

APRIL 2020

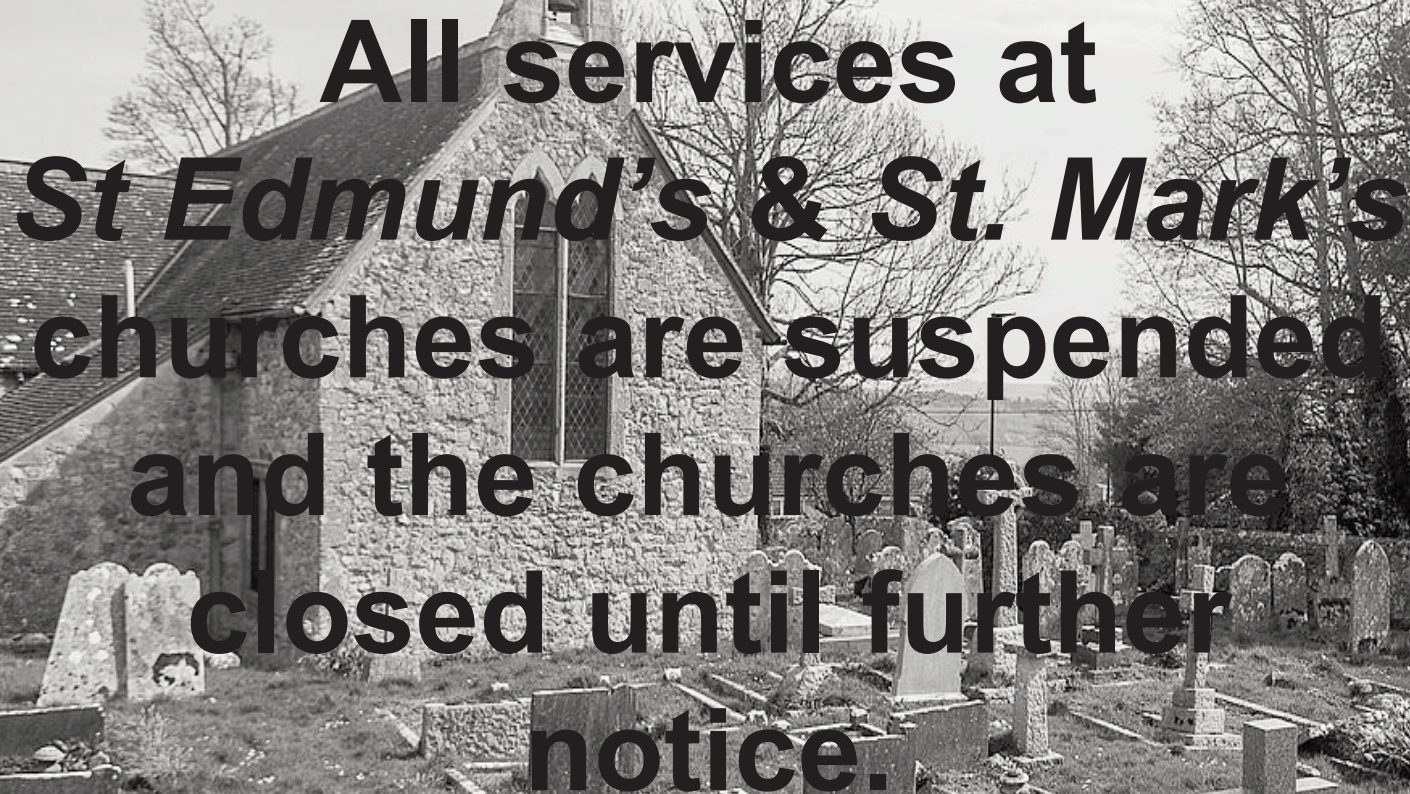
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The Church Parish Magazine of Wootton
The Bridge

Building Bridges in the Community

St Edmund's
& St Mark's

Wootton Bridge



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and the churches are
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notice.**

For prayers to use at this difficult time, see pages 6 and 7

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A FEW GHOSTLY TALES

There was a ghost (of Adam or Adams) which was said to haunt Wootton Lodge, Church Road and St Edmund's. Another story, (may be of the same ghost ?) was said to be of Thomas Lisle, former Rector and descendant of the Lords of the Manor. He used to haunt the building, descending the stairs at midnight dressed in clerical attire. The hall was known as the "haunted hall", though in later times, the stairs having been moved, he seemed to have haunted only the landing.

Mr Trivick said he saw the ghost in the church. John Beasley, choir-master in the 1930s arrived at St Edmund's one night in a state of terror. He had been walking up Church Road at night (no street lights) and heard footsteps but saw nothing.

Once, while Mr C was at Wootton Lodge, Buddy Smith (there in place of Dr Kennedy) said he saw the ghost by the fireplace. Mr C could not see it.

My favourite "ghost story" was about Mr Scadding then the organist in Rev Coleman's time. It was told to me by his grandson. It seems Rev Coleman's sermons were rather long so Mr Scadding would go for a smoke in the churchyard. Enter an elderly lady, who seeing smoke rising up from behind a tomb stone and a figure in a white robe, fled screaming.

With thanks to various informants.

Doreen Gazey

A policeman pulled a car over and told the man driving that he was going 50mph in a 30 zone. 'I was only doing 30!' the driver protested. 'Not according to my radar,' the policeman said. 'Yes I was' the man shouted. 'No you weren't!' the policeman said. With that the man's wife leaned towards the window and said, 'Officer, I should warn you not to argue with my husband when he's been drinking.'



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Service Times

1st Sunday	2nd Sunday
8am - Holy Communion (St Edmund's)	No 8am Holy Communion
9.30am - Sunday Brunch (St Mark's)	9.30am - Holy Communion (St Mark's)
No 6.30pm Evensong	6.30pm - Evensong (St. Edmund's)
3rd Sunday	4th Sunday
8am - Holy Communion (St. Edmund's)	No 8am Holy Communion
9.30am - All Age Worship (St. Mark's)	9.30am - Family Communion with Explorers (St. Mark's)
No 6.30pm Evensong	6.30pm - Evensong (St. Edmund's)
5th Sunday	Wednesdays
No 8am Holy Communion	9.30am - Holy Communion (St Edmund's)
9.30am - Holy Communion (St. Mark's)	
6.30pm - Evensong (St Edmund's)	

Snapshots of Monastic Life - Part 1 By David McCulloch

For 16 years, I lived at Quarr Abbey. I have always wanted to tell the story of what happened while I was there and how being a Benedictine monk formed my outlook on life. So I thought I would write a few pen portraits of my experience. I hope that it gives readers an insight of what it feels like to live at Quarr and why an ordinary person might choose to follow the monastic way of life, one which fascinates so many people.

4:45AM: My eyes snap open in the deep darkness before dawn. For several years I have been responsible for ringing the rising bell in the cloister as the clock strikes five. After a couple of months of consistent rising before the rest of the community, my internal clock has grown accustomed to waking me up. My light goes on, and I put my monastic habit on over my underwear. It is late autumn and the heating system is very inefficient. Speed is of the essence for warmth!

There are no taps in our cells, so I must fetch water for washing and cleaning my teeth from the bathroom down the corridor. All we have in our cell is a bed, a table and chair, a wardrobe, a wash stand, and a bookcase for the books we use for spiritual reading and study. It is basic and expresses the monk's simple approach to life: clear out the clutter so you can have more space for God.

Five minutes to go before ringing the bell, according to my watch. I press the timer switch for the light as I descend the main staircase. I count the steps of each flight, so I don't lose my footing in the gloom. I get to my my peg where my cowl hangs: we use these cloaks with hoods as garments for prayer in church nowadays, but in this weather, I am reminded of their original use; they keep you warm! The chilly wind snaps me out of any doze as I enter the cloister, which is kept open to the elements all the year round. I do a few turns if I have a spare couple of minutes, thanking God for my life today and asking for his blessing on all that I might be required to do.

The clock chimes: I start to pull the rope: the silence of the night is shattered by the rhythmic clang of clapper on bell. Soon the monks will be gathering for Vigils, the first Office of the day. Once again, the community will worship together, dedicating even the time before dawn to the praise of God. But for me, one of the more precious times of the day has arrived. I will spend the next 25 minutes praying alone in the church. I sit down and let the silence wrap itself around me like a cloak.

to be continued





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What is happening in the Church during this national emergency?

"Our church buildings must now be closed not only for public worship, but for private prayer as well" so says a letter from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York as they seek to follow government guidelines. Here are some excerpts.

"Our **church buildings** are closed for public worship and for private prayer.

Emergency baptisms can take place in hospital or at home, though subject to strict hygienic precautions and physical distancing as far as possible.

There can be no **weddings** in church buildings until further notice.

Funerals can only happen at the Crematorium or at the graveside. Only immediate family members can attend (if the crematorium allows) – that is, spouse or partner, parents and children, keeping their distance in the prescribed way. We have also decided that, in these exceptional circumstances in which we cannot offer a full funeral service in our church buildings, the church element of all funeral fees will be waived.

Foodbanks should continue where possible under strict guidelines and may have to move to be delivery points not places where people gather. If you can, do consider making a financial contribution to your nearest foodbank.

"We must also do all that we can to provide resources and **support for those who are isolated, fearful and vulnerable**. But we have to do this from our homes. A number of national online resources (<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online>) including weekly streamed services and daily audio, as well as additional worship provision on the BBC are there to help us, and more are on their way."

Our Church buildings are closed but the Church must continue to support and encourage our communities making use of telephones and other forms of technology to keep in touch with people and ensure pastoral care is maintained, and as shepherds of Christ's flock we are committed to making this happen.

These are unprecedented times. We are all having to get used to being the Church differently. It is not easy. However, our belonging to Christ has never been measured by the number of people in church on a Sunday morning (though we long for the day when this way of knowing Christ can return) but by the service we offer to others.

With our thanks to you all for you are bearing at this extraordinary time. We know that God is with us and we pray with you that in the midst of all this pain and sorrow we can remain focussed on the One who gives us hope.

With every blessing,

+Justin Cantuar

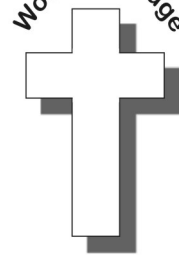
+Sentamu Eboracensis"

Here in Wootton

Reluctantly we have closed St Edmund's and St Mark's Churches until further notice but please be assured that we are praying for you all. Should you need to contact us, you can do it via this website or you can contact the priest-in-charge, Rev Veronica Brown on 07921 514906.

St Edmund's
& St Mark's

Wootton Bridge



Ann Capps

It's Like Being Stuck In A Submarine

"May you live in interesting times" is supposedly a translation of a Chinese curse, although no-one can vouch for its authenticity; Senator Robert Kennedy used it in a speech in Cape Town in 1966. Well, what strange times we're experiencing now!

While scrolling through my Twitter feed, I came across some excellent common sense strategies from an ex-submariner (@SloopJontyB) which may be of value at this time. I'd like to share them with you, plus some others that I gleaned from the Internet:

For anyone in the Navy, routine while on patrol is super-important; in our own unique situation we can devise some kind of daily/weekly routine that works, including blocks of time for exercise and hobbies. If you're working from home, separate work time and not-work time ... and make sure you have breaks for food and drink. Don't expect too much of yourself or others around you; these are very unusual times. If you have children at home, the only thing you should be concentrating on and teaching them as a parent is that they are loved ... school work can wait!



Days are in danger of running into each other; soon you don't know which day of the week it is! On board a submarine, days are regulated by the menu when on patrol: Steak Saturday, Fish Friday, Curry Night etc etc. Plan a weekly menu using only items you already have to hand, and so save money by not shopping unnecessarily. Jonty also mentioned the concept of "feast and famine". Submariners looked forward to Curry Night - and enjoyed it all the more - because they'd been served soup and bread the previous evening.

Daily exercise of some kind is a must, even at the bottom of the ocean: healthy mind, healthy body! You don't need to have any equipment or take hours over it either. There are LOTS of videos on YouTube to help: the Fitness Blender is one, Joe Wicks (The Body Coach) is another.

Stay in touch with your friends, family & neighbours; this is vital for your mental and emotional wellbeing. Now you can finally make use of those unlimited text messages! You can set up a "virtual" coffee-and-chat via Facetime or Skype; There are lots of options, some of which you may already use. Simplest of all, just pick up the phone and check on someone you know.

Don't forget about exercising your brain. Suddenly, many of us have a lot more time for crosswords, jigsaw puzzles, drawing, painting, knitting, crochet, etc. Feed your soul, too. Prayer and meditation are also ways to stretch and relax our minds, helping to deal with stress.

Finally, remember that, like all submarine patrols, this one will end. ... Don't obsess with today's news. Bring your world closer, focus on little things that you enjoy and make plans for the future.

Niki Broadsmith

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Prayers for use in challenging times

A prayer about the Coronavirus outbreak

Keep us, good Lord,
 under the shadow of your mercy
 in this time of uncertainty and distress.
 Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
 and lift up all who are brought low;
 that we may rejoice in your comfort
 knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
 in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

For those in isolation

God of compassion,
 be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.
 In their loneliness, be their consolation;
 in their anxiety, be their hope;
 in their darkness, be their light;
 through him who suffered alone on the cross,
 but reigns with you in glory,
 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For those who are worried and for social cohesion

Loving Jesus, you are
 compassionate to those in need
 and heal the sick in body and mind.
 Look kindly on those who are fearful at this time.
 Help us all to put away all thoughts and actions
 that separate us from you and from one another.
 Give us grace to live our lives
 confident in your promise
 that you are with us always. Amen

For hospital staff and medical researchers

Gracious God,
 give skill, sympathy and resilience
 to all who are caring for the sick,
 and your wisdom to those searching for a cure.
 Strengthen them with your Spirit,
 that through their work
 many will be restored to health;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers for use in challenging times

For those who are ill

Merciful God,
we entrust to your unfailing and tender care,
those who are ill or in pain,
knowing that whenever danger threatens
your everlasting arms are there to hold us safe.
Comfort and heal them,
and restore them to health and strength;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the departed

Lord Jesus Christ,
hear our prayer for all whose new life
is lived in your nearer presence,
and particularly for those
whom we love and see no longer;
we thank you for all the ways
in which they have enriched our lives
and pray that, by your grace,
they may rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

For our own ministry at this time

Lord Jesus Christ,
you taught us to love our neighbour,
and to care for those in need
as if we were caring for you.
In this time of anxiety, give us strength
to comfort the fearful, to care for the sick,
and to assure the isolated
of our love, and your love,
for your name's sake. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

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News from Citizens Advice

I am getting in touch to provide information about the re-launch of our Help to Claim service which we are providing to help people make a Universal Credit claim. The service was originally launched in April 2019, to provide services to help people with their Universal Credit application, and to offer support until they received their first payment.

Through Help to Claim Citizens Advice Isle of Wight we have been providing people with advice on how to apply for Universal Credit and support them through the application process. The support provided varies depending on individual need, but includes things such as: helping someone gather evidence of their housing or childcare costs; ensuring people know that Alternative Payment Arrangements are available; and offering advice on what to expect at a work coach appointment and how to prepare for it. We have also been undertaking benefit checks to ensure that a Universal Credit application is correct for vulnerable clients and exploring any alternative options.

We have been working closely with Jobcentres, local authorities and other local organisations since April 2019, helping over 400 local people to make an application. This has been delivered by our Help to Claim Advisers working mainly from the Jobcentres at Ryde and Newport, and from the Isle Help Centre, County Hall, Newport.

We are now making our service more local, providing community sessions in 7 island towns, as well as at the Newport Isle Help Centre. Help to Claim Universal Credit will now be available at Brading, Freshwater, Ryde, Shanklin, Upper Ventnor, and East Cowes. Consequently our H2C services will no longer be available from the Jobcentres in Ryde and Newport.

I attach a list of the services, their times and addresses. Many of the sessions are drop-in, but some are appointment only. Potential clients will need to call 01983 823898 ext 2828 to request an appointment or email our Help to Claim team at H2Cenquiries@iwcab.org.uk.

In addition to this full support is available through our free phone line and web chat from 8am - 6pm Monday to Friday (tel: 0800 144 8444) and via webchat on citizensadvice.org.uk

I would be very grateful if you would spread the details of our service amongst the island churches. I can supply posters for your community boards if you would like some, and we have some leaflets and information cards which I can also give you. I was thinking that people who attend your community sessions, Playgroups, etc might find this service valuable to them.

If you need any more information please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Best wishes

Sandy Belfitt - Service Delivery Manager
Citizens Advice Isle of Wight
Isle Help Advice Centre
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Isle of Wight
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Editor's note: we received the above article before the latest Coronavirus restrictions were imposed, but have included it in this issue as it remains of interest.

A simple reflection at home on the day of a funeral you can't attend



Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8.38-39



Before you find a place to sit quietly, you might like to find a photograph of the person who has died, write down some special memories, or play a special piece of music that connects you with the person you are remembering today. Think about those who are at the funeral and pray for them.

[Where it says 'N' in a prayer, just say the name of your person].

You might like to light a candle. Then pray:

Be with us, loving God. Hear our prayers and comfort us in our loss, and help us to trust in your Son Jesus, whom you raised from the dead.

Strengthen our faith and renew our hope that N and all those we love will share in his resurrection.

Amen.

Dear God,

thank you for N,

and for all that he/she meant to me and to others.

I so wanted to say goodbye.

Help me to know you are there,

holding all my hopes,

holding all those I love, especially N,

and holding me this day too.

Be close to us all this day with your peace and hope.

Amen.

Read Psalm 23

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd;
therefore can I lack nothing.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He shall refresh my soul
and guide me in the paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me
in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil
and my cup shall be full.
- 6 Surely goodness and loving mercy shall
follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord
for ever.

Reflect on your memories.

- What stands out in your memory about N?
- What will you always remember about them?
- What things did you learn through their life and death, including about God?

Now give thanks to God for their life and ask for strength for yourself and those who grieve.

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come;

thy will be done;

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation;

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

the power and the glory,

for ever and ever.

Amen.



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PARISH COUNCIL information

Meetings:

Meetings: usually third Tuesday in every month (except August) at 7pm in The Old School, New Road - details at HIC, on village noticeboards and on website.

Parish Councillors:

Barry Abraham
Ross Edmunds
Trish Evans
Ken Morris
Peter Mundell
Daryll Pitcher
Linda Pitcher
Steve Porter - *Chairman*
Barbara Port
Mike Waddleton
Liz Kingston, *Clerk*

All can be contacted at the HIC on 884555.

Office opening times:-

PARISH COUNCIL

Mon. 10am-1pm;

Tues. 10am-1.30pm;

Wed. - closed all day;

Thurs. 10am-1.30pm;

Fri: 10am-5.30pm

BEAT OFFICER

First Tuesday in month

10am-12 noon or messages can be left for PC Lesley Metcalfe

WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

5 Joanne's Walk, Brannon Way,
Wootton Bridge, Ryde, IW
PO33 4NX

Telephone 884555

email: clerk@woottonbridge.org.uk
website:

www.woottonbridge.org.uk

Full details of all facilities available at the HIC can be obtained from the Parish Clerk or on the website.



Wootton Bridge
PARISH COUNCIL

Report from Liz Kingston, Clerk – Wootton Bridge Parish Council
Telephone: 884555. Email clerk@woottonbridge.org.uk
Local IW Councillor for Wootton Bridge: Barry Abraham - Telephone 883261.
Email barryabraham@woottonbridge.org.uk

Wootton Bridge Parish Council has a Facebook page – please “like” – displays all the latest information and you are welcome to comment on any topic.

Party in the Park - Saturday 25 July 2020

Fete 12.00 noon – 5.00pm

Music / picnic 6.00pm – 10.00pm

Planning is well underway and the Village Partnership intends it to be even better than previous events. **We are asking for all stalls, both charity and business, to register by the 26th June - forms are available at the office or by telephoning 884555.**

We will of course have the usual village stalls, trampolines and musical entertainment. Tea, coffee and light refreshments will be provided by the Scouts in the Scout Hut throughout the afternoon, and the Rugby Club will have a bar and barbecue.

The evening music and picnic will start at 6.00pm and will feature an eclectic mix of music and songs for all tastes. Don't forget to bring your own seating/rugs and picnic and soak up the atmosphere as the sun goes down. There will be the usual Raffle which will be drawn in the evening. A decision is still to be made on which charity/groups will benefit from this year's event.

Havenstreet Steam Railway Offer

The Railway has their special Wootton Resident ticket running again. You can pick them up from the ticket office in Havenstreet (please take proof of address), cost £15.00. They are valid from the 22nd March to the end of October, but can't be used for the Santa Specials or during the Steam Show over the August Bank Holiday weekend. If you need to know more please contact the Steam Railway on 01983 882204.

Village Partnership

The Village Partnership, which has been dormant for the last few years, has now been resurrected and the next meeting is on the 31st March 2020, at 7pm. The venue for the next meeting is The Old School in New Road and starts at 7pm. If you are interested in being part of it, or want more information, please pop into the Parish Office in Brannon Way and speak to Liz, the Parish Clerk.

Spring Tidy Up

This will take place on the 25th April 2020, starting at the Parish Office at 10am until 1pm. All are welcome - you can either tidy round your own street or come to the office where we will be coordinating the Clean-up and give you an area to clean. Equipment is provided.

Environmental Officer

The Parish Council has engaged the services of an Environmental Officer to tackle some of the low level and anti-social behaviour that can unfortunately blight our community. The EO will be working at random times and days each week and has initially been asked to concentrate on fly-tipping, littering and dog fouling.

Liz Kingston – Clerk

If you have any particular areas of concern, or want to report any incidents, please either visit the Parish Office in Brannon Way, or contact us by phone or email
Tel: 01983 884555
Email: clerk@woottonbridge.org.uk

Editor's note

We shall be updating this page when we receive further information from Wootton Bridge Parish Council.

WOOTTON BRIDGE METHODIST CHURCH (Station Road)

Minister: Revd David P. Plumb BA. Tel: 884694
Sunday Morning Service 10am (including Junior Church)
 Evening Services as announced.
 Junior Church meets 10am

Minister's Message

On a recent visit to St Mary's Hospital to visit someone on the Stroke Unit I was surprised at the main entrance to find the Friends Café not there. Although I had previously read that it was going to be moved it still came as a surprise.

As I started to walk along the corridor I noticed some signs with arrows indicating whereabouts the café had moved. I continued along the corridor and up the 'well known' slope till I arrived to the Stroke Unit.

At this point I was so intrigued to actually find the Friends Café that I continued to follow the signs which led to Outpatients. This is where the arrows changed direction and I simply 'gave up' and went back to the Stroke Unit.

On reflection I wondered whether the 'Friends Café' was now out of reach for so many people. When it was by the front entrance it was an ideal place to sit, relax and for some people to wait for a lift.

As we approach Easter it is worth remembering that Jesus' death on the cross allowed us to come directly into the presence of God and we no longer have to go through the priest. We have a God who is not 'out of reach' and is accessible to us 24 hours a day whatever we may be doing and wherever we may be.

Happy Easter

Blessings

Rev David

Editor's note: we received the Revd. David Plumb's article before the latest Coronavirus restrictions were imposed.

Services and other activities at Wootton Bridge Methodist church are suspended at present. We shall bring you further news as soon as we can.

Seenager

I have just discovered my age group. I am a seenager (senior teenager).

I have everything I wanted as a teenager only 55-60 years later. I don't have to go to school or work. I get an allowance every month. I have my own pad. I don't have a curfew. I have a drivers licence and my own car.

I have an ID that gets me into bars and the wine store. I like the wine store best. The people I hang around with are not scared of getting pregnant, they aren't scared of anything, they have been blessed to live this long, why be scared? And I don't have acne. Life is good.

Doreen Gazey

*Doctor, Doctor can you cure my measles?
I never make rash promises*



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*Why did the picture go to jail?
Because it was framed.*

SOMETHING TO REPORT?

**DIAL 999 WHEN THERE IS
 IMMEDIATE DANGER OR YOU
 WITNESS A CRIME.**

DIAL 101 WHEN IT'S LESS URGENT

Dial 101, a 24-hour confidential number to report noisy neighbours, abandoned vehicles, dumping and fly-tipping, drunken and rowdy groups, broken street lighting, etc.

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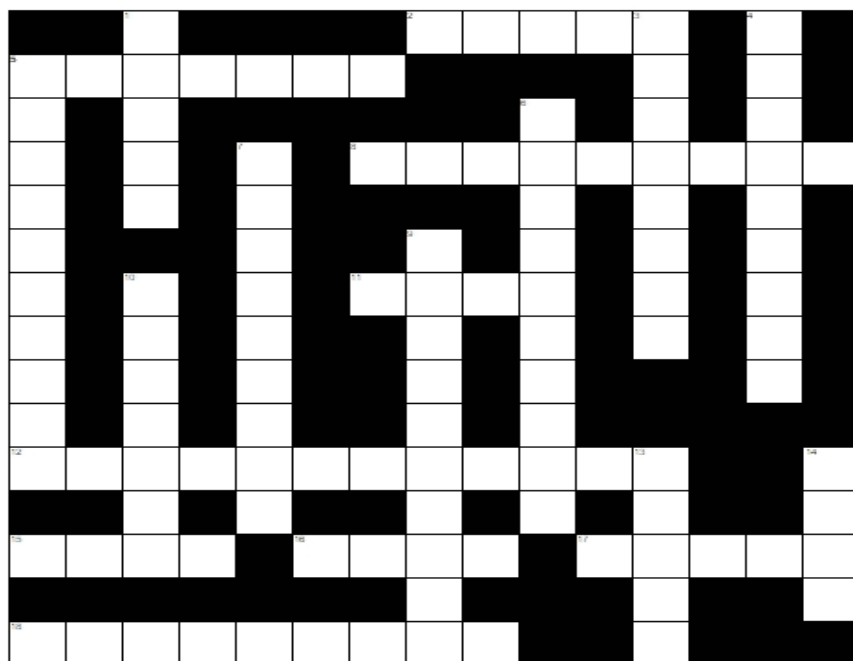
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CROSSWORD



Across

Down

2. Loft space
5. Tropical fruit
8. Change the order
11. Network of paths
12. Clergyman
15. Revolver
16. Diffused moisture
17. Desert fertile spot
18. Sparkling wine

1. Australian slang for British immigrant
3. Army rank
4. To build
5. Partner in crime
6. Place of learning
7. Woodworker
9. Board game
10. Having two foci
13. Desist
14. Cleanse with liquid

Sudoku

4	3		8	9	7		5	1
	9					2		
8					3		9	
	7	8	9	2		4		6
		6				5		
3		4			6	9	7	
	1		3			8		
		5					2	
	8		5	4	9		6	7

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Because of the restrictions during the Coronavirus outbreak, printed issues of *The Bridge* are not being produced at present. But we shall continue to publish online at
cofeparishofwoottonbridge.org.uk/
the-bridge-magazine/

ST EDMUND'S and ST MARK'S CHURCH

Churchwardens: Mike Broadsmith; Ann Capps

For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals please contact:

Rev Veronica Brown on 07921 514906

Published by St Edmund's and St Mark's Church and produced by members of
The Bridge Magazine Group. Printed by Bishops Printers 023 9233 4900

All queries concerning
The Bridge magazine
please telephone
David Bennison on
882783 or the
Churchwardens.