



# The Buzz

June 2020



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

Monthly information for the Parish of  
Ifield

## THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH from Parish Warden Chris Bell



After nine weeks of lockdown, for some of us the novelty of it is wearing thin and we have settled into a new routine. For some, technology has opened new ways to explore and express our faith. As our lives are no longer regimented by a strict schedule so our opportunity to worship at different times and in different ways has increased and with it we have found new patterns of worship.

We are now in the period between Ascension and Pentecost. The Church has offered us 'Thy Kingdom Come' as a way of engaging with the time. Resources for participating in 'Thy Kingdom Come' are available on the Church of England website and a special app to lead us through our daily prayers is freely available.

Here at St. Margaret's the closure of all churches has forced us to think about our worship. We have made great strides in reaching out with a variety of acts of worship going out via our website each week. This is something which most of us can engage with (apart from those who do not have a computer, tablet or smartphone). The introduction of our ZOOM Coffee & Chat on Sunday mornings has enabled us to meet via video and so observe social distancing yet still create a sense of unity.

As we now seem to be heading out of the worst of this pandemic we need to be thinking about how we will go forward as a church and use the experiences of these past months to grow our mission to the wider community, as we should not be looking forward to simply reverting to what we have always done but look at the opportunities that these times have given us. One area that has come to the fore is the sense of community as people look out for each other and help and support those who need it, just as our Lord commanded us to love one another. Hopefully the lessons learned these past weeks will remain with us and become part of our normal life in accordance with the words attributed to St. Francis: "Preach the Gospel at all times. When necessary, use words."

With the COVID19 lockdown there has been no progress with repairing the heating so we can only hope that contractors will soon be back at work and that it will be operational in time for the colder weather.



The lockdown has affected the Church in many different ways. A good piece of news is that a new Bishop-designate of Horsham has been announced: The Revd Ruth Bushyager, currently the Vicar of St. Paul's, Dorking, and Area Dean of Dorking. Ruth was ordained priest in 2006 and after serving in the Southwell, Nottingham and Oxford dioceses became Area Missioner for the Kensington area in the Diocese of London in 2010. However, Ruth can't take up her post and because of restrictions on movement etc, which means that a date for her consecration can't be set.

For similar reasons we are unable proceed with appointing a new Rector for Ifield until we can hold face-to-face interviews with potential candidates - even with social distancing! In the meantime the Bishop has appointed the Revd Jimmy Young, curate at St. John's, Cawley, as an additional sequestrator to assist in the oversight of the parish during the interregnum. As churchwardens, Rob and I are most grateful for his support, advice and encouragement in so many areas. Please remember to join our Pentecost on-line Eucharist when Jimmy will be the celebrant.

As in Advent when we look forward to Christmas and the joy it brings, so now we must look forward and plan for the time when we are able reopen St. Margaret's and resume our regular pattern of worship with visiting clergy joining us to celebrate the Eucharist.

In the meantime I leave you with the following thought as I paraphrase the combined words of Arnold Schwarzenegger ('The Terminator') and St. Paul (1Corinthians 15:51) 'We'll be back' 'but we will all be changed'.

*Chris*

## **A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR**

Our church building may be closed, but St. Margaret's church community is very much alive and active. During the lockdown, our parish website has become the go-to place for news and information, and this is likely to be where you are now if you are reading this, unless someone has been kind enough to print it and deliver it to you.

In 'normal' times, The Buzz contains information about our worship, social activities, and contact details. All this can now be accessed through the website, and there is no place for a printed newsletter which cannot be distributed other than the few copies being made at home for those who have come to be known as the 'nononliners'.

So this current issue of The Buzz is different, with much of its usual content missing, other than a few articles which were prepared for the April issue and are still relevant.

Besides the Who's Who section, there are also details of the two new numbers set up for anyone living in Ifield, Ifield West or Langley Green who wishes to have access to pastoral or practical care.

One of the most heartening aspects of the current crisis is that the only calls to the pastoral care line have been from people outside our usual congregation. I suspect the reason for this is that we at St. Margaret's are all looking after one another. However, the PCC, which has been meeting regularly via Zoom, is keen that we should become more involved in what others are doing to help out in the neighbourhoods we serve. Please look out for more details of how you can join in with this.

Let us pray it's not long before we can all meet again.

*Jill*

## **DO YOU NEED HELP?**

The following contacts have been set up for church members and all in our local community:

For pastoral support: 07401 217648 or email [pastoral@ifieldparish.org](mailto:pastoral@ifieldparish.org)

For other support: 07401 213932 or email [community@ifieldparish.org](mailto:community@ifieldparish.org)

## **NEWS FROM OUR MISSION COMMITTEE**

### **CMS Collection Boxes**

These were due to be brought into church at Easter. If you have collected money in a box, please count it and either send a cheque (making it clear you wish your donation to go to St. Margaret's Mission Partners, Patricia and Peter Wyard) or make your donation online at [churchmissionsociety.org](http://churchmissionsociety.org)

Click on Ways to Give, then Support an Individual, then go to the third page, where you will see Patricia and Peter Wyard. Click on their photo and choose the amount you wish to donate. You can also read their latest newsletter [here](#).

### **Lent Lunches**

You may like to consider donating to CMS the money you would have spent on a Lent Lunch, which would have gone to them had the lunches not been cancelled.

## **AWAY FROM IT ALL**

AFIA [as Mothers' Union calls it] is a holiday scheme, funded primarily by MU members, to help people who are experiencing stress in their family life. On average, Chichester Diocesan MU helps 2,500 people to have a holiday each year. Families are able to spend time together away from their stressful situations at home, engage in activities together and *have fun!*

MU owns 2 caravans, one on Winchelsea beach; the other on a holiday village in Selsey. School holiday bookings are reserved for families – and used a great deal by Family Support Work for their families – but for the rest of the year, between April & October, the caravans often have no bookings, and can be rented by anyone @ £20 per caravan per night.

Winchelsea has a single & 2 double bedrooms, Selsey sleeps 6. Both have well-equipped kitchens and a shop on site. Both are fairly close to the beach and have play areas for children. Winchelsea is smaller and quieter so perhaps more suitable for small children and perhaps, older people. Selsey offers prepared food and day/evening entertainment [but our caravan is some way from the noise!] Both sites are served by public transport.

If you know of anyone under stress and in need of a holiday [free of charge], or if you and family or friends would just like a few days away [charge applicable], please see a Mothers' Union member.

*NOTE: This was written before the lockdown. Caravans are not currently in use, but outgoings still have to be met.*

## **FAMILY SUPPORT WORK SPONSORED WALK EASTER MONDAY - CANCELLED**

Three generations of the Bell family had planned to take part in this 5-mile circular walk around Alfriston to raise much-needed funds for the charity, but sadly this was cancelled. FSW are likely to face increasing demands on their services in the coming months, and all Help will be gratefully received. If you wish to donate, you can do so via their website: [familysupportwork.org](http://familysupportwork.org)

## **WHO'S WHO IN IFIELD PARISH**

Team Rector	VACANCY		
Curate	Revd. Jamie Gater	852763	curate@ifieldparish.org
Retired Clergy	Revd. Daphne Goodwin	886896	dapheter@aol.com
Reader	Jill Bell	521699	reader@ifieldparish.org
Authorised Lay Minister	Karen Kelso	971523	community@ifieldparish.org
Parish Wardens	Rob Pudney	437038	rob@ifieldparish.org
	Chris Bell	521699	chris@ifieldparish.org
PCC Secretary	Clare Wilson	416438	pccsecretary@ifieldparish.org
PCC Treasurer	James May	529146	treasurer@ifieldparish.org
Safeguarding	Andy Cottee	202167	safeguarding@ifieldparish.org
Finance Officer	Claire Budd	534783	finance.stmargarets@ifieldparish.org
Youth and Children	Naomi Gater	852763	ycofficer@ifieldparish.org
Lychgate Bookings	Lisa Hull	532337	lmhull@virginmedia.com