

WEALD VIEWS

In the Three Suttons



October 2020







OF:	SUTTON VALENCE	EAST SUTTON	CHART SUTTON		
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SS. PETER & PAUL, ST. MICHAEL'S,

CHURCH OFFICERS ST. MARY'S.

CLERGY LETTER

Dear friends

I have to admit that, despite the continued uncertainties surrounding the Corona Virus, my life has taken a real upward turn recently several reasons, but one of the main ones is the return of a much loved Television series from my youth. All Creatures Great and Small has been remade, is back on

our screens (Channel 5 at 9pm on Tuesdays) and is just as enjoyable as the original version. It always was a wonderful programme, with likeable but often quirky characters, good story lines and of course the wonderful Yorkshire Dales scenery that took me back to several very happy holidays that Graham & I enjoyed in that part of the country.

In particular, I was reminded of our annual trips to Rievualx Abbey, which while lovely in journey through life that will be absolutely itself, was made all the more spectacular by the journey which took us from the picturesque Yorkshire Coast, across the moors and through Ryedale with its very pretty villages and market towns. I have to admit that some of the roads were quite steep and windy while the moorland sheep that roam freely often presented moving obstacles to our way, but at other times the open road simply went on for miles and gave us a literally breathtaking view of the countryside. On more than one occasion we felt the need to pull over so that we could really take in, photograph and appreciate everything that was around us - it's no wonder that Yorkshire has been nicknamed "Gods own county".

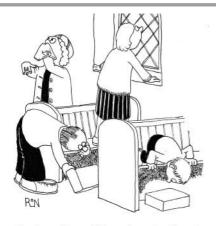


I suppose you could say that life itself is a bit like going on a journey, a journey which for most of us starts with the love and comfort of parents and family home, takes us through school, the forging of different relationships, possibly marriage, children and grandchildren of our own and finally to our ultimate destination where I believe

God is waiting to welcome us into his heavenly home. There will be some parts of this journey that will be difficult – just like some parts of our trips to Rievaulx. Its at times like these that we just have to take our time, keep our eyes set firmly on the road immediately in front of us, concentrate on one small obstacle at a time and try not to think about the sheer drop that might be just to our right or left. But of course there will be a great many other parts of our great, times that we are meant to appreciate and enjoy – times when we should give ourselves permission to "pull over", appreciate, take it all in and give thanks for what we have been given.

This time of year, with its round of Harvest Festival, All Souls, Firework Night and Remembrance Sunday would normally be a time to do just that – step back from our journey for a short while in order to truly appreciate everything that we have been given and "enjoy the view". Sadly this year will be different. At the time of writing I have no idea what restrictions will be in force as far as public gatherings are concerned. However I do know that we will not be able to celebrate these

Continued on next page....



They knew it was left over from the Harvest Festival, but not what it was, or where...

occasions in the normal way. But that doesn't mean that we have to stop celebrating them completely.

As things stand at the moment, all four of our Churches intend to have Harvest Festival Services – obviously they will have to be cut down in many ways, and we would ask you to let me know if you would like to attend, but we feel it is important to mark the occasion as well as we can. The service at Headcorn will be available to watch via Facebook or Youtube.

I'm afraid that we will not be able to have an All Souls Service this year, however, Headcorn church will be open and manned between 2.30 and 4.30 on Sunday 1st November so that

anyone who wishes to come and sit quietly or light a candle (a real one) in memory of a loved one, may do so. We are also hopeful that Remembrance Sunday will be marked in a suitably dignified manner as well.

I do hope that you will all take at least some of these opportunities to join with us in appreciating and giving thanks for what we have — after all, another very important aspect to any journey is that it is always much better if we have company on our travels. We at your local church promise to be there for any of you if you ever want or need us to journey with you for a while and of course, we are certain that each one of us always has a constant companion in Jesus Christ — even if we can't always see him.

With every Blessing as you continue your own journey during the coming month



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The final deadline for the submission of material is the 14th of the preceding month. Acceptable formats for articles are MS Word, MS Publisher or text files. PDF files can sometimes be used, but as their proportions cannot be altered without distortion, they can't always be used. Suitable picture formats include: Jpeg, BMP, PNG, GIF, etc.

From the Registers:

Marriage

29th August at East Sutton Victoria Patterson & Alexander Baulf

Baptisms

2nd September at East Sutton Rebecca Smith 6th September at East Sutton Sophie Fleming

Services will be:

Sunday 4th October

- Sutton Valence no service
- Chart Sutton 6pm Harvest Thanksgiving
- East Sutton No Service

Sunday 11th October

- Sutton Valence Harvest Thanksgiving
- Chart Sutton No Service
- East Sutton Harvest Thanksgiving

Sunday 18th

- Sutton Valence Holy Communion
- Chart Sutton 6pm Evening Prayer (BCP)
- East Sutton No Service

Sunday 25th

- Sutton Valence No Service
- Chart Sutton No Service
- East Sutton 11.30 Morning Special Bible Sunday









Sutton Valence Music Society On Line Live Performances

Friday 9th October 2020 at 7:30 pm

Nick Pritchard - Tenor

Ian Tindale - Piano

Schubert: Lieder

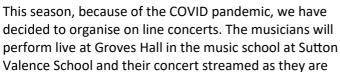
Vaughan Williams, Gurney, Finzi: English songs

Britten: Traditional folk songs

Born in West Sussex, Nick Pritchard read music as a choral scholar at New College, Oxford and studied with Russell Smythe at the Royal College of Music International Opera School (RCMIOS) where he was the recipient of the Eric Joseph Shilling Prize. He was awarded the London Bach Society Singer's Prize in 2013, was an inaugural member of the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment's (OAE) 'Rising Stars' scheme and is a Samling Artist.



British pianist Ian Tindale has performed across London, the UK and Europe. Recent engage-ments have included song recitals at the Oxford Lieder Festival, Buxton Festival, and Petworth Festival, and he has performed with artists such as Ailish Tynan, Gemma Summerfield, Anna Harvey, Robert Murray, Jess Dandy and Nicky Spence.





being performed to our members. We are excited to be able to continue to offer concerts and also support musicians in performing live music in this way.

We do hope you will enjoy the concerts and by making a donation to the society for each concert you will be supporting our talented artists. The link you need is https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=56kxTthfWel Please make payment to:

Sutton Valence Music Society - National Westminster Bank Sort code: 53-81-51 Account no: 01822241



Here we are again with Autumn on the doorstep, there will still be plenty of leaves falling in our gardens, some would call it a 'chore' having to rake up the Autumn harvest, others will really appreciate the changing leaves and of course we can rake up the leaves and put into black bags for mulching round our plants once the leaves have decayed.

Plant tulip bulbs now, most varieties should be planted quite deeply, about 15-20 cm down. Try interspersing tulips, among spring flowering bedding such as wallflowers, polyanthus, forget-menot, bellis daisy, sometimes known as Belisima, pansy and other varieties for their early blooms. Planting patio pots in layered tiers provides a continuity of flowering over several weeks.

Carefully dig up dahlia tubers once their leaves are blackened by the first frost. Lift and divide congested clumps of perennial flowers. Draw earth up around leeks to help blanch their stems. Plant out garlic cloves and pot up parsley and other herbs to use as fresh over winter.

Sow sweet peas in pots and grow them in a cold frame over winter to plant out in April. Plant evergreen shrubs, conifers and hedging while the soil still retains some warmth.

Finish harvesting vegetable crops,



potatoes and carrots for winter store.

With the daylight fading at this time of year, it becomes a pleasure to draw the curtains, get out the board games and other treasures such as puzzles which makes a change from the television screen! We can also get out the seed catalogues and plan as well as order something new to enhance our garden for the year ahead. Enjoy!

Best wishes from Keith and Jean

Many will know that Colonel Peter
Garratt died in his care home on 24th August this year.
After living for many years in the Sutton Valence and Headcorn area, Peter and Valerie Garratt moved to be nearer to their daughter in

Middleton-on-Sea, West Sussex in 2014. Valerie sadly died soon after the move.

After a long career in the Army (the Royal Corps of Signals) in which he achieved the very senior rank of full Colonel, and many homes in different parts of the world, Peter and Valerie moved to Sutton Valence - 'Kantara' at the bottom of the hill - in 1977 and quickly became regular members of the St Mary's congregation. Both of them joined the choir, and continued to sing until shortly before they moved to West Sussex, when Peter decided to give up driving. They then quickly became wellloved members of the Headcorn congregation. They were both the most faithful of choir members and would come up from Church Walk in Headcorn, to where they moved in 1982, in all weathers and at all times of day.

Valerie and Peter both served on St Mary's Parochial Church Council for many years, Peter holding just about every office. Both were on the Social and Fund-raising Committee and

PETER GARRATT



contributed wisely to the discussions and, most importantly, took a large part in organising events, and in organising other people to do things. Peter did, indeed, do pretty much everything and did it superbly. He was PCC

member, Churchwarden, PCC Treasurer, Lay Reader, applicant for liquor licences for many events over many years, barman, and wise counsel to successive Vicars. He was Editor of Weald Views until he moved to West Sussex; he was one of the church's representatives on the Parish Room (as it then was) Committee and was its Treasurer for many years. With other members of the Committee he was largely responsible for getting it on to a sound footing, both financially and in its governance. He was St Mary's representative on the Deanery Synod (in the various Deaneries in which the parish found itself from time to time) for many years. The list is almost endless

Peter had a deep, personal and unshakeable faith in his Lord and, of all he did, probably enjoyed most and got the greatest satisfaction from his ministry as a Lay Reader, and Reader (different only because 'they' changed the name of the role), in all of the three Suttons churches. He trained with Keith

Smith in two years of evening and weekend sessions (with, apparently, some hilarious journeys to and from Canterbury). Over the next 22 years, Peter officiated at many Matins and Evensong services and acted as a Chalice Assistant and he was able to ensure that parish clergy had the benefit of occasional Sunday evenings off. His sermons always got to the heart of the matter and nearly always raised a smile or two around the church. Valerie was. of course, his sternest critic, but was also his trial congregation before the service, so she always heard his sermons at least twice.

You don't fill gaps like these easily or quickly.

Peter and I spent many happy hours sailing his boat off Falmouth while Brenda and Valerie were spending money onshore (Valerie having first ensured we had a good lunch with a beer or two each – Doom Bar, of course - with us).

Peter's ashes will be interred in St Mary's churchyard in due course, when he will be physically re-united with Valerie.

Rest in Peace, old friend and shipmate (to which he would have retorted "not so much of the 'old', thank you very much").

Gover James



Operation Christmas Child – Shoe box appeal

Last year, thanks to the generosity of the folk here in Headcorn and the Suttons, some 50 children in deprived parts of the world had a Christmas to remember, a Christmas that showed them in a very tangible way, that they are cared for. It would have been the first time that any of them would ever have received a Christmas gift, so the contents of the shoe boxes that you filled would have been greeted with real joy and happiness.

We would like to repeat our support for this worthy project again and would love it if as many of you as possible would be prepared to decorate a shoe box, fill it with appropriate gifts and drop it off at the vicarage by the 9th November along with £5 to cover transport and distribution costs.

Full details may be found on www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/

We also hope to have information leaflets and posters in our churches by the time you read this article.

St Michael's Church, Chart Sutton



Hello, I hope everyone is well and the local continuing to cope with the ever-received. changing rules and restrictions arising Sunday 4 from Covid-19.

We are continuing to run two services a month at St Michael's — on the first and third Sundays of the month, both are 6pm evening prayer. Masks are required but we are able to socially distance pretty well so it is great to be able to join together in worship again. Do, please, join us if you can. Frustrating as it is, we have not yet been able to start bell ringing yet.

The Ride & Stride Day was held as usual this year, on 13th September, and three individuals walked or cycled for St Michael's. I (and my two four-legged friends) had a lovely walk from Linton to Ulcombe in perfect weather and managed to "tick off" eight different churches and chapels. Thank you to everyone who walked and cycled and to those who sponsored us in raising funds for our local church and for others across Kent in need of building repairs.

We have also held a church yard maintenance morning (easy to social

distance this one!) where we concentrated on the south boundary wall.

Over the next couple of months we have the following events:

<u>Sunday 4th October 6pm –</u>
<u>Harvest Festival.</u> This will be a "no singing" version, with added face masks! Do bring nonperishable goods for donation to

everyone is well and the local food bank. All items gratefully

<u>Sunday 4th October</u> – after the service we will be holding our **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**. This is for the election of officers (Church Wardens etc) and review of the year. It is a delayed event from April.

Saturday 7th November 9.30am – Church yard maintenance morning. Join us to help clearing ivy from the boundary walls, digging up those pesky brambles and generally tidying up. We can't offer refreshments so, with apologies, bring your own flask of tea.

<u>Sunday 8th November – Remembrance</u> <u>Service.</u> This is an additional service to our normal rota. Details to follow.

<u>Christmas Day</u> – There will be a service - details will be available nearer the time.

Do remember, the Vicar is still contactable if you need to talk to her (01622 – 891804) and services continue to be streamed on the website and Facebook.

Heather - St Michael's PCC

In the year 2020, Noah was living in England when the Lord came unto him and said, "Once again, the earth has become too wicked to continue. Build another Ark and save two of every living thing. You have six months before I will start the unending rain

Noah and the Ark - 2020 version



them and we live in a Site of Special Scientific Interest set up in order to preserve the Spotted Owl. I tried to convince them that I needed the wood to save the owls - but no go!

"When I started gathering the animals the

RSPCA sued me for intending to confine wild animals without the proper paperwork. The County Council, the Environment Agency and the Rivers Authority have ruled that I can't build the Ark until they've conducted an Environmental Impact Study on your proposed flood. The Trade Unions insist that I can't use my sons to build the Ark; I can only employ members of the Shipbuilding and Allied Trades union. Finally, Customs and Excise have seized all my assets, claiming I am going

"So, forgive me Lord, but it will take me at least another ten years to finish this Ark."

to attempt to leave the country illegally

with endangered species.

Suddenly the skies cleared, the sun began to shine, and a rainbow stretched across the sky. "No need for me to destroy the world after all," observed God. "The government has the matter already in hand."

for 40 days and 40 nights."

Six months later, the Lord looked down and saw Noah weeping in his garden, but no Ark. "Noah", He roared, "I'm about to start the rain! Where is the Ark?"

"Forgive me Lord", begged Noah "but things have been difficult. I needed Building Regulations approval because the Ark was over 30 square metres. I've been arguing with the Fire Brigade about the need for a sprinkler system. My neighbours claim that I should have obtained planning permission for building the Ark in my garden because it is a development of the site even though in my opinion it is a temporary structure, but the roof is too high.

"The Local Area Access Group complained that my ramp was going to be too steep and the inside of the Ark wasn't fully accessible. Getting the wood has been another problem. All the decent trees have Tree Preservation Orders on

As I write these jottings half way through September in order to meet the deadline for material for the October magazine, the memory of

October Jottings



and so that
we don't have
to keep
correcting our
clocks and
watches (for
which every
hour of every
day is exactly
the same
length) the
duration of

the miserable August Bank Holiday weather is still quite fresh; although it didn't rain there was not much sunshine and it was nowhere near as warm as one would have hoped. And now, at the end of the second week of autumn we are enjoying a brief Indian summer. Indian summers are welcome at any time in the autumn so let's hope we get another spell of unseasonably warm weather in October. What a strange nine months of weather we have had so far this yea!

each day from midday one day to midday the following day throughout the whole year is averaged to give us Greenwich Mean Time. In fact, there is little difference between solar time and G.M.T. at the autumnal equinox but it is more marked at the vernal equinox in March. The answer to the second question is that, because the atmosphere bends light rays passing through it, we see the sun very shortly before it is physically above the horizon in the morning and we don't lose sight of it until very shortly after it has physically sunk below the horizon in the evening.

The autumnal equinox was on September 23 this year but, had you checked the times of sunrise and sunset in that day's newspapers, you might have wondered why they weren't at 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. G.M.T. and why they were a little over 12 hours apart. The answer to the first question is that the length of a day varies slightly throughout the year

At this time of year we are well aware that our daylight hours are diminishing week by week but what a difference it makes when the sky is virtually cloudless rather than heavily overcast in the morning and evening!

Michael Beaman

October Walks

Wednesday 7th meet at Headcorn Village Hall at 9.30 for a 9.45am start for a walk lasting 1.5 to 2 hours.



This will be a fairly flat walk (just a couple of short, gentle inclines) along paths, lanes, orchards and fields

with a couple of stiles. Could be muddy in places if we experience a lot of rain!

Wednesday 14th park in Westwell Lane near the Wheel Inn, Westwell (TN25 4LQ – map ref TQ989475) 9.30 for

9.45am start for this beautiful 2hr (4mile) walk with far reaching views. One steep

hill near the start and then gently downhill or flat.

There are no stiles on this circular walk.

Directions; A20 from Charing towards Ashford past Car sales on left turn

left after layby.

To join any of our walks, regretfully you are no longer able to simply turn up on the day. It is absolutely

necessary to book a place on a first come first served basis. Either contact Barry at barry@watersideoast.com

or Paula on 07525260539.

Barry Walker

Honey, honey!



If your grannie gave you honey when you had a cold, she was right.

Research published in The British Medical Journal has found that honey is especially good for treating upper respiratory tract infections (URTIs) such as the common cold.

Honey has anti-microbial and antiinflammatory properties. These do better

at soothing your cough and sniffles than any of the over-the-counter remedies. In fact, URTI sufferers who were given honey suffered their symptoms for up to two days LESS than those who did not use honey.

Noticeboard

 $\frac{100}{\text{Club}}$

St Mary's Monthly Draw

Winners of the September 2020 draw

First Prize - Mr Derick Smith

Second Prize - Mrs Katherine Evans

Congratulations!!!



For information ring Rosie **01622 842034**.

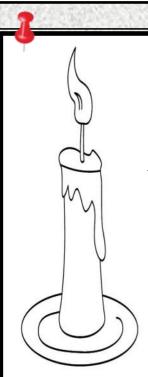


October Half Term 26th—31st October 2020

All Hallows Eve

Packs containing craft activities around the real theme of All Hallows along with an explanation will be available to pick up by the Lychgate all week. They will also be available to download from the website www.handschurches.org







All Souls 2020

A time to reflect, light a candle and give thanks for those we love but see no more.

Sunday 1st Nov 2.30—4.30pm

All welcome





- A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.
- A pessimist's blood type is always b-negative.
- My wife really likes to make pottery, but to me it's just kiln time.
- ♦ A Freudian slip is when you say one thing but mean your mother.
- I used to work in a blanket factory, but it folded.
- Marriage is the mourning after the knot before.
- Sea captains don't like crew cuts.
- ♦ A gossip is someone with a great sense of rumour.



Chart Sutton has a small but successful shop in the heart of the village on The Green run entirely by volunteers for the benefit of the community.

It is looking for more volunteers to help run it. It is open between 7am-5pm Mon-Fri and 8am-12noon at the weekend and Bank Holidays. Hours to suit, most volunteers do 2 hour stints. There are some permanent slots available but if you would rather be available for ad hoc covering that is fine as there are times when last minute cover is required.

The volunteers are a great bunch who very much enjoy being part of the community, meeting a wide variety of people. If you are interested in becoming part of this team please call either Valerie on **843232** or Jane on **843743** for an informal chat.

Sutton Strollers



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Chris 01622 842629

Graham 01622 745484

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The Three Suttons Helpline

Chart Sutton, East Sutton, Kingswood and Langley.

operating as a "good neighbour" scheme for about 20 years to make life easier for those needing to get to medical appointments, but who do not have their own transport or cannot easily be helped by family or friends and for whom public transport is infrequent and not a viable option. This scheme covers the villages and surgeries in Sutton Valence,

If anyone would like to use the scheme, please telephone one of the following numbers: **844301 842530 842346**

If you have any other queries or if you feel that you may like to help, please contact Christine Parkes. (email:

christineparkes@hotmail.com or tel. 842217

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Church of England and RSCM await next steps following study into singing safety

The Church of England and Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) have been awaiting updated guidance on singing in places of worship after findings of a Government-backed study were published.

The research project, known as 'PERFORM', recently published its findings on measuring aerosol production from humans. It measured singing, speaking and breathing in a zero-background environment.

Researchers reported a steep rise in aerosol mass with increase in the loudness of the singing and speaking,

rising by as much as a factor of 20-30. However, it was also found that singing does not produce substantially more aerosol than speaking at a similar volume.

The RSCM's Director, Hugh Morris said: "We welcome this news. Singing is of such importance in worship, and this is a really encouraging step towards its safe resumption.

"It is of course vital that all choirs and singing groups follow the relevant government advice, and so we look forward to receiving the latest guidance in this important area." The Church of England and RSCM both regularly update their advice following the publication of Government guidance.



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