

## MARCH 2021

**ISSUED** 

**FREE** 

## Steyning Parish Church,

## 1 Vicarage Lane, Steyning BN44 3YL

Vicar: The Revd Mark Heather LLB BA

879877

<u>vicarofsteyning@gmail.com</u> or <u>rectorofashurst@gmail.com</u>

Ordinand in Training: Caroline Armitage MA (Cantab.) 07789 915988

caroline@steyningparishchurch.org

At the time this magazine went to press in mid-February public worship was suspended across most of the churches in Storrington Deanery including both of our own parish churches. Whilst congregational gatherings within places of worship are legally permitted in England we are unlikely to resume regular worship until there is a significant reduction in pandemic infection rates across the south east of England. Further announcements will be made through the Sunday bulletin and on the Steyning Parish Church website. These will include arrangements for Holy Week and Easter

Fr Mark, Vicar of Steyning and Rector of Ashurst

## **Parish Office Address:**

Penfold Hall, Church Street,
Steyning BN44 3YB

office@steyningparishchurch.org

Tel: 813276

www.steyningparishchurch.org

## THE OFFICE REMAINS CLOSED BUT IS STAFFED REMOTELY

Post is being picked up and the telephone diverted to the Parish Administrator: Pat McMullan.

## **PASTORAL LETTER**

#### Dear friends

As I write this letter a week before Ash Wednesday it is difficult to know what kind of Holy Week we can expect. You may remember how Mothering Sunday (Lent 4) last year was the first day that churches across the country ceased to hold public services. This year I hope that we might be able to gather for public worship once again at least by Palm Sunday, although it's an



odds-on certainty that we won't be able to have a Palm Procession and I doubt if the choir will be allowed to sing. Last year there were no Holy Week services at all



and you may remember that people had to collect palm crosses from a basket on the church door (as illustrated).

The helpful article from our Editor in this magazine (on page 9) points out how a palm cross can be as a focus of prayer and recollection; and above all how it is a symbol of tenacity as we remember how Jesus, having entered Jerusalem to rapturous greetings, went

on to carry his lonely cross. As with so many things over the last twelve months, including the great Christian festivals, the current limits on our lives brings us an opportunity to look more closely at things which, in a normal year, we might take for granted.

However we might end up keeping Holy Week in 2021, I pray that it will draw each of us closer to the cross on which all life is sustained and renewed, whatever the circumstances. And we will of course be thinking and praying for Fr Stephen and David as they continue to settle into their new vicarage in Chichester and keep their first Passiontide with the people of St Wilfrid's.

Yours sincerely in Christ

& Mark

## FR STEPHEN AND DAVID

Dear Friends,

I wanted to take this opportunity to put some of my thoughts, feelings and thankfulness to you in words. I would never have imagined saying goodbye to you all via a screen on my Last Sunday, but it actually worked well and provided a memory that will stay for ever. I was very overwhelmed by the love, kindness and generosity you have shown both David and I in the last three years. I really have had the most fabulous time here with you all. I give thanks to God for bringing me here and for all of you that have become our family during our time in Steyning.

Thank you so much for your very generous gifts. We desperately need to replace our car so the money has already been used as a deposit on a new one. A car which one day will bring me back to Steyning to say goodbye in person. I will from time to time send an update to the magazine so you can all keep up to date with what happens to us in our new parish. We will both miss you so much and please know that you have made a lasting impact on our lives. You are a living example of what it means to be followers of Christ.

May God bless you all in the future as you continue to be a witness of God's grace in Steyning and Ashurst.

With our warmest wishes

Fr Steve & David

Denise presented Fr Stephen and David with the gifts and said this:

"On behalf of all your friends within the churches and communities of Steyning and Ashurst, a huge 'thank you' for your enormous contribution and Christian witness to us ALL. We will continue to hold you in our prayers as you go forward into your new parish and school.

Thank you, David, for your support for Stephen and all you have brought to parish life.

Please accept these gifts that come with our love. We will miss you as you will see from this book of messages. Don't forget to take Mabel and Edna with you—unless you want to leave them with me!!!





Gifts presents to Fr Stephen on his final Sunday as Assistant Curate.





#### **PARISH REGISTERS**

At Worthing Crematorium: **Wendy Julie Clayton** Died 7 Jan 2021 Funeral 2 Feb 2021

Rest eternal grant unto her O Lord, and may light perpetual shine upon her. Our love and prayers for all her family during this time.

## PAUSE AND PRAY

Brother, sister, let me serve you; Let me be as Christ to you; Pray that I may have the grace to Let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey, And companions on the road; We are here to help each other Walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christlight for you In the night time of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you Speak the peace you long to hear. Let us build a house Where love can dwell And all can safely live, A place where

Saints and children tell How hearts learn to

forgive.

Here the cross shall stand As witness And a symbol of God's grace;

Here as one we claim the Faith of Jesus:

Let us build a house Where love is found In water, wine and wheat: A banquet hall on Holy ground,

Where peace and justice meet.

All are welcome, all are welcome at this place.

There are things that happen which bring pain upon those who care for us and sometimes we have been responsible for them. We seek God's forgiveness.

There are things we have done that cause upset for those who care for us. We seek God's forgiveness.

There are things we have done that cause despair for those who care for us. We seek God's forgiveness.

There are times when we fail and cause sadness for those who care for us. We seek God's forgiveness. Amen.

## **SUNDAY BULLETIN**

The weekly Sunday bulletin sent from the Parish Office gives all the information about what is happening with services, local support etc, and how to access these. There is also the list of those needing our prayers. If you would like to receive the bulletin please contact:

office@steyningparishchurch.org or ring 01903 813276

or to add any new prayer requests please contact:

prayers@steyningparishchurch.org or ring 01903 813276

#### PRAYER DIARY FOR MARCH

## March 1 St. David's Day Patron Saint of Wales

Almighty God, who called your servant David to be a faithful and wise steward of your mysteries for the people of Wales: in your mercy grant that, following his purity of life and zeal for the gospel of Christ, we may with him receive the crown of everlasting life.

## March 14 Mothering Sunday The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Jesus, like a mother, you gather your people to you; you are gentle with us as a mother with her children. Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness; through your gentleness we find comfort in fear. In your compassion bring grace and forgiveness, for the beauty of heaven may your love prepare us.

## March 17 St Patrick's Day Patron Saint of Ireland

Almighty God, who in your providence chose your servant Patrick to be the apostle of the Irish people: keep alive in us the fire of the faith he kindled and strengthen us in our pilgrimage towards the light of everlasting life.

## March 19 Joseph of Nazareth

God our Father; who from the family of your servant David raised Joseph the carpenter to be the guardian of your incarnate Son and husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary: give us grace to follow him in faithful obedience to your commands.

## March 21 Passiontide begins Fifth Sunday of Lent

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory.

## March 25 The Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary

We beseech you, O Lord, pour your grace into our hearts, that as we have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his cross and passion we may be brought to the glory of his resurrection.

## Mar 28 Palm Sunday

Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection.

## Mar 29, 30 31 Holy Week

God our deliverer, raise up the poor and comfort the betrayed, through the one who for our sakes became poor and whose betrayal brought our salvation, Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### **BROKEN**

"These tiny fragments of tile were once complete and whole, part of the floor of Chertsey Abbey. Like other such tiles, they were laid in the middle ages. Often, once an abbey or church was no longer used, they would be repurposed and laid in a grand house or home. Over the years these tiles have been broken and fragments lost.



As it is with these tiles, so it can be in our lives – individual and collective.

Over the years, moving from place to place, we become broken, and pieces go missing.

This time of year offers us an opportunity to bring broken pieces together. We begin with ourselves in the presence of God, acknowledging our need, and waiting for God to come to heal us.

These broken tiles remind us that once gathered together the fragments reveal their original pattern, but sadly some pieces of the whole pattern are lost forever. We particularly notice those who are no longer with us, part of our lived pattern in church and family. It is in these moments that we look to God to come and hold what remains together, to hold together broken things".

Christ is before all things, and in Christ all things hold together. (1 Colossians 1:7)

Rt Rev Anne Dyer, Bishop of Aberdeen & Orkney

## **GOD IS LOVE**

The Biblical concept of human life and dignity is based around the notion of creation and particularly, creation in the "image of God," however one might understand that concept. It clearly does not mean that we look like God, but surely expresses the idea that we share in at least some of the Divine attributes. The greatest of them is love: "God is love". (1 John 4:16) The Biblical concept of the love of God is that it is a sacrificial love, shown most fully in the death of Jesus on the cross, for the sin of all humanity. That God would take it upon Himself to do that is arguably the strongest evidence supporting the idea that people, that is, all people, without discrimination, have intrinsic worth and dignity.

David E. Richmond Professor Emeritus, The University of Auckland.

## THE UNIVERSE

The universe is God's creative project, filled with beauty, opportunity, challenge, and meaning. It runs on the meaning or pattern we see embodied in the life of Jesus. Newness multiplies. Freedom grows. Meaning expands. Wisdom flows. Healing happens. Goodness runs wild.

## **MOTHERING SUNDAY**

Mothering Sunday is celebrated in churches on the fourth Sunday in Lent (14 March this year). Traditionally it is a day when we thank God for the love of our mothers, and we thank them in person for their care for us.

In this country the Mothering Sunday service dates back hundreds of years to the time when people were encouraged once a year, on Laetare Sunday, to return to their home or 'mother' church or cathedral. In Latin, the first words of the prayer for this Sunday were 'Laetare, O Jerusalem' ('Rejoice, O Jerusalem') taken from Isaiah 66:10, and the prayer spoke of the love for Jerusalem – the original 'mother church'.

This means that there is a small but very distinct difference between Mothering Sunday, and 'Mother's Day', the more commercial celebration. Mother's Day was instigated in 1914 in the USA as a holiday on the second Sunday in May, as a result of a campaign by Anna Jarvis to recognise the important role of mothers, following the death of her own mother. The commercialisation of the day rapidly grew, though Anna herself was not in favour of this. Mothering Sunday celebrations across the Anglican Communion, have evolved from the first Laetare Sunday observances and the later practice of returning home from domestic service to visit church and family – picking flowers on the way to give to mothers and decorate the church.

Constance Smith, who was inspired by Anna Jarvis, campaigned for a revival of Mothering Sunday observance in Lent, writing a booklet 'The Revival of Mothering Sunday', in 1920. This was so influential and widely read that by 1938 it was said that every parish in the UK celebrated Mothering Sunday.



In past years our churches in Steyning and Ashurst have provided small pots of flowers for those who would like to remember and thank their own mother or carer. Last year about 100 small pots of flowers were delivered to doorsteps of those known to us.

Churches are also aware that for many Mothering Sunday is a painful time and will often include prayers about the many forms of care for children, as well as issues of infertility, baby loss, childless-

ness, child bereavement and parental bereavement, particularly of a mother.

This year our Mothering Sunday service will be a time when we will think about and thank all those who care for us.

Use this link on Sunday 14 March for the online service:

https://steyningparishchurch.org/worship/

## **PALM SUNDAY**



alm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week. This is such a joyous day for every Christian. Just picture the scene as you read the Biblical text on the back page telling how Jesus came into Jerusalem. The Lord came to this holy city and gave his disciples very clear instructions to go and fetch this donkey - none other - this one - not a horse as a Roman soldier, but a donkey. A beast of burden that anyone

could use and would mean that Jesus would ride with a humility that would be with Him throughout the next week. Jesus knew that the crowds would somehow get to know and come out to welcome Him, but do you think He knew they would lay down robes or take off palm branches to wave while they shouted "Hosanna" showing so publicly His status as Messiah? There is no longer any secret. Jesus is being hailed as the Messiah, and He's accepting it. The entry into Jerusalem was the grand conclusion to his ministry on earth.

The picture on the front cover shows Steyning Parish Church sitting among Palm branches. This image can have several meanings about the Church today. Palm branches in Jesus' day were used to show reverence to a beloved leader. On Palm Sunday the church (in normal times) would process outside with large palm branches to recall the story, and for the church to reaffirm publicly its belief in Jesus as Lord. Each person is also given their own palm cross to keep for the following year. This will remind all Christians of the joy of being a Christian, but also of the hardships that can be faced, because later in the story the people changed their hearts, and the branches went from praising Jesus to being used to beat and abuse him by the soldiers.

As a church the palm can be seen as a badge we have identifying us with a group of people with shared meaning and values, and this gives us consolation that we are not alone. Humanity is to be shared. Today we sit within a world where we all need to make decisions about what we think and how we manage situations - local or national - and how we turn to Christ as our guide. Do we walk humbly, as on a donkey, or with grandeur as on a horse? The palm can also be identified with tenacity, and this quality can also be seen consistently in the life of Jesus when all else changed around Him; when Hosanna changed to Crucify Him, when "us" turned to "them", when setting robes for him to walk on changed to being stripped nearly naked - Jesus remained constant.

In the twists and turns of life in which we find ourselves, we can imitate the Lord's humility and stay true to ourselves. We can try to copy his tenacity by remaining focused on our life's work using the gifts entrusted to our care. We can keep a constant eye on ourselves to ensure that vanity does not overcome who God wishes us to be.

God seems to know that we need symbols and songs, worship times and social encouragement from others and to be real to ourselves and others.

Love God and do what you will. Augustine



#### **FAMILY SUPPORT WORK**

#### A LENTEN APPEAL FOR FSW

The current "Lockdown" has made us re-

think how best to feed our families. Sue and I would **welcome any monetary donations** you can make during Lent. Our Family Support Practitioners know each of their families. They can buy food and toiletries for their specific needs and activity games for the children, so important for their well being whilst staying at home.

As before you can leave cash in an envelope marked FSW in the Penfold Hall letterbox. If you prefer you can make a cheque out to Steyning PCC with FSW clearly written on the back, or by a BACS transfer to Steyning PCC Account No: 03220862 Sort Code: 30-99-93 with Ref. FSW.



With our love and thanks,

Sue and Wendy

#### PRAYER FOR HEALING GROUP

Our small group prays regularly for those for whom prayers have been asked, either from the weekly church notices or those we know about personally.

When we used to be able to meet monthly, we were able to include all those people whose names had been placed on the prayer tree. Since last April we have been unable to do this as the prayer tree is not available.

Should you have anyone whose name you would normally have put on the prayer tree, please do let us know so that they can be included in our monthly prayer meeting, which currently takes place with each of us staying in the privacy of our own homes, on the second Monday morning of each month. Until such time as the church is able to be fully open and the prayer tree accessible again, please do send your requests either to a dedicated email address:

healing@steyningparishchurch.org or if you do not have access to email, you may leave a short clear message at the parish office number 01903 813276 BUT please be sure to make clear whether the message is for the prayer tree, or the intercessions list in the weekly bulletin, or both.

You may be interested to know that during our short prayer service we include prayers:

For the assurance of God's presence, power and love

For God's healing grace to all who are sick in body, mind and spirit

For the anxious and fearful

For wholeness, strength, hope and peace

For all who minister to the sick and suffering

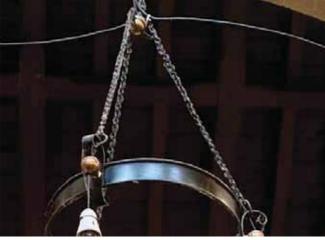
Prayers of thanksgiving and worship

Mary Travers on behalf of the Prayer for Healing Group

## LET THERE BE LIGHT



NO GOING BACK NOW



These pictures capture the scene in the church after the first week of the lighting installation. Looking at all the equipment that the CES team of 3 need you realise why they

need another eleven weeks before completion. Reports with photos will be issued showing progress and how we are spending your funding donations.

There's no going back now!





## **BUILD ON A STRONG FOUNDATION**

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world; their hopes, concerns and prayers.

On Friday 5th March 2021, at 2pm we plan to hold our service 'Build on a Strong Foundation' using Zoom.



If you are interested and would like to join friends from all the local churches, please phone Elizabeth Brown on 01903 817144

## **27 JANUARY PCC MEETING SUMMARY**

- The PCC reviewed the decision to suspend public services due to the continuing pandemic; a decision not taken lightly but with everyone's safety foremost in our mind.
- A grant of £2,500 had been received from the George Mill Trust and had been allocated to the Charity at Home Fund and contributed £1,000 to the grammar school's initiative to support local families in need.
- The Let There Be Light campaign had met and exceeded its original target of £70,000.
- The lighting and electrical installation was into the third week and all was going well and according to schedule. The PCC were updated on the plans to install new lighting along the church path.
- A chronology of positive Covid-19 cases had been prepared and the churchwardens had been liaising closely with Public Health England. It was hard to identify if the outbreak was due to contacts made at church as opposed to the rise in infections within the wider community. Cases amongst congregation were limited, and the decision to suspend worship was mainly due to finding insufficient volunteer stewards confident of running services safely and effectively.
- The inaugural Zoom Coffee had been considered a success and was to be held weekly on a Sunday morning.
- Consideration was given to the Diocesan Lent Course and the church House Groups.
- The Project Management & Fundraising Group was to continue engaging with all stakeholders relating to plans to improving facilities and making the church building more accessible.
- The parish was now registered as an Eco Church and it was possible for individual house-holds to link with the parish and together work towards reducing the carbon footprint.

Steve McGrath PCC Secretary

## LETTER TO THE MAGAZINE EDITOR

Dear Editor, (known as Chris)

On behalf of our church community we would like to express our appreciation to you for compiling the Church Magazine, which provides us with a rich variety of interesting information, thought provoking articles and church news; this is so valuable especially during the pandemic and lockdowns. We want to thank you for the time and thought you put In to this important role. Through the examples of saints and thinkers, the words of poets and beautiful illustrations, you ensure that our community is reminded that there is joy and hope even in these sad and difficult times.

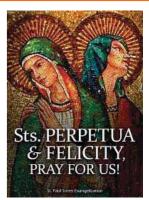
Thank you Chris.

The Parochial Church Council of Steyning Parish Church

## SAINT OF THE MONTH

## **SAINTS PERPETUA & FELICITY, MARTYRED AD 203**

With details of the lives of early Christian martyrs unclear, we are fortunate to have the actual record of the courage of Perpetua and Felicity from the hand of Perpetua herself, the earliest known edition of Christian writing by a woman. The journal known as "The Passion of St Perpetua, St Felicity and their Companions" became widely read in the early Church.



Perpetua was born in Carthage in Africa, at that time a Roman province; at 22 she had given birth to a baby boy. She was a well-educated noblewoman who followed the path of her mother and became a Christian against the wishes of her pagan father. She, along with others, was receiving instruction in the Faith prior to baptism when they were arrested. One of the others arrested was Felicity, a slave who was eight months pregnant.

Perpetua was baptised before being sent to prison and records in her journal how she received a vision in which she was told by God to pray for nothing but endurance in the face of her trials. The prison was so crowded that the heat was suffocating and there was no light; Perpetua says she had never known such darkness. However, her most excruciating pain was being separated from her baby.

Felicity was even worse off being chastised and mocked by her jailers when she was in labour. As she gave birth she said to her captors "Now I am suffering, but in the arena another will be in me suffering for me because I will be suffering for him." Her baby girl was taken from her and was raised in Carthage by the Christian women.

When they came to trial, Perpetua and Felicity refused to renounce Jesus and burn incense to the Emperor. As a result, they were sentenced to be thrown to the wild beasts at the forthcoming Games. On 7 March they were taken to the arena where they were mauled by lions but survived, only to be hacked to death by the gladiators. As she died, Perpetua cried out to her fellow Christians "Stand fast in the Faith and love one another. Do not let our

sufferings be a stumbling block to you."

A basilica was erected in Carthage over the tomb of the martyrs where an inscription to Perpetua and Felicitas has been found. The day of their death, 7 March, is kept as their Feast Day.

#### **CREATION CARE**

#### **CREATION CARE SCHEME LAUNCHES**

We are now registered for Eco Church, which I wrote about in the January magazine, and are beginning to work on completing the audit in

the hope of gaining our Bronze award later this year. The Diocese are now promoting an additional scheme, called Creation Care, which complements Eco Church and is intended for individual households.

Bishop Ruth Bushyager, Bishop of Horsham, who is urging as many of us to take part as possible, has written:

"As Christians we understand ourselves as stewards of the earth's resources and many of us have already made some changes to the way we live in the light of the climate crisis. But what next? This brilliant online audit helps us to assess the life of our households in ways that will inspire us with ideas and challenge us towards achievable next steps. It's great if you live alone, with others, in a flat or a mansion. Together we can make a real difference."

The scheme covers seven areas of household life:



- Worship and prayer
- Home
- Garden
- Travel



- Food
- Possessions
- Community and global engagement

You can enter the scheme by completing a questionnaire that covers each of these areas. This will tell you how well your household is doing at each of these aspects of caring for creation, and hopefully give you ideas of ways you can improve.

Based on your answers to these questions, you can score points – and points mean.....awards – Bronze, Silver or Gold! You even get a certificate. But much more than that, you know you

are doing your part in caring for our world.

We have registered our church for this scheme so you can become part of our efforts, as a church community, to reduce our carbon footprint and be the best stewards of our environment that we can be.

So do sign up at <a href="http://creationcare.org.uk">http://creationcare.org.uk</a> search for our church in the Church Affiliation box and link your account to our church by clicking the green 'Save' button underneath. Let us know how you get on. Perhaps we could have a section in this magazine for sharing ideas?

Christine Aubrey

http://creationcare.org.uk

Household

Church Affiliation box

Steyning Parish Church

Create your account

#### **MOTHER EARTH**

She is your Mother the Earth, and you belong to her. She nurtured you in her dark belly, birthed you in joy, and sustains you at great cost to herself. You have slept in her forests, beneath the safety of her canopy. You have cupped her snowmelt in your hands. You have investigated the life hidden beneath the surface of her deserts, skied her alpine slopes, and biked her slickrock canyons. You have revelled in her generosity and been grateful.

She has never asked much of you in return. Up until now, your gratitude has been enough. Your delight has been her reward. Up until now, she has not needed you as you have needed her. But that is shifting. . . .

"Tell me what is troubling you, Mama," you whisper, exactly as she always spoke to you when you were small and frightened and bleeding from some injury (real or imagined).

"Pretty much everything, honey," she answers.... "I'll get through this," she says. "You're not getting rid of your old Ma so easily." She reaches down to smooth the crease between your brows. "It's you kids I'm worried about."

Mirabai Starr Wild Mercy

## We give thanks for the life of Captain Sir Tom Moore

"Tomorrow will be a good day"

"I think you've all got to remember that we will get through it in the end. It will all be right, but it might take time. At the end of the day we shall all be okay again. For all those people who are finding it difficult at the moment: the sun will shine on you again and the clouds will go away".

Captain Sir Tom Moore (interviewed before his knighthood on BBC Breakfast, 16 April 2020)

Many people would normally try to get together with their Mother on Mothering Sunday. This seems to be increasingly unlikely, so what to do? Below is a link to Mothers Union Web site and their gifts that will help women in poorer countries. A gift of help for one of these women would warm your Mother's heart, or maybe you could do it in memory of your Mother.

http://www.makeamothersday.org/

# MAGAZINE DEADLINE for April 2021 FRIDAY 5 MARCH 2021

Email address: steyningchurchmag@gmail.com

## **LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN (1770-1827) PART 2**

Last month I wrote about Beethoven's life and compositions as far as the **5th Symphony Op. 67** which was first performed with the **6th (Pastoral) Symphony Op 68** on 22 December 1808. This article tries to outline the remaining 19 years of his life, his increasing deafness and illness and his many extraordinary compositions. I have suggested a single movement of the longer pieces for you to try if you use Spotify. There is plenty of choice on YouTube.

In 1809 Beethoven started work on the 5<sup>th</sup> Piano Concerto Op. 73 regularly voted his most popular work on Classic FM, particularly the **second movement** *Adagio*.

Beethoven became infatuated with an 18-year-old pupil, Therese Malfatti. However, he misjudged the situation and she strongly rejected his advances. He was very upset. "Am I nothing more than a Music Man to you?" He had written a simple piece which was found in her effects after her death 41 years later: **Für Elise**. Beethoven had no success with women and never married.

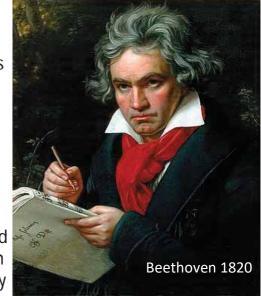
In 1811 he completed the 'Archduke' Trio Op 97. (4<sup>th</sup> movement, *presto*) Archduke Rudoph had been one of Beethoven's pupils since before 1808 and became his most reliable and generous sponsor. Beethoven was the pianist in the first performance in 1814 and his hearing had become so bad that after this he was persuaded to give up public performances.

Arthur Wellesley who became the Duke of Wellington, routed the French army at Vittoria in Spain. This followed defeat in Russia and Napoleon was subsequently exiled after the Battle of Leipzig. Beethoven composed **Wellington's Victory (Op 91)** (worth 15 minutes to hear the familiar tunes and gunfire) to celebrate this, which was performed at successful concerts with his **Symphonies 7 (Op 92)** and **8 (Op 93) (1**st movement allegro vivace et con brio).

The **Cello Sonatas Op.102** were written in 1815 for Countess Erdödy to play with the cellist Joseph Linke, who also played in the first performances of the late string quartets. They are lighter in style than any of Beethoven's later works as illustrated by the *finale of No 1* and the *allegro fugato of No 2*.

Beethoven found new creative energy in 1820, working on the **Missa Solemnis**, (which I find hard going), the **9**<sup>th</sup> **Symphony Op 125** (*choral finale*) and the last three piano sonatas **Op 109**, **110** and **111** (**2**<sup>nd</sup> movement Arietta).

Towards the end of his life Beethoven suffered much illness and used Archduke Rudolph's library when he was not well enough to compose. He studied ancient modes, Renaissance polyphony and the works of J S Bach. He developed new forms of



lyricism which he particularly used in his last works, the late **String Quartets Op 127 to 135**. You Tube has **Michael Parloff's lecture** on **Op 132, 130 and Grosse Fuge Op 133**. Having completed these compositions, Beethoven fell seriously ill and after four abdominal operations died on 26 March 1827. The *cavatina* **from Op 130** would be appropriate at any memorial service.

John Edwards

#### **PEACE ON EARTH**

The historic UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons came into force on 22 January, banning nuclear weapons in line with chemical and

biological weapons which were already illegal under international law.

Many see it as regrettable that the UK is refusing to sign the treaty and so will not be bound by its obligations. Many church leaders, including the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, have welcomed the new treaty and have called on the UK government to sign it.

The Movement for the Abolition of War (MAW: www.abolishwar.org.uk) is suggesting that a country which prides itself on its support for the UN and an international rules-based system will find itself increasingly isolated. As their bulletin dated 8th January notes, "This is a great step forward for humanity". How many of us, following a religion of neighbourly love, would not say 'Amen' to that?

Larry Culliford

Chestnut

#### CHESTNUT TREE HOUSE

## A message from the chaplain at St Barnabas and Chestnut Tree House

Revd Stephen Gurr is the Pastoral Care and Chaplaincy Lead for St Barnabas and Chestnut Tree House. In a letter to Churches he talks about how families caring for a child with a life-limiting condition can feel more alone than ever and especially during these tough Covid times.

Stephen explains that Chestnut Tree House children's hospice offers an absolute lifeline for these families, currently keeping them connected and alleviating the NHS, but also helping them to create special memories on their journey and, when the time comes, to say goodbye. He said: "Without the support of the local community, we simply would not be able to provide this much-needed service for our families and their children".

Donations can also be made online at

https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/GiveitupforChestnutTreeHouse

We hope that we may rely on your continued support and send our special thanks. With very best wishes for the new year and your own preparations for Holy Week and Easter.

Revd Stephen Gurr

None of us are going to share God's love, or talk about Jesus, unless first of all we know that love for ourselves. So, a starting point is knowing God personally. Church Army.

#### WHAT PEOPLE WRITE

Never resign yourself to the scandal of the separation of Christians who so readily profess love for their neighbour, and yet remain divided. Make the unity of the body of Christ your passionate concern.

Prayer for Church Unity

From our window there is an excellent view of the Eastern end of the church and churchyard with a very large yew hedge. A few months ago my wife and I met the lady of the rectory while we were out for a socially distanced stroll. People are always kind enough to ask how I am (I am at the end of a course of chemotherapy) My wife told her that the particular chemo I've been on was derived from the yew tree. "I know," our neighbour said, "we gave all our hedge clippings to a pharmaceutical company".

Ian Marchant, Author

And that's it. If you want to shout at me, please kindly don't. I'm not saying open, I'm not saying close, I'm not saying no effort is required in leading a holy life. But I am saying that, above all of that, there is God, and He's got this, and He's got us. Never, ever visit a church without donating with Gift Aid. Nothing pleases God more than the sound of a Biro on the Gift Aid declaration.

Richard Coles, Winter Walks BBC4

As Christians and churches we have a crucial role in calling for a world that allows everyone, all of creation, to flourish. As followers of Jesus, let's ensure that the voices of those most affected by climate change are heard.

Tearfund

Two billion people worldwide have no rubbish collection. They are forced to live and work among piles of waste that cause disease and harm to the environment. Please pray for social enterprise projects that are working with their communities to collect waste, recycle and put a lid on waste related poverty and pollution.

Bin Twinning

The world is in crisis: creation is groaning. We hear the cry of the earth in species extinction, in the climate crisis, in systematic racial injustice, in material poverty, in conflict, in the global Covid-19 pandemic. In such a time as this, what have Christians got to offer?

Our doctrine of Creation suggests that it was never meant to be like this, but that human nature is tarnished, fallen some call it. However, our Biblical narrative of salvation provides a remedy and challenges us to play our part in the process of redemption and re-Creation.

We live in a broken and unequal world. We are here for such a time as this.

USPG

#### **CHRISTIAN AID**

## Learning in the shadow of war

"In March the Syrian conflict will enter its eleventh year with no obvious end in sight.

Before the war, almost all of Syria's children were enrolled in primary school, but today the country's school enrolment rates are among the lowest in the world. The lack of education and employment opportunities for young people risks creating a lost generation.

In many places, what were once schools are now refuges for those who have lost their homes. The fear of bombing has also left teachers in short supply. But thanks to the support of the European Union and people like you, Christian Aid is enabling community organisations to restore pockets of hope in the north-west region.

A local partner has set up four education centres there to provide young people with vital access to education, training and psychosocial support.

Many young people have already benefitted from these centres. What's more, the centres have continued to help during the coronavirus pandemic by shifting their services to online.

Unemployment is extremely high in Syria, and the disruption of being displaced during key school years means that young people are even more affected. Despite repeated displacement, Mahmoud managed to graduate from university in 2019, yet he



still found himself unemployed. To improve his prospects Mahmoud enrolled in four courses at the education centre: IT, project management, English and communication skills. His dedication and hard work stood out. He was awarded a three-month internship and later gained a job in a humanitarian organisation.

The education centres also help young people restore their confidence and make new friends. Even shifting activities online has helped prevent feelings of further isolation.

The education centres have helped many young people transform their lives in the shadow of war. And while the hard work is all their own, the support of people like you has helped to make it possible".

Christian Aid Magazine

#### IS THIS YEAR A TURNING POINT FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE?

As this pandemic has given us time to think more about climate justice what will we be doing this next year? The UK will be hosting the G7 and crucial UN climate talks. Climate justice needs to be at the heart of the decisions they make.

## BREAKUP OF LIVE COLLECTIVE WORSHIP ......

#### LEADS TO BREAKTHROUGH AT STEYNING PRIMARY SCHOOL

Since March last year, the Covid restrictions have meant that no visitors have been allowed into Steyning Church of England Primary School. Amongst the multitude of knock-on effects from this measure has been the suspension of our usual Collective Worship at the school on Thursdays. Until the Covid restrictions hit, this was going well with a full calendar of speakers from churches and other faiths visiting School to give addresses, showing YouTube clips and singing songs. Before the lockdown, the new addition of regular sessions from the Open the Book Team (OTB), led by Sarah Lavery and featuring Wendy Francis as the storyteller, had been greatly appreciated, and it was particularly sad to see this suspended.

But when God closes a door, He opens a window.

Since October last year, we have organised weekly broadcasts to be sent to Mrs Sue Harrison, headteacher, for distribution to staff, pupils and families.

These broadcasts, which can be viewed on Steyning Parish Church website under Messy Church (https://steyningparishchurch.org/messy/) mostly feature an address linked to hymns, carols and songs recorded in our church in October 2020. For these recordings, Brian Sawyer gathered some choir members while Neil Aiton organised the music group. These recordings are invaluable in that pupils are able to see a real live organist, hear our choir's excellent singing and enjoy our music group in a way that is not possible when assemblies are delivered in person at the school. To date, contributors to the broadcasts have included Fr Mark, Fr Stephen and Caroline Armitage from Steyning Parish Church, Revd Peter Butchers from the Baptist Church, Revd Ian Suttie from the Methodist Church, Revd Rob Dillingham and Bishop Ruth from Chichester Diocese. We have also had an excellent address from Mrs Pamela Hartog, filmed in Hove Progressive Synagogue, while Iman Idris from Worthing Mosque and Lohan Das from the Hindu faith (both regular contributors in the past) have agreed to speak later this year.

The jewel (or jewels) in the crown of the online broadcasts has been the two films directed by Canon Nigel Hartley. The first, 'Generous God', featured members of the OTB team acting out the Parable of the Vineyard, set in a real vineyard! The second, "The Baby Born in Bethlehem", took the place of the Crib Service, and apart from being shown to the entire school has had over 3,800 views. And finally, we're hoping that there may be a film made specially for Easter in 2018 by another St Cuthman's Church - watch this space!

It is noteworthy that not one single invitee has refused to help our school, and for this we express our heartfelt thanks. Also, the broadcasts could not have happened without the support of Tom Packer, a local expert in digital and print design, photography and video production, who filmed and recorded the hymns and songs, supported the various speakers, collated individual items and added subtitles. Thanks also to Bill Thomson who transformed the broadcasts onto YouTube, sent them to school for the weekly showing, and put them on the church website.

We plan to continue these online broadcasts for as long as the current restrictions are in place and are thankful that that they have brought our church closer to the school.

Malcolm Donaldson and John Downe Foundation Governors SPS

## STEYNING LOCAL HERITAGE LIST

Do you know your Steyning?

The town is famous for its large number of buildings on Historic England's statutory List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. The Church and Brotherhood Hall are examples. However it also has buildings and structures which are not nationally recognised but are integral to the character and history of the town. In the jargon, these are called "Non-Designated Heritage Assets". The Police Station (pictured) built in about 1859 is a good example.



Recent studies of the town for Conservation Management and the Neighbourhood Plan identified the need for recording such assets as a Local Heritage List. In addition, Government is encouraging local authorities and civic societies to compile such a list for their area.

Horsham's Senior Conservation Officer has confirmed that funding constraints mean that the work will need to be primarily undertaken by volunteers with his guidance. He has suggested the Steyning Society should set up a working party to do this and start preliminary work. He has provided the criteria for inclusion of buildings and structures on the Local List. The Steyning Society, together with the Museum, has agreed to undertake this work, in association with the Parish Council.

**We have started** and are inviting nominations for inclusion on the Local List. These cannot be on the Statutory List since they are excluded. You can check whether a building is statutorily protected by consulting the Historic England website for Steyning. https://historicengland.org.uk/sitesearch?searchType=site&search=steyning+west+sussex

**We would welcome ideas and suggestions**. Please contact me via email or phone. Tony Struthers, Secretary, The Steyning Society. <a href="mailto:tonystruthers@me.com">tonystruthers@me.com</a> or tel. 01903 814180

## **ALL GLORY, LAUD AND HONOUR**

All glory, laud and honour, To Thee, Redeemer, King, To Whom the lips of children Made sweet hosannas ring.

Thou didst accept their praises, Accept the prayers we bring, Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King. Just the chorus and the last verse of this beautiful Palm Sunday hymn. Originally written in Latin by St Theodulph of Orleans who died in 821, and translated to English by John Mason Neale (1818 - 1866).

#### **LAUGHTER LINES**



- Father John will be preaching at the 10am Holy Communion next Sunday, his last before moving to his new parish. Father James will be celebrating.
- Don't let worry kill you off let the Church help.



- Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.



• At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Hope you have enjoyed these - more next month.....

Do you have any examples of some unwitting mistakes that will make us smile? Please send them in to me.

## **SERIOUS LOCKDOWN ADVICE**

Everyone PLEASE be careful because people are going crazy from being locked down at home! I was just talking about this with the microwave and the toaster while drinking my Pepsi, and we all agreed that things are getting bad.

I didn't mention any of this to the washing machine, because she puts a different spin on EVERYTHING!!

Certainly couldn't share with the fridge, because he's been acting cold and distant!

In the end, the iron straightened me out! She said the situation isn't all that pressing and all the wrinkles will soon get ironed out!

The vacuum, however, was very unsympathetic...told me to just suck it up! But the fan was VERY optimistic and gave me hope that it will all blow over soon!

The toilet looked a bit flushed but didn't say anything when I asked its opinion, but the front door said I was becoming unhinged and the doorknob told me to get a grip!!

You can just about guess what the curtains told me: You guessed it.... they told me to "pull myself together!"

Facebook

#### **PICNIC TIME**

1 can of hotdogs ( there are usually 8 but depends on the brand)
Pack of hot dog rolls
1 onion
Oil
Condiments of your choice
Thermos flask
Tin foil



- 1. Heat pan with a tablespoon of oil. Slice and fry the onion until golden.
- 2. Put the onion into tin foil
- 3. Empty the contents of the hotdog tin into a pan and heat until cooked through
- 4. Boil a kettle and heat the Thermos flask
- 5. Empty the flask and pour in the hotdogs and the cooking liquid.
- 6. Slice the hotdog rolls and wrap in tinfoil
- 7. Pack up your cool bag to be warm, take some tongs or a fork with you and some napkins.
- 8. Enjoy on your walk outside in the cold.



## **CLIMATE CHANGE**

Climate change directly threatens the lives of millions of people. If your church is serious about loving people, it has to be serious about climate change.'

Dr Tim Gordon Marine biologist and Honorary Research Fellow, University of Exeter

## **OUR LIVES ARE A GIFT**

Healthcare workers are the antibodies to the virus of indifference. They remind us that our lives are a gift and we grow by giving of ourselves: not preserving ourselves but losing ourselves in service

Brian McLaren

## **MARCH HOLY WEEK THOUGHTS 28 - 31 MARCH**

I would like to meditate with you on the convergence of certain words and images as we progress through Holy Week together. Below are just a few thoughts that perhaps provide a focus for a time that you can set aside each day to move into God's presence. Afterwards take the word in bold with you into the day.

Palm Sunday This is the first day of Holy Week and I have written about this on Page9. The strong image that we can take forward from this Bible passage is that of the palm cross. If you have one hold it or place it (or a picture of one) within your relaxed line of vision and allow that to be where you gaze as if it were a window to an unseen God. Simply looking at the object of your gaze, without premeditative thought or meaning, can take you deep into an awareness of God if you can give it undisturbed time. The word that comes from this passage is **Hosanna!** As you leave your palm cross, end with the word Hosanna! and a short prayer of thanks.

**Monday** During this week we journey from the Hosanna! and wonderful jubilance of life through to pain in the face of unimaginable suffering. Some days finding wonder and joy are not easy as we seem to be looking injustice, suffering, death and loss in the face, but it is possible to feel more than one thing at a time. We need to be attentive to the glories of creation, to the shapes of nature, to the bird song or the antics of that naughty squirrel and especially to the fabulous signs of spring that are all around us. In the best of times, and in the worst of times, opening your soul to **wonder** will help you pray about your life, your amazing life, with hope. You may wish to have your **palm cross** or a sign of spring, and again find time and silence to open your heart to God as you did yesterday, ending with a prayer of thanks that we can wonder.

**Tuesday** Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Philippians 2 5-8 ESV. Here we are clearly told that Jesus emptied himself to be fully human and to have the fullest relationship with His father. He was humble with no inflated ego about himself. Francis of Assisi let go of his life of wealth to live among the poor. Gaining greater spirituality is not about performance or success but about **letting go** and discovering what is essential Gospel for our everyday lives. Take up your **palm cross** again and settle quietly for your time of letting go of distracting trappings and finding your identity with God. End with a prayer of thanks for your individual identity.

**Wednesday** On Sunday, Monday and Tuesday we have had the **palm cross** as our focus for quiet stillness. Today, regain this cross and your comfortable position for prayer, but focus on your breathing as a form of sending our **love** to those who need our prayers. With each inbreath focus on the needs of this person, and with each out-breath focus on whatever may help that person. Through this we will feel love for others; we will be taking care of ourselves and others; we will be praying our community. End with a prayer of thanks for love and peace.

#### HAVE YOUR SAY ON YOUR LOCAL WHOLE ESTATE PLAN

LUC (Land Use Consultants - <a href="https://landuse.co.uk">https://landuse.co.uk</a>) has been appointed to assess the process and development of Whole Estate Plans (WEPs) for the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA).

For further information about WEPs, please visit:

https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/planning-policy/whole-estate-plans/

To understand the impact the Steyning Estate plan has had on the people who live and work on (or near) the Estate, we are inviting you to take part in a short online survey. This will take no more than 5 - 10 minutes of your time.

The survey will run for 6 weeks from **Monday 8th February - Sunday 21st March**.

The communities local to Steyning are likely to have been consulted during the production of the plans and we would like to understand if and how you were included in the consultation, and how effective you felt this process was.

Your feedback on your experience will help us to assess the impact and challenges of the current process, and will inform any recommendations for future changes in approach.

We look forward to hearing your feedback.

To complete the survey, please visit the below website which will be live from

Monday 8th February - Sunday 21st March.

https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SDNPA\_WholeEstatePlan\_Evaluation

If you have any queries regarding this evaluation, please contact Verity Roberts:

Verity Roberts

Principal Landscape Manager, LUC

Verity.Roberts@landuse.co.uk

## THE STEYNING SOCIETY

From **Monday 15th March** we invite you to access the following talk via **www.steyningsociety.org.uk/talks** 



## "The History of the Palace Pier" by Jackie Marsh-Hobbs

Jackie is a well known Brighton Guide and authority on the Town. She has researched many sites in Brighton and has a happy knack of being entertaining with her knowledge. Jackie is a colourful local character and so we always have to book her up early!

The talk will be available to view until Sunday 11th April.

## **JUST FOR FUN**

#### WHO WERE THESE MOTHERS IN THE BIBLE?

- 1. Who was the mother of Jesus? (Matt 1:16)
- 2. Who was the mother of Cain and Abel? (Genesis4:1, 2)
- 3. Who was the mother of John the Baptist? (Luke 1:57—60)
- 4. Who was the mother of Isaac? (Genesis 21:3)
- 5. Who was the mother of Jacob and Esau? (Genesis25:21—26)
- 6. Who was the mother of Joseph and Benjamin? (Genesis 46:19)
- 7. Who was the mother of King Solomon? (2Samuel 12:24)
- 8. Who was the mother of Ishmael? (Genesis 16:15)
- 9. Who was the mother of Samuel? (1 Samuel 1:20)
- 10. Who was the mother-in-law of Ruth? (Ruth 1)

Answers 1. Mary 2. Eve 3. Elizabeth 4. Sarah 5. Rebekah 6. Rachel 7. Bathsheba 8. Hagar 9. Hannah 10. Naomi

## **FILL IN THE BLANKS**

1.	marks the start of	Holy Week.
2.	Jesus' triumphal entry into was on a	·
3.	As Jesus entered the city the crowd shouted "	
4.	To remember this day Christians will have a	·
5.	This day always falls on the Sunday of Lent.	
6.	There was a special Jewish festival called	at the time Jesus
ente	ered the city.	
	5. Sixth 6. The Passover	4. Palm Cross
	r Passion Sunday 2. Jerusalem on a donkey 3. Hosanna!	
	S IOWELLS	

## **ANAGRAM FOR MARCH**

The anagram for March is:

# pal m sunday



#### **REMEMBER:**

All words to have three or more letters, but only use each letter once NO capitalised words, and NO plurals

The SUNLAMP (my longest word) is giving me warmth, while this LAYMAN struggles to know if PSALM should have a capital letter.

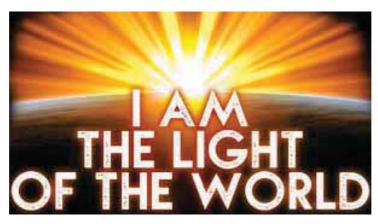
## I AMTHE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

On Wednesday 10 March the reading set for the day is John 8 verses 12-30, and starts off with those wonderful seven words, "I am the light of the world".

In the Old Testament we read that light was very important for worship, and it could be that four great lamps were lit in the Court of the Women. Light was familiar and powerful.

Here Jesus speaks of Himself as "the light of the world", and this was indeed a very bold claim. He was saying that he was sent by the Father to lead people out of darkness.

Light and darkness are very important parts of our worship today, and candles are used in all services in the Church of England. I know that I gain great comfort when I light a candle in church, usually in memory of a person I have loved. As I watch the candle burning I think of the smoke rising up to the heavens and carrying my prayers with it. At the same time I know that my candle is slowly dying. Jesus who is the light of the world was also, slowly, making his way towards Jerusalem and to His death.



#### INTO THE GARDEN.....

#### **IN MARCH**

It is now March and the garden and our green spaces are coming alive again. There is much to be done ..... but isn't that good.

You may not want to visit a garden centre, but many things for the garden can be bought on line. Why not try Summer bulbs this year? Ask for the spring catalogue from bulb specialists such as Bloms, de Jager, or Van Tubergen. There is a wonderful selection of Dahlias, Gladioli, Lilies etc and smaller bulbs such as Sparaxis, Tigridia, Mirabilis ideal for containers.

Here are a few garden tips for March.

- 1 Finish pruning Roses early in March.
- 2 Feed ericaceous shrubs such as Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Camellias and Pieris with an ericaceous fertiliser.
- 3 Coppice/cut Dogwoods, Willows, Cotinus right down to the base to promote vigorous new growth.
- 4 Apply a general purpose fertiliser (preferably organic) over flower beds and around roses, shrubs and hedges.
- 5 Start sowing hardy annuals outdoors including California Poppies, Candytuft, Nigella, Nasturtiums, Opium Poppies.
- 6 Plant spent forced bulbs, eg Hyacinths, Narcissus out in the garden for flowering next year.

I hope you can lose yourselves in the wonder of the garden and experience joy.

Robert Hill-Snook.

Welcome back, Robert, and we all look forward to your great help again this year.



## THANK YOU FOR THE SQUARES

As the New Year started, so did your deliveries to me of your knitted and crocheted squares. They are bright and cheerful and look wonderful. Tasmin has been able to parcel them up and send them off. Children in Africa will still need to be kept warm, so do please continue your sterling work - great crafting.

Want to join in? Phone Chris Fitton for details 816946





## **BRIMSTONE BUTTERFLY**

This winter lockdown has certainly felt harder because of the winter. Don't get me wrong, I've enjoyed the bleak beauty of winter: bare trees, frosted landscapes. But now I need something to get my heart racing. I need a sign – some hope in these challenging times, a promise of those dynamic spring months ahead, a flash of colour. In March my light at the end of the tunnel is an oncoming butterfly.



On sculpted, vibrant yellow wings the Brimstone butterfly makes his elegant entrance into the New Year on those bright March days when you feel the warmth of the sun on your face. Its distinctive yellow wings have given birth to a legend – that this 'butter-coloured fly' was the inspiration for the word butterfly. This claim may be a myth and it's also untrue that these March Brimstones are the first signs of the year's new life. By

the time Brimstones appear in March they are already on their last (six) legs. Fresh Brimstone butterflies emerged from their chrysalises in late summer, so by March they could be seven months old – and in butterfly years that's ancient. Admittedly almost all of that time they've been asleep in a hedge, sheltered from the storms under Holly and Ivy. Yet despite the worst winter weather they always emerge immaculate in the spring. They must be made of Teflon.

When they awake the (bright yellow) males search for a mate, they mate, the (pale yellow) females lay eggs and then both die. Still, an adult life of over ten months earns them the title of our longest-lived butterfly. An insect OAP.

My first Brimstone sighting each year doesn't exactly mean that spring is starting but it's certainly a sign that winter is starting to end. And, after the tough winter that we've all just suffered, that's good enough for me. Either way this beautiful yellow butterfly is a welcome messenger of what's to come – the first sulphurous spark to ignite the blaze of spring. Let's hope that with the spring comes hope for a brighter year for us all.

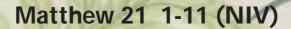


Sussex Wildlife Trust have started working with Horsham District Council on an innovative five-year partnership project called Wilder Horsham District. We'll be working closely with local communities and landowners to reverse the decline in species and habitats and enrich the natural environment for all residents and visitors. I'll keep you updated with opportunities for you to get involved and help the wildlife around Steyning and Ashurst.

sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/wilderhorshamdistrict

Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

#### PALM SUNDAY



Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"