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ews from the churches

JULY 2020

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Full details of services and other activities during the week are shown in the Diary for the month in LINK and on the church website - www.hordleandtiptoechurch.org.uk

Enquiries

For all enquiries, please in the first instance contact the Church Office Monday to Friday 9.30am—12.00 noon Tel:01425 626565 Email: church.office@hordleandtiptoechurch.org.uk

This magazine is free ... and we hope you enjoy it.

But, if you wish to make a donation (minimum 50p) that will be gratefully received or you may like to make a one-off payment of £5-£10. Cheques payable to 'Hordle PCC'.

COPY DATE for the August issue is 25th July.

All contributions please to: Christine Warren - christine@claritysound.co.uk

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Any view expressed by contributors or advertisers to LINK should not necessarily be taken to reflect the opinions of the Editors or the PCC and we do not hold responsibility for any of the contents.

Our Bible verse for 2020 is:

"Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit"

Galations 5.25

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Welcome to the JULY Edition of LINK-on-LINE



A new take on pastoral visiting—socially distanced on the cliff top !

As I write this, we have just heard that our Prime Minister Boris Johnson has announced that churches are allowed to open soon! That is indeed good news and I am sure that many of you will want to pop in to pray and hopefully soon attend worship services inside our wonderful buildings! I have Zoomed with our Church wardens Gill and Duncan and our deputy wardens Ed and Ian - we talked about exercising caution at this stage.

We are very aware of the age profile of our congregations and the fact that quite a number have been self-isolating for some time due to underlying health issues. With these two factors in mind, we are constantly reviewing the situation and the advice from the Government and the Church of England. We will be sending out emails to keep you all informed of our plans. Please pass this information on to those who are not on email. Please also do bear with us on this, as we were all united in our view that we should proceed with caution for the sake of the health and well-being of all in our pastoral care.

So how have you been coping under Lockdown? We would love to hear from you, so please do get in touch if you would like a chat on the phone, and do encourage anyone you may be aware of to give us a ring. My number at the Vicarage is (01425) 614428. Have you felt full of confidence and trust in the Lord throughout this time? Or have you had periods of doubt, uncertainty, fear or dread? If you are anything like me, it will have been a bit of a 'rollercoaster ride' of emotions over the past few months! In Matt 6: 25f we read the following:

Do Not Worry ²⁵ "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷ Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

It is my prayer that as we come out of Lockdown, we will all feel a growing sense of trust in the Lord and reassurance of His peace over our lives and those we care for. Every blessing, *Paul*

CHURCH SERVICES JULY 2020

In line with current Church of England guidance, all Church Services and Activities are suspended until further notice because of the Coronavirus.

Any questions - please ring the Office weekdays 9.30 am- 12 noon or email.

This poem recently became a global internet sensation, attributed to Kathleen O'Mara, and supposedly written in 1869. However, it was actually written in 2020 by a retired chaplain named Kitty O'Meara. Whatever its history, maybe it is relevant for us today.

In the time of Pandemic

And the people stayed home.

And they listened, and read books, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still.

And they listened more deeply. Some meditated, some prayed, some danced. Some met their shadows. And the people began to think differently.

And the people healed.

And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, and heartless ways, the earth began to heal.

And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as they had been healed.





Many of our congregation have visited Wintershall to watch 'The Life of Jesus'. So it was interesting to see, after the on-line service on Sunday 14th June, an interview between Tim Cosby and Charlotte DeKlee. This is a precis for the benefit of those who are not on-line.

Charlotte DeKlee, the daughter of Peter Hutley OBE and his wife Anne, is the producer of the Wintershall Passion plays – The Nativity, The Life of Christ and the Passion of Jesus. Recently Charlotte spoke to me about her family's journey to faith and dedication to telling the Gospel story to other people.

In the late 1980s the family found a relationship with God, following a visit to Medugorje in Bosnia Herzegovina.

Recognising that 'Our Father' is 'My Father', ten years ago Peter sought permission to take the Passion of Jesus play to Trafalgar Square. He was delighted with the response from the Sikh manager of the Square who 'had wondered why Christians had not used the Square before!' By 2019 over 20,000 people had seen the two live performances of the Easter story enacted in the Square on Good Friday, and in Guildford city centre on Easter Saturday.

Each June the Wintershall Players re-enact the Life of Christ against the magnificent backdrop of the estate grounds. One of the great successes of these plays is the attendance by school groups. Charlotte spoke about the joy of enabling inner city children to come to Wintershall and discover Nature and Creation as well as learning the Gospel message.

Building on the tremendous success of these plays, Wintershall are now supporting local groups around the UK to present their own Passion of Jesus on Good Friday 2021. An inter-denominational group of Churches, including Worcester, Liverpool and Hamilton, have already signed up to this plan.

Charlotte would dearly like to see the Passion presented somewhere on the South Coast and would welcome support and ideas from anyone who could help this become a reality. If you can help in any way please do get in touch.

Anne's 'Thoughts from the Tiptoe Triangle'



Hello Everyone.

Patience is one of the gifts of the Spirit, and we have all been challenged to grow in patience over the past months. We've waited for the various restrictions to be lifted so we slowly move towards a new 'normal' as the threat of Covid-19 is downgraded. At the same time, we are called to 'Stay Alert' and it is everyone's responsibility to adhere to that message, on behalf of our families, our neighbours, and ourselves. In this situation, it falls into the category of 'Love your neighbour as yourself' as we

ensure everyone is kept as safe as possible, both now and in the future.

For some, patience will be needed much longer - until a vaccine is found, until work is found, until schools fully reopen. For each of us, there are different ways in which the removal of restrictions has or will make life easier for us in our own situations, whether that is returning to work, children returning to school, or, as we hope before too long, returning to church. While some churches are opening for private prayer, the date for opening for services is as yet to be announced at the time I am writing this letter! I hope by the time you read this, we may have that date confirmed, and I look forward to being with you all again.

What we do know is that God knows all our yearnings, He knows the challenges each of us faces, and He cares for each of us in our own individual situation. The good neighbourliness which is so evident in our parish is a clear

outworking of one way in which God enables His love for us to be shown. As we 'Love our neighbour as ourselves' we are living out the way of life which Jesus led in His time on earth, through yet more gifts of the Spirit: love, kindness and generosity.



Keep safe, Anne



Hordle CE (VA) Primary School & Nursery



Through the lifting dark clouds Hordle pupils have slowly been returning to a rainbow-filled new style school, run with utmost enthusiasm and passion of all the staff and led by their inspirational headteacher. One thing is clear, Team Hordle is the strongest around! Behind the scenes the team have been working tirelessly to ensure a safe and smooth operation takes place, completed with grace and

style to ensure the children are cared for to the highest standards possible, both in school and at home.

It has been uplifting to see the first smiling pupils coming through the gates and each week seems to be getting nearer to the whole team



being back together. The first few weeks back after the Government's announcement of Nursery and Years R, 1 and 6 returning have run very smoothly and confidence has come from children, parents and staff alike. We have enjoyed much praise from our returners and their families. We look forward to welcoming most back over the next few weeks via their KIT (keeping in touch) days - the joy will be heard far and wide.

The children have been incredible, taking to this strange and less than ideal situation with such wonderful attitudes and respect for new procedures. The sound of laughter is becoming familiar again and happy faces have begun filling the school. The effect on everyone has been magical.

We are yet to enjoy all the team together as a whole but one thing is certain they are so missed and loved and the cheer when we are all back together will be booming. Home learning has been wonderfully executed by all staff and the care and devotion is second to none. The pupils amaze us with their brilliant home learning, whether a little or a lot, and we are so proud.

A huge thank you goes to everyone in the community who have supported us in all aspects throughout lockdown and although we are not in full swing it certainly feels as if the storms are beginning to roll away.



Every storm runs out of rain

Maya Angelou



Meet the PCC - 9 Gill Morris

I was born in Bath, (the eldest of four), into a loving Christian family. Childhood was happy, despite the war, the highlight being summer holidays spent in Bude where we were involved in the Scripture Union Beach Mission activities and where the seeds of my Christian Faith were sown and lifelong friendships were formed.

Boarding school life at Sherborne was great, especially all the sport. Christian camps skiing,

and on the Norfolk Broads became annual events and inspired and encouraged my desire to become involved with children's mission work. This led to teacher training at Roehampton and Ridgelands Bible College.

My first teaching job was in east London (amongst Call the Midwife families). After 5 years there I went to Kenya to work in an International Christian Prep school where I spent 12 years. Holidays were spent travelling throughout East Africa in game parks, on the coast and experiencing living in the wild that is not possible today - they were idyllic years.

Back in the UK I was appointed Headmistress of Fernhill Manor Junior School in New Milton and 21 years later was asked to merge Fernhill with Edinburgh House and with an amazing staff we created Ballard School.

It was when I returned to the UK in 1974 and lived in Hordle that I joined All Saints and became involved with the Family service and Sunday school. When I moved to Milford to look after my father I kept my links with Hordle and have become more and more committed to the Hordle church family.

It is only during this lockdown period that I have realised what retirement is like! There has been time to walk, garden and enjoy my hobbies. Having been blessed living in such lovely places and holidaying in Cornwall, Switzerland, Scotland with so many friends that has inspired me to paint.

All this sounds as if I have lived a charmed life but there have been deep valley experiences as well as 'mountain tops'. God has been faithful in protecting and carrying me through everything and I pray that I may continue to serve Him.



A message from Valerie Smith

Valerie, Andrew and Rachel wish to thank all those kind people who have written letters to us, sent cards or phoned following Graham's death. These contacts have been a source of comfort to all three of us.



Apologies to Gill, whose beachcombing artwork was printed upside down in June LINK !



Tiptoe Church Hurrah we have made it!!!!! 70 butterflies......

Enough Butterflies to give to the children at Tiptoe School when they restarted school. Not the full school yet so the knitting goes on -on - on.

Will you help to knit 120 butterflies needed for the remainder of the children when they are welcomed back to school? Very exciting....

Thank you

Viv Binns

Coordinator, Butterflies for school.

What are you most looking forward to as we ease out of lockdown?

Could you write to the Editor and share your thoughts with the rest of us? The Editor's 'starter for ten' would be -A hair cut and a trip to the tip!! What are yours?

LINK-ON-LINE

Thank you for your support while **LINK** has been produced in this unusual format. Many have told us: "It is not the same"! We understand ... and hope to revert to hard copy very soon. Meanwhile particular thanks to Timothy Rice and Peter Reece for all the additional work they have incurred with these interim measures. *Ed*

Coming soon ...

A new series where we look, in simple terms, at what we mean when we recite the Creed week by week. *Watch out for it!*

One of the best life lessons I've learned is to continue to be curious. You're never too old to dream a new dream! Angela White



It was with shock and sadness that our congregations received the news of the recent death of **Rev. Graham Smith**. In 'normal times' many would have attended his funeral service. However, this isn't 'normal'. Only 15 were permitted to attend the service on 17th June at Woodlands Burial Ground. The tribute, read by Canon Michael Anderson, is therefore reproduced here, almost in its entirety.

Rev. Graham Smith 1932 - 2020

Graham was born in Woodford on the outskirts of east London in 1932, the eldest son of Arthur and Marjorie. Around 1942, at the height of the war, the family moved to Billericay, in Essex. He became the 'man of the house' following the early death of his father from wartime firefighting duties, helping to bring up his two younger brothers.

During his teenage years he first met Valerie, and they were married in 1954. Graham started work at Essex County Council, after leaving Brentwood School, and then became a solicitor's clerk. In Romford. During his time in Essex he was active in local churches, including becoming 'Head of Sunday School' at the age of 16.

After the arrival of their son, Andrew, he decided that he would train for the Baptist ministry at Bristol Baptist College with the family moving to Frome in Somerset, where their daughter Rachel was born.

Once trained, the family moved to New Milton in 1962 where Graham became the Baptist Minister. Activities included starting the fund for the new Baptist church in Old Milton Road, and looking after a vibrant youth group, who would go camping in Dorset each year. Graham loved camping, but the one thing he missed was a bath, so, you guessed it, his fellow campers found a full sized bath and placed it in his tent while he was elsewhere, which caused much amusement!

In 1968 Graham chose another change of career and went to train in Southampton as a Probation Officer and was delighted, after qualification, to land a job locally. He remained a probation officer for 28 years in the local area and in the mid 1970's he and the family joined Hordle Church. After a few years he became a Non-Stipendiary Curate at Hordle, serving in the parish until recently.





Canon Michael Anderson writes ... I was appointed as Vicar at Hordle in 1974, and within a year or so Graham and Valerie came through the doors with Andrew and Rachel – and we never looked back! He was ordained into the Anglican ministry in 1978 and became an invaluable member of the team of clergy and Readers, with his wide pastoral knowledge and concern for people, together with his ability to apply the Scriptures in succinct and

pithy sermons. He loved the Anglican liturgy, and was a wise contributor in staff and planning meetings. Above all he was reliable, quietly advising me over various issues and attitudes, and when I was occasionally unwell, stood in at a moment's notice. He was a loyal supporter during our various changes to both buildings and services. When I took groups abroad, and especially during my long sabbatical, he took over the reins, with the usual words "while the cat's away ..." His smile and laughter were memorable ... as various members of the Staff Team can testify ...

Chris Knox ... "He will be much missed. I found him a great help and support at All Saints and know what splendid work he did, not least on the pastoral side. I valued his advice and always enjoyed his company"

Rev Peter Stevens writes ... "In particular, after my wife Ann's death, Graham & Valerie helped my daughter, Julie, sort out Ann's belongings. Graham drove me to Dorchester for Ann's inquest. On another occasion someone turned up at Hordle Choir practice looking troubled and I went down to see him in the Church Room. He had a court case coming up, and I got Graham involved with his background legal knowledge and had we prayer together for him. I remember the staff meetings and choir concerts which Graham 'compered'".

Audrey writes ... "Lovely memories of special times - Choir Concerts - (knowledgeable Master of Ceremonies!), lots of fun times, an unfailing dedication to pastoral work with so many people. Only a few years ago he was to be found sitting in front of the choir pews at St Andrew's engaging the children with talks and his "Tesco Bag" (who knew what it contained!!). Latterly he and I became each other's hospital transport - nothing was ever too much trouble for Graham".



Rev Peter Head writes ... "To appreciate Graham, you had to understand that he was a person who drew his inspiration from his profound faith, and his determination to always look for the best, even if this was sometimes defined differently by others.

He was a man of principle, and to be admired for that. Graham has moved to see his Saviour face to face, and those of us who are left behind, can but reflect upon his incisive mind, and the breadth of his experience which enabled him to freely give help, support and counsel to others, and to accept that no matter how and in what he was involved, it stemmed from a desire to be the Lord's disciple. We will miss his pastoral concern for which many a person has been appreciative and encouraged by.

Miss too, his preaching which proclaimed the Good News with a thoughtful and analytical exposition that stimulated the spirit and the mind.

Personally I am thankful for the support he gave when my wife, Bridget, was nearing the end of her life - praying together calmed the soul. On our Christian pilgrimage we meet many folk, but all leave a little bit of themselves with us, as they, or we, move onwards. Graham has done just that".

Rev Carolyn Petts writes ...'I will remember him as encouraging and warm hearted, especially during my training and after. He was always well organised - the course for Church Visitors was an example. He liked to get things right and practical. I have heard from several people how much they have valued his pastoral ministry. He made a huge contribution to the life of Hordle and Tiptoe Churches.'

The family concludes ... In retirement, Graham and Valerie enjoyed the arrival of grandchildren Jo, Summer, Evelyn and Ellen.

Other interests included travelling to many places in the UK, particularly the Scottish islands and Europe.



Graham recently reinstated the ringing of the bell at Tiptoe before services.

He was a well-known figure in the area, known for sometimes forthright views and the wearing of shorts and sandals in all weathers!

Graham's strong Christian faith was particularly prominent in his last few days of life as he showed no fear of dying and going to heaven.

> He giveth more grace as our burdens grow greater, He sendeth more strength as our labours increase, To added afflictions He addeth His mercy, To multiplied trials He multiplies peace. When we have exhausted our store of endurance, When our strength has failed ere the day is half done, When we reach the end of our hoarded resources, Our Father's full giving is only begun. His love has no limits, His grace has no measure, His power no boundary known unto men, For out of His infinite riches in Jesus, He giveth and giveth angain.

> > Annie Johnson Flint 1866-1932.

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The family hope that it will be possible to hold a Thanksgiving Service for Graham's life sometime in the autumn.

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Others have contributed their own tributes to Graham-

Joan Rymell remembers attending Graham's ordination service at Winchester Cathedral. It was a very cold day, so he was glad of the clerical cape which the people of Hordle gave him to commemorate the occasion. Like Audrey, Joan remembers fondly the children's addresses at Tiptoe, when the items pulled from his Tesco bag engrossed and intrigued the children.

Gill Morris paid tribute to a 'saintly man'.

Timothy Rice, in recalling the concerts held at Hordle, mentions how Graham readily exchanged his dog-collar for a bow-tie!

And finally, the sharp-eyed amongst you will have recognised that the poem quoted in the tribute was also printed the June issue of LINK. It was Graham's last email sent to some of us only in the last few weeks.



Maureen Metcalf also died in June. Three members of her housegroup remember her ...

I first met Maureen when she and Ron invited me to join their home group. I was going through a difficult time, and their grace and love meant that this quickly became a very special friendship for me. Maureen had an amazing sense of style. She loved colour and flowers and was a gifted gardener. She was also renowned for her hospitality, particularly her home cooking. Maureen had been a talented teacher before she retired. She was passionate about current affairs and we spent hours putting the world to rights. She also had a wicked sense of humour.

But I shall remember her most for her love of Jesus, her honest advice and counsel and the love and care she gave me in very challenging times. She had been through her own storms which gave her wisdom and understanding to help others. Maureen was pure love and quite simply one of the most joyous people I have ever met. The world seems a less exciting place without her at the moment but as we come to terms with the loss, it is such a comfort to know that she is home and with her Saviour.

Maureen's favourite bible passage was Philippians 4. 4-9. '*Rejoice in the Lord, again I say rejoice*.' Maureen did that and continues to inspire me to do the same. Briony

Maureen was a very caring and welcoming person. It was a pleasure to be in her and Ron's Home Group. Good teaching, good fun and good cakes! We really missed them when they moved.

A local Muslim lady she helped out with cooking felt very isolated and Maureen really helped her. *Maria* We have lovely memories of a week spent down at their caravan. With our van on the same site, we shared meals together and went out for days together. Maureen introduced me to Ottery St. Mary's garden centre where I bought lots of lovely clothes! They took us to a bird sanctuary which was lovely and peaceful and very accessible on my scooter.

Lovely laughs, very happy times. Pat

The After-Service interview aired on 21st June is précised here for the benefit of those who do not have the facility to watch our on-line services.

Tim Cosby writes ...

The Reverend Canon Karen McKinnon is Spiritual Care Manager at University Hospital Southampton. Karen recently spoke to me about her work and the very significant ways in which COVID 19 had affected her and her team.

There are nine members in Karen's inter-faith chaplaincy team. They provide spiritual support for everyone involved with the Hospital – patients, carers and staff. Karen sees her role as showing people that God is always with us.

Karen spoke about the way in which she and her team found preparing for the pandemic felt like preparing for a war. It rapidly became clear that the way in which they worked had to drastically change and home working was to become the new normal, as they would not be able to visit the wards. They found it challenging to adapt, as their work, by nature, is very hands on.

The team prepared faith packs to be distributed on the COVID wards. These included such items as Holding Crosses, Prayer Beads and Cubes, Rosary Beads and other faith-based items for Hospital staff to readily access.

Karen spoke of experiences of nurses holding a phone to the ear of a dying patient as she prayed. She spoke of the tremendous need to support the hospital staff - many of them were lodging in hotels and were deprived of the comfort of returning to loved ones after a very stressful shift. She and her colleagues set up regular phone-based support for these staff. They also ensured that they kept in touch with the many hospital-based volunteers.

Karen spoke about one particularly moving experience of marrying a twentyfive year old patient, who was dying, by Archbishop's Special Licence. She said there was not a dry eye in the Chapel.

Karen's team are now able to return in a limited way to the wards. She made the point that although the Covid case count is currently reducing, staff are absolutely exhausted and continue to need all our support and prayers.

Lockdown Cat

In olden days long before house-arrest, my cat had a regular Sunday morning routine. After an early morning stroll in the fresh air and a leisurely breakfast, he'd settle down for several hours of comfort on the covers of my bed, ignoring all attempts by me to straighten the duvet

and make my night-time accommodation look presentable. But, since Lockdown, that has changed and life on Sundays hasn't been the same since.

The habit of my pet on Sundays in those GOLDEN days when leaving for Church was curiously endearing, knowing full well on my return that he would be in exactly the same place and state of languor as when I left him ... But that was then. Lockdown changed all that.

On that first Sunday morning after House-arrest he was busy as ever catching up on lost sleep, leaving me in peace and quiet contemplation to settle down and listen to three church services from the comfort of the sofa in my sitting-room – the most important part of my Lockdown week.



So that first Sunday, and every Sunday since, well before the first service is due to be aired, the place in my Study Application Bible open in front of me at Psalm 91 (a Psalm to help us find comfort at this time) together with my STANDING CROSS, upon my coffee table – the sight of which was and is

deeply moving at such a difficult time, missing the fellowship of our loving church.

But the Lord moves in mysterious ways, as when in prayerful-mode, not wanting distraction, I hear an unusually loud miaow and light thud as my pet landed gently upon the table before me, and settled snugly down as close as he could get to my Bible and standing cross ...

Ever since that first Lockdown Sunday this has been my pet's regular Sunday routine when he joins me every Sunday morning for several hours of worship. Pretends to be asleep of course as he sits hunched like a London statue lion, his soft fur brushing against my precious book, and there he remains for the duration of the services ... A worshipful cat indeed ...

When praying, my pet probably believes I am talking to him. Animals pick up on stress, but their stress is different to our stress, and Lockdown is stressful for everyone including animals, with our continual presence at home intruding on their quiet time.

But I believe the glorious hymns, and the whisper of The Lord's Prayer helps my
Lockdown cat as much as it helps me.Anonymous Parishioner



Lockdown in Jersey - *if you could choose where to be locked down, where better than the beautiful island of Jersey? Martyn and Liz Shea write ...*

We have been incredibly blessed in Jersey and escaped relatively unscathed. We have been locked down but we have always been able to exercise outdoors through the worst period which has been a life saver. We have really felt for other countries where people have literally been housebound.

We took daily bike rides and discovered the amazing network of green lanes, sometimes cycling 30km around the island – absolutely stunning!

The hardest bit has been being apart from family in the UK but again Zoom has been a lifesaver and we have enjoyed birthdays with virtual family meals!

Our son had to return from boarding school, while coping with A levels being cancelled. His 18th birthday was in June. We wanted to make it special and managed to fly his sister and girlfriend over by applying to Customs. The testing system for them coming into Jersey has been amazing: three Covid tests plus one antibody test meant they only had three days of self-isolation and then we have been able to go out with them. Going to restaurants has been an extra special treat as lockdown here has lifted more quickly.

Church life has been a challenge, especially technologically as the rules have kept changing for services and we have had to be very adaptable. It's also meant that the responsibility for the services and particularly the music has largely fallen on us, which has been extra tiring but it has been incredibly



encouraging to see many people who wouldn't otherwise come to church tune in too.

Pastoral care has been a shared responsibility as teams have phoned round the congregation.

It was good to at least be able to open the church last Sunday and have a few of the congregation present for the streaming of the

service, although we couldn't sing which was really strange. One good thing is that streaming looks here to stay so it's brought us into the 21st century!

LINK



Thoughts from my Garden ...

Here we are half way through the year already. We could do with some more rain! We did get some last night, enough to wash the dust off the leaves and just dampen the top layer of soil. I have planted out the purple sprouting to crop next spring, using the method I have always used. I make a hole, fill it with water and put the little plant into the mud! It usually works, the water is where it is needed and, I hope, encourages the roots to go down.

I am beginning to benefit from previous plantings as strawberries, cucumbers and broad beans start to crop. This garden is a bit windswept and with the cold spell earlier, is a bit behind this year. Some years, the broad beans are in the freezer by now and the potatoes are being dug. This year I have only dug some which have grown from potatoes left in the ground last year but they produce a useful meal. They were in the way! French beans are now growing in the space. The runner beans are growing well, with more germinating to complete the row.

The gooseberries are usually picked mid-July and as they crop well, I sell them and give the money to the Air Ambulance. I made the mistake of letting my daughter prune them last year, so there is not much fruit this year, just enough for a gooseberry fool which I like!

The birds are helping to keep the garden free of bugs; I have watched the sparrows and a long tailed tit going over the flowers. I regularly find them in the greenhouse, no doubt after spiders - yesterday I helped a young one find the door! I am always glad to find empty snail shells knowing that I have not used any snail bait which might harm the birds. I have not noticed any damage from mice this year - the cat next door must be doing a good job!

The hedges need trimming, but this must wait until mid-July when the baby birds should have fledged. I have grandson Matt on stand-by for that job. The first swallow brood must have flown, judging by the number flying around. I think we are a feeding station.



Keep dead heading!

Dear God ...

I'm wondering if I'm going to get out of touch with things, if when I've been talking to you I shall just waft about and lose my grip on reality and common sense.



Dear Carolyn ...

Prayer is essentially practical. Through being with me, and us knowing each other better, you are going to be really alive, able to live life to the full.

We have to be honest with each other, unafraid of anger, frustration, tiredness and failure as well as pleasure, passion and success.

You can bring your whole self to me in prayer - body, mind and spirit. Think carefully about what you say and ask for, pray intelligently, reason about your motives in saying what you do.

You know I love you as the only one in the world, and at the same time I know you in your special place among all the others. I know about the world you live in better than you do - I made it.

I want you to have your feet on the ground. When you pray, I want you to think - use your brain, then act when you see how.

It may only be a little thing - speaking in support of a friend, against injustice, giving some time to help someone. Let me lead you into being more fully alive.

Carolyn Petts

Did you know ...?

"Do not be afraid" occurs 365 times in the Bible

Once a day ... for a year!

The Devon and Cornwall Music Festival has been cancelled...

They couldn't decide who to put on first - The Jam or The Cream !



Reflections on the phrase "Where two or three come together ..."

These thoughts started last Christmas with a discussion about how many Kings/Wise Men visited Jesus and the family. I found myself looking up other significant occasions recorded in the Bible involving three people. This was followed by me finding a phrase which summarised each occasion.

I hope this article will be of some value – and bring encouragement and comfort to fellow Christians - who might reflect with me on each situation.

We start with that Christmas reading:

• <u>Recognition of who Jesus is</u> – Matthew 2 verses 1 and 2

"Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked 'Where is the One who has been born King of the Jews'"

And then the following passages from the other parts of the Bible:

• God's Gift in an impossible situation – Genesis 18 verses 2 and 10

"Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby ... 'Sarah your wife will have a son' "

• Support to one another – Exodus 17 verses 10 and 11

"So Joshua fought the Amalekites as Moses had ordered and Moses, Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill. As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning ... when Moses' hands grew tired Aaron and Hur held his hands up"

• God's Calling – Numbers 27 verse 22

"Moses did as the Lord commanded him. He took Joshua and had him stand before Eleazar the Priest and the whole assembly. Then he laid his hands on him and commissioned him as the Lord instructed through Moses"



• God's protection - Daniel 3 verse 25

"He said 'Look!! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods'"

• The Lord's Christ – Luke 2 verse 33

"When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for Him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took Him in his arms and praised God"

• Witness to Jesus - Luke 2 verse 38

"Coming up to (the parents) at that very moment, (Anna) gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem"

• The Transfiguration – Luke 9 verses 28, 32 and 35

"Jesus took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray... They saw His glory and the two men standing with him... 'This is my Son, whom I have chosen. Listen to Him'"

Need for change and become more flexible in expressing the faith
Acts 10 verses 7, 8 and 21

"When the angel who spoke to him had gone, Cornelius called two of his servants and a devout soldier who was one of his attendants ... and sent them to Joppa (to see Peter) ... Peter went down and said to the men, 'I am the one you are looking for. Why have you come?' "

<u>The Christian link with the Trinity</u> - 1 Peter 1 verses 1 and 2

"To God's elect ... who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by His blood"



HORDLE VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Hordle W.I. meets on first Tuesdays at 2pm in the W.I. Hall, Ashley Lane, Hordle. Contact: Lesley Hogbourne, **01425 627942**

Hordle Gardening Club meets on Fridays at 7.30pm in the Pavilion, Ashley Lane, Hordle. Contact: Secretary, Sue Winter, **01425 610171**

Hordle Flower Club meets 2nd Wednesday in the month at The Pavilion, Vaggs Lane. 7pm for 7.30pm. Contact: Denise Gibb **01590 642804**

Hordle Photographic Club meets on 2nd and 4th Mondays in the Church Room at All Saints'. Contact: Ian Blundell **01425 629838**

Hordle Voluntary Care Group provides transport for people in Tiptoe, Hordle and Everton to medical appointments when they cannot use public transport and for relatives to visit in-patients at hospital. We take clients to the St John's Ambulance bathing service at Gordleton Industrial Estate. We urgently need more drivers to support our clients. Can you help with just a couple of hours a month? Contact our coordinator on **0845 388 9063** to book a driver or find out more about volunteering.

Dial-A-Ride provides a door to door shopping service for people who find it difficult to use the bus service. Lymington on Tuesday and New Milton on Friday. To book the service ring **0845 602 4326** (local call).

TIPTOE VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Butterflies Pre-school (term time only). 9.15-12.15 Mon and Fri; 9.15—3 Tues, Wed Thurs in St. Andrew's Church Hall. Contact: Louisa Parsons 01425 615566

Tiptoe Brownies (term time only). 4.30-6.00 for girls 7-10 years. Meet in the school. Contact: Rachael Garman, 01425 615683

SCARF Youth Club, 6.30-8.00 for children with special needs aged 11-16. Contact: Lucinda, 07874 221249

Young Farmers' Club, Tiptoe Contact: brock.hantsyfc@gmail.com

Tiptoe Community Coffee Morning 10am - 11.30am on Wednesdays at Life Centre.

Mobile Library. Young Farmers' Club, Wootton Road, 4th Thursdays, 2-2.30pm.

Matt Yorke, a farmer from Pembrokeshire, Wales, is using his herd of **llamas** to deliver shopping to those struggling during lockdown !



We Will Meet When the Danger Is Over

John L Bell © Wild Goose Resource Group, The Iona Community

We will meet when the danger is over, we will meet when the sad days are over; we will meet sitting closely together and be glad our tomorrow has come.

We will join to give thanks and sing gladly, we will join to break bread and share wine; and the peace that we pass to each other will be more than a casual sign.

So let's make with each other a promise that when we've all come through is behind, we will share what we missed and find meaning in the things that once troubled our mind.

Until then may we always discover faith and love to determine our way. That's our hope and God's will and our calling for our lives and for every new day.

The haunting tune to which this song is sung is available by Googling 'We will meet when the danger is over knaresboroughurc.org' and looking for their Devotion dated 15 June, or, if viewing the on-line version of LINK, click Here.



Jon Dowdeswell FMAAT

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