

St Michael & All Angels Church Pirbright Parish Council





December 2020

WISHING ALL OUR READERS A SAFE AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS, HOWEVER YOU SPEND IT



CUNNINGHAM HOUSE

Many events and traditions have been cancelled this year because of the Corona virus, from sporting and charity events to age old traditions and religious festivals. At Cunningham House, it is a tradition to invite local villagers who will be alone at Christmas to join us for Christmas lunch. This year we won't be able to do that, and uncertainty remains as to whether families will be able to spend Christmas together. However, with strict Covid-19 protocols in place, we are able to accept new admissions and guest stays. If you feel alone and isolated and would benefit from some company, particularly in the winter months, call us to discuss possibilities.

Lucy 01483 488751

PIRBRIGHT ART CLUB

Virtual Exhibition 2020

Our Annual Exhibition takes place online, this year, from 1st - 31st December! For the first time in our 21 years, we aren't able to hold our special showcase event 'live', as usual. However, the paintings and drawings by our members are as amazing as ever

and may be viewed in a slide-show or gallery format on our website:

www.pirbrightartclub.co.uk Please take a look - all work is for sale and original works of art make wonderful Christmas presents!

Contact Maggie Read for further information or membership enquiries:
pirbrightartclub@btconnect.com
tel. 07977 552780

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH

Just a thought.....



It is not just the seasons that are changing from autumn to winter this time of year, it is also how we respond to the challenges we encounter and embrace the hope that surrounds us.

Over the last couple of weeks, the view from our living room towards Chobham has been displaying beautiful autumnal colours with hues of yellow, orange, red and brown. Most of the trees are losing their leaves for the winter in preparation for the new growth in the spring. In the middle of this continuous fall of leaves, I was struck by two things. Firstly, the conifers and other evergreen shrubs seem to stand out with stunning festive foliage and red berries for Christmas; and excellent food and protection for wildlife. Secondly, I noticed one beautiful white passion flower, which has burst open amid the evergreen foliage of rhododendrons in our garden.

How strange, I thought, that I should notice this changing scene as if for the first time! It is not strange at all! Its beauty has been there along, sometimes visible, sometimes hidden and waiting to burst open.

The second Covid-19 lockdown has provided me with a great opportunity to slow down and notice the things that I, like many of us, have either been too busy to notice, or have taken for-granted. As W H Davies asks in his poem entitled 'Leisure', "

What is this life if, full of care, we have no time to stand and stare? A poor life this if, full of care, we have no time to stand and stare".

To notice things like this single passion flower, with its tendrils, filaments, stigma,



anthers and spear-shaped leaves, which stands as a symbol representing the passion of Christ who, in the turmoil of the time, reached out and offered humanity great hope and life. To notice that it is like a brightly shining star on a dark night, reminding us of the love and beauty of creation that God, who in his infinite love, mercy and wisdom, has spread around us. Looking forward to Christmas, and to the Good News of Jesus' birth being told again this year, let us embrace the hope and new life around us. I wonder what new things we might discover!

Rev Bev

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CHURCH

Did you know that you can support St Michael and All Angels Church Pirbright by giving online, either as a regular contribution or for a one-off donation? Go to the Giving page on the website www.pirbrightchurch.org.uk/giving.htm for more details. Any contribution, no matter how small, will help to keep our church open.

Rev Bev 07495 395225 <u>revbev.stmaa@gmail.com</u> **Church Administrator** Chris Phillips <u>admin@pirbrightchurch.org.uk</u> 07599154872 **Churchwardens** Catherine Cobley *481234*, Helen Whitworth 07777659138 or e mail <u>churchwardens@pirbrightchurch.org.uk</u>

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS MEGANORMOUS CHRISTMAS QUIZ

This has been a difficult year for many organisations, and the church has not escaped the financial impact of Covid 19, with none of our usual fundraising events and no weekly collection plate. Our beautiful old building and churchyard still need to be maintained and bills need to be paid. Please support your church by entering the quiz, included as a pull-out section of this newsletter. And don't keep it to yourself, you can download extra copies from www.pirbrightchurch.org.uk and send them to friends and families to enter too. Every donation, however small, will help. Thank you

PIRBRIGHT HISTORIANS: a sad farewell

A venerable Queen Victoria would still have some years to reign over the British Empire, and Lord & Lady Pirbright, recent arrivals at Henley Park, were busy distributing largesse and building their "coronetted villas" (much to the disgust of local Nimbys) when the seed of a copper beech tree was planted. By the time the Queen Empress died, the young sapling would be growing strongly near the Halsey graves in St Michael's churchyard. In its lifetime, it would 'see' innumerable parishioners passing to & fro to worship.



'See' too the funeral procession for Henry Morton Stanley wind past in 1904; in middle age 'hear' the muffled bells for the dead of two world wars. But beeches seldom grow to great age. Some 125 years after its planting, this noble tree, succumbing to rot, has had to be culled. Soon, though, another sapling will be taking its place, once more bedazzling those who gaze through its glorious copper leaves in springtime sunlight.

Jonathan Foster jonathan@pirbright.info

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

Sunday 6th December Advent 2

- 10.00am Christingle Family Service (via Zoom)
- 4.00pm Remembering Loved Ones Service (In church streamed via Zoom)

Sunday 13th December Advent 3

- 10.00am Holy Communion (In church streamed via Zoom)
- 4.00pm Carol Service (via Zoom)

Sunday 20th December Advent 4

- 10.00am Holy Communion (In church streamed via Zoom)

Thursday 24th December Christmas Eve

- 4.00pm Crib Service (via Zoom)

Friday 25th December Christmas Day

10.00am Holy Communion (In Church streamed via Zoom) All services subject to Covid regulations at the time, check www.pirbrightchurch.org.uk or call Caroline on 01483 289123



PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL



While 2020 has not been the year we had hoped it would be, there is light on the horizon. Christmas is going to feel very different this year. The pandemic has changed many aspects of our lives,

and the new habits we have formed will shape our behaviour over the festive season. With social distancing, the 'rule of six' and smaller family gatherings likely to take centre stage, this Christmas will be a time to remember and reach out to friends and family and to all those who may be struggling in these difficult times. We hope that Christmas will still be a special time for families in Pirbright. Community spirit is strong in the parish, as has been shown by the volunteers who generously gave their weekends to refurbish the play equipment and by all those who delivered food and prescriptions to their more vulnerable neighbours. Support was shown to local businesses, and volunteer litter pickers came out of the woodwork to work their magic to keep the village green looking splendid when, during the summer, it became so popular as a focus and healthy

release for many. Lord Pirbright's
Hall has again started to play a key
part in village life. The Parish Council
do not meet in December but we are
still available to Parishioners. Contact
numbers are on our website and should
you need help during the festive season
you are encouraged to contact Helen
Myers, the Clerk. Meanwhile, all members
of the Parish Council wish you a safe and
enjoyable Christmas.

News from Lord Pirbright's Hall

At LPH, we have had a double whammy, with the further lockdown during the second wave of Covid-19 and the retirement of our cleaner, Carol Boylett. After 22 years of wielding her dusters and mops over every surface of the Hall, her cheerful presence is hard to replace and we wish her a happy and peaceful future.

We hope that our regular activities will be able to resume at the end of the lockdown period. We shall need to ensure the Hall is Covid-safe when we do reopen, so we are delighted to welcome Amy to our maintenance team to carry out the deep cleaning that will be so vital.



PIRBRIGHT COUNTRY MARKET

Our thanks; to everyone who supported us during November as we continued to supply our baked goods and preserves from our gazebos in the car park of Lord Pirbright's Hall. We plan to be back in the Hall from December 3rd with our full range of Christmas plants, crafts, baked goods, preserves and honey.

Just a reminder that our final Market of the year

will be on Thursday December 17th and we re-open on Thursday January 14th 2021.

Happy Christmas from us all

Rosemary Richmond



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E.	Love
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9.	L speaks, E W the L are C
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F.	Miscellaneous
1.	T W D make A R
2.	The P is M than the S
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G. 007	
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5.	LALD
6.	D A F
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8.	TMWTGG
9.	A V T A K
10.	TWINE
	HOW TO ENTER ested donation—£5 (or more) but any donation is very welcome, however
www.p questic To suk	erful prizes. You can download more copies from the church website at birbrightchurch.org.uk. Don't forget, you only need to have answered ONE on correctly to be in with a chance of winning. Domit an entry, please send or deliver your completed quiz and cash/cheque
	out to Pirbright PCC to:
	ght Christmas Quiz, 6 Pirbright Terrace, Guildford Road, Pirbright GU24 0LR
	(in capitals please)
	ESS (in capitals please)
	ode Telephone
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	ose a donation of £
	treat my donation as a Gift Aid donation to St Michael and All Angels Church. I am
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	only sign below if Gift Aid is applicable
_	ture
The cl	osing date for entries is Friday 14th January 2021. Winners will be informed

by 23rd January. If you would like to receive the correct answers, either check out the website www.pirbrightchurch.org.uk, or include a SAE with your completed quiz.

FRIENDS OF PIRBRIGHT SCHOOL Pirbright Christmas Trail

Friday 11th Dec- Sun 3rd Jan. For a couple of hours of festive fun download the trail map and a question sheet, follow the trail and pick up the clues. You will finish at the Cricketers' Yurt where the little ones will be treated to something sweet and you can vote for your favourite window. Download your map for just £3.50 per family at www.pta-events.co.uk/fops from Thurs 10th Dec. Huge thank you to everyone who has kindly decorated a window for the event, we really hope everyone enjoys the fantastic efforts. This event is very kindly sponsored by The Yurt on the Green

PIRBRIGHT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Christmas tree decorating competition

It's not too late to request an entry form for the competition to find the best decorated Christmas tree, Christmas door wreath and / or festive table centre.

Email me on PhilipBarralet@gmail.com or telephone 473737 for your entry form.

The Society would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas in whatever form we are allowed to celebrate and trust that we will be able to resume our meetings in 2021

Philip Barralet

PIRBRIGHT TWINNING ASSOCIATION



Here's hoping that our friends in the association are bearing up in lockdown.

Unfortunately we have had to cancel the annual quiz night scheduled for January 2021.

Fingers crossed that things change in the spring and we may then be able to hold our Pancake supper in March. We will be in discussion with our friends in Cagny regarding a visit in 2021 and we will keep you posted.

Lucy Baker, Chairman



What do you get when you cross a duck with Father Christmas? A Christmas quacker!

PIRBRIGHT TENNIS CLUB www.pirbrighttennisclub.com

As we have lockdown at the time of writing, please visit the home page of our website and www.lta.org.uk for the latest news and advice on tennis activities after 2nd December.

Coaching and Re-stringing Tim Seymour 07887 723554 tennisextremeuk@gmail.com website www.tennis-extreme.com New membership Monika Driscolldriscollmonika@gmail.com

PIRBRIGHT CRICKET CLUB

Remembering Paul Garrard, he and I had been batting for about half an hour when he rushed to talk to me just before I took strike. "They are going to try and bowl you around your legs" So I changed my guard and sure enough, they did. I was astounded at his knowledge of the game of cricket. Had he known from experience? His craft at a batter? Wicketkeeper? Afterwards I sang his praises and admired his experience, but he smiled and said "No, I heard the captain and the bowler discussing tactics"

Stay safe, stay lucky and carry on with your life as best you can. Remember, if you do not get the best out of each day the virus wins. *Peter Austin*



WELLIE'S PULL OUT AND KEEP SEED SOWING GUIDE

Let our gardening expert help you know when to sow for the best results.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	Mav	June	July	Aua	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Tomato					y							
Cauliflower												
Shallot												
Onion set												
Parsnip Carrot Early												
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Carrot Au- tumn King												
Cabbage												
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Potato 1st												
Potato Main												
Brussel sprout												
Leek												
Purple sprouting broccoli												
Lettuce												
Spinach												
Radish												
Sweet corn												
Curly Kale												
Courgette												
French bean												
Butternut squash												
Cucumber												
Runner bean												
Beetroot												
Turnip												
Swede												
Broadbean												
Peppers												
Mangetout												
Basil												

CHURCHYARD CHRONICLES

You all know the bit about the angels appearing to the shepherds on the hillside, and then the shepherds turning up at the stable, but did you know about the bit in between? The angels, being heavenly and all that, were very well lit so that when they disappeared, the shepherds were all rather dazzled and confused. They set off down the hillside to the town below, but you know what it's like when you have been staring at a

very bright light, and suddenly it's dark, they were all instantly blind as bats. Add to that shepherds' well known lack of any sense of direction and they would have stumbled around in the dark all night and missed the whole shebang. Luckily for them a family of rabbits living on the hillside had also witnessed the Angelic Host and rabbits have excellent night vision, from eating all those carrots. And so it was that the rabbits saved the day, and led the shepherds straight to the stable.

And that is why there should *always* be a rabbit in the Nativity scene.

Yellow Rabbit

CHRISTMAS SHOPPER

It was just before Christmas and the magistrate was in a happy mood. He asked the prisoner in the dock, 'What are you charged with?' The prisoner replied, 'Doing my Christmas shopping too early.' 'That's no crime', said the magistrate. 'Just how early were you doing this shopping?'

'Before the shop opened', answered the prisoner.









CHRISTMAS IN PIRBRIGHT 2020



There's nothing the people of Pirbright like more than an excuse to party, so here is what the clubs and societies plan to get up to this festive season (with a little wishful thinking).

Pirbright Twinning Association are honouring the great French tradition of Le Reveillon de Noel with a midnight feast on Christmas Eve, followed by patisserie on Christmas morning and the traditional Christmas Day lunch of roast turkey, oysters, fois gras, lobster, venison and cheese, topped off by the traditional 13 different desserts. Top of the Twinners' Christmas present list is a pack of Rennie's indigestion tablets and a season ticket to Slimming World.

Cunningham House plan a Boxing Day sporting spectacular, with the Over 80's Space Hopper Racing Team taking on the Geriatric Trampolining Club. Said a member of staff 'When they get bouncing, there's no holding them back. I've seen them on a Saturday night, they are over the wall and down at the pub before you can say Ready, Steady, Bounce.' Top of the Cunningham House Residents' Christmas Present List - a decent set of teeth.

Pirbright Horticultural Society are holding a Grow You Own Christmas Tree competition. Seeds of the Nordmann fir were handed out last January and the winner will be announced in December 2030. Top of every Horticultural Society member's Christmas present wish-list is the genetically engineered offspring of a pigeon and a garden tool - a pair of homing secateurs.

Pirbright Parkour Free Runners will be carol singing down a chimney near you, leaping from roof top to roof top in a dazzling display of agility and bravado. Survivors may enjoy Christmas lunch in the Royal Surrey Accident and Emergency Department. Top of the Parkour enthusiast's Christmas present list is medical insurance.

The Thieves' Guild Christmas party and fund raising raffle was cancelled after someone stole all the raffle prizes.

Pirbright Society for Fans of Auto-correct are holding a Creole Service in St Michael and All Angles followed by mint spies and mule wine.

Pirbright Surgery are delaying their festivities in case of a rush of calls to children who have swallowed Christmas decorations. That's right, they are expecting an outbreak of tinselitis. Top of the Surgery Christmas present list - an end to Covid 19.

The Pirbright Free Swimmers are planning a Christmas morning dip in the village pond. Top of their Christmas present wishlist is an efficient clearance programme for giant catfish.

Pirbright Rugby Club are doing their bit to support *all* the local pubs after a tough year of lockdowns and limited opening. Top of the rugby club members' Christmas present list - an infallible hangover cure.

Special thanks to the lovely people at Knaphill Print supporting this edition.

Editor: Julia Douetil, julia.douetil@gmail.com Church Cottage, Church Lane, Pirbright, GU24 0JJ. Please send copy for January **by 8th December.** PeriNews is also on the Church and Parish Council websites, from the church and Print or keep.