



# Under the Downs

## 3 Country Churches Nestling Under the Downs

June 2018

### View From the Rectory

One of the tasks my granddaughter was asked to carry out during the holidays was to travel on as many forms of transport as possible in one day. She managed (with Daddy!) to do feet, bicycle, car, bus, train, ferry and hovercraft - it is good that the Isle of Wight is comparatively close!

The mode of transport we choose to journey from one place to another gives us different opportunities: some journeys are fairly solitary, some are made in the company of (sometimes a large number) of others. Some journeys, like those on a train, are controlled by someone else - we go where the rails take us - but riding a bicycle, or indeed using our own two feet, we are free to choose. We can sometimes observe the world through a window - in the case of a train, we hardly have time to notice something before it has disappeared from view. However, as the driver of a car, looking at the world around, other than the road itself, is generally not recommended!

By now you'll be thinking of journeys you have made, and the modes of transport used: each one gives us different opportunities to interact with other people and with the world God made.

The Christian journey is like that too - it will take us through life in many different ways, and bring us to a range of places and a variety of people. Some stages are more challenging than others, but in them all God walks beside us, as a loving parent with a child, encouraging us to make the very best of all that we see and do.

Linda

### The Children's Society House Box Network Launch

The Children's Society is a national charity, running local projects to help the most vulnerable 10-18 year olds across the country with a number of complex issues. Last year, they worked with more than 13,000 children directly, and made 27 national and local policy changes that improved the lives of more than 3 million children and young people.

All of this would not be possible without the dedication of their supporters.

Fiona Mackay gave a moving and informative talk about the work of The Children's Society on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2018, when Tanya Ward launched a new house box network across the benefice. Members of the community have a box in their home and pop their spare change into it as and when is appropriate. They also encourage visiting family and friends to do the same. Once a year, Tanya will ask for your box, where she will count it and pay in the money.

There are 88,640 box holders across the country who raised an incredible £1,685,374.73 last year. Having a house box is a great, non-invasive way to raise money towards our essential work across the country. Tanya still has boxes available, so please do consider signing up for one. Please contact her on 01730 601101, or via [tanyacward@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tanyacward@yahoo.co.uk).

You can also support the work through giving your time as a volunteer, signing up for the monthly prayer email and supporting current campaigns. For more information, please visit [www.childrenssociety.org.uk](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk) or contact Tanya as above.

### Casters Brook in Bloom, Open Garden

On Saturday 9th June, we are invited to spend an afternoon (1-4pm) in the garden at Casters Brook, courtesy of Jean and Philip Jackson. Refreshments will be available. Entrance £2. Proceeds to Cocking Church funds.

### Car Service

In Cocking we are still trying to get off the ground a car service to take people who are unable to get easily to Surgery or Hospitals. If you think that you may avail yourself to such a service then contact David on 815384 or [dsimlach@aol.com](mailto:dsimlach@aol.com) or tell Paul in the post office.

### St Mary's Bepton Summer Concert

On Saturday 9 June at 3.30pm we once more welcome 'A Breath of Fresh Air' a wind quintet (Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet and Horn) who will be performing a selection of classical and lighter pieces to entertain us. Bepton residents Helen Hollowood (oboe) and Duncan Hollowood (horn) will be playing a leading part in the Quintet. Do come along to support them. Tickets, including light refreshments after the concert, cost £12 (children 7 to 16 free) and can be obtained from Sheila Ryan, Bayleaves, Bepton, Midhurst, GU29 9RB tel: 01730 813971 email: [bayleaves@macace.net](mailto:bayleaves@macace.net).



### Heyshott Cream Tea

Join us on Sunday 10 June from 2.30 - 4.30pm for tea in the Cobden Hall, marquee or on the grass, depending on the sunshine!

Raffle, plant stall, and Richard's famous map, plus the opportunity to meet and chat with people you may not have seen for a while.

All proceeds to St James' Church funds.

## The Chichester Elm

Last autumn, St Catherine of Siena Church was kindly presented with a sapling of a Chichester Elm (*Ulmus x hollandica* 'Cicestria'), by Richard Smith, the Midhurst-based arborist. The young tree spent the winter in a pot near the door of St Catherine's, but has now been planted at the bottom end of Cocking churchyard.

The Chichester Elm was first cloned at Chichester Hall, Rawreth in Essex at the beginning of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. During the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the hall was the home of the Andrewes family, one of whom, Lancelot, was Bishop of Chichester from 1605 to 1607 and was the principal translator of the King James Version of the Bible.

There is a more specific link to Cocking as Lancelot's younger brother, Roger, who was also a member of the company which translated the bible, was the vicar of Cocking from September 1606 to July 1609.

The Chichester Elm is resistant to Dutch Elm disease and should grow to a height of at least 30ft. It seems to be enjoying the recent damp weather and is producing a lot of new growth. We wish it well!



## Midhurst Garden Club

We do not have a talk in June but there is a Visit to Upton Grey and The Leckford Estate.

Our talk on 9<sup>th</sup> July is "The Curious History of the Cottage Garden" by Stephanie Donaldson. Details of this will be in the next issue.

For more information about the Club please contact Denise Skinner 01730 814194, [askinner3@sky.com](mailto:askinner3@sky.com) or check our website - [midhurstgardenclub.co.uk](http://midhurstgardenclub.co.uk)



## Butterfly summer by Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

Nothing sums up a Sussex summer more than watching our beautiful butterflies while they dance over the Downs, wander through our woods or circle us while we sunbathe in our back gardens. We're very lucky here in Sussex as we are surrounded by some great countryside and, in this part of England, you don't have to travel too far to find some fantastic butterfly habitats.

As we head into the summer the number of different butterfly species you can see in mid Sussex increases. Woodlands may not be ideal habitats for butterflies – they're too shady and dark - but along open, sunny woodland paths in June and July you may be lucky enough to encounter the two-tone White Admiral or the Silver-washed Fritillary. The Fritillary is a large orange butterfly which gracefully glides along woodland rides and frequently stops to nectar on brambles. If you're lucky you'll see their amazing display flight – the male frantically flying in loops around the female in order to impress his potential partner.

By mid-summer the chalk downlands come alive. Head up on to the South Downs to enjoy the daily blues festival - complete with plenty of singing and drinking. Here the grazed grassland provides ideal habitats for a wide diversity of plants including Kidney Vetch, Horseshoe Vetch and Bird's-foot Trefoil. The leaves of these flowers are on the menu for the caterpillars of the blue butterflies; Common Blue, Small Blue, Chalk Hill Blue and, the most sought after of them all, the incredible Adonis Blue. Believe me - you've never really seen the colour blue until you've seen a male Adonis Blue opening its wings in the Sussex summer sunshine. The blue's caterpillars have a very peculiar and intimate relationship with ants. The caterpillars provide the ants with a sugary secretion from their bodies and, amazingly, even 'sing' to the ants by vibrating an organ on the back of their head. In return for a drink and a song they get a 24/7 security service from the ants. If other insects try to attack then the caterpillar's bodyguards will bravely defend them.

Of course we don't have to travel to woodland or downland to see butterflies. Our gardens are fantastic mini nature reserves and, if you've planted plenty of nectar-rich flowers, you'll have the pleasure of watching butterflies dancing across your patio throughout the year. I'll be leading butterfly walks across the county in the summer. Look for more details on the Sussex Wildlife Trust website ([www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk](http://www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk)) and join me as I search for these summer jewels.

## Church Service Times

This is the usual pattern, but occasionally there are changes - please check the church noticeboards. This is especially important at festival times such as Christmas and Easter



### St Mary Bepton

11.15am 1st Sunday of the month Matins BCP  
2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays Matins with Holy Communion BCP

### St Catherine of Siena Cocking

9.30am Every Sunday  
1st Sunday of the month Family Communion CW  
2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays Holy Communion CW

### St James Heyshott

11.15am 1st Sunday of the month Family Communion CW  
9.30am 2nd Sunday of the month Holy Communion BCP  
9.30am 3rd Sunday of the month Matins BCP  
11.15am 4th Sunday of the month Holy Communion CW  
6.00pm 1st 2nd and 4th Sundays Evensong BCP  
3rd Sunday Compline

On a 5th Sunday of the month, there is a joint service at 10.00 am at one of our churches - please check the notice boards or our magazine.  
CW - Common Worship is the modern language service BCP - Book of Common Prayer is the traditional service