# ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS **WITHYHAM ALL SAINTS BLACKHAM**

**NOVEMBER 2013** 



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# THE PARISH OF ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS, WITHYHAM with ALL SAINTS, BLACKHAM

	with ALL SAIN 15, BLACKHAM			
Priest in Charge:	Interregnum	01892 770241		
	The Rectory, Withyham, TN7 4BA			
Churchwarden:	Mr Peter Griffiths	01825 890872		
South	Hill House, Sandy Lane, Framfield,	TN22 5PX		
Churchwarden:	Mr Richard Carden	01342 822491		
	Cat Street House, Upper Ha	rtfield, TN7 4DP		
Verger & Sexton:	Mr John Collins	01892 662389		
	9 Whitehill Close, Crowborough Th	N6 1JG		
Licensed Reader:	Mrs Elizabeth Parish	01892 864989		
	6 Lynwood, Groombridge TN3 9LX	ζ		
Licensed Reader:	Mr Donald Yonge	07872529740		
Organist: Mrs S	Sue Barber GRSM ARCM DipEd	01892 770978		
Deputy Organist: M	r Peter Ellefsen BSc CEng MIEE	01892 653965		
Bell Tower Captain:	Miss Valerie Cogan	01892 655966		
WITHYHAM & BI	LACKHAM PAROCHIAL CHURO	CH COUNCIL		
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Withyham Church	S .	01892-864410		
Caretakers:	Diane Pedder	01892-770240		
Altar Linen:				
Withyham: Mrs Rosemary Cadogan-Rawlinson 01892 540682				
Blackham:				
Chichester Cathedral Link Rep: Mrs Sheila Jones 01892-864117				
Website: www.withyhamchurch.org				

#### **CHURCH CALENDAR – NOVEMBER 2013**

#### ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, WITHYHAM

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>		Fourth Sunday before Advent
	11.00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
	6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Thursday 7th	10.00 a.m.	Morning Service
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>		Third Sunday before Advent
-	9.45 a.m.	Family Service
NB	10.55 a.m.	SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE
	6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Thursday 14th	10.00 a.m.	Morning Service
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>		Second Sunday before Advent
•	11.00 a.m.	Matins
	6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Thursday 21st	10.00 a.m.	Morning Service
Sunday 24th		Sunday before Advent
	9.45 a.m.	Family Eucharist
	11.00 a.m.	Matins
	6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Thursday 28th	10.00 a.m.	Morning Service
Sunday 1st Decen	ıber	Advent Sunday
	11.00 a.m.	All Age Advent Service (but see Mag)
	6.30 p.m.	Evensong

#### ALL SAINTS, BLACKHAM

During the interregnum, there will be no Sunday services at All Saints,.

#### Parish Registers of St Michael and All Angels, Withyham

#### **Funerals**

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May** The funeral took place at Blackham Church of **David Joslin** aged 88 years, and on Thursday  $6^{th}$  June his ashes were interred in the Withyham Churchyard.

Wednesday 21st August The cremation took place of Derek Crawford aged 71 years,

Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August The ashes of Amanda Hemsley aged 55 years were interred in the Withyham Churchyard.

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October** The funeral of **Henry McVitty** aged 93 years took place in St Michael's Church followed by burial in the Churchyard.

**Thursday 7**<sup>th</sup> **October** The cremation took place of **Charlie Stapley** aged 78 years. **Friday 25**<sup>th</sup> **October** The funeral of **Philip Michael Stafford** aged 58 years, took place in St Michael's Church followed by burial in the Churchyard.

#### **COMPLINE**

Keep me, O Lord, as the apple of an eye; Hide me under the shadow of thy wings. From Compline (BCP 1928) and Night Prayer (CW 2005)

'The apple of an eye: a symbol of that which is most cherished,' declares the Oxford English Dictionary in its stern, matter of fact way, but there is no disguising the beauty of this most lovely of phrases. Moses used it in his song of delight, celebrating the Lord, who saved Jacob from the howling wilderness, guarding him as the apple of his eye and covering him beneath his wings (Deuteronomy 32:10). The Psalmist sang the same words of comfort (psalm 17:8). Centuries later they found their way into the monastic office of compline, revived for Anglicans by the Cuddesdon Office Book (19<sup>th</sup> c), then by the BCP (1928), and now by Common Worship under the title 'Night Office'.

As a sixth-former I found myself, rather to my surprise, attending compline one evening in the school chapel. Some of the more pious boys would disappear at 9.00 p.m. on Fridays in Lent, and I went along out of curiosity, not expecting much.

The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end. ...Whoso dwelleth under the defence of the most high shall abide under the shadow the Almighty.

...Keep me, O Lord, as the apple of an eye; Hide me under the shadow of thy wings

The quiet reflective tone struck me; so different from what I was accustomed to in chapel. Here were words of deep refreshment. Amazing stuff! It was not a Damascus Road experience, and it certainly did not happen all at once, but it was a beginning (there were many others). There was more than just bland reassurance. There was something darker too: a hint of menace to set in relief the words of comfort. Be sober, be vigilant, the devil as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour; whom resist steadfast in the faith. What eighteen year old does not know the devil within or has not sensed his or her own howling wilderness. Hide me under the shadow of thy wings.

Then there was that rare use of the first person singular. Not *keep us*, but *keep me as the apple of thine eye*. Most of our public praying is in the plural, as you would expect in common prayer, but now, at bedtime, we revert to our private childhood moment when we were tucked up by mother. *Sweet dreams, darling, sleep well.* Just her and me, the apple of her eye. Did the monks, I wonder, find solace in that memory, and see in it a foreshadowing of God, as they entered the 'greater silence', and filed off down a draughty cloister to a bleak dormitory? Did it redress the relentlessly corporate nature of community life?

Before the ending of the day Creator of the world we pray. Just in case I forget, just in case I am carried away by my private moment with God, the words of the compline hymn bring me back in line. And there is the miracle: that the one who cherishes each of us as the apple of his eye, the one who calls us each his darling, is the God of all creation, the Love that moves the sun and stars.

Adrian Leak (This article first appeared in the Church Times, www.churchtimes.co.uk).

#### **Churchwardens Notes - November**

The Interregnum: At last, the secret can be revealed. Our new Vicar is to be the Rev Dr Alastair Ferguson. Alastair was, until recently, Vicar of Lastingham, in Yorkshire, which was founded by St Cedd, in 654. This somewhat trumps the age of our church, but I sincerely hope he will appreciate our new build! He has been both a hospital doctor and a GP in the past and in the 1990's, ministered to a very large parish in Zimbabwe, so our rural situation should present no problems. His wife, Denise is an occasional organist and a keen gardener. We were originally told that Alastair's licensing would take place on the Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> December. However, we have just been informed by the Rural Dean that this is not possible as Bishop Martin has another engagement on that day. At the moment we do not know when the licensing will take place, but we will be pushing for a date before Christmas. I hope to have more news for you in the next issue of the magazine.

**The Gerini Paintings:** The final payment arrived in our bank on the 30<sup>th</sup> September. Only 10 months, give or take, since they were sold. We now have only to wait until interest accumulates and we can then begin to think about the work that needs to be done on the church fabric. Which leads me nicely to .

The Quinquennial: Some investigation has already taken place on the items raised in the architect's report. Robert Clark and I spent a dusty and vertiginous morning inspecting the bell tower and roof. I am happy to report that Robert is of the opinion that both the dry rot and the Death Watch Beetle, highlighted in the report, are not active, which saves us a considerable sum in treatment and even more inconvenience. We are indebted to Robert for his expertise in this matter. Other items are being sorted in order of priority and will be dealt with when money permits.

**The Harvest Supper:** The announcement about the Gerini Paintings was made during the supper, which raised a hearty cheer amongst the seventy or so attendees. We enjoyed a magnificent feast of turkey and ham, with all the trimmings and a sizeable sum was raised for church funds. None of this would have been possible without the tireless efforts of Ruth Leeves, Anne Barker, Elizabeth Parish and numerous helpers, in organising the event and serving, clearing and washing up afterwards.

**Church Floodlights:** These have been repaired and it is now only the Bell Tower that will be lit up when they are switched on. It was decided by the PCC that, given the trees round the tower and the long summer evenings, they would only be switched on during the winter months. The list for sponsoring the lights is at the back of the church if anyone would like to change their dates. Robert Murray-Willis has agreed to organise the list and collect the fees.

#### Peter Griffiths and Richard Carden

#### ?? CHRISTMAS QUIZ NIGHT ??

# AT THE KINGS' HALL WITHYHAM. FRIDAY DECEMBER 6TH AT 8.00 P.M.

Two-course supper with choice of hot and cold dishes and a mouth-watering array of puddings.

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#### St Michaels School Withyham

#### CHRISTMAS FAIR

#### Saturday 7th December 2pm - 4pm Come and visit Santa in his Grotto





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#### YOUNG CHURCH

Jesus went to a town where a tax collector called Zachaeus lived. Write the first letter of each word to find the name of the town















Nobody liked Zachaeus because he cheated people to make himself rich

Can you find these words in the wordsearch?

CHANGED CHEAT CLIMB CROWD

HOUSE JERICHO JESUS

POOR REPENT SHORT

SORRY

TALL

TAXES TREE

ZACCHAEUS

LXOZTOF UE RYXVPROF F R R G DVMRRAN Υ LATHYS S F XCSJ CMRG B M AWEMJ 0 N O CVKGIIH ZAOAMHR

CSCHANGEDSHOR

YSSPBJPESHZZML

#### THE DORSET ARMS

We are delighted to announce that the Buckhurst Estate has taken over the ownership and management of the Dorset Arms. I am personally very enthusiastic about bringing the pub back into the estate. As you may know we owned the pub for many generations until 1987 when it was sold to Harveys.

A local management team will help us run the pub until early 2014 when we intend to begin our refurbishment programme including some of the structural repairs that are required.

We will be using our estate produce in the kitchen, as well as supporting other quality local produce and suppliers.

My ambition is that the Dorset Arms will remain a pub for the local community, serving reasonably priced meals and a choice of beers.

I look forward to welcoming you to the Dorset Arms in the near future.

William De La Warr

(and the Trustees of the Buckhurst and Withyham Estate)

#### WITHYHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY November

By the time this is in print we should have had our annual AGM so I'm sure news will get around about it, or course I shall report all the news in the December magazine. There is not a lot else to report at this time of year so I hope you are all getting on with putting your garden to bed for the winter months.

Gardening tips for this month are:

- 1) If you are looking to get an early crop of peas or beans for next year now is the time to put the seed into the ground while it is still warm enough. They will need some protection over the colder months as any damage will knock the crop back. Use clean tunnel cloche and if the weather is particularly harsh cover with fleece.
- 2) In the greenhouse wash all glazing to remove dirt and shade paint, wash pots and trays in mild disinfectant ready for the new season and make sure your greenhouse heater is working properly if you have one.
- 3) Cut back late flowering clematis such as clematis vitecella and texensis these can be cut to ground level, removing all their top growth completely, new shoots will emerge from below the ground in spring. Leave large summer flowering clematis (those that bloom in May and June) until the end of February. Do not prune evergreen clematis armandii now or the varieties that flower in spring such as alpine, montana and macropetala.
- 4) Small variegated ivy can stifle trees if left unchecked. Carefully peel unwanted ivy away from bark and cut the shoots off at soil level. Keep an eye open for new growth in spring. I hope you all have a well-deserved rest over the winter months once all the work is done of course!

**Val Edwards** (Secretary) 01892 661940

#### LIGHT RELIEF

#### The POPE and the CHAUFFEUR

One day, the Pope was paying a visit to New York and, on his day off, found himself being taken sightseeing in an anonymous limo. His chauffeur, wanting to impress him, said, "Hey, Mr Pope, anything you want, I'll make it happen for you. Just you name it."

"Well," said the Pope thoughtfully, "Now that you mention it, I've always wanted to drive a car. Back in the Vatican they keep me pretty much holed up, and when I want to go out, they always insist on driving me around in that papal buggy. Just for once in my life I'd like to drive myself for a change."

"Hey," said the chauffeur, "No prob." So they got out of the limo and changed places.

The Pope had only driven a couple of blocks before he accidentally went through a red light. Immediately one of those tough New York City cops drove up behind the limo and turned on his lights. He pulled over, got out of his car and strutted over to the limo. But before he reached it, he notices who was driving, went straight back to his car, and called his chief on the radio.

"Hey Chief," he said, "I just pulled over somebody I shouldn't have."

"What," said the chief, "You didn't pull over another cop, did you?"

"No, chief, he's bigger than that." said the cop.

"You didn't pull over the mayor, did you?"

"No, chief, he's bigger than that."

"Why, you didn't pull over the president of the United States, did you?

"No, chief, he's bigger than that."

"Well then whom did you pull over?" The baffled chief asked.

"I don't know" replied the cop, "But he's got the Pope for a chauffeur."

#### SPEAK UP

This man was telling his neighbour, "I just bought a new hearing aid. It cost me £3,000, but it's state of the art. It's perfect."

"Really," said his neighbour, "What kind is it?

"Twelve thirty."

#### BIBLICAL GROANS

- Q. What was the name of Isaiah's horse?
- A. Isme, because he said "Whoa Isme!" (Isaiah 6:5)
- Q. What book of the Bible first mentions tennis?
- A. Genesis, which says that Joseph served on Pharaoh's court.
- Q. Who was the wisest investor in the Bible?
- A: Noah, who floated his stock while everyone else liquidated their assets.
- Q. What's the lumberjack's favourite book in the Bible?
- A. The Axe of the Apostles.

#### **ARTIST OF THE MONTH – John Constable (1776-1837)**

Constable once said "No two days are alike, nor even two hours; neither was there ever two leaves of tree alike since the creation of the world".

He was the son of a wealthy mill and land owner from East Bergholt in Suffolk. Being one of six children there was an expectation that he would eventually take over his father's business. However the young Constable had other ideas. A chance meeting with an eccentric amateur painter by the name of Sir George Beaumont was the catalyst that convinced Constable that painting professionally would become his chosen career. His career choice was however opposed by his father, who was of the opinion that his son was wasting his time.

Constable based his paintings on sketches done outdoors directly from nature and acquired a very good knowledge of the farming year. He chose to portray for example, the working countryside in his pencil sketches rather than depicting the dramatic scenes of mountains. He only painted the places he knew best and his ambition was to portray the changes of light under the moving clouds and the effects of the breeze. Official recognition was very slow in coming and his style of painting led to some critics concluding that his pictures were unfinished. Few bought his paintings in his lifetime so he had to rely on the generosity of others.

In time he would become one of England's most famous painters. Strangely, his paintings were embraced by the French and he sold more paintings in France than he did in England. Only twenty of his paintings were ever sold here whilst the same number were sold in France within a few years. It did not seem to bother Constable who commented that "I would rather be a poor man (in England) than a rich man abroad".

Following his father's death in 1816, he had an inheritance of approximately £200 a year and this provided him with sufficient income to marry his childhood sweetheart, Maria Bicknell. However, following the birth of his seventh child his wife contracted tuberculosis and died at the age of 41 in 1828. He was devastated and wore black for the rest of his life.



Constable summed up his own view of painting when he said to his friend John Fisher that "{it} is but another word for feeling".

#### The Haywain (1821)

This picture was painted in his studio in London in the winter of 1820/21. It was exhibited at the Paris Salon in 1824 where it won a gold medal. It looks idyllic but at the time there was an economic depression in agriculture resulting in riots and farms being burned down.

(Gratitude to Ian Morgan for this article)



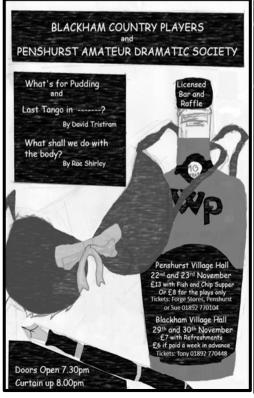
#### Launch of the Hospice "Day Service" Autumn 2013

This November marks the start of an ambitious period of change and development with the launch of the Hospice "Day Service", previously known as the Day Therapy Centre.

This service provides varied therapeutic care to palliative patients, free of charge, on a daily basis. The programme of therapeutic activities available to Hospice Day Service patients is varied and it is intended that each patient who uses the service will have access to a range of individual or group activities including:

- One to one appointments or treatment sessions with clinical, therapy, and spiritual staff
- Complementary Therapy sessions
- Creative expression and memory projects

The cost to provide the Hospice Day Service is £90 for each patient each day and as a registered charity we are reliant on support from the local community to ensure that everyone who would like access to the service can choose to attend a session.





#### KINGS' HALL WITHYHAM

# Dick Whittington



# A Pantomime for all ages

at 7.30 p.m.

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2014 Matinee 2.30 pm on Saturday Tickets from the Dorset Arms, Withyham

#### CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL EVENTS.

#### TEXTILES IN FUNERAL RITUAL & REMEMBRANCE.

**Tuesday November 12th.** A talk by LouLou Morris MFA, Artist in Residence, Chichester Cathedral –in The Vicars' Hall at The Cathedral from 11-00 - 1200; ticket price: £4.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT luncheon talks are on 26th November and 11th December

CHRISTMAS FAIR is on 6th December in the Vicars' Hall.

**CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS LUNCH PARTY** is on 12th December.

CAROL SERVICES are on 21st. 22nd and 23rd December.

**FRIENDS' FESTIVE LUNCH** is on **10th January** - tickets on a first-come, first-served basis. Speak to **Sheila Jones** on 864117.

#### Withyham Parish Council (WPC) October 2013.

ASHURST SPORTS GROUND: A bike track has been built at the Ashurst and Blackham sports ground and as there is no footpath along part of Watch Oak Hill to Blackham it is dangerous for children to travel there and back to use it. There are also plans to start a youth club and a footpath would allow people to walk there. Currently the children that travel to school by train have to be driven the short journey whereas a footpath would allow them to walk to the station. It appeared, however, ESCC Highways had no funds for such projects. In spite of previous representations, it seems unlikely that the speed limit on the A264 will be lowered. It was suggested that the residents present another petition to the MP.

**HARRISONS ROCKS:** Climbers are keen to maintain the existing climbing facilities. The Harrisons Rocks Management Committee (HRMC) appeared to recognise this need and also for toilet facilities. A meeting has been suggested between the Forestry Commission, Sport England, The British Mountaineering Council and HRMC. Please let WPC know any residents' views or anecdotal evidence on this subject.

**WDC and ESCC REPORTS:** The decision on the petition for road safety at St Michael's School has been delayed. The provision and affordability of lollipop people is being investigated. The lollipop person in St John's is paid for by the school.

Gritting lorries have been serviced and have been on training runs. 12,000 tonnes of salt has been ordered, which is 2,000 more than last year. Bins are being filled and ESCC is selling bins if people wish to buy them.

Waste Collection rates have continued to improve, but Kier have still not achieved an acceptable performance level. Please report any missed collections to WDC, who are imposing penalties on Kier for non-collection.

WDC Community Grant Scheme is open for applications until 30th November. Further details can be found on the WDC website. WPC will forward details of the grant scheme to potential applicants.

#### WARD REPORTS

St John's Ward: The Cooks Corner notice board is now installed and can be used.

**Withyham/Blackham Ward**: There has been a burglary on Beech Green Lane. People can arrange to have items security marked by the PCSO. Stones missing from the bridge on Station Road, Withyham appear to have been thrown into the river below. Works are planned on the bridge in January which will involve the bridge being closed for up to 22 days.

**BALLS GREEN PLAY AREA:** A meeting is being arranged at St Michael's School to assess what equipment the younger and older children and community would like. WPC is also looking into how other parish councils are approaching this sort of project.

**COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BID:** WDC have received a request to consider listing the Dorset Arms on its List of Assets of Community Value.

(extracted from the formal minutes of the October WPC meeting)

#### KINGS HALL 100 CLUB

Here are the results for the Kings' Hall 100 Club for August 2013

1st	monthly	£20	No. 79	Mrs R. Goolden
2nd	monthly	£15	No. 104	Mrs P. Taylor
3rd	monthly	£10	No. 95	Mrs D. Stone

#### PARISH DIARY NOVEMBER

Friday 8th

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> 10 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. MONTHLY SATURDAY MARKET

Blackham Village Hall

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> 5.00 p.m. ABSA Fireworks (See Magazine)

70s and 80s Disco Night

Kings' Hall, Withyham (see below)

#### Monday November 25<sup>th</sup> – Deadline for December/January Magazine

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> 8.00 p.m. Blackham Country Players

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> Blackham Village Hall (see Mag)

ADVANCE PARISH DIARY DECEMBER

7.00 - 11.30

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> 8.00 p.m. CHRISTMAS QUIZ NIGHT

Kings' Hall, Withyham (see Mag)

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> 2.00 to 4.00 p.m. CHRISTMAS FAIR (see Mag)

St Michael's School, Withyham



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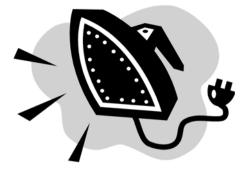
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	Equipment Hire: Bill Sanford	01892 770740			
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Citizens' Advice Bureau, Crowborough, selected hours 01892 65530					
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#### **Magazine Editor and Advertisements**

**Richard Pardey** Smugglers, Hoadleys Lane, Crowborough, TN6 1TH Email: richard.pardey@talk21.com 01892 661882

Withyham Parish Council (WPC)			
Office: The Old Station, Groombridge			
Website: www.withyhamparishcouncil.org.uk			
email: clerk@withyhamparishcouncil.org.uk		01892 864557	
WPC Office	Monday	09.30 - 17.00	
Opening	Tuesday	09.30 - 12.00	
Hours	Wednesday to Friday	09.30 - 12.30	
Councillors hold "surgeries" on 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month 08.30 - 10.00			

#### **Telephone Numbers for the reporting of incidents**

<u> </u>	,
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Highway Lights out (Give the lamp number	r and location) 08456080193
Vandalism (all relevant details)	08456070999
Abandoned Vehicles and Fly Tipping (Giv	e all details) 01892 602735
Pollution (Give location of river, pond etc)	08708506506

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