

**MAY 2022**

**FREE**



**Church Magazine**  
**Steyning and Ashurst**

# Steyning Parish Church,

1 Vicarage Lane, Steyning BN44 3YL

**Vicar:** The Revd Mark Heather LLB BA

879877

[vicarofsteyning@gmail.com](mailto:vicarofsteyning@gmail.com) or [rectorofashurst@gmail.com](mailto:rectorofashurst@gmail.com)

**Ordinand in Training:** Caroline Armitage MA (Cantab.)

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## CHURCH SERVICES

### St Andrew's & St Cuthman's

Every Sunday

8:00am 1662 Holy Communion Service

9:30am Sung Eucharist

6:00pm Evening Service (Reflections Service on First Sunday, 1 May  
Choral Evensong on Third Sunday, 15 May)

### St James's

10:30am Second Sunday Family Service (8 May)

Fourth Sunday 1662 Holy Communion (22 May)

### Wednesdays at St Andrew's & St Cuthman's

11:30am Midweek Eucharist

### Sunday 1 May

6:00pm Reflections Service with the theme of "Welcome" (see poster page 4)

### Ascension Day Service Thursday 26 May

7:00pm at Steyning Parish Church

**A Rogation Service.** All are invited to a Churches Together Rogation Service at St Botolph's on Sunday 1 May at 6:00pm

## Parish Office Address:

Penfold Hall, Church Street,

Steyning BN44 3YB

Tel: 813276

[office@steyningparishchurch.org](mailto:office@steyningparishchurch.org)

[www.steyningparishchurch.org](http://www.steyningparishchurch.org)

Parish Administrator: Pat McMullan.

## PASTORAL LETTER



Dear Friends,

Lent has forty days – not counting Sundays. And forty days after Easter (counting Sundays) is the Feast of the Ascension, which is why the day always falls on a Thursday. We keep it then because of what is said in the introduction to the Acts of the Apostles:

‘Over a period of forty days, Jesus appeared to them, and taught them about the Kingdom’ (see Acts 1:3).

But then what happened? You will read our editor’s reflection about our Lord’s Ascension on page 6 of this magazine. To people of Jesus’ time, the story of his being taken bodily into heaven wouldn’t have seemed so strange. The Hebrew scriptures – our Old Testament – are full of similar stories. The people would remember the ladder or staircase that appeared in Jacob’s dream (Genesis 28:10 -17). The angels of God were moving up and down it and God himself appeared – either on the ladder itself or having descended to the bottom, depending your interpretation of the Hebrew. And they would recall Elisha watching Elijah being taken up to heaven in a fiery chariot (2 Kings 2:1-12). Objects sometimes appeared from there too, such as when, at the River Kebar, the prophet Ezekiel saw the Glory of God appearing in the heavens in another mysterious chariot (see Ezekiel 1:4 -15, 26 - 28).

I agree with our editor that, with our knowledge of science and the solar system, ancient ways of thinking about heaven don’t make much sense now, but another parallel might be helpful. I am thinking of how, ever since C S Lewis wrote about the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, the idea of parallel universes has appeared in many books and films, most of which have doors opening up between one dimension and another. But perhaps that still misses the point. The essential truth of the Ascension is how heaven and earth can come very close to each other. The story is less about Jesus needing to sit at the right-hand of God and reigning in majesty (not that this is unimportant) and more about him being everywhere, and therefore ever close to each of us. As close to us we are to ourselves – indeed even closer. (See Hebrews 4:14 -16.)

*fr Mark*

## FROM THE EDITOR:

Our thoughts continue to be with Ukraine and their wish that Christians around the world come together to pray for them. Our prayers will have a real effect on their mental and spiritual health. Please also remember the Russians who are caught up in the war and especially those who have lost their loved ones and all those who do not wish the war to happen.

The picture this month is a painting from the "Jesus Mafa" project of Cameroon. This project was set up in 1970 by a French Catholic missionary, François Vidil, who worked with Mafa Christian communities in Cameroon to create a catalogue of paintings depicting the life of Jesus as an African man.

Please continue to send your contributions: [steyningchurchmag@gmail.com](mailto:steyningchurchmag@gmail.com)

*Thank you .*



## PARISH REGISTERS

### INTERMENT OF ASHES (STEYNING CHURCHYARD)

Graham BLEACH     29 March 2022  
died 7 March 2022

### MEMORIAL SERVICE (AT ST JAMES'S)

Brendan Joseph Michael RYAN     11 April 2022  
died 20 March 2022

## SUNDAY BULLETIN

The weekly Sunday bulletin sent from the Parish Office gives all the information about services, news and 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](mailto:office@steyningparishchurch.org) or ring 01903 813276

To add any new prayer requests please contact:  
[prayers@steyningparishchurch.org](mailto:prayers@steyningparishchurch.org) or ring 01903 813276



## PRAYER DIARY FOR MAY

**Sunday 1 May      The Third Sunday of Easter**

**Monday 2 May      Philip and James, Apostles**

Almighty Father, whom truly to know is eternal life: teach us to know your Son Jesus Christ as the way, the truth, and the life; that we may follow the steps of your holy apostles Philip and James, and walk steadfastly in the way that leads to your glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Sunday 8 May      The Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**Saturday 14 May    Matthias the Apostle**

Almighty God, who in the place of the traitor Judas chose your faithful servant Matthias to be of the number of the Twelve: preserve your church from false apostles and, by the ministry of faithful pastors and teachers, keep us steadfast in your truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Sunday 15 May      The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**Sunday 22 May      The Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Monday 23, Tuesday 24, Wednesday 25 May    Rogation Days**

**Thursday 26 May    Ascension Day**

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens, so we in heart and mind may also ascend and with him continually dwell; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Sunday 29 May      The Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**Tuesday 31 May      The Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth**

Mighty God, by whose grace Elizabeth rejoiced with Mary and greeted her as the mother of the Lord: look with favour on your lowly servants that, with Mary, we may magnify your holy name and rejoice to acclaim her Son our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.



## THE ASCENSION

Archdeacon Hugh (Page 8) has written about the time of 40 days between the resurrection and the ascension. We all will remember Easter and the resurrection, and will know the importance of that to our faith. Do we remember the ascension? How much do we consider this event as being important to our faith? How important was this event to the work of Christ?

When Jesus finally ascended to His Father he made it a memorable event for the disciples – he didn't just vanish out of sight as he had at other times since his resurrection. On the road to Emmaus he appeared, and walked with the disciples, and then vanished. At the ascension Jesus literally rose up into the clouds and disappeared into the heavens. Why did he do it that way? We can only speculate. Since then He has been our mediator, our advocate working for people across the globe.

*"He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty, from where he will return to judge the living and the dead."*

When we say the Creed we state that we believe in the ascended Christ and that He sits at the right hand of God, and so this then makes it an important part of our lives and how we live our lives. Most importantly, I believe that He is there to be a loving and personal friend and guide with whom I can communicate and if I am open to listening, He will communicate with me. Because Jesus sits with God, I am therefore assured of the love and forgiveness of God. Jesus intercedes for us, so God truly knows our hopes and fears, our foolishnesses and flaws, and it does not matter because we are unconditionally loved. We are never out of His sight or out of His mind, and it is through grace that we can live in that love.

I wonder what you think about when there is talk of heaven? There is no right or wrong answer, but I will try to explain my thoughts.

For heaven, I was taught to point upwards, and as a child thought for a long time it was probably several million miles away, and Jesus went to some distant planet. I

still find our solar system incomprehensible, but it was listening to a priest talking to my school children in assembly that moved my thinking on. He spoke about his horse that had just died and had gone to heaven, and as he said "heaven" he moved his hand to the side, and not upwards, and spoke to the children of heaven as really close. I believe that the invisible spiritual kingdom surrounds us on every side and is not very far away. Jesus ascended into a different dimension, but is never far away, nor is therefore the throne of God and His greatness. He is with us.

I was deeply moved by the letter written by the Chaplain to St Andrew's, Moscow, (a sister St Andrew's Church) and this can be found on Page 10. Here in the midst of all that is going on in Russia and the Ukraine, he writes that Jesus' mission here on earth is one of forgiveness, redemption, love and new creation. Through these alone God will find power – not through military might and political power, but in selfless love and grace. We are to be His witnesses.

We long for the world to be put right, but it is not for us to know when things will finally come right, but in the meantime our work and purpose here must be done with prayer and waiting and more prayer.

*Chris Fitton*



## TIP OF THE MONTH

If you are thinking of planting a tree to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee look up the website:

<https://queensgreencanopy.org/>

*The Queen's Green Canopy* (QGC) is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 which invites people from across the United Kingdom to "**Plant a Tree for the Jubilee**".

*The Queen's Green Canopy* site will give you all the information on where to purchase, when to plant, how to plant and then protect and care for your tree. You can also add your tree to the Queen's Green Canopy map of our country.

## LIFE BEGINS ...?

By the time you read this we should have been through Lent and the great Festival holiday of Easter and be well into what used to be called the Great Forty Days, from Easter to Ascension Day; this is the time when the Bible tells us the Risen Jesus was with his disciples, no doubt trying to get into their thick heads some idea of who he was and what he had done. (see Luke ch.24 v. 24).

It's very easy to treat spring time as the end of winter and Eastertide as the end of Lent and relax with thinking, if not saying, "well that's over"! We've done our 40 days and now we can relax a bit and go back to "normal" .... at last.

### **BUT**

Have you noticed?

That number - 40 - seems to crop up all over the place. Paul says he received "40 stripes save one", because the Roman penal code thought 40 strokes would mean you were dead and gone.

Moses was 40 before God called him, he was 40 days up the mountain with God (collecting the Commandments), and so was Elijah centuries later. Jesus was 40 days in the desert before he started his work, there were 40 years between his crucifixion and the destruction of Jerusalem, and so it goes on to our own time, you see how many 40's you can find in the Bible that I haven't mentioned here..

When Jesus is born we keep 40 days from Christmas to Candlemas, (the Presentation in the Temple), then 40 days of Lent before his work begins, then the Great 40 days from Easter to Ascension Day where we are now.

When I was a lad I seem to remember being told that in history a generation was 40 years, and then the next one takes over.

I go back to where I began and remind myself that all these periods of 40 - days or weeks or years – are not just the end of a period of time but the BEGINNING of a new one.

I really must not think about Easter as the end of Lent but as the start of a new life ..... or, to coin a phrase

**Life BEGINS at 40**

**Don't stop now**

*Archdeacon Hugh Glaysier*



## PAUSE AND PRAY FOR UKRAINE AND PEACE



Those who receive the Sunday bulletin will have the prayer for Ukraine from the archbishops. Please use this, and here are some other thoughts that may help.

Lord we ask for peace for those who need peace, reconciliation for those who need reconciliation and comfort for all who don't know what tomorrow will bring. Lord may your Kingdom come, and Your will be done.

God, we pray for all churches of St Andrew, that we and they may walk in a manner worthy of the calling You have given us. Help us all in our interactions with one another to have humble and gentle hearts. Grant patience for one another, bearing with one another in love.

**We pray** that people still in Ukraine will be protected from the violence; that there will be provision of essential food and clean water; for vulnerable people who cannot flee. That refugees will find safe places to stay. For healing for people who are wounded or have experienced trauma; and comfort for those who are grieving. We pray that international leaders will know wisdom and understanding, strength, courage and compassion.

### **Ukrainian citizens ask that we pray:**

- That God would intervene in the situation and stop the violence
- For God's wisdom for the presidents and authorities of both countries
- That God will care for those who are in danger, especially for Ukrainian people who lost their beloved ones, for His comfort and protection over them and the church

### **Please also pray for Russia:**

- That God will comfort Russian families who have lost their beloved ones

God creator of all,  
For people who are displaced,  
may they find a safe refuge.  
For people who have lost control of  
their lives,  
may they know a sure foundation.

For people who live in fear,  
may they be given a strong fortress.  
For people who are disillusioned,  
may they have hope in a future.  
Loving father in times of crisis, sorrow  
and uncertainty  
we ask that you draw near.

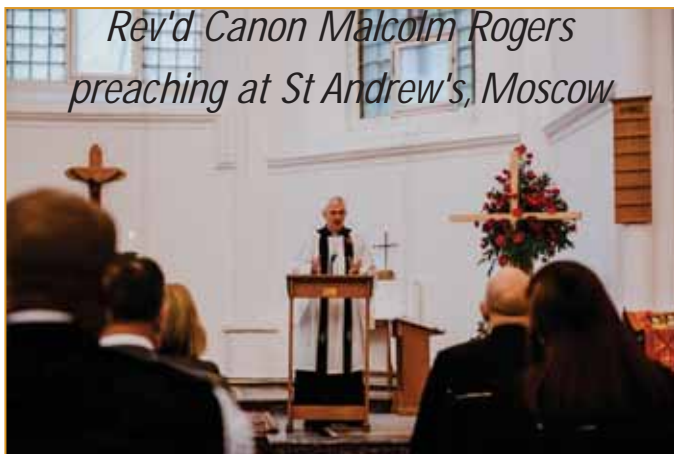
## FROM THE CHAPLAIN OF ST ANDREW'S, MOSCOW

### USPG April 2022 Newsletter:

"St Andrew's Anglican Church in Moscow is situated only ten minutes walk from the Kremlin, the physical and geographical centre of power. The Ministries of Education, Culture and Defence are near neighbours. We are in the centre of power and yet we are powerless.

Today, as many of our dear friends have left Russia, and as we nervously wonder whether or when we should leave, we are even more conscious of our powerlessness.

Conflict was predicted and we were helpless, unable to do anything to prevent it. Now that 'special military operations', as they are called here, have begun, there is nothing that we can do to stop them.



But it is precisely our powerlessness which means that there are things that we can do. We are gospel people, who serve a crucified but risen Lord. We are the 'nobodies' of 1 Corinthians 1, and it is our very powerlessness and insignificance and foolishness that can also be our strength, if it is handed to God.

First of all, we are simply here. We are a community of very messed - up people, but as we gather together to hear the Word of God and to receive bread and wine, a community of Russians and foreigners gathered together, centred on and receiving from Jesus Christ, our simple presence can be a witness of what the world can be like, of the future kingdom.

Secondly, in our powerlessness, we can worship and pray. We pray for peace. That is far more than just praying for the absence of war. We praise God for the coming Kingdom, for the hope he has given us. I am struck that in both Mary's song and Zechariah's song we praise God for what we hope will happen, as if it already has happened; and we cry out for God, as we pray and long for the coming of God's Kingdom. We pray for the time when there will be no more 'fake news', lies, betrayals or violence, and no more fear and death. And it is our very powerlessness which opens to us our dependence on God and on him doing wonderful

works.

Thirdly, we can still speak truth. There are some things that we cannot say in Moscow, but we can still preach Jesus Christ crucified and risen and reigning. We can call people to repentance and offer people hope. In my 30 plus years of ministry, I have never known a time and a place when people are more hungering for God.

And fourthly we can love and serve our neighbour. We read the news and feel powerless. Most of us are in no position to solve world problems or to bring peace. The job advert when I applied to come to Moscow said that the person appointed could make a difference for world peace. On those grounds I have been a spectacular failure! But we can make a difference where we are, and love the actual physical neighbours who God has given us. For some, the neighbours are Ukrainian refugees. Yesterday I heard from the woman who I ran our college Christian Union with. Since leaving university, she has been working with Polish Christians, witnessing, and serving mainly among addicts and street women. She wrote of how her team met a family of homeless Ukrainian refugees and they are now living in her flat. There are many stories like that. Our neighbours at St Andrew's in Moscow are different. They are the young Russian crushed by what has been done in his name; the mother sick with anxiety for her son who has been sent to Ukraine, the foreign student unsure whether to leave or how to leave, the person who has been named on the wrong sort of list, the older person who fears a return to the isolation and economic depression of the 80s. In our hubris we think that we are somebodies who can save the world - and we end up paralysed. But it is when we realise our powerlessness, that in the worlds eyes we are 'nobodies', that we can begin to see the neighbour who God has given us and learn to serve them

Pray for us, for courage and wisdom and perseverance in faith and love. And we will pray for you.

*Rev'd Canon Malcolm Rogers, Chaplain of St Andrews, Moscow  
The Archbishop of Canterbury's Representative to the Patriarch of Moscow and  
all Russia  
Area Dean of Russia and Ukraine*

**SATURDAY 14 MAY**

**PENFOLD HALL 10AM - 12 NOON**

We will be hosting a Christian Aid coffee morning in the Penfold Hall on Saturday 14 May. The doors will open promptly at 10am.

We will be serving real coffee, tea or squash. There will also be homemade cakes, homemade biscuits and homemade savouries.

There will probably also be plants for sale, so bring along a bag and some cash for a great morning out.

Please join us and enjoy contributing to Christian Aid in this sociable and friendly way.

If you would like to cook something delicious for us to sell please contact me for further information.

*Elizabeth Brown 01903 817144 or contact me through the Parish Office.*



## STEYNING LOCAL HERITAGE LIST



The Steyning Society are celebrating the history and heritage of Steyning with a Local Heritage List.



We are doing this in association with the District and Parish Councils. The list comprises buildings and structures which are not nationally recognised but are integral to the character and history of the town.

The list can be consulted at Steyning Parish Office, at

Steyning Library or online at: <https://steyningsociety.org.uk/blog/>

Comments and additions are welcome. Following the consultation the list will be finalised for submission to Horsham DC for eventual adoption by the District Council as the local planning authority.

*Tony Struthers, Secretary, The Steyning Society*  
[tonystruthers@me.com](mailto:tonystruthers@me.com)



## APRIL SUNSHINE AND FLOWERS



## COMMUNITY

### C O F F E

### Charity donation

We are delighted to report that our weekly Wednesday Coffee has become so popular that donations made by our visitors have already accumulated sufficiently to be able to make another donation to a local charity.

We have donated £50 to Turning Tides, which, many readers will know, works with homeless people in Worthing, Littlehampton and the districts of Mid-Sussex and Horsham. They were very busy here in Steyning following the end of the 'Everyone in' initiative during the pandemic.

Turning Tides currently run 39 different projects across West Sussex. They help individuals with many different backgrounds and needs from their frontline keyworkers through to their support services to the many people who have nowhere to call home.

Do come and join us between 10 and 11.30am in the Penfold Hall on a Wednesday morning. We make real coffee, brew tasty mugs of tea, offer delicious biscuits and of course conversation. All for a donation if you wish to contribute.

### THE PENFOLD HALL.

The doors are open from **10am until 11.30am**  
every **Wednesday morning**.

*Elizabeth Brown and the Coffee Team*



## SAINT OF THE MONTH

### WILLIAM OF ROCHESTER (ALSO OF PERTH) (1170-1201)

#### PILGRIM AND MARTYR

William was born in Perth about 1170 and was a baker by trade. As a young man he experienced a conversion and devoted himself to the care of orphans and the poor. Every tenth loaf he baked was set aside to be given to the poor.

One day, on his way to Mass, he found a child abandoned at the door of the church. He adopted the boy and taught him his trade. He had made a vow to go on pilgrimage to the Holy Places and he set off in 1201 with his adopted son as his companion. They reached Rochester and were due to set out the next day for Canterbury but his adopted son led William on a supposed short cut and felled him with a blow to the head and slit his throat in order to rob him.

William's body was discovered by a mad woman who plaited a garland of honeysuckle and placed it first on the body of the corpse and then on her own head whereupon the madness left her. On hearing her story the monks at the cathedral carried his body into the cathedral and buried it with full ceremonial because William was considered to be a martyr given that he was on an avowed pilgrimage.

As a result of the miracle of the mad woman and others wrought by his intercession after death, William was recognised as a saint and, in 1256, the Bishop of Rochester successfully petitioned for his canonisation. A chapel was built at the site of the murder and its ruins can still be seen today near to St William's Hospital (almshouses) in Rochester.

William was also venerated in his home town of Perth where his shrine became the most visited pilgrim site in Scotland. His Feast Day is 23 May and he is recognised as the patron saint of adopted children.



Stained glass window in Rochester Cathedral, late 19th Century.

## SAMS



**St Andrews Men's Society** is a meeting of a group of male members of Steyning Parish Church and guests.

We meet bi-monthly, beginning with a glass or two of wine and nibbles. Then we enjoy a talk given by one of our members or perhaps an outside speaker.

Our next meeting: **"My boarding school experiences in the Forties"**

By Alastair McKechnie

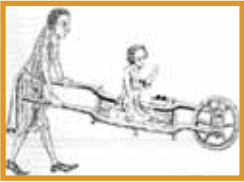
Date: **Tuesday 10 May Doors open at 3:45 for 4:00 start**

Where: **Penfold Hall**

Please note the change of time to late afternoon in the hope that more men are free to come along then and be among friends and be inspired by our speakers

Any enquiries please to Leonard Warner (01903 812752)

## THE STEYNING SOCIETY



**Friday 20 May**  
**7.00pm for 7.30pm at**  
**The Steyning Centre**

We are hosting:

**Steyning for Trees first Annual Talk**  
**Wildlife Corridors**  
**by Sir Charles Burrell**  
**of Knepp Castle Estate**

Knepp Wildland has received major awards for Nature and for a special contribution to rural environment within the EU

**Please note that this is a ticketed event**, free to members of The Steyning Society and £3 for guests.

Tickets: from The Steyning Bookshop from early May.

Wine and fruit juice will be available on entry and monetary donations will be welcomed!

## THE ARTS SOCIETY

**Samuel Courtauld and His**  
**Collection by Natalia Murray**  
**Monday 9 May 2022**

One of the finest collections of Impressionism anywhere in the world was assembled by the English industrialist and philanthropist Samuel Courtauld (1876-1947) who established The Courtauld Institute and Gallery in London. This lecture will explore Courtauld's collection and his role in promoting Impressionism in the United Kingdom.

The Steyning Centre, Fletchers Croft,  
BN44 3XZ

**10:00am - 12:00.**

Free to members, £10 donation for visitors.

[steyning@theartssociety.org](mailto:steyning@theartssociety.org)

[www.theartssocietysteyning.org.uk](http://www.theartssocietysteyning.org.uk)

## DISCOVER STEYNING'S SOCIAL HISTORY

Friends of Steyning Parish Church with Steyning Museum bring you:

**Graveyard Gossips:** launch of an exciting new app, Wednesday 1 June 2022

Take an audio tour and hear the fascinating stories of some of the people buried in the churchyard of Steyning Parish Church.

Booking for the tours is through the Steyning Festival website. Tours are self-guided and typically take 30 minutes.

The Friends of Steyning Parish Church, in collaboration with the Steyning Museum, are launching a brand new app as part of the 2022 Steyning Festival.



The Friends of  
Steyning  
Parish Church

The app reveals the fascinating stories of some of the people buried in the Churchyard of St Andrew's and St Cuthman's. All you will need is a smartphone.

This local social history has been painstakingly studied by a researcher from Steyning Museum, Lois Roemer, who has scrutinised the lives of the 1300 or so inhabitants of the Parish Churchyard.

The new app provides an audio tour so you can hear about the lives of around 24 former Steyning residents. Some famous and infamous characters are revealed, for example, the smuggler, the card-playing vicar, the suffragette and the soldier. Technical support to create the app has been generously provided by Nick Quinn, who came up with the idea of providing the stories on an app, and who also volunteers for the Museum.

The project to understand how former Steyning residents lived began in about 2016 with Lois Roemer and Lesley Slater. And what began as a casual interest quickly grew into a major focus as they became engrossed in the trials and tribulations of former Steyning residents. Lois and Lesley wanted to share the local stories with the community and so the 'Graveyard Gossips' leaflets were born. Lois took care of the historical research, and Lesley Slater brought her excellent technical knowledge to bear and devised the layout for the leaflets, took photos



and thought up the title.

Visitors to the churchyard seemed to love the stories, so the team have carried on. The stories of 21 people have been written up over the last six years which have been published and distributed free of charge by the Friends of Steyning Parish Church.



The team explains: "History is all around us in Steyning and we believe this project helps to bring the vibrant social history of our community alive. You'll be able to take a trip back in time and glimpse into the lives of Steyning's former residents to discover the aspirations and fears of those who lived here many decades, or even hundreds of years, ago."

The tours are suitable for all ages. The app is entirely the work of local volunteers for the community of Steyning. There is no charge, although donations will be welcome. A written transcript of the audio tour will be available at the Museum for use during the tour.



The app is created using Echoes technology.

**For further information and to book your tour:**  
[www.steyningfestival.co.uk](http://www.steyningfestival.co.uk)

**About the Friends of Steyning Parish Church:** a group of volunteers who work to involve the general community in using and appreciating the Church. The Friends also seek to raise money to preserve and beautify this magnificent Norman building, the most important Romanesque Church in Sussex. The Friends is a secular organization and welcomes members including those who are not of any religion.

<https://steyningparishchurch.org/friends/>

**About Steyning Museum:** an independent museum, run entirely by volunteers from the community and is open Wednesday - Sunday 10am to 4pm. Admission is free.

<http://www.steyningmuseum.org.uk/home.htm>



## THE STEYNING FESTIVAL IS BACK!

**Friday 27 May – Sunday 5 June**

There is a huge number of events – too many to list here – so have a look at

[www.steyningfestival.co.uk](http://www.steyningfestival.co.uk)

for all information to plan and book your tickets for ten days of festival fun.

Here are some events taking place in the church which you might be interested in:

**Saturday 28 May, 4.00pm.**

Our own Brian Sawyer plays a Concert of Organ Music by J.S.Bach

**Sunday 29 May, 8.00pm.**

Words and Pictures. Frank Cottrell Boyce in Conversation with Julia Donaldson

**Monday 30 May, 7.30pm.**

The Chanctonbury Chorus present "Light fantastic", a selection of choral music to bring us out of the darkness.

**Tuesday 31 May, 7.30pm.**

Lethal Secrets: A Crime Writers' Panel with Paula Hawkins, William Shaw and Harriet Tyce

**Wednesday 1 June, 2.00- 5.00pm.**

Gossips in the Graveyard (See P16 and 17 for all the details about this)

**Wednesday 1 June, 5.00pm.**

Drawn to Nature: Gilbert White and the Artists – an illustrated talk by Simon Martin, Director of the Pallant House

**Thursday 2 June, 5.00pm.**

Justin Webb – The Gift of Radio. Join well-loved BBC radio presenter Justin Webb as he discusses his candid and moving memoir and life as a broadcaster and journalist.

**Saturday 4 June, 4.00pm.**

Brian Sawyer brings us an Organ Extravaganza!

**Sunday 5 June, 10.30am.**

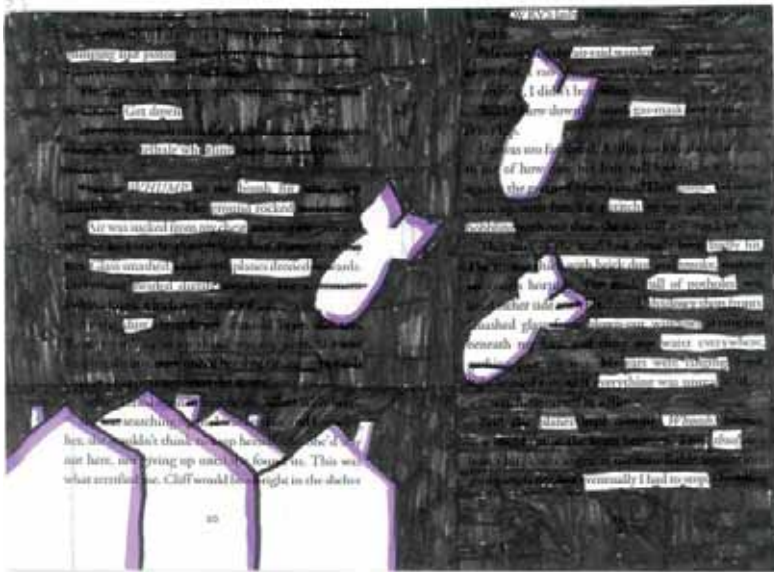
This is Whit Sunday, the Feast of Pentecost, and we thank God for the life and dedication of Her Majesty the Queen on the occasion of her Platinum Jubilee.


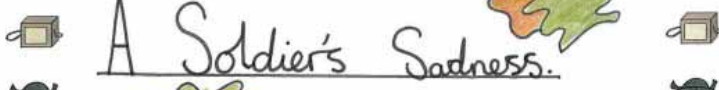
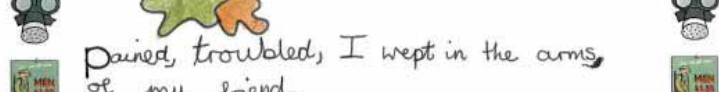
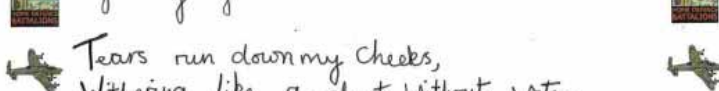
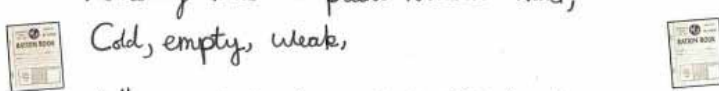
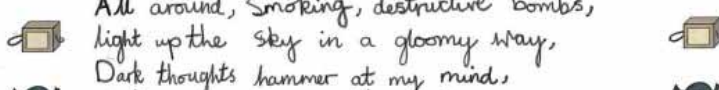
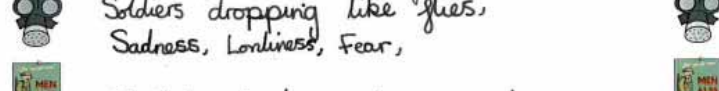
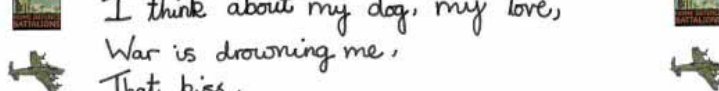
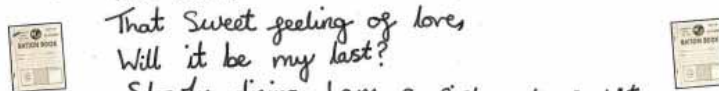
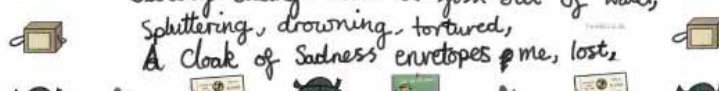
Join us in this celebration and then on to the fun of **The Queen's Platinum**

**Jubilee Street Party which starts at 12.00 noon.**



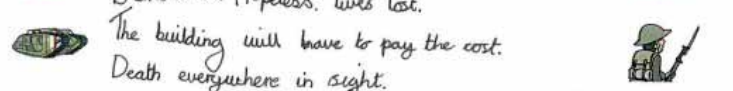
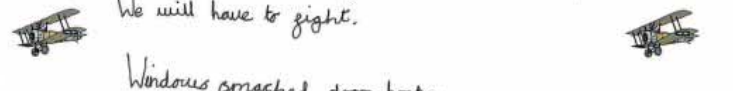
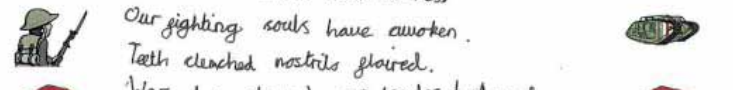
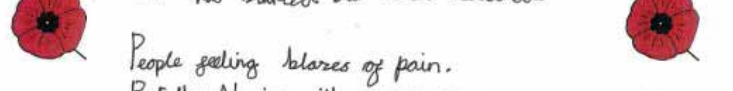
# STEYNING PRIMARY SCHOOL

Here is the second set of Year 6 work from Steyning Primary School, about WW2. Thank you to everyone for sharing your thoughts and feeling with us.



  
A Soldier's Sadness.  
  
 Pained, troubled, I wept in the arms  
 of my friend,  
  
 Tears run down my cheeks,  
 Withering like a plant without water,  
  
 Cold, empty, weak,  
  
 All around, Smoking, destructive bombs,  
 light up the sky in a gloomy way,  
  
 Dark thoughts hammer at my mind,  
 Soldiers dropping like flies,  
 Sadness, Lonliness, Fear,  
  
 I think about my dog, my love,  
 War is drowning me,  
  
 That kiss,  
 That Sweet feeling of love,  
 Will it be my last?  
  
 Slowly dying I am a fish out of water,  
 Spluttering, drowning, tortured,  
 A cloak of Sadness envelopes me, lost,  
  
 Heart broken, Terrified, Tormented.

By Isla

  
**SAYING  
 GOODBYE!!!**  
  
 Demolished. Hopeless. lives lost.  
 The building will have to pay the cost.  
 Death everywhere in sight.  
 We will have to fight.  
  
 Windows smashed doors broken,  
 Our fighting souls have awoken.  
 Teeth clenched nostrils flaired.  
 War has started. our leader declared.  
  
 People feeling blazes of pain.  
 But the Nazis will not fall away  
 Hearts broken and insides dying.  
 All the spiffies are dying.  
  
 Scared. Nervous. Alone.  
 Minute by minute I feel like I'm forgetting my home.  
 Saying goodbye is like torches.  
 It is my time to be a warrior.  
  
 by ollie.





### Reunited

Warm, happy hearts beat joyfully.  
 Faces filled with dancing smiles.  
 The war that separated them was like a fish out of water  
 Relief, return, relish,

Smiling, joyous faces shine lovingly.  
 Hearts bouncing with affection.  
 Safely together like birds in a nest.  
 Relief, return, relish.

Tubulent, joyous faces look delightedly.  
 Salty tears run happily.  
 Two lost souls reunited like two rings.  
 Relief, return, relish,

by Isla and Martha.



### The hopeless war

The cold, wet mud mud.  
 Gunshots flood my ears.  
 The dust filling the dirty air.  
 Soldiers laying helplessly on the floor.  
 I can taste the dry blood from the remains  
 of soldiers who are now dead.  
 I can feel Confidence, fear, anxiety.

I can feel the dirt viciously hitting  
 my face.  
 The serious planes dropping deadly bombs  
 along the battle field.  
 The dark red iron smelling blood from  
 the finished soldiers.  
 As I swallow the mass amount dust  
 of dust filling my mouth of blood.  
 Petrified, shocked, hopeless.

By Oscar



### The Crying Soldier

The suffering, traumatised soldier cries endlessly.  
 The salty tears sprint down his cheek.  
 His misery is a dagger to the heart.  
 Hopeless, guilty, agony.

The homesick, exhausted man lay desperately.  
 A wave of despair crept over my depressed body.  
 His face sadden like a rainforest.  
 Hopeless, guilty, agony.

The devastated, melancholy man sits, sadly.  
 Upon the ground, the sadness runs away.  
 Depression fills his mind.  
 Hopeless, guilty, agony.

By Alex and Dexter.

### The Soldier.

Cold, metal grenade.  
 Gunpower.  
 Metallic blood.  
 The dead bodies lying around.  
 The sounds of people dying.  
 Fear. Confidence. Anxiety.

Cold, metal trigger.  
 Blood running down my face.  
 Salty sweat dripping.  
 Friends being shot.  
 The explosions pierced my ears.  
 Pain. Guilt. Fear.

The cold, rusty trigger.  
 Dust filling the air.  
 Salty tears in my mouth.  
 Bodies on the ground.  
 Gun shots flooding my ears.  
 Breathless. Proud. Frustrated.

By Evan.





## DIETRICH BONHOEFFER – SAINT OR ASSASSIN?

Blessed are the peacemakers ... But can you be a peacemaker and be engaged in a plot to kill the head of your government? Facing the awful Nazi dictatorship, that was the question which Dietrich Bonhoeffer ultimately faced.

As we remember VE (Victory in Europe Day) on May 8<sup>th</sup> this year, it is salutary to remember Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-45) who was executed by the Nazis in the closing days of World War II.

Growing up in a nominally Lutheran household, with his father a well-known professor of psychiatry, it was thus not a surprising decision for Bonhoeffer to study theology and be ordained as a Lutheran pastor.

As a young man, he was pastor of the German congregation in Sydenham, London and reflected on the early days of the Nazi



regime from outside. It was at this point he got to know his friend George Bell, later Bishop of Chichester. He was impressed by Karl Barth, the Swiss theologian, and was an early adherent of the Confessing Church – the church opposition to Hitler. But this was not enough for Bonhoeffer. In 1934 he tried to get the worldwide ecumenical movement to declare a Peace Council. He thought of going to India to study Gandhi's methods. He ran an illegal underground seminary to train pastors loyal to the Confessing Church. When it got too dangerous for him, friends arranged for Bonhoeffer to return to live in New York (1939) where he had earlier been a student, but he could not settle there. He thought that unless he shared in the suffering of his people, he would not have the right to participate in building the post-war peace.

After his return to Germany, he got a job in counter-intelligence in the military, but all the time, his real aim was to support a plot to overthrow Hitler. The plot was, of course, highly secret, so he wrote little directly about it. That would have been too dangerous. He visited Bishop Bell clandestinely and at great risk during the war to pass on messages from the German resistance.

He was arrested in 1943. On 20 July 1944, the conspirators made a final attempt to kill Hitler. It failed and as a result hundreds of political prisoners were murdered in revenge.

Bonhoeffer is best known as a person of deep principle. His mature theology has also been widely read, particularly Letters & Papers from Prison, with his thoughts on the "church without privileges" and a "world come of age".

### Suggested Reading

**Dietrich Bonhoeffer: A Biography**, Eberhard Bethge, London: Collins 1970

**The Cost of Discipleship** London: SCM 1959

**Letter & Papers from Prison** London: SCM 1973

<https://www.westminster-abbey.org/abbey-commemorations/commemorations/dietrich-bonhoeffer>

*Roger Williamson*

## THE HISTORY SOCIETY

**WEDNESDAY, 11 MAY 2022**

STEYNING CENTRE, SAXON ROOM

7.30 p.m. for a 7.45 p.m. start



# "HISTORY OF THE PANAMA CANAL"

presented by **John Cutting**

**PRECEDED BY A SHORT A.G.M.**

Visitors to the talk are welcome - £4.00

## PLANTS FROM A MONASTERY GARDEN

### Mary Plants

The Mother of Christ, Mary, was honoured by having a number of plants named after her.

Woodruff was named Our Lady's Lace; Cowslips, Our Lady's Keys; Foxgloves, Our Lady's Gloves. The shy violet took the name Our Lady's Modesty and the wild Clematis was known as Our Lady's Bower. Alchemilla Mollis is known as Our Lady's Mantle.

Because white was regarded as a symbol of purity, flowers of that colour were attributed to the Virgin Mary. Lily of the Valley, for example, was named Our Lady's Tears.

It was believed that the true Marian plants, thyme and pennyroyal were added to the hay by the shepherds to perfume Christ's birthplace in the stable.



Pennyroyal

### Garden Tips for May

1. Divide Primula (Primroses) after flowering, planting them in a nursery bed until they are ready for planting out again in the Autumn for flowering the following year.
2. Divide Hostas as they come into growth.
3. Lift and divide crowded clumps of daffodils after flowering.
4. Apply a liquid fertilizer to spring bulbs after flowering to encourage good flowering next year. It helps to avoid daffodil blindness.
5. Pot on plants showing signs of being root bound.
6. Inspect Lilies for red beetles. Remove them by hand. Larvae can strip plants in days.

Enjoy your garden. The garden and gardening can offer solace and inspiration in times of anxiety and a chance to work through one's problems.

*Robert Hill Snook*



Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30

# 'What on Earth is God Doing?'



**Eddie Arthur Mth, PhD**

We are delighted to welcome Eddie Arthur, board member for Global Connections and Wycliffe Bible Translator for more than 30 years. Eddie explores some of the questions and myths that surround the question 'What on Earth is God doing?'. He provokes our thinking about the realities of today's world and challenges us to a meaningful response.

**Do join us on Friday 6th May at 7.30**

St. Mary's Parish Church, Petworth, GU28 0AD



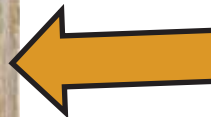
Free Entry. Wine and Canapés.



Free Parking in Town Centre (6 minute walk)

[www.petworthareachurchestogether.com](http://www.petworthareachurchestogether.com)

## FROM THE DIOCESAN LENT COURSE

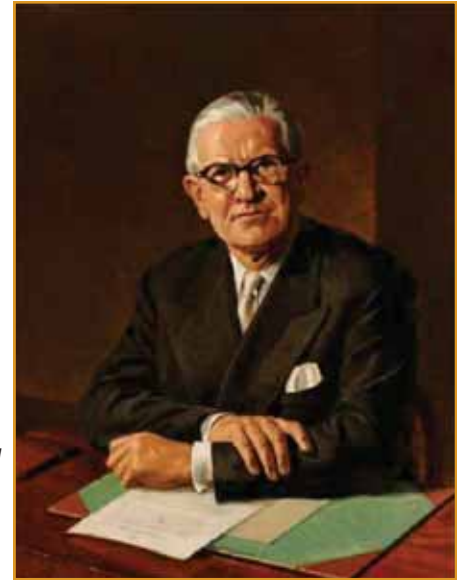


An enlargement of the Ascension side of the Ascension and Pentecost Pillar in the cloister of the Monastery of Santa Domingo de Silas, Spain



### ARCHIBALD McINDOE (1900-1960)

McIndoe's interest in the medical world quickly became apparent once he had left school. His family background did not really point him in the direction of medicine as his father was a printer and his mother an artist. However, in 1924 after studies in his native New Zealand, McIndoe was awarded a Fellowship in the United States of America, to study Pathological Anatomy. Whilst there he published several technical papers on chronic liver disease. Lord



Moynihan was impressed with his work, and suggested a career move to Britain, which he felt would be more to his advantage. McIndoe accepted a post offered by his cousin Sir Harold Gillies, as a clinical assistant in St. Bartholomew's Hospital as a Clinical Assistant in Plastic Surgery. In 1932 he was appointed as the Plastic Surgeon at the Chelsea Hospital for Women, at St. Andrew's Hospital and the Hampstead Children's hospital. He then became a general surgeon with a lecturer post at the hospital for tropical diseases, at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

In 1934, McIndoe received a fellowship from the American College of Surgeons and Tropical Medicine. His next move, which led to the pinnacle of his professional career was as a consulting plastic surgeon at the Royal Norfolk Stafford Infirmary and then to the American College of Surgeons.

By 1938 he was the new Consultant in Plastic Surgery to the Royal Airforce – a timely assignment, as it later transpired. McIndoe was stationed at the Queen Victoria Hospital in East Grinstead. There would be, at this emergency medical establishment, three quite separate units; Ward 1, for dental and jaw injuries, Ward 2, for Air Raid casualties (usually from World War Two London bombing raids), and Ward 3 was for service officers and for severely burned service personnel.

On 4 September 1939, McIndoe became the civilian Plastic Surgeon to the Royal Air Force, and ran a new centre for plastic and jaw surgery. McIndoe and his specialist colleagues treated thousands of mainly air service personnel, but also treated

women and children, during the Second World War years, which also included the social rehabilitation of those who came to him. McIndoe was known for his pioneering work at East Grinstead, for reconstructing faces and hands of severely burnt aircrew. His medical procedures, including the now famous walking-stalk skin graft technique, went on to underpin future treatment of burns around the world. In turn, 649 Allied Aircrew went on to form the so-called Guinea Pig Club. East Grinstead became the town that did not stare at the results of his facial repair techniques and at the results of his body repair work. Many would be thankful for his ground-breaking work in this field. After the war McIndoe returned to private practice and his speciality was the "McIndoe nose", to repair disfigurement.

In 1944 McIndoe was created an C.B.E. and he received a Knighthood in 1947, then, subsequently, diverted his efforts to farming in Africa after a visit to Kilimanjaro.

Archibald McIndoe died in London, on 11 April 1960, at the early age of 59. He is the only civilian to have his ashes interred at the R.A.F. St. Clements Danes Church, in London. In the year 2000, English Heritage erected a blue plaque on McIndoe's former London home at Avenue Court, Draycott Avenue, Chelsea. Interestingly, in Wellington, New Zealand, a research institute was named after him and his cousin, Sir Harold Gillies. Equally, in 2014, a bronze monument by Martin Jennings (whose own father, was a McIndoe patient) was placed in East Grinstead High Street, in front of Sackville College. The monument shows McIndoe with a seated patient whose burned hands are clawed together and whose scarred face is turned to one side - a very fitting memorial to a remarkable man.

*Ian and Mary Ivatt,  
Steyning History Society*

## ANAGRAM FOR MAY

**The anagram for May is: NO POVERTY**

**REMEMBER:**

All words to have three or more letters, but only use each letter once.

NO capitalised words.

*This is quite hard, but chosen because May always includes Christian Aid Week.*

*NO POETRY necessary. Good luck!!*

## RECIPE FOR MAY

### MACARONI CHEESE

2 tbsp butter,  
350g spiral or other short pasta  
1 garlic clove, finely chopped or a tsp of garlic puree  
1 tsp English mustard powder  
3 tbsp plain flour  
500ml whole milk  
250g mature cheddar, grated  
50g parmesan grated  
Optional cooked bacon, gammon or any other ingredient you fancy.  
Serves 4



### Method

#### STEP 1

Preheat the oven if cooking straight away to 180 Fan.  
Boil the pasta for 2 mins less than stated on the pack, then drain, leave a tablespoon of pasta water to help thicken the sauce. Meanwhile, melt the butter in a saucepan. Add the garlic and English mustard powder, cook for 1 min, then stir in the plain flour.

#### STEP 2

Cook for 1 min more, then gradually whisk in the milk until you have a lump-free sauce. Simmer for 5 mins, whisking all the time until thickened. Take off the heat, then stir in the cheddar. Add a handful of parmesan if you wish.

#### STEP 3

Stir the pasta and some seasoning into the cheesy sauce. Tip into a large ovenproof dish, or four individual dishes.  
If adding any bacon or any other ingredients stir into the pasta before stirring in the cheese sauce.

#### STEP 4

Scatter over the remaining parmesan, then bake for 20 mins until crisp and golden. Alternatively chill, cover and freeze or chill and use for later in the day or tomorrow.

*A wonderful warm and comforting meal.*

*Useful to know I can freeze the whole dish, or maybe half, for another time.*

# JUST FOR FAMILIES

## NEEDS AND WANTS

Our needs include:

Clean Water:



Food:

Stick on your own picture of food you need to be healthy.

?

You decide and add your own picture.

?

You decide and add your own picture.

## WHAT IS A WANT?

Complete this sentence:

A want is.....

This is a picture of something I want:

Talk about this with an adult:

If you were planning the inside of a church, what do you think you would need to put there?

What would you like to put in there?

Draw out a plan or picture of your church - outside and inside.



May 14 1264. The aftermath of the battle. Two thousand corpses lie strewn on the slopes and riverbanks around Lewes. Some view this as a victory; others a defeat. But for a large, black bird who has calmly watched the bloodshed from the side-lines, this scene of slaughter is an all-you-can-eat buffet. Democracy never tasted so good. Smart birds, Ravens. Way before 1264 they realised they needn't waste their energy killing to eat when other less intelligent species can do the dirty work for them. For centuries Ravens exploited man's enthusiasm for resolving quarrels with clubs and swords. Ravenous Ravens dined out at all the finest battlefields and burial grounds. Hanging around with corpses would get anyone a bad reputation but the Raven's took on mythological proportions. Across the northern hemisphere the bird became respected and revered by many cultures as an omen of death, denizen of the afterlife, messenger of defeat. This sinister CV secured them a plethora of portentous appearances in everything from the Old Testament to Game of Thrones. The sight of a Raven struck fear in the heart of man who would dare not harm it. Today Ravens still occur in our folklore as the earthbound spirit of King Arthur, and at the Tower of London the birds are entrusted with the fate of the kingdom.

Yet aside from all the make-believe malevolent accolades, it truly is magnificent to watch. As befits Britain's wickedest bird, the Raven certainly dresses the part in a costume of sleek, glossy black feathers, shaggy 'beard' and stout dagger beak. It commands the sky; wheeling on wide wings and uttering its guttural 'cronk cronk' call. Sometimes their behaviour is incongruous with their evil image. To see Ravens rolling and tumbling through the air during their joyous display flight is like catching the grim reaper doing the hokey-cokey.

Ravens performed an important clean-up job ridding Britain's towns of rotting rubbish and the bird was protected by royal decree. But in the 17th century people's perceptions changed and the birds were persecuted, and exorcised from England. By 1895 they had vanished from Sussex.



But informed, tolerant attitudes have recently allowed Ravens to return. They mostly breed on our chalk cliffs and quarries but can be seen flying over our towns and cities. In our comfortable world there is something reassuringly sinister about watching a Raven circling overhead; a spectral souvenir of our brutal, primitive past. Sussex will never again be the site of a bloody revolutionary battle. But there's no harm in a few Ravens hanging around. Just in case.

*Michael Blencowe*

## THE ASCENSION

### Acts 1: 3 - 11

After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptised with water, but in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit."

Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."