

St Peter & St Paul

Little Horkesley

Parish Magazine

December 2022/January 2023

The new Christmas card design. Photo by Sally Bramall



Contacts for

St Peter & St Paul Little Horkesley



Vicar: Revd. Heather Wilcox

The Rectory, Church Road, West Bergholt, Colchester, CO6 3JZ

Tel: 01206 240906 email: RevHWilcox@outlook.com

Parish Administrator: Mrs Donna Luxton

St Mary the Virgin Church, Church Close, West Bergholt, Colchester,

CO6 3JE Tel: 01206243683 email: lwb.wb.gh.parishes@gmail.com

Reader Emeritus: Dr.Ronald Blythe CBE, MA

Churchwarden: David Lewis

Old Hall Farm, Little Horkesley, Colchester CO6 4DL

Tel: 07785 954200 email: dmglewis@hotmail.com

Organist & Magazine Co-ordinator: Meriel Sparkes

13 Keepers Green, Braiswick, Colchester

CO4 5UT Tel: 01206 855523 email: meriel.sparkes@btinternet.com



PCC Secretary: Will Pavry

The Walnut Tree Little Horkesley Colchester CO6 4DG

Tel: 01206 271609 email: william@pavry.com

PCC Treasurer: Sally Bramall Forge House 82 Bear Street

Nayland Colchester CO6 4HY Tel 07801203207

email:bramalls@yahoo.co.uk

Magazine Advertising: Brenda Green

"Hardy's", School Lane, Great Horkesley, Colchester CO6 4BL

Tel: 01206 271019

Captain of Bells: Brian Lord

Warren Cottage, Great Horkesley, Colchester CO6 4BZ

Tel: 01206 271386

Magazine Editor: Suzanne Albert

2 Chase Cottages, New Road, Aldham, CO6 3QT

Tel: 07854 602633 email:parishmag@msn.com



Magazine Printers: CZ Design & Print

Unit 3 Southmill Trading Centre, Bishops Stortford, CM23 3DY

Tel: 01279 657769 email: hello@czdesignandprint.co.uk

The Rectory

with Revd Heather Wilcox



Over the centuries, many traditions have built up around Christmas, to the point, where many of us share the same traditions, be it singing Christmas carols, hanging stockings out for Father Christmas, decorating our houses, giving and receiving presents, pulling crackers with jokes told and eyes rolled, and eating too many festive foods, from turkeys to mince pies, all washed down with the ubiquitous tin of Quality Street or Roses (you get the idea, other sweet options are available!)

But there might also be those Christmas traditions that we always do as families, that others may not. For example, the first Christmas my husband spent with my family, he was completely bemused, when the Christmas pudding appeared, flames lapping, and everyone launched into singing, 'Good King Wenceslas'. It was something we always did, but until that moment in time, it had never occurred to me that it wasn't being repeated in every other home across the land.

Whatever the traditions we have, there is something very comforting and familiar about Christmas. It is something that many people look forward to with great excitement, and of course the story of Christmas, as it gets retold time and time again, never gets old. School nativity plays recreate the drama of Mary and Joseph travelling to Bethlehem and giving birth in a stable, the Baby Jesus, the King of kings, wrapped in swaddling cloths, and laid in a manger.

For years, one thing many people across the country have tuned into on Christmas day, at 3pm is the Queens Christmas Message, a message which has often touched on her deep Christian faith. This year, things will be different, as for the first time for many of us, it will be the Kings Christmas Message we will hear. Whilst it may be different, the over-all message of Christmas remains the same, and it is a message of Joy and Hope, as the angels announce to shepherds on the hillside, *'Do not be afraid, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.'*

So as we enjoy all the traditions of Christmas, old and new, may we never lose sight of the Hope and Joy the Christ child brings us.

May God bless you and Happy Christmas
Reverend Heather



Humble Jesus,
born in a manger,
as we once again come to this Christmas season
May we see past our traditions and all the
busyness
and be filled afresh with wonder and awe,
hope and joy.

Amen



<i>Month</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Arranger</i>
December	4	Advent
	11	Advent
	18	Sarah Turner
Carol Service	18	Sarah Turner
Christmas Day	25	Sarah Turner
January	1	TBA
	8	TBA
	15	TBA
	22	TBA
	29	TBA
February	5	TBA

MERIEL'S REPORT



I am always so very pleased when anyone takes an interest in our lovely church and two events happened in the summer months which gave me a great deal of pleasure.

FIRSTLY – THE TWO SARAHS

I had a telephone call in July from a lady named Sarah Cassell, who lives in Norfolk, asking if she could make an appointment for a visit from an American friend, Professor Sarah Blick, whose great interest is medieval font covers. Prof Blick was to be on a very short visit to this country. I explained that our church once had one such cover but that it was destroyed in the war. I said all we had left are a few of the carved figures which are in a cabinet with other artifacts from the bombing. A date was duly arranged for September 8th (now memorable as it was the day our Queen died)

On the morning of the visit, I decided to look in my scrapbook as I had a photo of the font cover and there, I saw that written underneath was '15th century font cover with 19th century figurines'. Oh dear! I made a quick phone call as I did not want them to come on a wild goose chase. However, they still wished to come. The two ladies arrived, and we had a lovely visit. They were so interested in everything about the church. We had the figurines out of the cabinet, and they took photos of them and many other aspects of our church. It transpired that Sarah Cassell also had a specialist subject, Angel Roofs.

One quite amusing thing that happened was that I mentioned that I had had an uncle who was a lay reader and who lived in Ufford near Woodbridge. I said I remembered visiting the church there and it had a marvellous font cover. The ladies looked at each other and said it was the finest example there is. It then transpired that Professor Sarah has two cats, one of which is named Ufford and the other, Chufford, in recognition of that fabulous font cover. I felt very pleased to have mentioned it!

Afterwards, I was thinking of their visit and about writing about it when I realised, I really knew little about these two charming ladies, so I contacted them, and I have copied their emails which I was thrilled to receive.

You will see a picture of the Font Cover on page 14.



Dear Meriel,

Thank you again for the wonderful welcome you gave us when we visited Little Horkesley church! I am especially grateful that you shared pictures and history from your own knowledge and from the amazing scrapbook you've kept. I was incredibly moved by your memory of how your sister's grave only suffered the smallest damage and how your father cleaned off her grave. I also really liked the picture of teenage you on the roof of the new church. I know I wasn't that brave even when I was a teenager!

I was particularly interested in your church and its now-destroyed font cover because I am writing a book on late-Gothic parish-church baptismal font covers. I'm quite aware that I couldn't have come up with a more obscure topic if I tried, but nonetheless, I find the subject fascinating. In addition to figuring out what they were and why they were so elaborate in the late 15th/early 16th centuries, I am interested in the afterlife of the covers and why and how some survived and others didn't. The fate of Little Horkesley's cover showed how something could be preserved for centuries by a caring church community and still be lost through catastrophic events caused far beyond the parish. I was also moved by the display you put together in the case with the fragments and figures that survive along with the pictures. It's a wonderful memorial.

I am a college professor who teaches art history at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio USA. It's a tiny liberal arts college with a strong English Episcopalian (Anglican) history. My specialty area is medieval art. I have mostly published articles on pilgrimage souvenirs from Canterbury Cathedral until I tired of it (after 20 years) and started on parish churches and font covers. I also edit a scholarly journal <http://peregrinations.kenyon.edu> and co-edit a book series from Brill Press in Leiden <https://brill.com/view/serial/AMCE?language=en>

I met Sarah Cassell a number of years ago and we became friends. Her work on angel roofs is marvelous and we have a great time visiting churches when I can get over to England (this is my first post-pandemic trip).

Again, thank you and please let me know if you have any other questions.

Sarah (Blink)



Dear Meriel,

We really enjoyed our visit to your wonderful church. You were so welcoming and extremely helpful. You have created an important display and archive of material and we felt very fortunate to access both.

I have copied in Sarah B, who is a professor at Kenyon College, Ohio.

I was an Associate Tutor at UEA, where I completed my PhD thesis, titled Structure and Image in Late Medieval East Anglian Angel Roofs (2018). I give regular conference papers and talks. I have published Reframing the Rood: Fifteenth-Century Angel Roofs and the Rood in East Anglia (2020) and a second publication is pending. I was a teacher for 26 years and Assistant Headteacher for 12 years, following my Art History degree at the Courtauld Institute of Art. I left teaching to pursue an MA in Art History at UEA, where I abandoned modernism for medieval church art; my dissertation is titled Material Presence, Eternal Memory: Donors and Chancel Screens in Late Medieval East Anglia. I completed a museum traineeship with Norfolk Museums Service, briefly worked at Moyse's Hall Museum and have undertaken voluntary work for the Churches Conservation Trust. I enjoy early medieval re-enactment and pottery.

Hope we can keep in touch and that we can visit the church again. It is a deservedly loved place and you are doing such a marvellous job in keeping it alive and welcoming.

Very best wishes,

Sarah (Cassell)



SECONDLY - ASIA

The second thing that happened, which also gave me great pleasure, was that I received another email from Asia, the Polish girl, who came to work at The Hall in the few months before we were hit by the Covid pandemic, when she had to quickly return to Poland. While she was here, she often came to our Evening Services although she is a Roman Catholic. We were pleased to welcome her, and I have kept in touch with her. She is now at university, studying Forestry and working in beautiful forests during her holidays.

Dear Meriel,

I hope this email finds you well, despite the recent sad news. My family and I were so sorry to hear about Queen Elizabeth's death. We have always admired Her so much.

How are you doing? How is the weather in England now? Throughout the summer, it was often reported in Polish media, that there was a drought in England, as well as terrible heat waves. How did it affect your family and the local community? And most importantly, have you finally had enough rain?

I am still on my holidays from university, but I help with some forest research project for work, which I really like. I get to spend much time in the forest, and I work with a very experienced forester, who likes to share his knowledge and experience with me.

But there is also some even better news - my younger brother, who is now 20 years old, has decided to become a priest. He is about to commence his seminary studies, which will take seven years. We were all very surprised to hear about his decision. It was definitely not an easy one to make, especially taking into consideration how much being a catholic priest changes one's life. He won't be allowed to have a family of his own, which is probably the biggest worry of my parents. Yet Krzysztof says he has been thinking about it for four years already and feels ready for it. I'm happy for him, but also a bit worried. Hopefully it all turns out well.

I am looking forward to hearing from you. I hope other people from the church are doing well too and miss being able to attend your beautiful Sunday services!

Love,

Asia





It is good to know that she remembers, with affection, our services which were, after all, totally unknown to her.

I shall send copies of this issue to the two Sarah's and to Asia.

HARVEST FESTIVAL



The response to the Harvest Appeal for the Colchester Food Bank was very good. The church did not get as many decorations as usual, but

Roger and I did our best. Roger really must be congratulated for his weeks and weeks of wonderful



displays, all from his own garden. I know the months of dry weather have caused him some dismay, but he has still managed to put incredible displays in the church. Very, very sincere thanks, Roger.



We had a lovely Evening Harvest Service which was well-attended, and Christopher later kindly took all the groceries and toiletries along to the Food Bank. Thank you, everyone for your support.

CHURCH FLOWERS

On the subject of the church flower arrangers, we are getting so very few. We really need more volunteers. There were only 6 of us doing flowers for the whole of 2022.

The list for 2023 is in the church.



BAPTISM

On October 16th Maya Lilla-Ann Cicero, beautiful daughter of Kirby Scarth and Gio Green was baptised at our church. Maya is the great-great granddaughter of the Revd Frank Lawrence who was vicar of our church when the church was bombed and up to the rebuilding. Many of the Lawrence/Scarth family events have been held at our church and it is lovely to keep the connection.



The Cabinet that houses the artifacts from the bombing was organised in his memory for Mr Lawrence's daughter, the late Daphne Scarth, Maya's great grandmother.



ALLSAINTS/ALL SOULS

We had a quite memorable day on October 30th. In the morning, it being the 5th Sunday in the month there was a United Service of Holy Communion at our church. Archdeacon Ruth Patten preached and administered the Communion.

There was a large congregation and afterwards almost everyone stayed for refreshments.

In the evening, for All Souls, we had a quite emotional service at which a list was read of the names of loved ones to be remembered and there was an opportunity to light a candle in their memory.

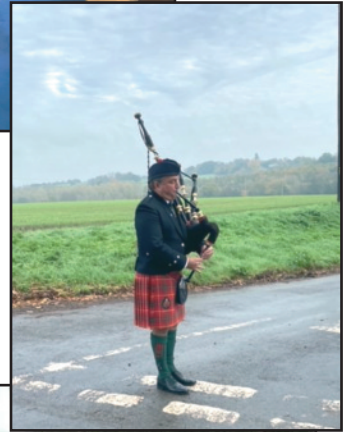


REMEMBRANCE

This year was again a memorable service. Our Ordinand Emma officiated and preached an amazing sermon. Her husband Stephen played his bagpipes. The church looked very beautiful as it had been decorated for the funeral of Mrs Margaret Eddis which had taken place on the previous Friday. Fionna Morrison had added her touches to the poppy tributes. As usual wreaths were laid at the War Memorial by Michael Culham and a representative of the Parish Council. The Lament was then played. Read Emma's sermon on pages 25 & 26.

The photos will tell the story.





100th BIRTHDAY OF RONALD BLYTHE

As a number of you know our dear friend, Ronnie Blythe was 100 years old on November 6th. A few members of our small choir were available, and we went on the day before his birthday, to sing some hymns to him.

Since he has been unable to come to any services for some years this is what he misses so much. We all felt very privileged. Suzanne, our editor, who is one of his carers helped to organise the quite lovely occasion.

We were each given a copy of his new book, Next to Nature, which was a lovely surprise. See Suzanne's piece with some photos on page 22-24.

CHURCH MAGAZINE DONATIONS

We now have a Church Magazine every two months. It costs an enormous amount to produce so I am asking if you could make a donation of £10 towards the cost. If it is sent to you, I would ask that you pay £15. I hope you will be generous with your donations as the cost to the church is considerable.

I would like to thank Suzanne, our very able and willing Editor for all her help.

DETAILS REGARDING PAYMENT

Payments can be made in cash or by cheque, made payable to Little Horkesley PCC, and can be given to Sally Bramall, Forge House, 82 Bear Street. Nayland, Colchester, CO6 4HY.

They can also be made by Bank transfer as follows:

HSBC plc,

sort code 40-18-51

Account no. 71027395

Reference – your name.



CHRISTMAS CARDS

You will receive with our Magazine a Christmas card showing the Christmas services. This beautiful card is also available in the church to purchase for £5 for a pack of 10. The card has no wording inside so can also be used as a notelet at any time of the year.

CHRISTMAS

OUR CAROL SERVICE WILL BE ON DECEMBER 18th AT 6.30 pm AND MULLED WINE AND MINCE PIES WILL BE AVAILABLE BEFORE THE SERVICE – FROM 5.45 pm

ON DECEMBER 24th THERE IS A COMMUNION SERVICE AT OUR CHURCH STARTING AT 7.30 pm.

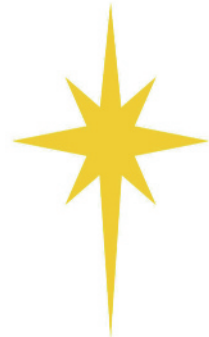
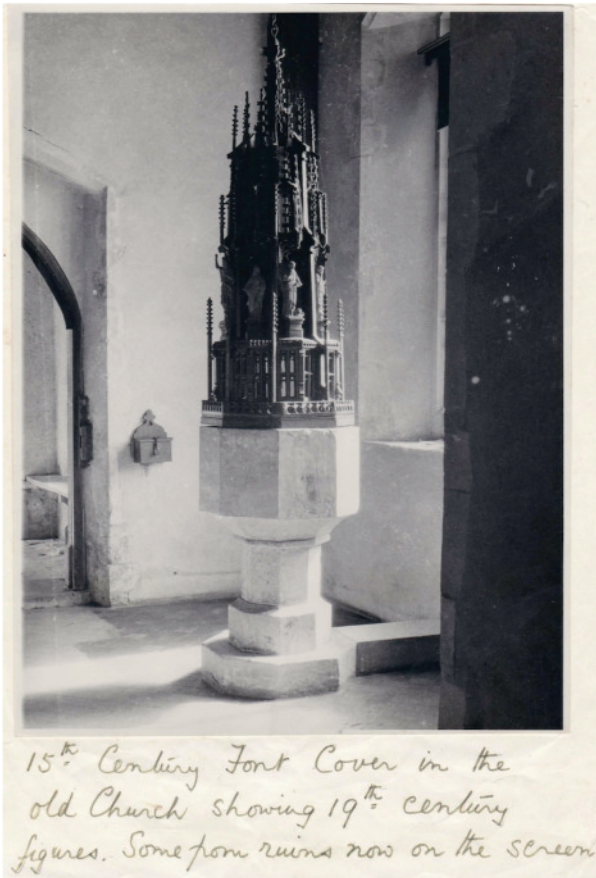
THERE IS NO SERVICE AT OUR CHURCH ON CHRISTMAS DAY BUT THERE IS A BENEFICE MORNING SERVICE AT WORMINGFORD CHURCH AT 10.30 am.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ALL OF THESE SERVICES.

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL.



MERIEL





Here **whenever** you need us

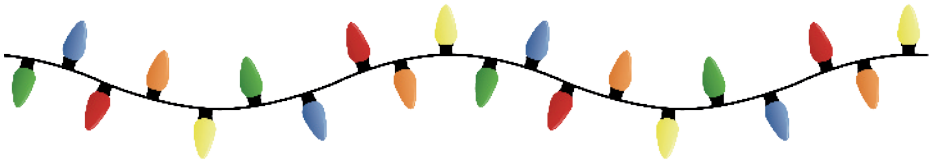
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Meeting of the PCC on October 18th, 2022

The Parochial Church Council met in the Church on October 18th. David Lewis said that the fabric of the Church was in good order and Sally Bramall, as Treasurer, said that income and expenditure for 2022 was in line with budget.

The main issue discussed was the outcome of a meeting of Churchwardens of the 6 parishes under the guidance of the Vicar.

The first issue was one to help administration by establishment of a separate account for the management of the West Bergholt Office which was agreed as being very sensible.

The second, and most important, issue was the vision for the six parishes of Little Horkesley, Great Horkesley, West Bergholt, Wormingford, Mount Bures and Langham with Boxted going forward now that the Vicar had been in post for a year. She proposed that we should formalise the grouping of the six parishes going forward and invite Archdeacon Ruth and Bishop Roger to a meeting in the first half of 2023 to share with us the possible options that might be open to us. This was seen as being very constructive by the PCC.

The third issue was the proposal to establish a food bank collection point for the Village in the Church. There were some doubts about this, but the suggestion will be followed up with the Parish Council. Wormingford Church is already operating a Food Bank doing this and their experience would provide a model for us.

We also discussed the Parish Share contribution for 2023 and agreed to hold it at the same level as 2022 in spite of the fact that the formula used by the Diocese would have shown a lower contribution. We discussed the matter in full and felt that our finances were such that we were able to provide some level of support to other parishes that were struggling to meet their commitment by holding our contribution at the 2022 level.

In conclusion Meriel Sparkes reminded us all that it was Ronnie Blythe's 100th birthday on November 6th. She had sent him Birthday Wishes on behalf of the Church and the choir had arranged to visit him and sing some of his favourite hymns. His contribution to the life of Little Horkesley Church has been just enormous over very many years and we are so very privileged to have had him as a lay reader.

Will Pavry, PCC Secretary



Twelve tips for Christmas... and after



With Christmas rapidly approaching here are a few seasonal tips to help keep you safe at home, shopping, visiting, and after Christmas too.

1. If you need to store Christmas food and drink, presents and other goodies within garages and outbuildings, ensure what you are storing is out of sight and that the building is securely locked with good quality well fitted locks. Treat your shed to a shed alarm.
2. Avoid tempting window shopping burglars; don't leave presents and valuables on full view in front of a window. Having parcels delivered, may be out, make sure that you make suitable secure delivery arrangements to reduce the risk of theft.
3. Whenever leaving the house always ensure that your windows and doors are closed and locked. Don't attract burglars to your home by leaving it in darkness; leave lights on timers, perhaps treat yourself to a TV simulator too.
4. Lock gates to keep unwanted visitors from getting to the rear of your home.
5. When you go to leave the house and find that your car is all iced up, don't leave it unattended with the engine running to de-ice it. It only takes a second to steal your car and it would invalidate any insurance claim.
6. Park safely; look for a 'Park Mark' accredited car park www.parkmark.co.uk/car-park-finder Check that your car is locked before you leave it and don't leave valuables and gifts on display in your car.
7. Whether an evening out or Christmas shopping keep your bags, handbags, wallets and mobile safe. Busy places make it easier for the sneak thief, so be alert at all times.
8. A Christmas get together – make sure that you have considered how you are getting home in advance and avoid using unlicensed taxis. Ensure you drink responsible, social distance and are aware of your surroundings, whilst keeping your drink and belongings safe. www.suzylamplugh.org/Pages/FAQs/Category/personal-safety
9. Watch what you put on social media; check your settings to ensure that you are not broadcasting when you are not at home

and the lovely gifts you may have received.

10. After Christmas don't advertise your nice gifts to the thieves by putting the empty boxes out for collection, disguise them, fold them up inside out or put them inside another non-descript box.
11. Record your new property free on www.immobilise.com , install tracking and security apps on relevant electrical and computer products. Consider a property marking product.
12. **Have a Great Christmas and New Year!!**

For further crime prevention advice see:

www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/ or
<https://www.securedbydesign.com/guidance/crime-prevention-advice>



Pet Of The Month



"Requiem to Cancer" - 24-hour singing marathon fundraiser

By Sally Bramall

Four years ago, whilst Lizzie was in the middle of her cancer battle, my sister and I took part in a quite remarkable 24-hour singing marathon fundraiser called "Requiem to Cancer". This weekend we did it again - starting at 8pm on Friday eve, practicing then performing four requiems through the night, finishing at 8pm on Saturday. There were over 100 singers, with guest soloists joining for different pieces.

St Paul's Church Covent Garden is such a beautiful church, known as "The Actor's Church", serving Theatreland, designed by Inigo Jones in 18th century - the acoustics are absolutely phenomenal. The sound from such a large choir was breathtakingly powerful.

We first sang a new requiem inspired by the writings of Leonardo de Vinci by Celia McDowell, which had been premiered at The Festival Hall just pre covid. It was a fabulous piece to sing- challenging but so beautiful - practiced through the evening and into the small hours and our first big performance at 3am!!

This was followed by rehearsals for Mozart's amazing requiem, which we then performed after a break for breakfast in Covent Garden. We've

sung it before (and are again later this year in Vienna no less) - it was so powerful and uplifting - a marvellous sound to inspire us.

We also snuck in a performance of Faure's requiem, just for fun as everyone had sung it so many times it needed no rehearsal - it always has a deep effect on my and tears once again streamed down my face.

Saturday afternoon was spent on Brahms, which neither Emma or I had ever sung before, let alone in German. Many say it's their favourite and I now understand better. It was awesome. The sound in the church felt like it was going to blow the roof. It was astonishingly powerful.

Throughout the event we also sang the world premiere of a marvellous anthem by the amazing Janet Wheeler written specifically for the event. Janet then sang with us for all 24 hours too; we were so lucky to have her sat right behind us - her beautiful voice inspiring and guiding us particularly for our virginal Brahms performance!

Before the 3am performance, a long roll call was read of those 'lost to cancer', including Lizzie's name and others affected by this devastating disease whom we remembered.



The event raised money for Cancer Research UK, but Emma and I also raised money for Lizzie's Fund. We've reached almost £6,000 for this event which is stunning. This should take our total for Lizzie's Fund close to £460,000. Totally amazing, as I remember Lizzie's determination and energy to hold a bake sale to raise money for the research trial she had been offered which started all this fundraising.

Here is the JustGiving link for Requiem to Cancer - <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/sally-bramall-requiem> but I will also leave a more traditional sponsorship form in Church if you are able to help in any way - thank you all for your support so very much.



Ronald Blythe's Centenary birthday

by Suzanne Albert

As most of you are aware, Ronnie Blythe celebrated his 100th birthday on November 6th.

It was decided, because of the amount of people that wanted to celebrate with him, that the birthday festivities would begin on Saturday 5th and continue with visits from friends and family throughout the week.

I am fortunate to be one of Ronnie's carers (affectionately known as the Ronnettes), and as the editor of this church magazine, and friend to the church, I was lucky to be able to ask Meriel and the rest of the choir if they would come on the Saturday morning to sing a few hymns to Ronnie, and of course they agreed. Little did we know that their presence at his home, along with Revd Heather Wilcox, with hymns and hymnals for us all, would be, for him, the highlight of his birthday – well, second only to his card from the King and Queen Consort of course!

The Ronettes arranged for a birthday cake to be made for the occasion, and it turned out to be a work of art - so lifelike in fact that Meriel almost rested her glass on it! Several hymns were sung (including two requests), champagne was drunk, toasts were tearfully made to an extraordinary man, *Happy Birthday* was sung, the candles were blown out, and the cake was cut and eaten. Shortly after everyone began to leave, Ronnie settled in for a well-earned rest.

Meriel, who has known Ronnie for decades, said she felt privileged to be there for the occasion and we, who look after and care for Ronnie, are grateful and so very honoured the choir and Heather came for Ronnie that day. On a personal level (as a friend of Little Horkesley) I was so proud. Thank you.

Ronnie has received over 130 birthday cards, which includes the aforementioned card from the Palace. Most of those cards are from fans who have written kind notes to Ronnie congratulating him on his 100 years and thanking him for his books. He was amazed to see such an outpouring of love and affection. We weren't.

Ronnie has asked that I send out a big THANK YOU from him for all your cards, well wishes and friendship over the years.



Top left: Ronnie with nephew Michael Blythe who flew over from Australia. Top right: Ronnie with his card from the King and Queen Consort (& Pussy Cat). Right: Ronnie preparing to blow his candles out. Bottom left: singing hymns with Flea. Bottom right: Ronnie with some of his 'dear ones' - the Ronnettes, Alan, Hazel, Michael, Meriel, Brenda & Ruth. Behind the camera is Chris, with Revd Heather supervising ;)



Photos: Chris Matthews & Suzanne Albert



The cake was two of Ronnie's books. The bottom cake, which was red velvet cake, was Akenfied and the top, which was lemon, was the new book Next to Nature.



Horkesley Care Network



The Care Network is a registered charity which exists to offer help to those in our local community who are without transport. Should you need to get to a doctors or hospital appointment, collect a prescription, attend social activities around the villages, etc., we have a pool of volunteer drivers to help you.

Phone Lesley on 01206 271576 or Peggy on 01206 271532 and we will make the necessary arrangements.

If you have a little free time and are able to help occasionally as a driver, please phone Lesley on 01206 271576 for further details.

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It is unusual for me to reprint a sermon, but this one from Emma on the morning of Remembrance Sunday moved me. So here it is, for everyone to enjoy. Ed

I have just returned from another weeklong vicar residential where we relentlessly pack in a week's learning of theology. One of my lecturers is attached to Coventry cathedral and she inspired me as she spoke passionately about their reconciliation ministry.



Let me share the cathedrals war story

On the night of 14th November 1940, Coventry and its Cathedral endured a relentless bombing campaign. Overnight, the 'Moonlight Sonata' offensive destroyed much of central Coventry, hundreds of its people and left its Cathedral in ruins. Only the outer shell of the walls and the tower remained standing.

In the days that followed, two enduring symbols emerged from the rubble: two charred roof-beams which had fallen in the shape of a cross were bound and placed at the site of the ruined altar, and three medieval roof nails were also formed into a cross, which became the original Cross of Nails (now located at the High Altar in the new Cathedral).

Shortly after, the words 'Father Forgive' – deliberately neutral in content – were inscribed on the wall of the ruined chancel, and Provost Dick Howard made a commitment to not seek revenge, but to strive for forgiveness and reconciliation with those responsible.

During the BBC radio broadcast from the Cathedral ruins on Christmas Day 1940 he declared that when the war was over we should work with those who had been enemies 'to build a kinder, more Christ Child-like world.'

The Cross of Nails quickly became a potent sign of friendship and hope in the post-war years, especially in new relationships with Germany and the developing links between Coventry and the cities of Kiel, Dresden and Berlin.

Coventry Cathedral is thus one of the world's oldest religious-based centres for reconciliation, and its work in recent decades has involved it in some of the most difficult and long-standing areas of conflict in the world.

Today the medieval ruins continue to remind us of our human capacity both to destroy and to reach out to our enemies in friendship and reconciliation.



Our Gospel reading, this morning is the blueprint for the rethinking of living given by Jesus, whose mission was to reconcile; to heal and to include all who felt rejected, injured, despised, not listened to, not valued.

The eight Beatitudes in Matthew (Beatitudes means 'beautiful thoughts') can be arranged into two categories. The first reflect a longing for a deeper relationship with God and with one another (blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, blessed are the poor in spirit, blessed are those who mourn).

The second group reveal the transformation of our lives as fruits of that relationship (blessed are the pure of heart, the meek, the merciful, the peacemakers, the persecuted).

The first group brings us into a closer relationship with God, which results in the transformation of our lives as described, in the second group.

Sadly as we see play out in Ukraine the people who start wars don't abide by these beautiful values, and so it is down to others to find a way through, to bring peace and hope and reconciliation.

And so I believe this Remembrance day is about much more than remembering – it is about feeling the pain and suffering which has been dealt to others – holding them before God, along with ourselves, and pleading for the grace to make amends and reconciliation – by pledging to work for peace and the healing of humanity.

Remembrance is prayer.



In order to follow Jesus and live the Christian life we need to enter into the challenging world of the Beatitudes.

So in our daily lives let's be peacemakers and stand up for righteousness.

Let us pray:

All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

The hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, class from class,

Father, forgive.

The covetous desires of people and nations to possess what is not their own,

Father, forgive.

The greed which exploits the work of human hands and lays waste the earth,

Father, forgive.

Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others,

Father, forgive.

Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the homeless, the refugee,

Father, forgive.

The lust which dishonours the bodies of men, women and children,

Father, forgive.

The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not in God,

Father, forgive.

Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Amen



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Sidesmen & Readers : December 2022

	Sidesmen	Readers	Readings
4th December			
Morning	Vicky Minet Brian Lord	Sally Bramall Brian Lord	Romans 15: 4-13 Matthew 3: 1-12
Evening	NO EVENING SERVICE		
11th December			
Morning	NO MORNING SERVICE		
Evening	Margaret Thomas Harold Thomas	Margaret Thomas Harold Thomas	James 5: 7-10 Matthew 11: 2-11
	<i>Intercessor: Brian Lord</i>		
18th December			
Morning	NO MORNING SERVICE		
Evening	CAROL SERVICE Ann Garnett Christopher Orme	TBA	TBA
24th December			
<u>7.30 pm</u>	CHRISTMAS EVE HOLY COMMUNION David Lewis John Sparkes	David Lewis John Sparkes	Hebrews 1: 1-4 John 1: 1-14



Sidesmen & Readers : January 2023

Sunday	Sidesmen	Readers	Readings
1st January	NO SERVICES AT LITTLE HORKESLEY		
8th January			
Morning	NO MORNING SERVICE		
Evening	Sue Carbutt Christopher Orme	Sue Carbutt Christopher Orme	Acts 10: 34-43 Matthew 3: 13-17
	<i>Intercessor: Brenda Green</i>		
15th January			
Morning	NO MORNING SERVICE		
Evening	HOLY COMMUNION Ann Garnett John Sparkes	Ann Garnett Brian Lord	1 Corinthians 1: 1-9 John 1: 29-42
22nd January			
Morning	NO MORNING SERVICE		
Evening	PATRONAL FESTIVAL David Lewis Sue Carbutt	TBA	TBA
29th January	NO SERVICES AT LITTLE HORKESLEY		
5th February			
Morning	Will Pavry Christopher Orme	Will Pavry Julia Orme	1 Corinthians 2: 1-12 Matthew 5: 13-20
Evening	NO EVENING SERVICE		



Church Calendar: December 2022

December 4th

11.00 am

Advent 2

Morning Service

December 11th

6.30 pm

Advent 3

Evening Service



December 18th

6.30 pm

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

December 24th

3.00 pm

7.30 pm

Christmas Eve

Crib Service at Mount Bures

Christmas Eve Communion



December 25th

10.30 am

Christmas Day

Benefice Christmas Service Wormingford



Church Calendar: January 2023

January 1st

9.15 am

2nd Sunday of Christmas

Benefice Morning Service at Mount Bures

No service at Little Horkesley

January 8th

6.30 pm

1st Sunday of Epiphany Baptism of Christ

Evening Service

January 15th

6.30 pm

2nd Sunday of Epiphany

Holy Communion



January 22nd

6.30 pm

3rd Sunday of Epiphany and PATRONAL FESTIVAL

PATRONAL FESTIVAL SERVICE

January 29th

10.00 am

4th Epiphany/ Candlemas

United Service at West Bergholt (no service at Little Horkesley)

February 5th

11.00 am

3rd Sunday before Lent

Morning Service

