

St. Peter's Ardingly

Parish Magazine

February 2025



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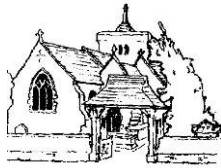
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Call 892442 or 892307

A community project managed by St Peter's Church



St Peter's Church, Ardingly

Who's Who at St Peter's

Rector	Revd John Crutchley	892332
Reader	John Witherington	892277
Wardens	Nigel Cheater John Witherington	892769 892277
Secretary to the PCC	Jane Taylor Cheater	892769
Treasurer	Jean Jeffery	415317
Organist	Jill Veasey	892442
Safeguarding Coordinator	Jane Taylor Cheater	892769
Church Centre Manager	Jill Veasey	892442
Church Centre Bookings	Carol Grossman	416707
Magazine Editor	Sue Laker	892117
Pastoral Care Authorised	Kathy James	891047
Lay Ministers	Sue Laker	892117

SUNDAY SERVICES

9.00 am A traditional form of Holy Communion

10.30 am Morning Worship – our main service – see Services page

**The church is also open daily
from 10am to 4pm for private prayer**

See the following pages for full details of all this month's services

RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends



There is certainly a lot of change taking place in the world at the present time. An evil regime in Syria has fallen leaving uncertainty but also hope in its wake. Several European countries face elections this year and with them the prospect of unfamiliar and more populist parties getting closer to the levers of power. There is, too, a new government in the United States of America led by 'a new but also old face' who has returned to power leading many to wonder what exactly that is going to mean both for his country and for all of those who will have to work alongside him. In this country, our own government has barely settled into the routines of office after years of opposition and already there are cries and clamour for resignation and change. We will each have our own views about all of this and about the people and parties concerned, but one thing we must surely all agree on is the need for stable, settled and fair government all across the world.

To achieve this I believe we all have our part to play through prayer. The Bible stresses the importance of praying for "kings and all of those in authority" - even for those responsible for the persecution of Christians. The apostle Paul made this clear at a time when the church was suffering at the hands of a government led by the cruel Roman Emperor Nero. But even earlier than this, through the words of the Old Testament prophet Jeremiah, the Jewish people were encouraged to pray for a pagan government and for Babylon's peace and prosperity. The point is that we are to pray for all leaders and rulers and not just for those with whom we might happen to find ourselves in agreement. I believe that we can all play a part in bringing about the changes that are needed in this country and all across the globe by bowing down in humble and expectant faith before our sovereign Lord and praying for our country, for our leaders, for the government and Parliament and for the leaders and governments of all other nations. Praying that their response to the problems and difficulties they face will be godly, measured and wise. Surely here in the western world our prayers need also to be for a heartfelt return to the Lord.

"You do not have because you do not ask God," says the Apostle James, and in Luke 18 Jesus himself tells us to pray and to never give up! I sometimes wonder whether the comparatively slow progress towards peace and justice in the world and to the creation of fairer and more just societies for all is due more than anything else to the prayerlessness of the people of God. What change might happen if we all learned to wait upon God in believing, persevering prayer?

Of course what we actually pray for must also to be in line with what is 'right' according to the Word of God. In this country we have had the Bible for centuries and much of what our country is built upon stems from our understanding of God's Word. To throw out the Bible now and to rely instead on our own sense of fair play would be a delusion that could lead to disaster; government needs always to be grounded in God's law. But in all of that, again, it needs our prayers.

So as a New Year begins and ushers in so much change let me encourage everyone to help bring about 'real change' [to use an expression that is seemingly beloved by all politicians] by praying for all world leaders, that "we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness" [1 Timothy 2: 2] and that they will govern for God, as his agent and for the welfare of all, never losing sight of God's word and so serving his purpose of ordering our lives together.

With my prayers

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John' or similar, written in a cursive style.

Our main service each Sunday (10.30 a.m.) is live streamed via zoom, so if you are unable to get to church and would like to join us on zoom and you do not currently receive the link each week, please let us know and we'll add you to the circulation list.

To receive the weekly 'Newslink' email please contact emails4sue@gmail.com

NOTICEBOARD for February

Meeting Point Coffee Mornings

Meeting Point will take place in Hapstead Small Hall on 10th and 24th February from 10.15 to 11.30. Help is appreciated in setting up tables etc.



Ardingly Evening W.I.

6th February 7pm: A buffet Chinese meal at Hapstead Hall to celebrate the year of the 'Wood Snake'

20th February 7pm: Colin McFarlin speaking on recycling and food waste. For more details email andrea.fall@talk21.com

Hapstead Jam Tarts WI

19th February 10am: Sarah Slater, a Blue Badge Guide at Hampton Court Palace, speaking about 'Working with the ghosts of Hampton Court. £5 entry to cover costs and refreshments.

Ardingly History Society

At 7.45pm on Tuesday 18th February in Hapstead Hall
Janet Pennington speaking on
The Chanctonbury Ring
£5 for non-members. Refreshments provided

The VILLAGE LUNCH will be on Wednesday 12th February. 12.30 for 1.00pm in Hapstead Hall. Tickets from the Village Shop.

ARDINGLY FILM NIGHTS:

Thursday 30th January: ***Paddington in Peru***

Thursday 13th February: ***Conclave***

7.30pm in Hapstead Hall. Tickets £7 from Fellows Bakery; Ardingly News Shop; or online at www.ticketsource.co.uk

THANK YOU'S

Thank you to Ardingly Connected Together for once again brightening up Christmas for lots of the Seniors in the village by delivering a splendid box of shortbread. This was accompanied by a cheery and colourful Christmas card made by the village children, so a big 'thank you' to all of them too! Both were very much enjoyed!

A big '**thank you**' to the choir for all their hard work, and to Mark who played the organ on 22nd December for our Carols by Candlelight. The church was beautifully decorated and it all looked and sounded really good. Lots of people made appreciative comments about it, so well done!
Jill Veasey



Thank you also to Jane Taylor-Cheater for organizing the Lego Christmas Story Trail during Advent. This gave children a very different and fun way of exploring the church and discovering the Nativity story!

MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS for 2025

Many people have now sent in their 2025 subscriptions, so a big 'thank you' to you! Many have not, however, so if you have not yet paid and would like to receive the magazine throughout 2025 could you please put your subscription in an envelope with your name and address on it, and drop it in either to Sue Laker, 19 Ardings Close, or Michael Denman, 35 High Street, as soon as possible.



The minimum subscription for magazines which are delivered in Ardingly, or collected, is held at £3. This is only possible because many of you so kindly round up the amount to £5! Postal subscriptions for 2025 will be £14.00. Cheques should be made payable to 'St Peter's Church Ardingly' please. Many thanks, Sue

NEW YEAR'S DAY WALK AND LUNCH

As has become the tradition, a New Year's Day Walk, followed by lunch at the Church Centre, was set for 1st January but, with George and Deb Ruse unavailable this year, the arrangements were taken on by Jill Veasey and her team.

The first part – that is to blow away the cobwebs and burn off some of those extra calories that might have been added over the previous festivities, got off to a somewhat different start with atrocious weather whittling down those who had expressed a wish to walk to a brave four! Glynis Doerr had, in the days leading up to the event, judiciously tried out several options, bearing in mind the terrain (likely to be very muddy) so she was well prepared, given the actual weather that morning, to make an appropriate choice.

We set off by car to Cuckfield and enjoyed a pleasant walk around the village and its surrounds, eventually ending up going into the church (as much to get out of the wind and rain as anything else) where we were met by wonderful sounds of an organist practising. The offer of a hot drink and biscuits on our return to the warm Church Centre was therefore much appreciated by four dripping, but it has to be said, smug walkers.

The bad weather and other factors also understandably reduced the numbers of those who had indicated they would attend the lunch but all those of us who did brave the elements were rewarded by a splendid meal – a choice of chicken or beef casserole and vegetables followed by hot crumble.

Suitably dried out, warmed and well fed, we all agreed it was a very good way to start the New Year and grateful thanks are



due to Jill, Adele, Sue, Jill O'Mant and Glynis for all their hard work.

Not sure we reduced the calories though!

Lynn Wilson

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### **Church Candles for Christmas**

There has been a marked increase in the village of members of the church family out walking, even if they do not have a dog!

Although the need for exercise is traditional in the New Year, this can also be explained by our all being tasked with consuming vast quantities of Pringles in the months leading up to Christmas, purely so that Pam Newnham could be supplied with sufficient empty tubes in order to undertake her annual 'making of the candles' ritual.

Armed with these handily-sized containers, she beavered away so that, when it came to decorating the church in readiness for the Christmas services, our church was resplendent with large, pristine candles, to the delight of all who attended the Carols by Candlelight service.

A huge 'thank you' is due to Pam for her hard work in preparing them all.

Pringles are now banned in our household for the next 10 months to allow our bodies time to recover.



Lynn & Pat Wilson

## News from Nepal

*(received too late for the December/January magazine)*

Dear friends,

As we approach Christmas and New Year, we wish you a very happy Christmas and a joyous, blessed New Year 2025. We plan to be the salt and light to the people during this festive season by giving them gifts and the Gospel.



**Family:** All of us are doing well. I continue to lead the Church, Church Planting, Training, and the School. Shusma is very involved at Aanandit Charity Center and in teaching and preaching. All our girls are doing well in their studies. Our eldest started an internship last month.

**Church:** We now have 16 Aanandit Churches and held our first Annual Pastor and Leaders Seminar in October, where we ordained Pastors and Leaders. We have seen more new people coming to the churches and taking Baptisms. We are building a church hall in Mankha, a Sunday School Room at Khadichaur, and extending Sankhu church. As Christmas approaches, we have several programs coming up.

**Training and Church Planting:** We are conducting a month-long Leadership Training with 16 participants here in Kathmandu, culminating in a Graduation on November 28th. After that, we plan to plant a few more churches to reach 20 by the end of 2024.

**Vision 2033:** AD 2033 marks 2000 years since Jesus rose from the dead. Our Vision 2033 includes: 40 Churches; A New Central Church building with parking and other facilities; Sending missionaries to the Diaspora; Supporting many of God's workers who want to step into ministry.

**Aanandit Charity Center:** All our Ministries/Projects (Micro Business Support, Vocational Training, Youth Empowerment, Scholarship, Day Care Center, Girls Hostel, and Children Home) are doing well. We have also helped many schools and needy families during floods and landslides and trained many young people to find jobs in Nepal.

Lots of love and God bless, Milan and Shusma

## **ARDINGLY OLD JESHWANG ASSOCIATION**

We held our AGM at the Church Centre on Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> November where our Committee hosted the meeting, accompanied by refreshments, and welcomed not only supporters from this village and its immediate surrounding area but also one or two sponsors who had travelled some distance to meet us and hear of our progress and future plans.



After the formal business elements had been completed including Approval of the previous AGM Minutes, Election of Officers and Adoption of Accounts, a more general discussion followed. Thanks to continued support from our many sponsors, our finances are in good shape so that we are confidently moving towards completion of our priority aim – the extension of the Maternity Suite to add another Delivery Room.

Our architect, David Oglivie tabled the drawings and explained the various modifications and extensions to the building. These drawings form part of the documents which, within the next month or so, will be presented to carefully selected builders in The Gambia, inviting their quotations for selection.

2025 should therefore be an exciting year for the Old Jeshwang Health Centre!

**Lynn Wilson**

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## **REPAIR CAFÉ DATES**

### **LINDFIELD**

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February

10am - 1pm

United Reformed Church, 52 High Street, Lindfield RH16 2HL

**REPAIR CAFE**

### **FOREST ROW**

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February

Community Centre, Forest Row RH18 5DZ. 10am-1.00pm

## **News from Samara's Aid**

### **REGREENING THE DESERT**

The thousands of shrubs and trees which we planted over the past 2-3 years are doing really well. Some are more than 5 feet tall and we are so encouraged by this progress.



### **THEFTS**

The situation in Syria is currently unstable and unsafe. 114 solar panels from our desert farm project were stolen before Christmas by an armed group, who arrived at night and started shooting. They also stole the new windows that had just been installed in the beautiful new outreach centre we have built to support orphans and vulnerable children in that desert area. These were significant losses to our projects, but I thank God that no one was harmed. Our team have still been able to pump water using the remaining solar panels from the strongest wells to irrigate all the trees. This week another 26 solar panels were stolen from our desert farm. The authorities responded positively when our team raised the alarm, sending soldiers to protect the remaining solar panels and equipment.

### **MEDICAL CENTRES**

Due to a security threat one night we now lock the doors to our rural medical centre when it gets dark - until now they have stood open all night, inviting all to use this 24 hour service. Now patients now have to call if they want to be seen, and our team check the people and their details before deciding whether it is safe to let them in.

## **CHRISTMAS PARTIES**

Our teams had to postpone some of the Christmas parties we had planned because of the security situation, but they are trying to run them as and when it's possible. We hosted several hundred children, who all enjoyed the parties and were so happy to receive Christmas presents. We were planning to host 1,000 children over Christmas, and are still hoping to do so, even if it takes a little longer. Our team have also continued distributing much needed aid.



*(taken from a recent email update from Samara Levy)*

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### **Sheep's Lament**

I don't want to be sheared,  
I don't want to be shorn.  
I've had this warm coat  
Since the day I was born.

Go away Mr Farmer,  
Please don't be a bully –  
You just want my coat  
To knit Grandma a woolly.

*By Barbara Bedford, Penrith*

## CHICHESTER 950 - celebrating 950 years

2025 marks the 950th anniversary of the formation of the Diocese of Chichester and Chichester Cathedral and 1700 years since the Nicene Creed emerged.

In 1075 the decision was made to move the seat of the Bishop from Selsey to the more populous Roman settlement of Chichester, then Noviomagus. This was followed by the construction of the Cathedral, a sacred place of worship and Mother Church to the Diocese - a flourishing Christian community that falls within the boundaries of East and West Sussex.



'Chichester950' will be a year-long celebration featuring exhibitions, choral and orchestral concerts, and community events, culminating with a spectacular light show in October. The programme of events aims to highlight the Cathedral's presence as a beacon of faith, spirituality and community, and invites people to celebrate its captivating history that spans over nine centuries.

At the heart of the festivities is a fascinating exhibition Religion, Rebellion & Reformation, which runs from 14th February - 15th November 2025. The exhibition will feature nine objects from across East and West Sussex, each representing a century in history. Through artefacts, stories and pivotal moments, the exhibition aims to highlight how the Christian faith shaped, not just the Cathedral's history, but the lives of people across the two counties.

In honour of the Cathedral's renowned musical heritage, a special concert marking the 60th anniversary of Leonard Bernstein's Chichester Psalms will take place on Saturday 17th May. Together in Unity will also feature an exciting new choral composition which has been specially commissioned for the 950th anniversary.

Other events will include TrinityFest on the Green on Sunday 15th June 2025, a vibrant celebration marking the Feast of the Holy Trinity, to which the Cathedral is dedicated. This special day will see

Chichester city centre come together for festivities and street parties, celebrating music, food and culture.

*Chichester950* will conclude with a spectacular light show during October Half Term, from Friday 24th - Friday 31st October 2025. This immersive light and sound installation will transform the Cathedral, bringing its 950-year history to life in an awe-inspiring display.

Bishop Ruth will also be leading three pilgrimages for young people between June and October. *"We will be walking and talking, praying and praising, enjoying hospitality and reflecting on God's word in ancient places of worship and natural beauty."*

Full details of all these events can be found on the Cathedral website: <https://www.chichestercathedral.org.uk/Chichester950>



**Celebrating  
Faith**

As part of these celebrations, Cuckfield Deanery held a special service at All Saint's Church, Lindfield, on 16<sup>th</sup> January. The church was full to hear Ruth, Bishop of Horsham, lead the service which celebrated both the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed and 950 years of Christian worship and ministry in Sussex.

Bishop Ruth explained how the Nicene Creed came about, following "3 months of discussion by 300 bishops, whose biggest question was *Who is God?*" The transfiguration (Mark 9 v 2-8) helped them to understand this.

A new poem based on the Nicene Creed had been written by Laura Darrell and this was presented by video. Following this, members of the Cuckfield Deanery then gave a presentation on the history of the churches in the deanery, explaining that the gospel was originally brought to Sussex by St Wilfrid.

Two testimonies were given by people who have recently come to faith: one by ETTY, aged 14, who attends All Saints Lindfield and one by Jo who attends the Church of the Presentation in Haywards Heath.

The service included some well known hymns and songs and a collection was taken to support the Year of Faith initiatives for children and young people.

## **MONICA'S SON**

*The Rector's letter this month is about prayer. The following story illustrates how prayer changes things:*

Monica was a single mum with one child, a son. She was a devout believer who sang hymns over her child in his infancy and prayed nightly with her hand on his forehead. The boy grew up to see the world quite differently from his mother. As an adolescent, he became known in their North African town as a womanizer and would often be seen publicly drunk at untold hours of the night. He had an extraordinary intellect and eventually grew into a philosopher, channelling all his energy into combatting his mother's Christian faith.

Monica didn't give up. She continued to pray nightly for her son's salvation, just as she had done with her hand on his tiny forehead when she was a young mother. When he was nineteen, she had a dream through which she believed that God was promising to answer her prayers for her son. In response to her dream, she grew more intense in her prayer. A year passed, then another year, then another. There was no change. No moment of hope. No change of heart or openness to belief.

Nine years after that dream, he made plans to travel to Rome, known for its revelry and debauchery. Monica stayed awake all night in intense prayer that God would prevent his travels. Little did she know that her son had changed his plans and sailed for Rome on that very night, already on his way as she prayed.

On that trip, sitting alone one afternoon in a Roman garden, Monica's son heard the audible voice of God speaking to him. Bewildered, he opened up the very Scriptures he had dedicated himself to despising and disproving. Right then and there he surrendered his life to Jesus.

Monica's son's name was Augustine, and he went on to be considered the greatest theologian in history and a father to the early Christian church [St Augustine of Hippo].

*Source: AFCU*





**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February  
at All Saints Church, Lindfield  
10.00 am – 11.30 am and 1pm – 2.30pm**

*This includes a 50-minute live performance featuring some of the best loved West End music. Performance will be followed by a chance to meet the singers, take photos with them and more... This is a ticketed event, one ticket needed per person, tickets £2 each. Children must be accompanied by at least one adult.*

Book on the All Saints website:

<https://allsaintslindfield.churchsuite.com/events/izzvhsks>

### **New Year's Day lunch**

Thank you to all those who made a donation at the New Year's Day lunch. We raised a total of £150, which will be split between IMARA and AOJA.

Jill Veasey



## ARDINGLY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

**NEWS FLASH - WE NEED YOUR INPUT:** The Parish Council has organised a meeting with our MP, Mims Davies, on 7th February where we will talk about traffic speed, road safety and parking in Ardingly. If you have any comments or thoughts, positive or negative, please email our clerk Tracy on [clerk@ardingly.org](mailto:clerk@ardingly.org) or call on 01444 220 499 and she can capture your thoughts to share formally. We need these submissions by the end of January and will summarise the key messages. Having lots of responses will highlight how passionate the village is about making Ardingly safe. Thank you!


As we settle into 2025, it is worth reminding ourselves, given the uncertainty we are faced with around the world, of just what joy can be had from community. And what better an example than the Hapstead Hall Christmas Fayre, Christingle and Carol service. We forget just how much our community comes together on that day to make the event a success - and what a success it was! There were so many who volunteered their time to make the day wonderful: the volunteers on the Hapstead Hall management committee who organised, promoted and set the scene for the event; the volunteers who run our local pre-school who provided the face painting; all the village groups that organised stands to ensure there were not only things to buy, but also fun for the children; the team who set up Santa's grotto; all those who came to attend and share in the festive spirit; everyone that stayed behind to clear the hall; the Parish Council members who served the mulled wine, hot chocolate and mince pies; the choir that guided us in song; Reverend Crutchley who led the service; and Sussex Trees, that donated and put up our gorgeous village Christmas tree. The whole day left us with such a strong sense of community feeling and full of the holiday spirit!

Seeing so many people working together in the village gave me hope for 2025. It's important to celebrate every contribution, no matter how small. So let's all do just a little bit and know that collectively it will make a difference.

Margaret Meldrum (Chair)

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Email: [debbie.nicholson@ardingly.com](mailto:debbie.nicholson@ardingly.com)  
Tel: 01444 893289



# Bridging Ages Cafe

**Where:** Lower Library  
(Visitor Car Park)

**When:** Every Friday  
1:30pm - 2:30pm

**IT Support**  
**Board Games**  
**Conversations**  
**Free Tea and Coffee**

17<sup>th</sup> January  
24<sup>th</sup> January  
31<sup>st</sup> January – Music Recital  
7<sup>th</sup> February  
XXX  
XXX  
7<sup>th</sup> March – Music Recital  
14<sup>th</sup> March  
21<sup>st</sup> March

A place to bridge the ages, where young & not so young can chat, play a game of Scrabble or Chess or have some basic IT support over a cup of tea & biscuits.





## **AROUND THE VILLAGE**

### **ELECTRIC CHARGING POINTS**

It's good to see that the 4 electric charging points in Street Lane are now finished and available for use. The new car parking spaces in the Recreation Ground are also completed and in use.



### **WAKEHURST: TREES FOR BEES!**

Wakehurst is carrying out a one of a kind research project to find out which trees pollinators like best and how we can make our cities more pollinator friendly.....and they are inviting us to join them. No prior experience is needed and you don't need to be a scientist. They will tell you everything you need to know.

You can go along and hear from their pollination scientists about their groundbreaking research, then explore the lovely landscapes while you are guided to take part in "Trees for Bees", Wakehurst's citizen science project monitoring pollinator foraging behaviour around the gardens.

## **Enjoy:**

- **Free Entry & Parking:** Enjoy a day out at Wakehurst and explore the gardens free of charge.
- **Meet the Expert:** Hear from Dr. Janine Griffiths Lee, a pollination scientist, who will introduce the project and answer your questions.
- **Easy Participation:** You will be guided how to take part from Janine and a member of the participation team will be with whilst you count and identify pollinators.

## **Meet the expert dates: 10AM -1PM**

18<sup>th</sup> March 2025

10<sup>th</sup> April 2025

28<sup>th</sup> April 2025

14<sup>th</sup> May 2025 *FULLY BOOKED*

27<sup>th</sup> May 2025

11<sup>th</sup> June 2025

26<sup>th</sup> June 2025

14<sup>th</sup> July 2025

31<sup>st</sup> July 2025

18<sup>th</sup> August 2025

## **How do you sign up ?**

If you would like to participate please send your group name, group size, preferred date and any access requirements to [wakehurstcommunity@kew.org](mailto:wakehurstcommunity@kew.org) . Registering is essential because only a limited number of people can be accommodated per session. Register in advance by emailing [wakehurstcommunity@kew.org](mailto:wakehurstcommunity@kew.org) or by phoning 01444 894066 and asking for the Participation team.

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## **Christmas Postbox in church**



Thank you to all those who gave us cards to deliver and helped with the sorting and delivering around the village. We raised £130 which is being donated to Off the Fence in Brighton (charity for the homeless).

## NOT TOO SERIOUSLY...

On Sunday after the church service, a woman told the minister that when she had sent her husband to buy a cabbage for lunch, he had fallen and broken his leg. "That's terrible!" said the minister. "What did you do?" "I opened a can of peas," she replied.



*Employer: "We need someone responsible for this job."*

*Applicant: "Sir, your search ends here! In my previous job whenever something went wrong, everybody said I was responsible."*

Son: I watched a guy do 50 push-ups in a row. Can you do that, Dad?

Dad: Of course, son. I could probably even watch someone do 100 push ups.

"What's your father's occupation?" asked the school secretary on the first day of the new academic year.

"He's a magician, Ma'am" said Little Johnny.

"How interesting. What's his favourite trick?"

"He saws people in half."

"Wow! Now, next question. Any brothers or sisters?"

"One half brother and two half sisters."



Stealing someone's coffee is called mugging.

Seen in a parish magazine: *"We shall be meeting on Wednesday, when the subject will be 'Heaven – how do we get there?' Transport by bus is available at 6.45pm opposite the King's Arms."*

## PAINT RECYCLING BY WSCC



West Sussex County Council has collaborated with Biffa and Community RePaint, for a new initiative aimed at reducing paint waste and redistributing surplus paint to people across the county.

You can now donate unwanted water-based paint or take away up to three tins of paint donated by others at designated Recycling Centres across West Sussex, in a bid to encourage reuse throughout the community.

Burgess Hill is one of the Recycling Centres participating in the paint reuse programme.

To donate or collect paint, you must book an appointment to visit a Recycling Centre in advance.

## FSW January 2025 update

Dear Friends,



The Christmas festivities seem a long time away, as life for our families has settled back to their ongoing struggles. Despite our help with extra food and presents at Christmas, many families experienced a particularly difficult time with energy costs in the cold weather, so it was a real relief for them to have access to our winter fuel fund which is so generously supported by many individuals. The continued rise in general prices across food, energy and petrol is of great concern still, and practitioners are spending a lot of time helping families with budgeting and accessing other sources of support and advice. We are very fortunate to have very close links with CAP, Citizens' Advice Bureau and other more local groups which can give families specialised advice.

Please do look on our website and social media pages for information about upcoming events – we will soon be publishing this year's Open Garden calendar as well as many fundraising events which may be local to you and we hope you feel able to support.

### **December's work in numbers:**

- 309 individual visits and 720 calls with families supporting 278 adults and 314 children
- 33 supported meetings with other agencies
- 74 group sessions held supporting 788 parents and 407 children
- 150 food deliveries made, plus 180 Christmas hampers

**Nikki Kerr, FSW Director of Fundraising and Marketing**  
[www.familysupportwork.org](http://www.familysupportwork.org)



# *Parish Register*

The funeral of Rowan Michael Planterose, of College Road, Ardingly, who died 27<sup>th</sup> October 2024 aged 70 years was held at The Surrey and Sussex Crematorium on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

The funeral of Derek John Read (known as John), of By Sunte, Lindfield, who died 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024 aged 77 years was held at St. Peter's Church on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2025.

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Lord,

As we notice more light in the lengthening days of this month,

As we see the promise of Spring in the bobbing heads of snowdrops,

Help us most of all to recognise the hand of Jesus behind it all

and to trust in Him as our Lord and Saviour.

Thank you, Lord, for the gift of each new day.

Amen.

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## **Flower rota**

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February : Pam and Jean

## **Meeting Point rota**

10<sup>th</sup> February: Adele, Diana and Sue

24<sup>th</sup> February: Belinda, Alison, Dilys

## **Brass Cleaning**

February – Adele Collins



## General Information

**ANGELS & URCHINS:** At St Peter's Centre on Thursdays, 9-11.00 during term time. Contact Jill Veasey (892442) or Jane Taylor Cheater (892769).

**BELL RINGING:** If you are interested in joining the team of bell ringers please contact Lynn Wilson (892113)

**BIBLE READING NOTES:** Regular reading helps us to grow as Christians. Bible Reading Fellowship notes are available from Glynis Doerr (892431). Email: [glynismdoerr@gmail.com](mailto:glynismdoerr@gmail.com)

**BOOKS** can be borrowed from the back of church, free of charge

**BRASS CLEANING:** Help with brass cleaning is always welcome. Contact Adele Collins (892189)

**BRASS RUBBING:** Appointments may be made via the Churchwardens (John 892277 or Nigel 892769). Fee: £10.00

**FLOWERS:** Belinda Maclean (892368) is always glad to hear from anyone who would like to arrange/give flowers for the decoration of the church.

**GIVING:** Special weekly or monthly envelopes or bankers' order forms are available from Jean Jeffery (415317). It is also possible to donate on our website. Anyone paying income tax or capital gains tax is encouraged to sign a Gift Aid declaration which would enable the church to claim tax (currently 25 %) on all their giving. Cheques should be made out to *St Peter's Church, Ardingly* and please email the editor if you need our bank details.

**HOME GROUPS** meet for bible study, prayer and fellowship on various afternoons/evenings of the week. New members are always very welcome. Contact: John Witherington (892277)

**MAGAZINE:** 2025 Annual Subscription £3.00. Can be delivered or posted (if posted the cost is £14.00 per annum). **MAGAZINE EDITOR:** Sue Laker, 19 Ardings Close, Ardingly RH17 6AN (892117). Please submit items for inclusion by Friday before the penultimate Sunday in the month. Email to: [emails4sue@gmail.com](mailto:emails4sue@gmail.com)

**ST PETER'S CENTRE:** Hire of Centre, crockery, cutlery and chairs: contact Carol Grossman 416707

**TRANSPORT:** If you require transport to church, or if you could provide it for others, please contact Jill Veasey on 892442 or Jonathan Summers on 892307.

# PRAYER DIARY FOR FEBRUARY 2025



*"You are forgiving and good, O Lord, abounding  
In love to all who call to you." (Psalm 86 v 5)*

- 1 John and Sally Crutchley and their family
- 2** Our worship today. Pray for the church family
- 3 Pray for peace in Ukraine, the Middle East and surrounding area
- 4 The NHS, struggling to cope in these winter months
- 5 All bishops & clergy. The election of a new Archbishop of Canterbury
- 6 The new administration in America
- 7 Scripture Union: outreach in schools and through events & books
- 8 All who have suffered in the Los Angeles wildfires
- 9** Our services today. Pray that more people would seek God's grace
- 10 General Synod, meeting this week
- 11 IMARA: Belinda, Kevin and the new school term in Uganda
- 12 All who are homeless or don't have enough to eat
- 13 Those in the UK who have been affected by recent floods
- 14 All who are grieving or in any other kind of distress
- 15 Samara's Aid. Pray for protection & encouragement for Dr A and his team
- 16** Our services today. Give thanks for our freedom to worship
- 17 Church finances and the maintenance work which is needed
- 18 The residents of Turnpike Court and Priceholme
- 19 Our Churchwardens and home group leaders
- 20 Pray for the safety of young people in this country
- 21 Compton House, its staff & residents. The team who lead worship there
- 22 All who are unwell or housebound and those who care for them
- 23** Our services today. Pray for hope and healing for all in need
- 24 Our Prime Minister and all in positions of authority
- 25 Bambi & Andreas and their work in South East Asia
- 26 Safety for all who are frail or live alone
- 27 Our care for the environment. Climate Change
- 28 Praise God for his promises and his faithfulness

**The deadline for copy for the March magazine  
is Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February**