders. Pretty much without exception, everyone on a horse has always been very pleasant and grateful that I slow down and tell them that I am approaching. It makes me feel very welcome around the Lanes and I hope gives a sense of camaraderie between riders - be that on a bike or a horse.

But during these difficult and strange times, my wife and I are in Shielding mode as she sadly is a “high risk vulnerable person”. So we stay indoors, and our brilliant new neighbours help with essential supplies like bread and milk. And I use an indoor bike trainer to get my cycling fix. It’s not the real thing but with the window open and a view that cannot be matched, I can dream of the open road again when this is all over. And if you are walking your dog or taking your daily exercise and happen to walk past an open window and can hear strange huffs and puffs coming from inside - just wave! It may just be that mad indoor Dutch Cycling guy!!

Mark Eldridge
Twin Oast, Dern Lane, Chiddingly

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

I hope you’ve been able to keep some normality going in these strange few weeks. I know I’m lucky to have a garden and I certainly need my daily fix of being outside and getting my hands in the soil but even just growing a few lettuce in a window box or pot has its benefits.

I potted up a load of strawberry runners last year. Some of them have been given away but some I’ve planted in wall mangers to keep the slugs off the fruit and as an alternative to a lack of summer bedding on the front of the house.

❑ Greenhouse vents and doors should be opened in the heat we’ve been experiencing. Mine has reach 45F and the cat loves it!
❑ Check over dahlia tubers, removing mushy or dehydrated ones and repot in fresh compost and water. They will start shooting very soon
❑ Harden off seedlings from the greenhouse before planting out. Leave them outside during the day then move them back inside overnight. Do this for a week and they should be fine.
❑ Thin out soil sown lettuce, spinach and carrots and put fleece over carrots to combat carrot fly
❑ Pull your rhubarb but don’t overdo it. Leave two thirds of the stems behind.
❑ Pheromone traps can be hung in plums and apple trees to monitor moth activity.
❑ Check gooseberries for sawfly caterpillars.
❑ Apply straw under strawberries to deter slugs and keep the fruit clean.
❑ If you have fennel in the garden, think about moving it into the veg patch. The flowers will attract hoverflies that will eat any aphids. Marigolds do the same job.
❑ Try other companion planting: African marigolds can ward off eel worm in potatoes, apparently, chives planted in an orchard will prevent lightning strikes! And scatter mint between rows of brassicas to keep flea beetle away. Plant wild garlic or ransomes which will keep rabbits from crossing the boundary created - please let me know if this one works.
❑ Keep a few patches of nettles in the garden. Butterflies use them for laying eggs and ladybirds will devour aphids feeding on the leaves.

I have a garden of dandelions, thistles and bindweed so it’s time to go and dig out those roots or they’ll just keep coming back and back. Hopefully we will see each other soon at one of our shows.

Dave xx
CHIDDINGLY VILLAGE SHOP

April has been a busy month in the shop. Throughout the month we were thankfully able to get fresh supplies delivered regularly. Many customers were so pleased to discover we had lots of fresh eggs both from Bob at Hale Farm and from Five Chimneys in Hadlow Down. We also continued to have fresh fruit, vegetables, bread and milk throughout the month. At the beginning of the month we struggled to get supplies of pasta, rice, toilet rolls, soap etc. luckily our suppliers started to diversify their ranges and we also diversified the suppliers we used, and thus we successfully got the products we needed back on the shelves (most of them anyway)!

As most of you know by now, customers are being served at the shop door, this is to help keep the customers and the volunteers safe. We also took the step to stop taking cash payments, another way to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Weekly orders from the shop have proved popular, if you would like a weekly grocery order just give us a call on 01825 872949, you can either come and collect it or we can arrange for it to be delivered. Some orders may require a week’s notice so that we are able to give our suppliers plenty of time to deliver, they are struggling too with the extra demand.

Sadly, lots of our regular volunteers have had to self-isolate during April, we miss them but are glad they are being sensible and staying safe at home. Fortunately for the shop, we have gained several new volunteers and some returning volunteers. We are so grateful for all their help in keeping the shop open for the local community. We are also very thankful to everyone that has run errands for us via the Parish Council’s Volunteer Scheme, it is wonderful to see the people of Chiddingly working together.

The VE Day Special Oral History Club on Wednesday 6th May has been cancelled but hopefully we can reschedule this for later in the year.

On a lighter note, it would be lovely to receive some photographs, drawings or paintings from anyone on their walks around the village or pictures from your gardens and windows for those that can’t go out. With your permission we will put them up on our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages and they may also get used in the 2021 calendar. Please email any pictures to me (Sue) at manager@chiddinglyshop.org

To keep up to date with everything that is happening at the shop, follow us on Facebook @chiddinglyvillageshop, Instagram @chiddinglyshop or on Twitter @ChiddinglyShop. Feel free to share our posts too!

At the time of going to print our opening times are as follows:
Mon- Fri: 8am to 1pm
Sat 9am to 12.30pm

CHIDDINGLY LACHELLE LINK

The Chiddingly/Lachelle Link Committee hope everyone is well. To help keep you entertained here is a Quiz with a French theme.

1. In relation to French food and wine, what do the letters AOC stand for?
2. A traditional baguette only has 4 ingredients. What are they?
3. By what other name is France known? (Hint – the name is derived from the shape of the country)?
4. When did the Tour de France cycling race first take place?
5. What is Europe’s highest mountain called?
6. What was awarded UNESCO World Heritage Status in 2010?
7. What did police discover in the Catacombs under Paris in 2004?
8. What are the origins of the International distress code “Mayday”?
9. What is the significance of a short film called “The arrival of a train at La Ciotat Station”?
10. Truffaut’s “Les 400 Coups” and Godard’s “A Bout de Souffle” form part of which French cinema movement?
11. Which famous landmark was originally intended to be a temporary structure?
12. What do Oscar Wilde and Jim Morrison of the group The Doors have in common?

The answers are printed upside down near the back of the editorial section – above the FOOTPRINT logo
This year’s cricket is being impacted by the coronavirus situation - this is not a big deal in the context of serious illness and sadly, death; not to mention the hardships caused by the impact this will have on businesses and people’s jobs. The cricket club will survive this virus, whether or not we get to play any matches this year. The Sussex Cricket League hopes that we shall be able to play some games - but this is a dynamic situation and change can be rapid.

Our committee have not been able to meet since the lockdown. This is a shame, as the cricket club gives most of us our raison d’etre. We are important people carrying out important functions, making important decisions and giving out important instructions. We can measure our success using a number of key outcomes: financial viability of the club; playing and non-playing membership; and community involvement. We have £34.78 in the kitty; 16 playing members and 6 non-playing members; and the pitch is betwixt the pub and the church. We are in contact with each other via e-mails and need to consider such things as preparing and maintaining the ground, meeting our financial commitments with the backdrop of reduced revenue, completing work on the new shed/scoreboard and maintaining players’ interest in cricket. All involving big decisions from broad-shouldered men and women.

In the past, players who, for one reason or another, have had a period of non-participation find other things to do on a Saturday afternoon. These other things soon become a habit and the pain of playing cricket becomes sharpened in its absence. Playing cricket has to be a habit, something that happens automatically on a Saturday without the need for any kind of cognitive thought. As soon as players start thinking about their use of time, they stop playing cricket. It takes up a lot of their time, time that could be used doing more profitable things. There’s only one winner when playing cricket is pitched against cleaning the shower grout.

We are looking forward to the lifting of restrictions and the start of the new season. We hope that all of you are dealing with the range of challenges that the current situation presents, and that you remain fit and healthy. We are not as well placed as others in the community (the church, medical and care workers, your neighbours, friends and family) to offer help and support. But we can wish you well and invite you to the ground to enjoy some cricket, a cup of tea and a slice of cake when this is over.

Stay safe. In the meantime, you may want to check out the club’s Instagram account below. Don’t make it a priority, do the washing up and laundry first. And then maybe have a rest and a cup of tea. And then... https://instagram.com/chiddinglycc?igshid=14fa3sjrhbj0k

For further details on any aspect of the club contact Jonathan Lofthouse, club chairman (lofthouse885@btinternet.com)

CHIDDINGLY CRICKET CLUB

MILLENNIUM OAK SCULPTURE GARDEN AND COMMUNITY ORCHARD

We are pleased to report that the garden and community orchard surrounding it are both in good shape with swathes of wild daffodils planted between the young fruit trees flourishing brightly in the early spring. As the daffodils are now dying down their colour is being replaced by the beautiful blossom on the fruit trees just beginning to appear.

We are delighted to announce that the Parish Council has generously donated a handsome oak bench bearing a dedication to José Loosemore, a great friend of the MOSAG who died a year ago. Currently it is in the Millennium Garden awaiting final siting in the Orchard.

Access to the orchard will be through an old, weathered oak gate kindly provided by the Parochial Church Council and positioned between the post and rail fence behind the Sculptures. It is intended to install other benches so that everyone may enjoy the sight and scents of the twenty three or so varied fruit trees, including some ancient local breeds- Wadhurst Pippin, Stanmer Pippin, Egremont Russett, Crawley Beauty as well as a Mulberry, Quince, Mirabelle Cherry, Plum Ruby, Crab Apple, Medlar, Damson and a walnut.

The MOSAG spring clean up in March was postponed so please bear with us as some parts of the garden are looking neater than other parts still awaiting further attention! The AGM scheduled for May 28th will be postponed.

As and when lock-down is lifted do come and enjoy the peace and tranquillity of the Garden and Orchard; and if you’d like to help us with its upkeep do contact us.

Barbie Harrison; Brenda Longley; Simon Coxhead; Noel Hardy; Tree Warden: Andy Barnes
HOME STUDY IN ITALIAN
FROM MICHELE

Come si potrebbe descrivere il villaggio e la parrocchia di Chiddingly.

Ha amici italiani? Forse, ha amici italiani che non sono mai stati a Chiddingly? Potrebbe descrivergli il posto dove vive?

Direi che Chiddingly è un bellissimo posto che si trova nella campagna della contea di East Sussex. Ci vivono 1,247 abitanti e c’è una chiesa antica e bella che si può vedere da molto lontana quando si arriva in macchina tra le strade di campagna. C’è una scuola elementare per i bambini nella parte del parrochia che si chiama Muddles Green. C’è anche un osteria tipico pub inglese, The Six Bells, dove danno serate di musica rock e da molti anni è frequentata da motociclisti.

Ogni anno (ma forse purtroppo non in quest’anno) c’è Chiddfest uno spettacolo di musica rock che a luglio avviene e il Chiddingly Festival che accade in Settembre. Nel festival ci sono spettacoli e interpretazioni d’arte.

Nel villaggio si trova anche la casa dove è vissuto il scultore Lee Miller in cui in questi tempi c’è un museo dell’arte notevole che l’ha fatto. Perché l’ha visitato, Pablo Picasso è venuto a Chiddingly e c’è una foto ben conosciuta del famoso pitto a un bivio stradale nel villaggio.

Quando si descrive Chiddingly non si deve dimenticare il negozio del villaggio. Questo non è solo un negozio ma anche un tipo centro sociale dove ci sono classe di lingue stranieri (Francese e Italiano), gruppi di discussione e mostre d’arte locale. Molto prodotti che si vendono da fattorie locali, e le persone che ci servono lavorano senza lo scopo di lucro.

Come descriverebbe Chiddingly? Le piace vivere in villaggio? Forse non ho inclusi cose importanti nella vita del suo villaggio? Se non le dispiace inviarmi informazione e opinioni a il mio indirizzo e-mail, italianoconmichele@gmail.com. Spero di ricominciare le classe di Italiano nel negozio quando la vita torna a normale.

A Presto

Michele.

Italian conversation classes are normally held on Wednesdays at 10.30am in the Village Shop. Currently, its mainly for beginners but a more advanced class could be started if there is demand. The cost is £12. Turn up and try it!

PEREGRINE FALCON: YOU SAY YOU WANT A REVOLUTION
BY MICHAEL BLENCOWE, SUSSEX WILDLIFE TRUST

Circling high in the blue skies above Sussex is one of the world’s deadliest predators. Peregrines are hunting above us. Scanning the avian traffic in the Sussex airspace, their incredible vision locks on to an unsuspecting bird passing below and the Peregrine instantly negotiates one of the most sophisticated aerial manoeuvres possible. They stop flying. With wings and feet tucked in tightly, peregrines drop from the sky at an unbelievable speed – hurtling earthwards at up to 200 mph – the fastest creature on our planet. Everything, even the eyelids and nostrils on this bird are built for speed. Like a bomb made out of muscle and feathers, it’ll decimate any victim in its path.

We’re fortunate to still have these amazing birds here in Sussex. During WW2 their taste for pigeons (including those carrying wartime messages) saw Peregrines treated as if they were on the payroll of Mr Hitler himself. The Secretary of State for Air declared war on these falcons and issued the ‘Destruction of Peregrine Falcons Order’. The birds were slaughtered, their nests destroyed. After we gave Adolf the old heave-ho, Peregrines were left alone and numbers began to recover. But they were to face an even more deadly threat than the British Government: Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (or DDT to its friends).

Farmers worldwide had started spraying a variety of wonderful new chemical insecticides all over the countryside to improve yields. These invisible poisons hit the bird at the top of the food chain the hardest. In 1958 there were 650 pairs of Peregrines in Britain. Six years later there were 68. Concerns over their decline sparked an investigation that led back to the source of the Peregrine poisoning and the world’s eyes were opened to the reality of the damage that these chemicals could cause to our environment and to us. Rachel Carson wrote ‘Silent Spring’, the environmental movement was born and green was upgraded from a sort of yellowy-blue colour to an entire way of life.

Today, perched on our cliffs and cathedrals, high above the organic food-filled shelves in kitchens across Sussex, the killer that kick-started the environmental uprising stands defiantly overlooking us all like a beaked Che Guevara. A feathered testament to revolution, strength and tofu veggie burgers.
CHOIR goes ZOOM!

Heathfield Choral Society has cancelled its concert in May and all rehearsals - but the singing goes on!

Thanks to the technical skills of Musical Director, Sebastian Charlesworth, over 45 singers “meet” on Zoom every Monday evening and continue to work on the repertoire of Faure Requiem and Rutter Requiem.

It is not possible for everyone to sing together, with sound turned on, as broadband delays just create dissonance, rather than tunes. Sebastian demonstrated this issue by asking the choir to sing “Happy Birthday” together and chaos ensued with most just collapsing in laughter!

We have a long warm up and then sing along, on our own, to music provided (zoomed!) by accompanist Gavin Stevens. At least Sebastian doesn’t hear all the mistakes!

We also have breakout sessions, where groups of 5 or 6 members can chat and catch up - our virtual tea-break.

We plan to hold our “Requiem Concert” in November and hope to see you there!

Chiddingly Lachelle Link Quiz Answers

1. Appellation d’Origine Contrôlée
2. Flour, yeast, water and salt
3. L’Hexagone
4. 1 July 1903
5. Mont Blanc which is 4,810m high
6. French gastronomy was awarded UNESCO World Heritage status in 2010
7. A large cave containing a cinema with a bar, pressure cooker and stock of 1950s “films noirs”. When the police returned to investigate they found the power had been cut and a note had been left that read “do not try to find us”.
8. The International distress code Mayday comes from the French “M’aidez” meaning “Help Me”. In 1923 a radio officer at Croydon Airport, Frederick Stanley Mockford was asked to think of a distress call that would be understood by all. As much of the air traffic was between Croydon and Le Bourget at the time, he hit on the idea of using “Mayday”.
9. The screening of the 50 second long film by the Lumiere Brothers in 1895 is considered to mark the birth of cinema.
10. Nouvelle Vague
11. They are both buried in Père Lachaise Cemetery in Paris.

Chiddingly Roots

You were conceived on Sussex clay. The kind of clay that lines Downland dewponds, and landfill sites; the touch of moisture makes it swell, it sucks you in. That's when it takes hold, the golden clay, at conception.

First free as the swallow tied to instinct’s route you climb The Hill, dream-ride the clouds, and read too much of distant lives, careless of settling layers of summer’s dust; but as clay platelets seal, steal, into cells, gravity drags a denser child down.

You could have left while light enough, to escape on the back of the North Wind, but that flying horse you chose slowed, stumbled, broken-winded, fetlock deep in Sussex clay.

White bones coffined in yellowclay land, wait ‘till Anderida draws them from the dirt, free to drift away on a warm wind.

Níc
Golden Cross

The copy deadline for the Parish Magazine is the 15th of the month. The Magazine is normally available in the Church on the last Sunday of the month. However, it is possible that the June edition may be electronic version only.

If you would like to send me any contributions for the Parish News, please send them by e-mail: ruth.mcdermott@live.co.uk. Please request a “read receipt” if you want to be sure it is in my inbox. I can be contacted on telephone number 872055. Paper copy can be posted to Chiswells Farm, BN8 6HG or dropped into my post box.

The views expressed in the articles printed in the Chiddingly Parish News are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor, the Rector or the Churchwardens.
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Ofsted ‘Outstanding’ in all areas
Baby and toddler group Thursdays 1.30-2.30

Enquiries: Kate Fleming BA hons QTS
01323 811899/ 07764 741572
Website: www.ripenurseryschool.co.uk
Email: kate@ripenurseryschool.co.uk

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Pashley Manor Gardens

We have delayed opening our Gardens, Café and Gift shop for the season this year, in response to government advice, in an attempt to limit the spread of Coronavirus.

So, Pashley will remain closed until further notice but please do keep checking the website for updates and we will be posting lots of pictures of social media.

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If you want to be assured that your engine is in top condition, why not give us a call and we can carry out a spring check on your vehicle. Do give us a ring and get booked in and don't forget our free local collection/delivery service or use of one of our courtesy cars. Now would be a good time to keep our number safe to hand.

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Chris, Eve and the team

Emergency 24 hr contact Number 07702 747376
PARISH DIRECTORY
(all tel nos 01825 unless indicated otherwise)

Raintbows/Brownies/Guides Coral Carpenter 01323 371908/coralpaul@aol.com
Chiddingly Community Land Trust Sue Skan secretary@cclt.uk
Chiddingly Mummers Patrick O’Hare paddyoh@uwclub.net
Cricket Club Chairman: Jonathan Lofthouse lofthouse885@btinternet.com
East Sussex County Cllr Nick Bennett 733328
Electricity Power Failure 105
Electoral Roll/Parish Register Rose Harman 872592
Friends of Chiddingly Church Chair: Veryan Sharp 873287/veryansharp@hotmail.co.uk
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National Travel Line (including local bus services) 0871 2002233
Neighbourhood Watch Parish Council Clerk see below
Parish Council Chairman: Julian Richards 872330/cllr.julian.richards@chiddingly.gov.uk
Clerk: Julie O’Donnell 01435 866319/clerk@chiddingly.gov.uk
George Allan - 07591 853017/cllr.george.allan@chiddingly.gov.uk
Katrina Best - 873322/cllr.katrina.best@chiddingly.gov.uk
Cliff Marchant – 872998/cllr.cliff.marchant@chiddingly.gov.uk
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Steve Newham - 872613/cllr.steve.newham@chiddingly.gov.uk
Steve Tolhurst - 01273 813921/cllr.steve.tolhurst@chiddingly.gov.uk
Brendon Welsh - 872922/cllr.brendon.welsh@chiddingly.gov.uk
Should you want to email the whole council you can use council@chiddingly.gov.uk
Police 01273 470101
101 non emergency
Saturday Morning Markets Christine Brinkley 872345
School: Head of School James Proctor 872307
School Association Amy McGowan 07711 584752/pfcs@chiddingly.e-sussex.sch.uk
Short-Mat Bowls Club Richard Bean 872393
Stoolball Club Emma Waterman 872740
Treasure Seekers Phil Cottingham 872723
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Bookings: Jenny Bean 872393
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Village Hall Management Comm Chairman: Steve Tolhurst 01273 813921
Village Shop Sue Fletcher 872949
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Wealden District Council 01323 443322
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Yoga Sara McGowan 07478 658876
Youth Club (GX Chapel) Mary Brinkley/Paul Jones 01323 482502/01323 483571