



From the Rector's Study

November is a month of remembering. It is the month of Gunpowder, Treason and Plot, Remembrance and of course first, the day of All Souls. But you know all of that, not least because I said that last year! It is a month not only to look backwards and remember, but to look forwards and take our memories with us - they form and shape us. This is why in Christian tradition we bury our dead in our churchyards - we look to the 'resurrection of the

dead and the life of the world to come' as the Creed reminds us, not in some vain hope but in the 'sure and certain hope of the resurrection,' as we say at the funeral service. This year it will be the day we remember, most fondly, our own late Churchwarden, dear Linda.

I hope that many of you will make the pilgrimage to church on Sunday 6th for the evening All Souls Mass. Once more we shall mark All Souls on the Sunday which allows us to hold an evening service to commend to the Father's keeping all those whom we still love but no longer see in the flesh. Once again, we shall light candles, read aloud their names and pray for the repose of their souls. I wonder what we think we are doing? We are certainly not able to convince God of His own judgement - we are not going to buy or carry favour - but rather we hold to that promise which Christ Himself offers that, 'there are many rooms in my Father's house; if it were not so, I would have told you. And I go now to prepare a place for you, so that where I am, you will be also'. John's gospel account goes on, to place us with Thomas, bluntly enquiring, 'we do not know how to get there'. Jesus in love teaches us, that it is not a journey of doing, but a journey of being - as human-beings, we are called to 'be' with Him - it is by His grace alone that we are called higher - called on, to be united with him. So in the Requiem Mass we are not in the persuasion business, but in the faithful, hopeful people of God who are commending our departed to Our Father.

Have you looked at our Book of Remembrance? This usually sits by the icon of our Patron: it names those whom families wish to remember in the book. If you have a loved one whom you would like to remember in this way, please do speak with me and we can have their names included in beautiful calligraphy, with thanks to one of our own congregation - Ken Baker.

This last month we have seen our church transformed by the Guildford Shakespeare Company with their production of Jekyll & Hyde. It reminds us that the church is not a crystal glass which is easily smashed, rather it is the 'hut of the shepherd' as one theologian has put it. The church is there to provide safety, rest and refreshment and in this case, entertainment. This is nothing new: churches were the first betting halls - to keep the gamblers honest! And the wonderfully decorated rood screens which separated the nave from the chancel were there to keep one's

animals out! In other words, the world came and found space in the church. If something is not profane outside the church, it is not profane within it and so I am keen to ensure that the world knows a welcome under my roof for no other reason than to welcome others in the best of the Benedictine tradition. It may well incite awe and wonder, but it should, first and foremost, be a parish church - used, housing all who come and for all. It is at the same time, sacred space - and so is all of creation. By the time of the fall of the Temple in 586BC by the Babylonians and again by the Romans in AD70, the idea that God resided in a particular place (somehow limited by His dwelling or residence therein) was considered heretical. The much earlier belief that belonged very much to the earliest Jewish tradition (known as the E tradition as God was referred to as Elohim in these earliest texts) considered Elohim to be a local desert deity but as the Psalmist reminds us, as the peoples' vision of the world expanded, so did their view of God: God became the Almighty - the eternal, geographically unlimited and spatially omnipresent understanding of God we have today in our faith. We should not be afraid, disgruntled or even put out by our building being used in this way therefore. God is not upset by it and neither should we. God is not limited to it. God is all in all. I am delighted therefore, to welcome GSC (one of Linda's favourite things to support, as she did as a volunteer) and not least because they will pay a sizable amount of money for the use of the space!



October			September		
Name:	Age:	Burial:	Name:	Age:	Burial:
Brenda Caple	92	7-10-2007	Brian Elkington	57	14-9-2005
John Harold Davidson	68	25-10-2011	Enid Elizabeth Allen	75	18-9-2011
Margaret Paole Paloull	19-10-2014		John Michael Allen	83	18-9-2011
Guendoline Amelia			Elizabeth Marian Long	89	7-9-2014
Alannel	86	12-10-2020	Anne Sandra Parlett	60	13-9-2016
			Dennis William Jenner	86	8-9-2019
			Beryl Jordan	93	30-9-2020

If you've not bought your tickets yet, do so - I urge you. You will see the space used imaginatively and creatively and it will be a cracking night out!

Finally, if you have not yet got knitting, please start making those poppies for Remembrance Sunday. Ask Cath in the office for the pattern and let Hilary know as she will coordinate the work. You will know how important Remembrance Sunday is to me: honouring our glorious dead does not incentivise war nor does it glamorise the theatre of conflict, but does pay respect to those who gave us their todays for our tomorrows. We continue to pray for peace in our world which needs it all the more, it seems, but we must always be ready to stand up for what is right - how else can we seek justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God? This month, we shall, once again, pay our respects at our Memorial and we shall decorate it with poppies - worn and knitted as we pray earnestly for peace and good will. **Fr Neil**

November Services Please see *Pews News* for week-day services

Sat	5	
Su	6	3rd Before Advent ALL SOULS 830 Prayer Book Communion 10 Parish Eucharist 630 Requiem Mass for ALL SOULS
Th	10	730 Walsingham Mass and Rosary
Sat	12	
Su	13	FLAG SERVICE & REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 830 Prayer Book Communion 10 Parish Eucharist
Sat	19	
Su	20	CHRIST THE KING 830 Prayer Book Communion 10 Parish Eucharist
Sat	26	
Su	27	ADVENT SUNDAY 830 Prayer Book Communion 10 Parish Eucharist 630 ADVENT CAROL SERVICE From Darkness to Light



St Nicolas' choir A bishop in North America recently said, "Good worship consists of its own three-legged stool: music, liturgy, and preaching. Each leg of that stool is important." Music in the Mass and at choral evensong is an immediate bridge between us and God where we can catch a transcendental glimpse of the mysterious and sublime, at once both simple and profound. Our music programme's role is two-fold. It provides leadership by supporting the congregational singing of hymns and other service music, and in our Anglo-Catholic tradition provides a sense of heightened spiritual and intellectual understanding of the message and Gospel of Jesus Christ. By so touching our senses, sometimes even ineffably, the music is a means for God to speak to us individually and collectively, drawing us closer to Himself.

Music can be one of those 'things we get out of attending church'.

But the music is even more importantly a part of our gift of talents offered to God in response. It enriches and enfolds in sound the who and what we are, acknowledging the imperfect at times but unceasingly striving to present our utmost best. Some of the music, such as hymns and familiar service music, is collectively offered up by everyone, and other music is offered vicariously, on behalf of the entire parish, by those especially skilled in their art.

With singular focus on assisting in the praise and worship of God, our musicians come in all shapes and



From the 14th C Tomić Psalter, Tarnovo literary and art school. Wikipedia

sizes, with varying degrees of ability, experience and potential as well as ever shifting availability. The origin of liturgical music is attributed to King David as the first Choir Master. I Chronicles tell us that David's forces were legend: three Levite clans from which he could procure musicians to perform specific duties to assist in worship. 4,000 full-time musicians were employed to praise God in song. St Nic's doesn't have the need for such vast number of musicians, nor the logistics or royal resources, but we continue that tradition of presenting congregational, choral, and instrumental music, bringing the highest possible quality of musical art into our worship as an offering to God.

One of the aspects people find attractive about St Nic's is our music, which becomes an out-reach and tool of evangelism. A musically strong church choir will invariably attract additional musically strong participants. Our Foundation Singers are effectively 'staff' choristers, providing a crucial, dependable solidity and framework for our choir. Equally importantly are the volunteers, who gradually once again are increasing in number and 'flesh out' that framework, enriching the sound in the way that a larger ensemble 'warms up' a quartet. We are most fortunate to have both experienced volunteers and the choral Foundation, enabling a wider breadth of repertoire and wealth of musical opportunity. Unlike the former days when village and small town church choirs were comprised of choristers who were always present, for most modern life now presents competing obligations of work, family commitments, or conflicts with leisure or travel plans. The paid staff singers provide consistency to the voice sections and add vocal confidence to the volunteer members.

The same way not all 'work' around the church can properly be done by volunteers from the congregation, such as servicing the boilers or sorting out the roof, our music incurs financial costs. We are most grateful for the generosity enabling us to purchase a fine second-hand piano for the church and will soon need to face the considerable costs of dealing with an organ now almost 150 years old. The wages of the Foundation Singers' are generally met by the PCC, but there is always the opportunity for people to help sponsor the choir or instrumentalists for a specific service, perhaps in honour or memory of a loved one. And even smaller-scaled gifts can assist with purchasing sheet music. Please do have a word with the Rector, the Treasurer, or me if interested.

With our autumn term well underway I introduce you to our Foundation people. Sopranos Alicia Pettit and Alison Ward, alto Kate Lowe, and tenor Stephen Petch generally sing at most of the choral services. Adding to their number alto Anna Thomas, tenor Daniel Mahoney, and baritone Laurence Cummins sing whenever their professional diaries permit. As well as being musicians these individuals have an interesting life away from St Nic's as teachers or working in music, industry, or at schools. We also have a small pool of professional and semi-professional musicians from local universities and my previous parish who can sometimes help us out. Do come and get to know these wonderful people.

Finally if you would like to sing in our choir, or know someone who would, and are able to make a regular commitment for rehearsals and services please do come forward. To paraphrase the Jane Borthwick poem, "claim the high calling angels cannot share... no voice so weak as may do service here."

Rick Erickson



Our choir joined by the visiting choir of St Peter & St Paul, Nutfield, at Choral Evensong 9 October

Remembering

We all have a past. The current moment is a brief, very brief, fraction of time, so fleeting we cannot comprehend it. The future is still to come and uncertain. We all have a past. We all made choices in the past, some good, many questionable and some purely bad, but we have the option to change ourselves from who we were in the past to a newer person in the future and so, hopefully, become better. That is what faith is all about. Having preached to you (sorry Fr. Neill!) I will now go on a journey of remembering. When I was a mere 10 year old (1955), I can recall my first real memories of church as a boy treble in Brixham (didn't last long, my voice broke 18 months later). I vividly remember the 11th of November and Remembrance Sunday. Everyone stopped at 11 am. Everyone. Wherever you were and whatever you were doing. For 2 minutes. Not a lot to ask in a year of some 525,000 minutes. If you didn't stop to remember then you were considered to be antisocial and were sent to Coventry at best, so

we all stopped to remember.... What were we remembering? As a 10 year old in 1955 I was 3 months old when WW2 finished so have absolutely no memory of what happened. I do, however, remember the 11th day of November clearly. I do remember church on Remembrance Sunday. I do remember giving thanks for those who died. And I still do it. Not like these days. Sunday trading was the start of the slippery slope to having "something better to do" on a Sunday than go to church, but this was well before Sunday Trading laws were invoked. The church was always literally full. 300+ people. Some people who could not get in to church stood outside the West Doors which were thrown open. We had members of the armed services. We had those who had served in civilian roles in the war. We had a full congregation including children taken to church by their parents. We had clergy and full choirs. We had a bugler, sometimes someone who actually could play the instrument, to play Last Post and Taps (not Reveille) from just inside the West door. We had banners from all the local organisations. We had parades to the War Memorial (which was a good mile away) and nobody flinched at the walk nor was a car used mainly because hardly anyone could afford one! But my most vivid memory was of a

small boy of about 10 who was our bugler for the day. He came from the British Seamen's' Orphan Boys Home in Brixham which austere building overlooked the harbour. It's still there but repurposed. Sadly, his rendition of Last Post and Taps was mainly puff with a few notes interspaced, but for all that it was very moving. He was dressed in full Royal Navy uniform, cut for a small child, authorised by the Ministry of War to be so used. In those times the memory of the war was very real. It was only a short time in the past. We all have memories which are strong from things which recently happened and as time passes those memories fade. Some, however, should not fade. And our Remembrance Sunday gives us the opportunity to thank those who gave their lives for our future, and that future is still coming over the horizon. Take me

personally. I am Welsh. I am not exactly what you might call "Hitler's version of Aryan" in appearance... a bit too brown to qualify. As a result, if we had not won the war I would probably have been consigned to menial work, possibly as a Welshman down the mines instead of doing what I did to scrape a living, namely use my brain. BUT... and it is a big BUT... it would be a mistake to only remember the allied dead.

The Axis powers' forces also fought for what they were told to believe in and very many good people died on both sides. Isn't it strange that both antagonists in both World Wars said that they had God on their side. Perhaps he was. Perhaps the outcome, and World we now have, wouldn't have been possible without the massive losses on both sides. On Remembrance Sunday, then, let us not be jingoistic in our remembrance, let us remember ALL those who died and gave us a better life. Let us also pray that we never



Photo by Victoriaedwards - Own work,
CC BY-SA 3.0, Wikipedia



Image by Ron Porter from Pixabay

fall into crass stupidity again and have another conflict raging over the whole of God's beautiful world. We should also remember those who have died since the World Wars in conflicts that they didn't choose, serving their countries. I finish with an observation and a little story, both linked to remembrance.

First the observation. Boudica excluded, and she was sorely provoked, how many women have started a war? And don't say "Helen of Troy", she was just an excuse for men to go to war. Yet we repeatedly have wars started by men in the safety of their offices far from the front. And on that note, would men actually go to war if the leaders who put the population on a war footing had to be in the front line of every battle of the war? I would argue not. Would they call the people to arms in the first place? I bet not. It's a case of "I'm firmly behind you in this war" and they mean that literally! In the past Kings went to war as soldiers and risked being killed. They didn't hide in bunkers and calculate how many lives they could sacrifice to win a particular battle. They were there. Our "brave" leaders (Putin is an example) sit well behind the action and let others do their dirty work and they who start and progress the wars are almost all men. My story is a memory I bring to mind when I remember my darling wife who died 6 years ago on the 15th of this month. I remember her every day in our services because ... well, she had a wicked sense of humour. "Phil, take the hair out of your eyes ... and the other hair," was one of her favourites. Now, if you watch me when we say The Lord's Prayer, you will see me smile in memory of her in one particular passage. Jacqui used, as a child who went to church in deepest Devon, to be concerned that the plantation must be a very dangerous place! She misheard that portion of the prayer which to her went "And lead us not in to the plantation, but deliver us from evil!" Remember. It doesn't take a lot of time but we have much to be grateful for. We are all, after all, just memories. Luckily because we are still alive. **Philip Thomas**



image auzza38 , Pixabay



Remembrance & white poppies The white poppy has been worn in the run-up to Remembrance Day for almost ninety years, as a symbol of remembrance and peace. White poppies are worn every year by thousands of people across the UK and beyond. They

were first produced in the aftermath of the First World War, to hold on to the key message of remembrance, 'never again'. They stand for three things:

Remembrance of all victims of war, including both civilians and members of the armed forces. We remember people of all nationalities. We remember those killed in wars happening now, as well as in the past. We also remember those who are often excluded from the mainstream, such as refugees and victims of colonial conflicts.

Challenging war and militarism, as well as any attempt to glorify or celebrate war. White poppies encourage us to question the way war is normalised and justified. They remind us of the need to resist war and its causes today.

A commitment to peace and to seeking nonviolent solutions to conflict. By drawing attention to the devastating human cost of war, white poppies highlight the urgency of our ongoing struggle for peace.

(from the website of the Peace Pledge Union) **Sally Lowe**

"Nations need to see patriotism in terms of world loyalty as well as self-affirmation." (Richard Rohr, SSF) **Sally Lowe**

We will remember them You may well have noticed the arrival of our Tommy in the graveyard in the shadow of the Silver birch trees. This important reminder to stop and say, "we will remember them" is an invitation to give thanks to those who paid the highest cost for our hard won freedoms and to strive always for peace. **Fr Neil**



The Armistice

In an Office, in Paris

The news came through over the telephone:

All the terms had been signed: the War was won:

And all the fighting and the agony,

And all the labour of the years were done.

One girl clicked sudden at her typewriter

And whispered, 'Jerry's safe', and sat and stared:

One said, 'It's over, over, it's the end:

The War is over: ended': and a third,

I can't remember life without the war.'

And one came in and said, 'Look here, they say

We can all go at five to celebrate.

As long as two stay on, just for today.'

It was quite quiet in the big empty room

Among the typewriters and little piles

Of index cards: one said, 'We'd better just

Finish the day's reports and do the files.'

And said, "It's awf'ly like Recessional,

Now when the tumult has all died away."

The other said, 'Thank God we saw it through;

I wonder what they'll do at home today.'

And said, 'You know it will be quiet tonight

Up at the Front: first time in all these years.

And no one will be killed there any more,'

And stopped, to hide her tears.

She said, 'I've told you; he was killed in June.'

"The other said, 'My dear, I know; I know...

It's over for me too... My man was killed,

Wounded... and died... at Ypres... three years ago

And he's my Man, and I want him,' she said,

And knew that peace could not give back her Dead.

May Wedderburn Cannan **Jenny Austin**

From **Grey Ghosts and Voices**

by May Wedderburn Cannan, writing about her time in the War Office, in Paris, in WW1. It was a lovely morning. There had not been much breakfast; only a cup of coffee and two very small slices of bread, and I was still hungry, but there would be lunch and I was young and hopeful; and I had got back to France.

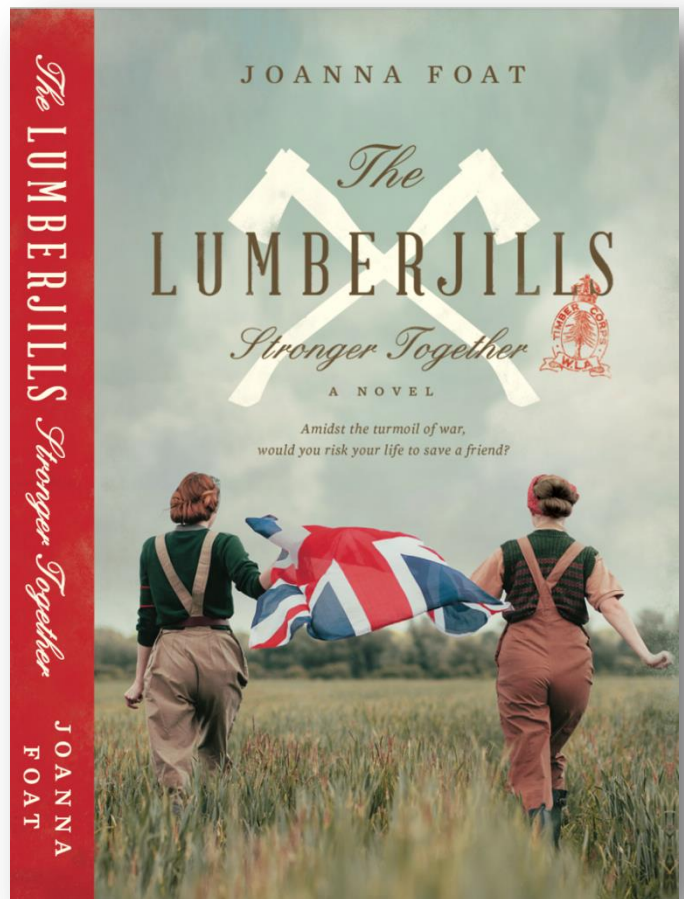
I was just three houses above No. 30 when the pavement blew up round me. A horse waiting at the side of the pavement screamed and fell at my feet twisted up in its harness. Two men crumpled up and fell in the road. Gendarmes appeared from nowhere. One took out his revolver and shot the horse; an ambulance with bells ringing picked up the two men. A woman who had come up beside me said "C'est la Grande Berthe" – A gendarme told her to move on; the incident was closed. I went on down to the Office.



The corner wall had been chipped, there was a good deal of dust and people were looking out of the

windows. I went in and presented my pass to the Poilu at the door. An officer appeared and I said "Secretary Miss Cannan come to report for duty". The Colonel was standing at the window. He turned, gave me a quick look and asked "which way did you come?" "Down the Avenue Sir." He looked at me again and said "Down? then why the devil are you not dead?" "I really don't know Sir." "Oh, well," he said, "you had better see Miss Harris. **Jenny Austin**

Image from English Heritage website



Joanna Foat was a guest speaker at Tuesday Group before the Covid lockdown, explaining her quest to document the work of British women whose contribution to the World War II effort was working in forests felling trees, earning them the name Lumberjills. Following her factual book, she has now written a novel set in that period which will be launched on 3rd November at the Guildford Institute. If you are interested in attending to get a signed copy, contact Jo on joannafoat@thelumberjills.uk The novel is available from Waterstones, Amazon and other bookstores online.

Worship on the web *Following a demonstration by Darrol of the St Nics Webcast kit, I was moved to write a few words...this is the future - well, some of the future - so I felt I should offer up a recognition.*

Covid has made a considerable and enduring change to the possibilities for formal worship. From a stuttering start as complete shutdown hit, and individual churches coped as best they could - perhaps a mobile phone camera in the Rectory or Palace Kitchen, to, now, fully fledged "Outside Broadcasting" style webcasts. The Anglican Church was more than a bit slow to start - some of the Roman Church was webcasting before Covid, though most, at that time, using a single fixed camera, but now there is an infinite range of options from across the globe. Here, St Nicolas stands very high in my list of English Parish Churches - it now uses the technology and skill to make an excellent visual presentation, using an advanced control unit with pre-set positions for the camera. The Choir is, of course, top-class, though their webcast sound is a task in-hand.

But should we be watching Mass/Eucharist on the Web and what is its benefit? Well, I will leave to the clergy the theology, while observing that, for example, the Roman Diocese of Arundel has "invited all Catholics who have not yet done so to return to attending Mass in person". Even so, it continues to webcast for those of its flock who are in the "Infirm or Vulnerable" categories. And, for the more able, service times vary, and nearly all Web churches now record their services, so there is no problem in attending ones own parish church and viewing others later.

What to "attend"? Well, the Saturday Daily Telegraph continues to print a listing of the Sunday services in most of the major churches and cathedrals of all denominations, and, in some cases the relevant web address. Where no address is printed, Google will soon find it. These pages have already mentioned All Saints, Margaret Street as an outstanding Anglican 'High Mass,' though it has not yet fully solved the webcast "sound" problem. An interesting variant is Trinity Wall Street - yes, that Wall Street! - which uses the American Book of Common Prayer - much the same as our older "Alternative Services" Book, and in a High Church ritual, so familiar enough. Its main Sunday Eucharist is at 11:15 which usually translates to 4:15 over here. The choir is professional and sings classic English cathedral music and hymns well together with Spirituals. The sermons sometimes are an exposition of the more unusual practices of the American Episcopal Church, so that might be the time to make a cup of coffee?

And, different again, I strongly commend weekday Evensong webcast from Canterbury Cathedral at 5:30 each day. This is a wholly traditional Anglican Evensong, sung by an Alpha-plus choir and led by clergy who know what an Anglican Evensong should look and sound like. The weekday attendees in person fill most of the stalls, and the added numbers watching [across the world?] are in hundreds. **Ian Mcpherson**



Dreaming of Streaming Two and a half years ago, we at St Nicolas would not have dreamed of streaming our services on a regular basis, however, life changed and now there are a core of people who depend on it as a means of joining us in our worship. We regularly have up to 20 viewers who watch the services live, but over the following few days this regularly increases to up to 100 or more. The service for Her Majesty the day before her funeral reached 2700+ viewers across the world.

We have streamed concerts, weddings and funerals and regularly stream the school services so parents and grandparents can watch their children in

church when they are unable to attend in person. Most of the services are "engineered" by Andy Anderson who has become expert at producing high quality broadcasts and we are looking forward to training up more volunteers who have shown an interest. **Darrol Radley**

Tuesday Group With the Autumn Term now well advanced, Tuesday Group have enjoyed a stimulating programme for October. "Bring a Tin" gave everyone a chance to share memories of and recipes for particular dishes; and the tins (if wished) could be donated to the Salvation Army Foodbank Box in church. At the following meeting there was a quiz for two teams, with some very recherché questions and moments of brilliance in answering them - as well as some bafflement when they were a little too far off our radar. A particular highlight of the term was Dr Catherine Fergusson's enlightening talk on the textiles which St Nicolas's church holds,



which included a rare opportunity to study finely worked vestments at close quarters. This meeting was particularly open to visitors, and it was pleasant to see members of the church taking up the invitation to attend this excellent lecture. The next week offered in-house entertainment with the topic "A favourite animal" - what a great variety of creatures was mentioned!

Tuesday Group has stopped for a week's holiday in line with school half-term, on 1st November. There will be another opportunity to hear a guest speaker this term - although everyone is welcome to any meeting, the occasions when there are talks are particularly suitable for visitors, so do keep up to date with the Tuesday Group programme, either online on the church website, or through the printed publicity notices. **Cathy Goodwin**

The sky in November **Rory Fenner**



The **Sun** moves from Libra into Scorpio on the 20th of November. **Mercury** is not well placed for observation. **Venus** is too close to the Sun to be seen this month. **Mars** is a brilliant orange Planet rising early evening reaching a high altitude in dark skies. **Jupiter** is a bright evening Planet visible most of the night. **Uranus** reaches opposition on 9th of November in Southern Aries, should be visible to the naked eye. **Neptune** is well placed for observation at mag 7.9, very close to Jupiter. They will appear 6 degrees apart mid month.

Growing Old Disgracefully This enticingly titled talk by Dr Martin Brunet from Binscombe Surgery in Godalming was positive and highly informative, here are a few nuggets. Dr Brunet defined old age as "an accumulation of damage in the body" but offered three important remedies to slow the process:

- most importantly, staying both physically and socially active
- not smoking or drinking alcohol excessively
- having meaningful relationships; these could be family, friends, pets or at least caring for a living plant.

In addition, it seems that a sense of humour and just being silly does us all a lot of good. (please see * below). Hearing loss is best addressed sooner rather than later to make it easier for the brain to adapt.

He highly recommends the book "Being Mortal" by Atul Gawande as both medically informative while still intelligible to the non-medically qualified and compassionate. He also recommends a 15 minute "Ted Talk" (YouTube on the internet) about a long-running Harvard study of Health and Happiness.

Dementia sufferers have a deficiency of vitamin D, so it is worth taking 1000 units (not milligrams) per day. This was part of the **Life Issues** seminars organised by Sally Pollard from Godalming Baptist Church and advertised in our last issue. Having attended two, I would recommend contacting her on **01483 428646** or pollard3@hotmail.co.uk to join the mailing list for further events.

*Nine important Facts to Remember as We Grow Older:

1. Death is the number 1 killer in the world.
2. Life is sexually transmitted.
3. Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.
4. Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day. Teach a person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks, months, maybe years.

The other 5 are not suitable for this Newsletter. **Jana Phillips**

September and October saw two weddings at St Nicolas



Lloyd and Megan

We wish the happy couples much joy and pray for their happiness.

Thom and Rosalind

Christmas isn't Christmas without receiving

a card or gift from Cards for Good Causes! This year, Cards For Good Causes is opening its annual pop-up shop at St Nicolas Church.

The doors will be open **Monday to Saturday, 10am to 4pm, from 15th October through to 17th December.**

We will be selling a wide range of gorgeous Christmas cards and gifts, advent calendars and wrapping items, all of which raise money for local and national charities. Any enquiries, please call me on 07792 424836 **Andy Anderson**

'REVISING PEVSNER - a new look at Surrey's church architecture'

Wed 23 November 2022, 7pm-8.15pm St John's Centre, 222 Epsom Road in Merrow, Guildford GU4 7AA (next to St John the Evangelist Church) a talk in person and online: Charles O'Brien is an editor of the world famous Pevsner Architectural Guides and will talk about Surrey's church architecture as documented by Sir Nikolaus Pevsner and Ian Nairn in the original volume for the county of Surrey in 1962. Coinciding with the publication of the newly updated Pevsner Architectural Guide for Surrey in November 2022, this is the Guide's first ever revision and Charles will review the scholarship of Surrey's churches since then and the changing opinions on the merits of the recent changes. Book now at <https://thelittleboxoffice.com/scpt> Tickets £12: Concessions: £8 and £6. Pay on the door if you prefer. All proceeds from the talk go to the Surrey Churches Preservation Trust to help conserve and repair Surrey's church buildings.



Eco news



Recent headlines from **Church Times**
C of E Pensions Board joins fight to force VW to open its books on climate lobbying The Church of England Pensions Board has joined five other pension funds to bring legal action against Volkswagen AG (VW), after it refused repeated attempts to reveal crucial information on its corporate climate-lobbying activities.



Planet needs us all to behave, says Bishop of Oxford The Bishop of Oxford, Dr Steven Croft, has called on the Government to support behaviour changes as part of the pathway to net zero emissions. Radical action is needed in this decade and the next, says Dr Croft.

See also



YOUNG CHRISTIAN CLIMATE NETWORK



"...an action-focused community of young Christians in the UK aged 18-30, choosing to follow Jesus in the pursuit of climate justice"



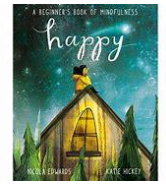
<https://www.yccn.uk/>

St Nicolas' Infant School "Living life in all its fullness" John 10:10

The first half-term Value was **Dignity**, and how it can help us to live life in all its fullness, focusing on respect for ourselves, others and for our school, and appreciation.



Black History Month provided an opportunity to use examples from black history to illustrate dignity.

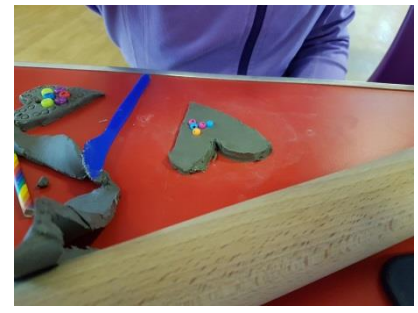


Celebrating **World Mental Health Day**, Beech class used the book 'The Colour Monster' to talk about feelings and learn how friendships can help us to feel happy. Chestnut Class read 'Your Mind Is Like The Sky' and discussed the different feelings people experience and the things we can do to help manage them. Oak Class used 'Happy', a mindfulness book, to reflect on the different feelings we experience and how mindfulness, using our senses and having an appreciation of nature can help us keep positive mental health.

Preparing for **Harvest Festival**, the children learnt about St Nicolas who gave to those in need, and took inspiration from this by making cards to show God's love to the CAP clients for whom the school have been collecting donations. The children also learnt that prayer was important to St Nicolas, and saw the launch of classroom and playground prayer spaces. They thought about the reasons for prayer and wrote prayers to show their appreciation for all the gifts we have, from food to family, friends and our school community. There was lots of creativity, and as you entered the church on Friday you will have seen lots of artwork, prayers and cards the children had been busy making.

St Nicolas' Junior church

Term-time, during the 10am Service on Sundays



St Nicolas' Café Play

(grand/parent & toddlers)
Wednesdays 10-11:30am
in the Parish Centre

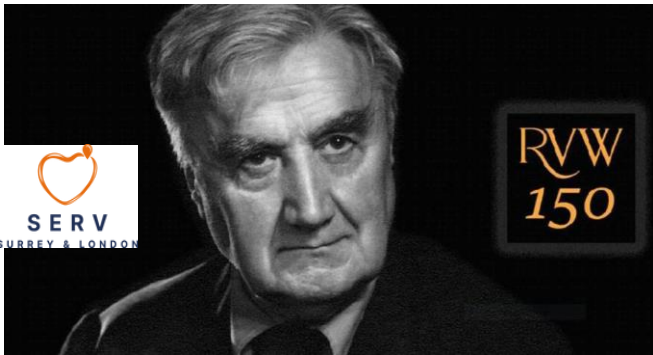


Coming up with St Nicolas church:

- Sunday 27th November 6:30pm**
Advent Carol Service - candlelit, fabulous choir and altogether wonderful
- Saturday 3rd December 4pm**
Messy Christmas Church
- Friday 9th December 9:15am** Year 1
Parents invited to Fr Neil's collective worship **in school**
- Friday 16th December 9:30am**
School Posada Service, 2pm children break up for Christmas
- Sunday 18th December 10:30am**
Nine Lessons & Carols with Mince Pies - the famous one - a choral feast!
- Christmas Eve 3pm & 5pm**
Christingle - ticketed - the one with the oranges, candles and children dressing up as Nativity characters and
- Midnight Mass at 11:30pm**
- Christmas Day 10am** Christmas Day Eucharist



Abigail who comes to Café Play was baptized in Brazil this summer, attended by her mum Leida's family.



Bright is the Ring of Words

Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the birth of Ralph Vaughan Williams through his songs and songs from the British musical theatre of his time.

Performed by
David Greenwood & Gillian Lloyd
Saturday 26th November at 10.30am at St.Nicolas'

free entry, donations for
SERV Surrey & London Blood Delivery Service

SURREY BRASS PRESENTS

A CONCERT OF SEASONAL BRASS MUSIC

**AUTUMN
LEAVES**

**ST NICOLAS
CHURCH**

BURY STREET
GUILDFORD, GU2 4AW

**26 Nov
2022**

**SATURDAY
7:30 PM**

Eventbrite



Guildford Chamber Choir
Reg. Char. No. 1074661

IN MEMORIAM RVW

RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS
MASS IN G MINOR
WILLIAM BYRD
THREE TUDOR ANTHEMS
GABRIEL FAURÉ
REQUIEM

CONDUCTED BY MAX BARLEY
with
The Bramley Consort
Richard Moore - organ

Saturday 12th November 2022
7.30pm
St Nicolas' Church
Guildford GU2 4AW

Tickets £15
in advance from the **GCC website**
Booking Fees Apply
£17 on the door (cash or card)
Under 25s free
www.guildfordchamberchoir.org.uk

In Aid of **E+DC**
Equipment for Disabled Children

The Humfrey Richardson Taylor Charitable Trust

View from RVW Country - Leith Hill, Surrey

Guildford Chamber Choir's

autumn concert comprises masterpieces by three giants of the choral repertoire.

The evening will remember and celebrate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Ralph Vaughan Williams, one of the major figures of English music. His Mass in G Minor was first performed 100 years ago this year and is an evocative unaccompanied piece, perfect for the warm acoustic of St.Nicolas'.

The Mass has been described as spirituality reminiscent of the work of William Byrd, one of the greatest composers of the Tudor era. We shall be singing three of his finest Latin motets.

The concert takes place on the day after Remembrance Day. In keeping with the theme of remembrance, the choir will round off the concert with a performance of the much-loved Requiem of Gabriel Fauré, accompanied by string quintet and organ - a rare opportunity to hear this arrangement.

Tickets are available from the [GCC website](#) and are £15 in advance (plus booking fee) and £17 on the door. **Under 25s are free.** The concert begins at 7.30pm.



A candlelit concert of carols and Christmas songs with the Surrey Hills choirs

Award winning **Surrey Hills Chamber choir** and sister choir **the Surrey Hills Singers**, will perform their annual candlelit Christmas **concert** on **Sunday 11th December at 8pm**. The concert will be held in the stunning, atmospheric setting of St Nicolas Church, Bury Street, Guildford and the performance will be followed with festive nibbles and drinks.

Christmas songs old and new, there is something for everyone with well-known favourites from across the eras. The programme includes three haunting medieval songs – “Flos Regalis”, “Veni Veni Emmanuel” and “Coventry Carol”; the wonderful Hodie Christus natus est (Today Christ is born) by the English renaissance composer William Byrd; two contrasting settings of Ave Maria by Rachmaninov and Richard Vaughan; some movements from Britten’s celebrated “Ceremony of Carols”; Rutter’s uplifting “Tomorrow shall be my dancing day”; and many other well-known Christmas carols.

The Surrey Hills choirs give entertaining performances as their priority is to engage directly with the audience through singing from memory, often without conductor, and using stage craft to create different sound effects and other moments of interest. With audience carols too, supporters say that the annual Surrey Hills concert signals the start of the Christmas season. Let the choirs put you in the festive mood this year! Come and join the festive singing and bring your family too. Tickets are £14 for adults and £5 for children (price includes programme and refreshments) and will be available online at www.surreyhills-choirs.co.uk/tickets from Monday 14th November. If you would like to be seated in a masked area please email surreyhillsconcerts@btinternet.com when you book your ticket.

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OAPs £40 per visit, £65 for 2 people

St. Nicolas Parish Church, Bury St, Guildford, GU2 4AW saintnics.com
Rector Fr Neil Roberts rector@saintnics.com
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tel 01483 564 526 parishoffice@saintnics.com
Editors Fr Neil Roberts & Jana Phillips

Please continue to send articles on matters that interest you and you would like to share. Email or telephone your material to: janagp@btinternet.com, mob.07970 934325 or give to Fr Neil or Jana at church. The next copy deadline is 21 November.