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Ashburnham and Penhurst Parish Magazine May 2023



Please send contributions for the June edition by Friday May 5th
We reserve the right of refusal & the right to edit any articles

Church Services in May
Ashburnham Church - All Services at 10.30am unless otherwise stated

7 May	Rogation Service at Rocks Farm at 10.30am A Special Commemorative Service to mark the Coronation 12.30pm at the Sports Pavilion
14 May	Holy Communion
21 May	Morning Prayer
28 May	Pentecost Holy Communion

Please see our website and Facebook page for up to date information.
 A Sunday Club for children 3+ years and activity packs for older children are available. The church is open during the week for private prayer.

Penhurst Church - All services at 10.30am

Services will take place in the church according to Government guidelines

7 May	Holy Communion
14 May	Rogation Service
21 May	Holy Communion
28 May	Pentecost Morning Prayer and Communion

Ashburnham Chapel

Ashburnham Chapel meet at 6.30pm each Sunday.

The service is also on Zoom live for those that cannot attend.

Get in touch with Fay Ramsden on 07860 113413 or 01424 830078 or go to the Chapel website www.ashburnhamchapel.co.uk for more information. Also see the Chapel News later in this magazine for more details.

Prayer and Pastoral Care for our Villages

Revd Gary Cregeen is responsible for the pastoral care of parishioners, and welcomes the opportunity to meet everyone. If you would value a visit, either for a chat, prayer, or Holy Communion at home, please contact him. Ashburnham Church regularly prays for everyone who lives and works in our villages and we are happy to receive requests for prayer at our various services and meetings. There are also "Prayer Boxes" at St Peter's Church in Ashburnham Place, and outside Ashburnham Chapel at Ponds Green where you can write a card (anonymously if you wish) for a specific issue. These will be offered for prayer on a regular basis and dealt with in the strictest confidence. Ashburnham Church is open daily for private prayer too.



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The magazine is delivered to every household in Ashburnham and Penhurst villages as well as the three churches, goes up on the village website and is emailed further afield.

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History Walk with Jay
Wednesday 3rd May 10am
Saturday 13th May 10am

Book via the Ashburnham Place Website
www.ashburnham.org.uk

Regular nature walks on the 2nd Wednesday of each month
Meet outside the Orangery

Please remember we are a dog free site except assistance dogs



The food bank is open -
Wednesday 1-3pm

Come & enjoy a cuppa, a chat and get what you need.

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COME HOLY SPIRIT...

Like most homes in Ashburnham and Penhurst we are blessed with stunning countryside and amazing views. From Agmerhurst Granary we look down a sweeping valley towards Pevensey Levels with Eastbourne in the distance and Beachy Head beyond. However, being where we are also means we get the full force of strong winds occasionally! At times, during March and April, it felt as though the house was shaking due to the persistent winds! Hence burying oneself beneath a warm duvet at night, and being sheltered from the howling gales, was a cause of comfort and thankfulness.

The force of these strong winds reminded me of an occasion we read about in the Bible when Jesus' first followers were gathered in a room, behind closed doors, fearful for their lives. A few weeks earlier they had witnessed the harrowing crucifixion of Jesus, though three days later their joy was restored following His glorious resurrection from the dead. Thus, they got used to Jesus being around again until, ten days earlier (40 days after His resurrection), He ascended to heaven and their sense of loss, fear and uncertainty returned. However, prior to His departure Jesus had promised them a Comforter, a Counsellor, who would be with them always and everywhere – His Holy Spirit. He said they would 'receive power when the Holy Spirit comes'; and He fulfilled His promise at Pentecost when 'All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit' (Acts 2:4).

Saint Luke, who wrote about these events in the Acts of the Apostles, struggled to find words to describe what happened when the Spirit came. It was 'like the blowing of a violent **wind from heaven**' that filled the whole house. Centuries earlier Ezekiel, a prophet in the Old Testament, had a vision of a valley of dead, dry bones which were brought back to life again by 'the wind of God's breath' (Ezekiel 37:9-14). Thus, the 'drama' of Pentecost would have evoked memories in the minds of those familiar with the scriptures and, as a result, lives were transformed and empowered.

The events recorded about Pentecost heralded a new beginning which is ongoing. At Pentecost (or Whitsun) Christians continue to celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and His continuing work of convicting us of sin; revealing Christ to us; shaping us into His likeness; and remaining with us until the end of the age - until Christ comes again. Indeed, the Creed declares God as Father Son and Holy Spirit – thus, the Holy Spirit is not something to be feared or dismissed as 'weird' or 'strange' but something to be welcomed and embraced.

On Saturday 6th May at Westminster Abbey, at the Coronation of HM King Charles III, there will be a most sacred moment in the ceremony when the new King will be anointed. At this point in the service, if as previously, his regal attire will be removed as he comes before God as an ordinary man, without special status, and seeks the anointing of the Holy Spirit in order to fulfil his royal role.

Similarly, at her Coronation almost 70 years ago, the late Queen Elizabeth II prayed: '*... that my heart may be ready to receive Him in humility and godly fear. **Come Holy Spirit**, and daily increase in all of us, and in me thy humble servant, thy manifold gifts of grace, the spirit of wisdom and understanding; the spirit of counsel and strength; the spirit of knowledge and true godliness, and fill us, O Lord, with the spirit of thy holy fear, now and forever. Amen'*

This prayer can be adopted by (and applied to) any one of us, as Jesus promised the gift of His Spirit to all those who turn to Him and believe in Him. This year PENTECOST falls on Sunday 28 May when churches locally and around the world will celebrate and give thanks for the coming of the Holy Spirit and His ongoing work. Come Holy Spirit!

God bless, Revd Gary

Revd Gary Cregeen Priest-in-Charge of Ashburnham with Penhurst, Agmerhurst Granary, Ashburnham. TN33 9NA
T: 01424 612324 email: gary@GandJCregeen.co.uk

Ashburnham Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

At St Peter's APCM on 2nd April 2023 Catherine Duggleby and John French were re-appointed as Churchwardens. Revd Gary thanked them for their valued and faithful service, support and encouragement. Sandy Wheeler was elected to serve on the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and Paul Wenham was elected to represent the Parish on the Battle & Bexhill Deanery Synod.

The meeting took place in the Prayer Centre, Ashburnham Place, as the Church Hall is still out of action following flood damage. We are grateful to ACT for the provision of this space, both for the APCM as well as the after-service refreshments each Sunday and the recent Lent Meetings.

The APCM was a really encouraging time and it was lovely to see so many at the meeting, which provided an opportunity to review the last year, engage with the present and plan for the future. Revd Gary also thanked Rachel Bickersteth and Margo & Clive Mills who have stepped down from the PCC.

Please pray for our Churchwardens, and the full PCC: Rev Gary Cregeen (Chair), Catherine Duggleby, John French, Paul Wenham, Carol Kobylka, Sharon Gulliver, Sandy Wheeler and Fay Merrick. At a brief PCC meeting immediately after the APCM Catherine Duggleby was appointed Vice-Chair, Fay Merrick as PCC Secretary and Sandy Wheeler as Safeguarding Co-ordinator. At present we do not have a PCC Treasurer – if this is something you could help with, please contact Revd Gary.

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Rogation Service

Rogation Service – Sunday 7th May

The word rogation comes from the Latin verb “rogare”, meaning “to ask” and involves asking God for protection, to provide and to bless, while acknowledging His goodness and our dependency on Him. Rogation provides us with the opportunity to praise God, give thanks for our food and those who produce it, and to pray a blessing on the community in which we live and share together. Therefore, let us celebrate in thankfulness for all the Lord’s amazing provision.

Our **Rogation Service** this year is on **Sunday 7th May at Rocks Farm, Lakehurst Lane, Ashburnham, TN33 9PG, starting at 10.30 am**

with refreshments served afterwards. Our thanks to Lila and Louisa Bousba for their welcome. The service, which is suitable for all ages, will be outside, where we will take a short circular walk, stopping at different places to take in the surrounding scenery and remind ourselves of all the work that goes on in our communities. Do join us – and bring suitable clothing and footwear!

NB As parking is limited at Rocks Farm it is suggested that those who could car-share meet at The Pavilion at 10 am, where cars can be left and in situ for the Coronation Celebration/Commemoration at 12.30 pm.

REVD GARY’S RAMBLE AROUND THE BENEFICE

Over a couple of days during Holy Week Revd Gary did a ‘ramble’ around the Benefice of Ashburnham with Penhurst (as detailed in the April Parish Magazine) – a total of over 19 miles, and around 44,000 steps taken! The purpose of the walk was to meet people, to explore the lovely area in which we live, and to pray at different points for God’s blessing and protection on our local communities.

Gary says, “It was a real pleasure to ‘get out and about’ around the Benefice of Ashburnham and Penhurst. It was great to meet and chat with different people along the way, to enjoy the company of those who accompanied me at different points, as well as those who kindly offered refreshments enroute. Thank you! Of course, we live in a lovely area and decent weather, for the most part (I did get caught in a precipitation of hailstones at one point!), helped to appreciate the awesome scenery all the more!



Coronation of King Charles

Sunday 7th May

A Special Commemorative Service
Led by Revd Gary Cregeen
12.30pm outside the Sports Pavilion



Followed by a Parish Picnic and games for all including a Stool Ball match. Come and join in, bring your own picnic and let's celebrate together. Tea and coffee will be provided.

Any children, resident in the villages and aged 16 and under can come and collect their Coronation Mugs at the picnic.

ASCENSION DAY – Thursday 18 May

At Easter we celebrate Jesus' death in our place on the Cross and His victory over death – the resurrection. However, there is another significant event in the life and ministry of Jesus which often passes without much notice – His Ascension, which took place forty days after Easter.

Ascension Day is being marked locally with a

Holy Communion Service at Penhurst Church at 10.30 am, Thursday 18 May

The Revd John Sykes and Revd Gary will be officiating. All are welcome to come along; refreshments will be served afterwards.

On Monday 15th May the Filling Station speaker is Julie Sheldon who was completely healed of a terminal illness. Please see www.thefillingstation.org.uk/station/ashburnham for information about Julie.

We meet at 7pm for coffee, then in the Great Hall at Ashburnham Place for worship, to hear Julie and then a time of Prayer Ministry. Contact Catherine for more details on 07801 634034 or catherine@duggleby.com



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Parish Magazine Contact Details

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If you have a question about delivery or to submit articles or village notices

contact Jay Ashworth on 01424 532972 / 07876 484945 or email ashworthjay1@gmail.com

For information about Church Services Ashburnham Church

Revd Gary Cregeen 01424 612324
gary@GandJCregeen.co.uk

Penhurst Church

Anthony Ramsey 01323 764557

Ashburnham Chapel

Fay Ramsden 07860 113413
 01424 830078

Battle Area Community Transport

Route B79 Ashburnham to Battle
 The weekly bus is running again.

The following is from BACT 'Covid hygiene measures will continue, including the requirement to wear face coverings and a 50% reduction in seating capacity. There is no longer a requirement to book seating'.

Depart Battle (Abbey Green) 9.50am
 The Pound 10am
 Ash Tree Inn 10.05am
 Arrive in Battle 10.25am
 Return at 12.05pm

"105" IS THE NUMBER TO CALL IF YOU GET A POWER CUT

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For **Ashburnham Church** events and information go to

www.ashburnhamandpenhurstchurches.org.uk

Ashburnham Chapel Website

www.ashburnhamchapel.co.uk

For **Village** events and information go to

www.ashburnham-penhurst.net



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Parish Council News

The parish celebrations of the coronation of King Charles III are modest in keeping with other national celebrations. However, the Parish Council did not want the occasion to pass without some memento of it being given to every child in the parishes. And so every child is entitled to a coronation mug which they can collect on Sunday 7th May.

As with most parishes, the celebrations take place on Sunday 7th May and start with St. Peter's Ashburnham holding a Rogation Sunday service at Rocks Farm (far end of Lakehurst Lane) at 10.30 am. At 12.30 pm the Rev Gary Cregeen will hold a brief commemorative service of thanksgiving in front of the cricket pavilion in Church Road, Ashburnham.

From about 1.15 pm everyone is invited join in a parish picnic at the cricket field and children can collect their coronation mug.

The Village Hall Management Committee appointed the Parish Council as Sole Managing Trustee last November and the new trustee body had its first meeting on 5th April. This was very much a briefing meeting for the new trustees, but one of the first items of business is to arrange for an Annual General Meeting which is required by the Charities Act. Details are to follow, but it is planned to hold it on the morning of Saturday 20th May 2023 at the cricket pavilion and to follow on with a social occasion such as a plant sale and coffee.

Brian Holdstock, Clerk to the Council Email: clerk@ashburnham-penhurst.net
Land line: 01323 832082 with answering machine Mobile and Text: 07836 716723
If leaving telephone voice messages be sure to leave your name and a call back number.

Council meetings are on the fourth Wednesday of alternate months except that the next one will be a week earlier on 17th May 2023. The Planning Committee (if required) meets on the fourth Wednesday of intervening months. A list of councillors' lead responsibilities can be seen on the village website at www.ashburnham-penhurst.net

All meetings are in public and members of the public are encouraged to attend. 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 website three clear days before the meeting and hard copy is posted on the notice board at The Chapel. Minutes of meetings are published on the village website.

Elections on Thursday 4th May

When you come to the Village Hall to vote, don't forget to bring photo id with you.

The list of acceptable id can be found by following this link

<https://www.gov.uk/how-to-vote/photo-id-youll-need>



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Church or ring
01424 893154 for
more information.

Village Events and Groups

Pub Quiz

Tuesday May 2nd
7.15pm for prompt 7.30pm start

Meal available
Booking is essential
01424 892104

MI

MI will be meeting at the Ash Tree
Inn, on Tuesday 9th May
at 7.45pm /8pm,
do join us for a drink!

contact Clive for more details
cliveclive@live.co.uk

The Art Group

The Art Group are happy to be able
to invite any fellow artists to join us
on Thursdays, from 10a.m to 1p.m
at Ashburnham cricket pavilion.
We are a friendly group of mixed
ability and expertise. We support
each other and have the
occasional professional mentor to
keep us on the right track.
For more information ring Barbara
Cornish, 01424 435198.

Table Tennis Club

Meets on Wednesdays at 7.45pm in
the Village Hall
Call Janet on 01424 892311
for more information

Book Group

**Our April gathering will be on Friday
26th May at Street Cottage,
2pm-4pm.** We look forward to
seeing you then.



We will be chatting about the books we have enjoyed since the last time
we met: sharing, swapping, lending and recommending.
It doesn't matter if you haven't read much for a while - it will be lovely to
see you anyway and perhaps we'll inspire you. We're very much looking
forward to seeing you. Contact Nicky on 07799 691707 or
nickyatstreetcottage@gmail.com for more info.

Garage Sale

at Street Cottage, opposite the Ash Tree Inn
Saturday 10th June 10.30am-1pm



Come along, grab a bargain and enjoy a cuppa and a chat!

Browse and buy -
kitchen and garden equipment,
furniture, pictures, ornaments,
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All proceeds to the New Village Hall Fund

Village Walking Group

Wednesday 17th May starting at 10am.
Meet at the Village Hall Car Park, Jay will lead a walk around the village verges and into Reed Wood to admire and identify wild flowers! Well behaved dogs on leads welcome! We will return to the hall for refreshments.
More details from Tina French 01424 892580
j.french678@btinternet.com



June's walk will be on Thursday 15th, walking from Pigknoll (TN33 9NU) with Bob Andrew, 10am start, well behaved dogs on a lead welcomed.

SHORT MAT BOWLS

We meet every
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We are currently open:
Tuesday – Sunday: 10.30am-4.00pm. Monday: Closed
(Kitchen closes at 3.30pm for Soup, Sandwiches and Paninis)

If you are planning to visit here are dates we will be closed during 2023:

APRIL: Saturday 29th – Sunday 30th **MAY:** Friday 26th – Sunday 28th
JULY: Saturday 15th – Monday 31st **AUGUST:** Tuesday 1st - Monday 14th
NOV: Saturday 18th – Sunday 19th

We may be closed for other dates during 2023. Notice of closures will be displayed in the Orangery and on our Facebook page or please call before visiting.

Further news and information can be found on our Facebook or Instagram page.
For Enquiries (via Reception) – 01424 894201 / bookings@ashburnham.org.uk

www.penhurst.org.uk
01424 892088
info@penhurst.org.uk



Each month we want to highlight some of our upcoming retreats and later this month, on Tuesday 30 May, Revd Gary Cregeen is leading a Quiet Day looking at the book of Philemon, written by St Paul while in prison this short personal letter contains a timeless message about love, forgiveness, and restoration. Join us as we delve into this `gem` and unearth some of the great spiritual treasures and practical lessons it contains.

On Saturday 10 June, Steve Gurr is leading a day entitled Treasures in the Darkness, for Christians working in end of life care, giving the chance to pause and reflect on the nature of God's light that may be found in often challenging work. The morning will include a time of prayer, a led reflection and group work to engage with the theme. Most of the afternoon will be free for personal prayer and quiet reflection.

If you are interested in either of these days please get in touch with us at the office. Don't forget to check our website for our full programme.
Best wishes,
the Penhurst Team.

The Coffee Stop

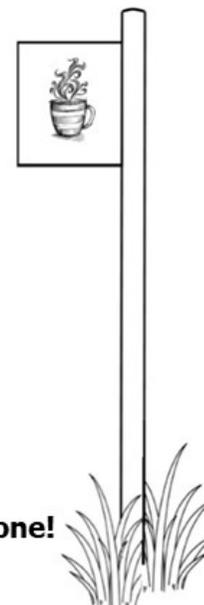
Next Coffee Stop is

Monday 5th May

Drop in anytime between
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All ages and interests welcome.

Looking forward to seeing everyone!



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try why not pop along?

Our next get together is on **Monday 15th May**

Hope to see you there

Murmurations – Donna Christman

Last month I wrote about the murmurations of starlings and how these birds share their knowledge and use their inherent intuition to create their mesmerising aerial displays; I also mentioned Mozart's pet starling.

A couple of weeks ago, very late on a dark, windy night, I tuned into a persistent tapping and flapping at our bedroom window. A blue tit was desperately trying to get in. I watched for a little while. It wasn't eating insects on the frame; perhaps it had lost its way, or had a bird of prey circling over it? Anyway, desperate it was, so - trusting my instincts (yet going against previous experiences of wild birds in houses) I let it in. Immediately relaxed, it repeatedly flew lengths of the room, perching on pictures, and favouring that of two blue tits. It ignored all opened windows and any attempts to be chivvied back out. After 20 minutes or so I resigned myself to the fact that we had a lively visitor for the night, "Ok, it's bedtime..." I shut the windows, turned off the main lights and got into bed but at that moment something unexpected happened... the tiny bird hopped to the side of a curtained clothes storage area and sang a short but beautiful tune (the first I'd heard from it), it then hopped behind the curtain and immediately 'went to bed' – not a peep all night! Every one of us has our own intuition - our gut instincts - but increasingly, the noise and busyness of the outside world clamouring for our attention clouds our ability to access, or trust, this valuable resource. When we are at odds with our inner wisdom we may feel we don't have a voice, or we may lack confidence. However, in using our own observations, listening to our heart and trusting our gut (often referred to as our 'second brain' on account of it being a mental and physical health hub for our whole body) we can be empowered to make the best decisions for us as individuals, and if we all employ this natural gift, and share our knowledge just as the starlings do, then society benefits as a whole.

Supporting our gut health with the good bacteria of pro- and prebiotics such as kefir and other fermented foods and keeping it in balance with supportive nutrition benefits the body and mind as a whole, thereby reducing the impact of allergies, stress and auto-immune conditions whilst improving energy levels and promoting better sleep. And the blue tit? At the early dawn-chorus I opened the window to a calm, sunny morning and crept back to bed. After several minutes I heard the wings of a tiny bird as it flew straight out of the window... On 18th May, 5-6.30pm, I will be leading Meadow Meditations. Contact me for details or see community posts.

Donna Christman 07968 293976

**STRUTT
& PARKER**

Ashburnham Estate Properties to rent

From time to time properties become available to rent on the Ashburnham Estate. If you would like to be contacted when something becomes available, without any obligation, please do let us know.

Contact the Land Agent, Florence Wolfe on 01273 407012, Mobile 07458 117431

or email:

Florence.Wolfe@struttandparker.com
for this and any other
Ashburnham Estate matters.

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**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.**

Saturday 20 May

**9am - Village Hall Management Committee AGM
followed by
Coffee Morning and Plant Swap/Sale at 10am**

Come along for coffee and cake.
Bring any spare seedlings or plants to swap or sell

Garden and Nature Notes

If you a gardener who sows flower or vegetable seeds I wonder if you are like me and often end up with too many of one thing and not enough of something else? This year it looks like I will have far too many tomato plants and not enough beans! This is due to mice eating my first sowing of bean seeds and discovering some tomato seeds gathered from last year that I had forgotten about so I have sowed them in addition to those I sowed last week! I got these particular seeds from a visit to Hole Park gardens in Cranbrook. I had gone on a tree propagation course and have some interesting seeds from trees at various stages of growth too. At the end of the day, the gardener took us around the Walled Garden where he showed us the tomatoes he had been growing, including a plum variety he called 'Tunbridge Wells Deli' as that is where he bought the tomatoes and found them so delicious he saved seeds from them! I took his advice and scraped the seeds from the tomatoes onto pieces of kitchen paper which I then kept in bags in the fridge. I sowed them by simply laying the seed laced paper into a seed tray with compost and lightly covering with more compost -germination rates have so far been good!

If you do have spare seedlings or other plants then do come along to the Plant Sale/Swap and Coffee Morning at the Sports Pavilion on 20th May from 10am. It will be an informal affair but I hope an event where we can swap some of our seedling gluts for items we haven't grown ourselves!

The schedule for the Flower Show in July will be out soon, check the village website in the next week or so and see what classes you might want to enter!
Jay Ashworth

Chapel News

All our Services are at 6-30 pm in the Chapel and also live on Zoom!

May promises to be a busy month for us all with a Bank Holiday on the 1st and another on the 8th of the month when we celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III and his Queen Consort. I am sure there will be many celebrations happening around us and we will find it difficult to choose which to attend.

We have **The Very Revd. Lee Duckett the Dean of Battle** leading our next **Healing Service** which is on the **21st May at 6-30 pm**. Revd. Lee has been involved in Healing Ministry for many years and has some incredible experiences to relate to us. Don't forget Our Lord always hears our prayers and we can pray for anything that is troubling us. So come along and ask for healing of all your concerns whether they are physical or anything else that is worrying you. Remember Jesus said "Take my yoke"

Don't forget that even if you cannot actually get to the Chapel you can join us on Zoom on your phone or iPad from wherever you are, just type in the meeting ID;

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4107830582?pwd=Nkd0UlpWaDBjOE1DZmdhRThOU2RLdz09>

Meeting ID: 410 783 0582
Passcode: Fay

One tap mobile
Meeting ID: 410 783 0582
Passcode: 726912
Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kd4uj3qkaj>

Don't forget to put the 4th June in your diaries which is our Chapel Anniversary, we have been in our present home now for 59 years! So much has happened in those 59 years. The Chapel has been in existence since the mid 1880's.

**Ashburnham and Penhurst Flower Show
and Country Fair**

Saturday 29th July 1.30pm - 5.30pm

Sports Field, Ashburnham.

Flower Show - Schedules soon available from

www.ashburnham-penhurst.net

paper copies with next month's magazine

Fun Dog Show Live Music

Old and Interesting Vehicles, Mini Traction Engine,

Stalls to browse, Games

Tea Tent BBQ, Beer and Pimms

The marquee is available for hire in the evening if you are thinking about planning an event or party. Get in touch with Brian clerk@ashburnham-penhurst.net

Can you help with...

Stalls on the day - could you pledge an hour to help with the Coconut Shy or Welly Wanging?

Setting up and clearing up - do you have an hour or two spare on Friday 28th or Saturday afternoon?

Get in touch with Jay 07876484945
ashworthjay1@gmail.com

ASHBURNHAM CHAPEL

INVITE YOU TO JOIN THEM

ON

21st MAY AT 6-30 pm

FOR THEIR NEXT

HEALING SERVICE

LED BY

THE VERY REVD. DEAN OF BATTLE

LEE DUCKETT

**REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED
AFTER THE SERVICE**

**OUR POST CODE IS;
TN33 9PD**

Ron's Ramblings

There I am, sitting on my settee, in the warmth of the snug, looking across at a maroon coloured glass bowl and thinking, why is it that shape? Why isn't it flat? The answer of course is if it was flat it would be a plate. And if it was a plate your soup would have ended up on the floor. Now at this point you'd maybe be forgiven for thinking 'Hello. Ron's been at the funny fags again'. But no. My life is not that adventurous. I get my kicks trying to outwit the mole on my lawn (and failing miserably).

No, it all boils down to trying to cope with the time of year. The grey skies. The short damp days when you want to get out in the garden and clear up after Winter and prepare for the coming Spring and Summer. Everything seems to be on hold. The time between the revelries of Christmas and the emergence of the new life which Spring heralds. I'm looking out of my window as I'm writing and it's just stopped snowing which has turned now to rain and is very. Grey. And wet.

Another frustration has been my inability to get out on my bike due to an old war wound. Well, that's what I tell my grandsons. This has severely curtailed my perambulations around the Parish to inspect the salt bins. I tell you. My life is just one bundle of excitement after another. Brian has given me a list of every salt bin and pipe in the locale with the objective of letting East Sussex Highways know if they need refilling. I can hardly wait until the list of the drainholes arrive.

It's now a couple of weeks later. It's warmer but still wet and the daffodils and primroses are out. Things are looking up. My new compost bins are taking shape and Mrs K is having a grand time distributing the residue from the old heap around the garden. The pond has been cleared out so that the fish have got somewhere to swim and in fact it's the first time in years that I've seen all of them out together. Result .

Now let's have another go at that pesky mole.

Ronnie King.

We congratulate Richard Bickersteth on his appointment as High Sheriff for East Sussex.

The new High Sheriffs of West Sussex and East Sussex began their year in office at a formal joint Declaration Ceremony at Lewes Crown Court on Friday 31 March – continuing a tradition which stretches back over 1,000 years. They are among the first High Sheriffs to be chosen by King Charles III and promised to uphold justice and the King's Peace at this historic ceremony. Mr Andrew Bliss QPM from Horsted Keynes in West Sussex, and Mr Richard Bickersteth, who lives in Ashburnham, East Sussex, will both serve as The King's representatives for law and order in their respective counties, lending active support to the Judiciary, the Police and other Emergency Services. They will also take an active part in supporting and promoting local voluntary organisations.



Richard said of his appointment, "I am honoured to have been appointed by HM The King to this role and look forward to supporting the Judiciary and Emergency Services, amongst many other people across our wonderful County of East Sussex. I am also keen to support and encourage young people, rural communities and all those voluntary organisations who work with them; especially those who are overlooked or vulnerable. One of my first steps has been to appoint four High Sheriff's Police and Fire Cadets."



May Diary

Mon 1			
Tue 2	7.30pm	Pub Quiz	Ash Tree Inn
Wed 3	7.45pm	Table Tennis	Village Hall
Thu 4	10am - 1pm	Art Club	Sports Pavilion
Fri 5	10.30-12pm	Coffee Stop	Sports Pavilion
Sat 6			
Sun 7	10.30am 12.30pm 1pm 10.30am 6.30pm	Rogation Service Commemorative Service to mark the Coronation of King Charles III Village Picnic and Games afternoon Holy Communion Evening Service	Rocks Farm Sports Pavilion Sports Pavilion Penhurst Church Ashburnham Chapel
Mon 8			
Tue 9	8pm	MI	Ash Tree Inn
Wed 10	10am 7.45pm	Nature Walk meet outside Orangery Table Tennis	Ashburnham Place Village Hall
Thu 11	10am - 1pm	Art Club	Sports Pavilion
Fri 12	2pm	Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
Sat 13			
Sun 14	10.30am 10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Rogation Service Evening Service	Ashburnham Church Penhurst Church Ashburnham Chapel

Apologies if the Parish Magazine arrived on your door mat a bit late this month. This was entirely down to me, your editor and not the lovely folk who faithfully deliver it each month! Jay Ashworth.

For up to date information, news items and details of village clubs, groups and events go to our Village Website
www.ashburnham-penhurst.net

Mon 15	2pm 7pm	WI The Filling Station	Sports Pavilion Ashburnham Place
Tue 16	7.30pm	Ashburnham Church Prayer Hour	Ashburnham Church
Wed 17	10am 7.45pm	Village Walk Table Tennis	Village Hall Village Walk
Thu 18	10am-1pm 10.30am	Art Club Ascension Day Service	Sports Pavilion Penhurst Church
Fri 19			
Sat 20	9am 10am	Village Hall Management Committee AGM Coffee Morning and Plant Sale	Sports Pavilion Sports Pavilion
Sun 21	10.30am 10.30am 6.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Healing Service	Ashburnham Church Penhurst Church Ashburnham Chapel
Mon 22			
Tue 23			
Wed 24	7.45pm	Table Tennis	Village Hall
Thu 25			
Fri 26	2pm 2pm-4pm	Short Mat Bowls Book Group	Village Hall Street Cottage
Sat 27	7.30pm	Quiz Night	Village Hall
Sun 28	10.30am 10.30am 6.30pm	Pentecost Holy Communion Pentecost Morning Prayer and Communion Evening Service	Ashburnham Church Penhurst Church Ashburnham Chapel
Mon 29			
Tue 30			
Wed 31	7.45pm	Table Tennis	Village Hall