



Under the Downs

3 Country Churches Nestling Under the Downs

View From the Rectory

I wonder what memories you have of your school days? Think of a particular school, or a specific teacher, perhaps who you admired, or didn't really like, perhaps because of the subject they taught.

The memories will be there. Or perhaps objects or words trigger a particular image from the past.

On almost my first day at Junior School, I can remember the words of the Lord's Prayer being written on the blackboard (yes, it was that long ago!), and we had to learn the words by heart. But it didn't stop there: the text was also marked up with punctuation, and how long we had to pause for breath, or link phrases, at each point.

Times have changed: I have repeated the prayer innumerable times since then. Although I have stayed with the traditional words, I suspect I now pace them differently. It is a prayer that people still know, even those who would not count themselves as regular church attenders. The fact that the words stay the same is a plus: we know exactly where we are, and can feel confident in sharing the words with others. However, frequent repetition has its drawbacks, and we can sometimes give little thought to what we're actually saying.

So the choice of "Thy Kingdom Come" by our Archbishops as the title for the recent days of prayer,, between Ascension Day and Pentecost, was a timely emphasis on a matter of great significance in our day and age. The theme was taken up by millions of Christians, of all denominations, around the world, with great enthusiasm.

Jesus often used the words "the Kingdom of God" and "the Kingdom of Heaven" to introduce his parables, those "earthly stories with heavenly meanings".

What is God's Kingdom like? It is a place of justice and peace, of security and love, of righteousness and hospitality, of purity and rejoicing.

It's a great target to aim for as we go about our earthly lives, doing the best we can, wherever and however we can.

Linda

July - August 2018



There is a fifth Sunday in July: this month our joint Benefice service is at St Mary, Bepton at 10am.

Heyshott Patronal Festival

We celebrate the festival of our patron, Saint James, on Sunday 29 July at 6pm with a special service of Choral Evensong, with a choir drawn from all our benefice churches.

There will be no morning service at Heyshott on that day.

Gift days.... at Heyshott and Bepton

Saturday 28th July 10am - 4pm in St James Church, Heyshott

Thursday 26th July 10am - 2pm on the Green at Bepton

Come along and meet us - stay for a chat if you can - and if you are able to make a donation for the church, we would be most grateful.



Coming soon! Cocking and Bepton Fete Saturday 1 September 2018 - gates open at 2pm

We are hoping for a lovely sunny afternoon!

Amongst many others, there will of course be the usual super cake stall.

All sorts of help needed: putting up the marquees on the Rectory lawn (August 23rd at 6pm) helping out on one of the many stalls or events during the afternoon and also: helping to clear up afterwards.

Donations are welcome from Saturday 25 August - please put all your donations in the large marquee. Unfortunately, we cannot accept very large items or any electrical goods.

Please bring friends and family, and come along to share in this great village afternoon!

For offers of help and more information, please contact David Imlach at Cocking or Sheila Ryan at Bepton



Don't forget, bring a pet to one of our Pet Services

Sunday 15 July at 3pm at St James Heyshott

Sunday 5 August at 3pm at St Mary Bepton

Pets come in all different shapes and sizes, and they are great company for us. So we thought it would be good to have an opportunity to come together to say thank you, and to ask for God's blessing on them (and us!).

So on Sunday 15th July at 3pm in the churchyard at St James Heyshott we will be gathering to do just that and again at St Mary Bepton on Sunday August 5th, again at 3pm. There will be a short service with some music and blessing of the animals, followed by refreshments.

Pets - if you are tempted to scare, chase or possibly eat another pet, please try and remember you are all God's creatures!

Owners - please keep your pets safe: leads and baskets are welcome too!



Chichester Cathedral Activities

Fun-filled family days to be held in Chichester Cathedral

27 July Monster Mania - Design and make your own marvellous monster mask

21 August Crazy Colours - Make a pair of crazy glasses and a beautiful stained glass window or sun-catcher.

Come and join in with these fun activities, 10am-3pm (last entry 2:30pm). Follow the Cathedral trails and collect a prize when you finish. For children aged 3-12 years, must be accompanied by an adult. A soft play area will be available in the cathedral for children under 3 years.

No need to book, just drop in , £2.50 per child

Take advantage of the Cloisters Café offer of a child's meal fro £1.50 when an accompanying adult buys a lunch item. Collect your voucher on arrival.

For more information please contact Luna Russell on 01243 812986 or luna.russell@chichestercathedral.org.uk



Ride and Stride

Your chance to visit Sussex's unique places of worship, explore our beautiful countryside, get some exercise and have fun with family & friends. Sponsored Cyclists, Walkers, Horse Riders and Wheelchair users are all welcome to take part in this event. What's more you can help raise much needed funds to support the repair and restoration of our historic buildings. Join in on the 8th September for a great day out.

This event raises money for the Sussex Historic Churches Trust, which helps to fund repairs to our churches when needed and we have been fortunate to receive grants from them in the past.

Our churches are open to sponsored riders and walkers, who try to visit as many churches as they can on the day.

If you are not riding or striding, you can help in other ways, by welcoming visitors to the church and making sure their visit is recorded: if you can help for an hour or two in your church, please have a word with your churchwarden.

Find out more: <http://www.rideandstrideuk.org/> or <http://www.sussexhistoricchurchestrust.org.uk/>

Midhurst Garden Club

Our talk on 9th July is "The Curious History of the Cottage Garden" . Enjoy a fascinating talk by Stephanie Donaldson, National Gardening author, journalist and former garden editor of Country Living Magazine, tracing the arrival in the country of many plants associated with the Cottage Garden As Stephanie talks, she gradually assembles the plants, creating a stunning table top cottage garden.

For more information about the Club please contact Denise Skinner 01730 814194, askinner3@sky.com or check our website - midhurstgardenclub.co.uk



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