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Ashburnham and Penhurst Parish Magazine November 2020



Please send contributions for the December/January edition by
Friday 6th November.
We reserve the right of refusal & the right to edit any articles

Village Remembrance Service
 Join us at the War Memorial
at 10.45am on Sunday 8th November
 for our annual Service of Remembrance
 Please remember to abide by social distancing guidelines.

Church Services in November

Ashburnham Church - All Services at 10.30am

1st November Morning Prayer
 8th November Remembrance Sunday
 no service in church, meet at the village War Memorial at 10.45am
 15th November Morning Prayer
 22nd November Holy Communion
 29th November Advent Sunday Morning Prayer

Church Services are allowed under the new Government "rule of six". There are appropriate measures to ensure social distancing, masks must be worn and hand sanitiser is available. Our services are spoken, with hymns and worship songs played from CDs (no singing allowed). We are aware that not everyone can join us so Revd Peter continues to produce a service outline to use at home. Please email or call him to receive this. At this time the church building is being kept locked between services and prayer times to keep it clean.

The church is open for private prayer each Thursday 2 - 4 pm.
 Our Monthly Prayer Hour is on Tuesday 17th November 7 - 8 pm by Zoom.
 Please contact pccsecretary.stpetersashburnham@gmail.com for the link.
 Donations for Battle Food Bank can be left in the porch at Ashburnham Church.
 The porch is open and donations are taken to the Food Bank regularly.

Penhurst Church - All services at 10.30am

1 November 10.30 Holy Communion
 8 November 10.30 Remembrance Sunday Morning Prayer
 15 November 10.30 Holy Communion
 22 November 10.30 Morning Prayer
 29 November 10.30 Service of Advent Readings and Music

Ashburnham Chapel

Join the Chapel congregation at 7pm each Sunday for a Zoom Service
 Get in touch with Fay Ramsden or see the Chapel article later in the magazine
 for details of how to join in



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Sarahjane Prince Cert. Ed.
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Megan Masters (01273 407001)
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for further information.

Dear Friends,

Jimmy's mother said, 'Get up, it's time for church.' He said, 'I am not going to church today. I don't feel like it.' Sharply, his mother replied: 'You've got to go.' 'I just can't,' he replied. 'Give me one good reason.' 'I will do better than that,' she replied. 'First, you are 44 years of age, and, secondly, you are the Minister!'

We all can smile at that but going to church is the normal lifestyle of a Christian. I feel rather odd when, if I am away on holiday and don't make it to a church, that something is missing. Churchgoing is a way of worshipping with other Christians, worshipping God, learning what God is saying to us through bible readings, sermons, prayers. When we enter church on a Sunday, we need to say, 'speak to me today Lord, because what I hear today is the most important thing I am going to hear'.

Being in church is part of our overall spiritual journey. I am reminded of the saying: 'You don't stand still spiritually, you either go forwards or backwards'. It's a saying that jolts me into action.

Pablo Cassals, the great cellist, was asked at 85 why he still practised five times a day. He replied: because I think I am getting better'. There's an attitude!

The word 'worship' has as its root meaning: 'to give worth to'. It is saying, in my worship of God, be it in a church building or quietly at home, or on a walk in the countryside, we are giving worth to the God who created us. Whenever Christians meet in an act of worship, there is 'church'.

The Lockdown taught us that not being in the church building, sad as that was, worship was still going on through printed services, Zoom, television programmes devoted to Christian worship. My wife and I 'went to church' five times on Easter Day!

'Thank you, Lord, that we can worship you in so many ways and situations; you are our God and we give you the worth that you are rightly due. Help us by your Holy Spirit to hear what you are saying to us day by day, for you love us and want only the best. Amen'.

With my prayers, PETER



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Tel: 01424 892941
p.walker977@btinternet.com

Book Club

November book group. By Zoom
Friday 27th November at 2pm. All welcome!

As usual we will be talking about the books we've read and enjoyed since the last time we met (more books than usual I've no doubt).

Our gathering will take place via the marvellous technology that is **Zoom**. Zoom is free to download from <https://zoom.us/download> then choose "sign up it's free". On the day Nicky will email the meeting ID to all our members. If you're not already on the mailing list but would like to join in, then just email Nicky nickyatstreetcottage@gmail.com and we'll add you to the invitation.

Filling Station

The Zoom November Filling Station meeting takes place on Monday 9th November with Mark Hirst speaking, Mark is a former Battle Baptist Pastor now with a church in Ashford.



Details of how to join the meeting by Zoom will be in The Post on the preceding weekend and will on the local website at thefillingstation.org/station/ashburnham about a week before the meeting.

100 Club

If you've signed up for this, don't worry it is still taking place!

Nat will make the draw at the beginning of the month and the result will be posted on the Parish Website.....it could be you!

The winner in October was Graham Holland

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Are You Legal in 2020?



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All these events and meetings in our villages are postponed until further notice

Pub Quiz
at the Ash Tree Inn
01424 892104

Village Walking Group
email Nicky on
nickyatstreetcottage@gmail.com for information

ASHBURNHAM & PENHURST WI

For more details contact
ashburnhamandpenhurstwi@gmail.com

MI
All men in the Villages welcome to join us for a drink and find out more about our upcoming events

Table Tennis Club
Call Janet on 01424 892311
for more information

Village Lunch
at the Village Hall
For more information
ring Janet on 01424 892311

Filling Station
contact Catherine Duggleby on 07801 634034 for information

The Coffee Stop

Unfortunately due to the continuation of government restrictions on gatherings we will not be planning any Coffee stop meetings for the rest of 2020.

If possible we will resume get togethers in 2021.

Stay safe and well.



To all Group Leaders and Members

if you run or are a member of a group that usually meets regularly, why not try and keep in touch virtually with each other? It could be the only contact some people get during the week and might make a real difference to someone who is stuck at home.

Please note that the inclusion of advertisements for local services in this magazine does not constitute a recommendation.

Readers are advised to make their own enquiries to ensure good service.

Do I Like November?

My coat has grown much longer as the daylight fades away.
The grass is not so green or lush; they've started feeding hay.

The east wind bites and joins the north; a chilling two-edged blade,
to bleach the green in dusty white, a carpet heaven made.

The other day she saddled up, just before the dark.
Scary painted face she had; I knew it was some lark!
I heard her mention, "Halloween" and off we went with cheer
but when she knocked on houses just tomatoes hit my rear!

The day I dragged a cart around with sack of straw and face.
"Penny for the guy!" They shout while trotting out apace.
The smell of baked potatoes and some sausage cooked in fire,
the reek of beer, the shouts of glee, that extraordinary pyre!

Last night there were explosions with bright flashes so intense
and needlepoints of colour mingled round one flame so dense;
licking round a human form, black cloak and pointed hat.
We galloped round our field in fear; why were they cruel like that?

The trees have changed to skeletons; the leaves a soft warm bed.
Fungi flourish furtively, thriving off the dead.
My hooves are sinking deeper now; mud fever; what a pain!
But sometimes when the frost has been, I walk on top again.

The nights draw in, the lights come out; I see them round the eaves;
fairy lights and what is that? A tree! My eye deceives!
If they can put a fir tree in their window all to see . . .
then let them make a straw bed in the living room for me.

by Tony Smith

This poem is in my book that has just been published and is available now on Amazon, entitled, "**Four Legs and a Neigh**"
The book is a collection of 36 equine poems and 10 stories based on my experience of running the Brownbread Horse Rescue Charity as well as my riding exploits in numerous historical re-enactments including as a Mongol horseman, a Crusader, a Highwayman and even a Knight in full body armour'



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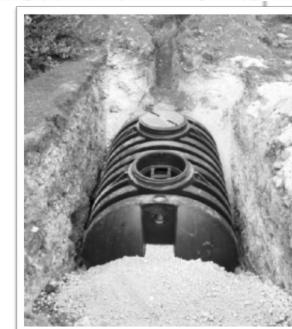
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Chapel News

I am thrilled to say that following on from my invitation to ‘take the plunge’ and join us on Zoom on a Sunday evening some of you have! To those of you that are still ‘thinking about it’, what have you got to lose? Come on, join us!

I held a ‘Get together’ Zoom meeting on the 2nd October where we just met up and chatted and actually had a really good laugh together.

So by request I will hold another on 2nd November at 11 a.m the ‘log in’ details are:- 420 783 0582 and the password is Fay (These are the same log in details for the Chapel Service at 6.45 p.m on a Sunday.)

If you want to join us but are not familiar with Zoom give me a ring on 01424 830078 or 07860 113413 and I will talk you through it. It is FREE.

If anybody is reading this that has a friend, relative or neighbour that they want to introduce to Jesus, now is your chance. Invite them to a Chapel Zoom Service.

Fay

Faith in Sussex

If you would like to know more about what the churches are up to in Sussex and to find out news from Chichester Cathedral then the Diocesan Magazine Faith in Sussex is available to read here online.

<https://www.chichester.anglican.org/faith-in-sussex/>

It is packed with articles about our whole region - a church Eastbourne feeding their community, interviews with the two new Bishops, initiatives promoting better mental health, reflections on classic hymns and upcoming events.

Parish Council News

Over the past few months we have been reporting discussions between the parish council and the trustees of the Ashburnham Estate over a new lease for the cricket ground and playing field - discussions which started nearly eighteen months ago. To enable the building of a new village hall on the land, a new lease from the Estate is needed. Now it is with pleasure that the parish council can report that negotiations have been concluded in a way which is very favourable to the village and addresses all the concerns raised by the council. Most importantly, it makes provisions for financial compensation at the end of the lease should the lease not be renewed in 50 years time. The compensation is sufficiently generous to provide a degree of protection to the village's investment in the project throughout the duration of the lease.

The parish council believes that the estate trustees have been very willing to take onboard its earlier concerns and are giving their firm support to the new hall project (so long of course as it remains the desire of the village to have a new hall). Consequently, at the parish council meeting on 30th September members resolved that signing the revised lease was in the best interests of the community and will move forward to do that in the next few weeks. Clearing this hurdle allows finalisation of estimated costs and a global total cost of the project. As soon as the Covid-19 pandemic allows there will be a village meeting to report and take questions. Further down the road, after it is known what grants can be obtained and what balance needs to be borrowed, there has to be a full public consultation.

The annual Service of Remembrance will take place at the war memorial in Church Road on Sunday 8th November 2020 with people assembling in time for a start at about 10.50am. Refreshments will not be available afterwards due to the Covid-19 restrictions and for the same reason there will be no hymn singing.

Brian Holdstock, Clerk to the Council

Email: clerk@ashburnham-penhurst.net

Land line: 01323 832082 with answering machine

Text: 07836 716723

If leaving telephone voice messages be sure to leave your name and a call back number. Council meetings are on the last Wednesday of alternate months (next two are 25 November 2020 and 27 January 2021) and the Planning Committee (if required) meets on the last Wednesday of intervening months.

All meetings are in public and members of the public are encouraged to attend. This includes online meetings during the Coronavirus restrictions. If you wish to listen in then email the clerk in order to be sent the invitation link a few minutes before the start of the meeting. There is an agenda slot near the start of the meeting for members of the public to address the Council. The agenda is published online at the village web site three clear days before the meeting and hard copy is put on the notice board at The Chapel.



ASHBURNHAM

PLACE

Grounds and Gardens

All upcoming events and walks have been cancelled.

During Orangery opening hours (see ad elsewhere in the magazine) you can walk around the grounds and gardens.

We look forward to seeing you all again soon. Stay safe.

www.ashburnham.org.uk



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Here at Penhurst Retreat, we seek to love one another and show hospitality to all who come through our doors. We also desire to demonstrate God's love by keeping everyone as safe as we possibly can. In these unusual times, we have had to change some of the things we do - including wearing masks, keeping physical distance and doing a lot more cleaning!

We have received some wonderful guest feedback recently, including:
"The most wonderful escape in beautiful surroundings."
"The lounge was so warm and cosy - love the fireplace."
"The food was delicious - my dietary issues were catered for very well."
"Covid-19 handled sensitively and professionally. We felt safe and wonderfully welcomed."

If you or someone you know is in need of some time out, why not consider booking a quiet day or an overnight stay? See the website for latest availability or give us a call.

Nicci, Joanna and the Penhurst team.

Helping Each Other

During this autumn and winter we are all having to limit our social interactions and as it starts getting dark earlier and earlier most of us will probably struggle more than usual. It is unlikely that we will have any of the activities in the run up to Christmas that we all love such as carol singing round the village or in the pub, christingle services, coffee mornings or craft fairs. All our regular clubs and societies have paused their meetings and while some are trying to keep meeting via zoom for many people this season will be very isolating.

One of the things I love about our villages is the hospitality at the heart of most of our gatherings! I'm pretty sure if we had a tag line it would be something along the lines of 'Ashburnham and Penhurst powered by cake'!

As we can't get together in the ways we usually would, let's all try and keep in touch with our neighbours, check on those we know who might be struggling and try and find safe ways to be together.

If you have any ideas about things we can do to help each other, please get in touch or share on the village facebook page -the address is below.

Jay Ashworth

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Time: 10-11:30am • Ages: 0-36 month old

BUNNY THURSDAYS

We have planned lots of exciting groups from Baby Massage,
Baby Yoga, Sing & Sign plus much more! See website for the schedule.

Time: 10-11:30am • Ages: 0-18 month old

BUNNY FRIDAYS

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Time: 10-11:30am • Ages: 0-36 month old

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Useful Contact Details

Ashburnham and Penhurst Facebook Page:

www.facebook.com/groups/penhurstandashburnham/

Ashburnham Church Facebook Page:

www.facebook.com/AshburnhamPlace/

Ashburnham Chapel Website

www.ashburnhamchapel.co.uk

WI Facebook Page:

www.facebook.com/ashburnhamWI/

Ashburnham and Penhurst Parish Council Facebook Page:

www.facebook.com/AshburnhamPenhurstPC/?epa=SEARCH_BOX

Parish Magazine Contact Details

To advertise phone Fay on 07860 113413

oframsden@hotmail.co.uk

If you have a question about delivery

contact Catherine on 07801 634034

To submit articles or village notices

contact Jay Ashworth on

01424 532972 / 07876 484945 or

email jay.ashworth@btinternet.com

For information about Church Services

Ashburnham Church

Revd Peter Walker 01424 892941

p.walker977@btinternet.com

Penhurst Church

Anthony Ramsey 01323 764557

Ashburnham Chapel

Fay Ramsden 07860 113413

01424 830078

Battle Area Community Transport

The weekly bus is cancelled until further notice

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Covid 19 Information Page

The government have introduced three tier system for the country and as of 14th October our area is in the medium alert category.

This means that the rule of six applies indoors and outdoors, (with some exceptions including education and religious services), people should work at home where possible, restaurants and pubs close at 10pm and face coverings must be worn when shopping or in restaurants when not seated to eat or drink.

It is clear that things might change so please keep checking the government website for up to date details.

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

The BBC also has a good page where you can put your postcode in and check all the regulations for your area.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-54373904>



Important Contact Details

www.nhs.uk - for information about what to do if you fall ill

Call **07836 716723** If you are worried about yourself or a neighbour, if you need help or advice or if you would like to offer help or assistance

Go to www.ashburnham-penhurst.net

For up to date information and local guidance

Garden and Nature Notes

I'm writing this in early October and the rain is falling outside. After such a long dry spell in late summer the weather has certainly been making up for it since Autumn came in! The forecast tells me there will be some fine days at the end of this week which I'm going to use to get my bulbs in and also replace the annuals that have been flowering beautifully all summer with some perennials that I've bought to go in our new flower beds around the large pond in the garden. I've chosen a mix of plants that will flower at different times so we should have colour for as long a season as possible, these include Geum 'Lisanne' with pretty yellow flowers in spring, Rudbeckia 'Little Goldstar' for later summer colour and Persicaria 'Pink Elephant' to mix in with grasses to provide some lift and variety. I have also got lots of ground cover to help suppress weeds. So I've got some varieties of Ajuga reptans and Lamium maculatum to cover the ground in semi shade.

I've started doing some reading around the subject of No Dig Gardening. Those of you who visit the Walled Kitchen Garden at Ashburnham Place will know that this is the system that Nick and Anna follow there, all their vegetables are being grown in this way and it's proving very successful. A man called Charles Dowding has been gardening in his vegetable garden this way since the early 1980s and teaching the principles since then through practical courses, books and via films on his website as well. I am hoping to incorporate the principles into areas of the ornamental gardens at Ashburnham Place as I return in the autumn (having been on furlough since March). Back at the start of this year we cleared a section of one of the large beds in the West Garden and covered the soil with a layer of cardboard before mulching with a thick layer of compost. It has been successful at suppressing some of the weeds I would have expected to see and I am sure the soil health is greatly improved. The principles of no-dig are most commonly associated with vegetable growing and I am interested in how much can be applied in an ornamental setting - I will keep you posted! This is Charles' website if you're interested in finding out more. www.charlesdowding.co.uk

Keep a look out for visiting flocks of redwings feeding in hedgerows and from fruit trees - they are a small thrush with orangey-red patches on their sides and a cream strip above their eyes. You might also see fieldfares, again in flocks eating berries or listening for worms on the ground. They are larger - about the size of a mistle thrush and have grey heads and rumps with chestnut brown back and wings. Their chest is speckled.

Jay Ashworth

Village Hall News

The village hall has a brand new oil tank. The old one was very old and worst of all it had no bung to contain leakages or spillage. The insurance company had endorsed the insurance policy to exclude claims for costs of dealing with any spillage so something had to be done.

The old tank did not comply on other grounds too - it was in the wrong place and too near a window so it has been relocated. The total cost, including installation, was £2,500 which is a breathtaking sum.

However, there is an ongoing generous offer from Ashburnham Thanksgiving Trust to help with maintenance costs by adding £3 to every £1 raised by village fund raising. Money raised from fund raising events is kept separately in the Village Hall Appeal Fund.

Fortunately, we still had just over £2,500 in the Appeal Fund qualifying for 3:1 match so the village only paid one quarter of the total cost with ATT paying the rest. That leaves the Appeal Fund with just £1,800 some of which is earmarked for exterior painting before the winter.

For the record, ATT is a charity that The Revd John Bickersteth set up to provide monies for missionaries, other Christian activities and other charitable giving in the village, UK and worldwide. It is ATT that has pledged £100,000 towards the cost of a new village hall on the playing field in Church Road. ATT becomes the owner of the village hall if it ceases to be used as a village hall.

Brian Holdstock
Treasurer, Village Hall Management Committee

Parish Council Hotline 07836 716723

Call this number if you are worried about yourself or a neighbour, if you need help or advice or would like to offer assistance

Christmas Pudding Ice Cream

This recipe was donated to the Penhurst Retreat Centre Cookery Book by Elfreda Cormode who picked it up at a WI demonstration.

It is a luxurious alternative to have for (or even with!) dessert at Christmas. Just remember to start it at least a day before you need it as the fruit needs to soak overnight.

28g of each of the following:

glacé cherries

angelica

walnuts

almonds

glacé pineapple

seedless raisins

currants

sultanas

mixed peel

3 egg yolks

115g caster sugar

28g cornflour

285ml milk

a few drops vanilla essence

430ml double cream - stiffly whipped

30ml brandy

30ml sherry

Chop the fruits and nuts as necessary and soak in the sherry and brandy overnight

Mix the egg yolks, sugar and cornflour with a little of the milk

Heat the rest of the milk in a pan and add to the yolk mixture. Mix well and return to the pan

Cook slowly, stirring frequently, to make a custard. When thickened cover and leave to cool

Once cooled, stir in the soaked fruits, nuts, vanilla and whipped cream

Freeze in a plastic tub or pudding basin lined with cling film

Let it relax in the fridge for half an hour or so before serving

Why not have a look online for recipes to use up the egg whites? You could make meringues, chocolate mousse pots or macarons.