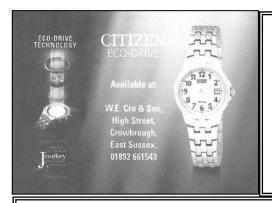
ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS **WITHYHAM ALL SAINTS BLACKHAM**

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

	The Date of the Control of the Contr	04000		
Priest in Charge:	The Revd Alastair Ferguson	01892 770976		
	The Rectory, Withyham, TN7 4BA			
Churchwarden:	Mr Peter Griffiths	01825 890872		
	Hill House, Sandy Lane, Framfield,			
Churchwarden:	Mr Richard Carden	01342 822491		
	treet House, Upper Hartfield, TN7 4D)P		
Verger & Sexton:	Mr John Collins	01892 662389		
	9 Whitehill Close, Crowborough Tl	N6 1JG		
Licensed Reader:	Mrs Elizabeth Parish	01892 864989		
	6 Lynwood, Groombridge TN3 9LX	X		
Licensed Reader:	Mr Donald Yonge	07872529740		
Organist: Mrs S	Sue Stone GRSM ARCM DipEd	01892 770978		
Deputy Organist: M	r Peter Ellefsen BSc CEng MIEE	01892 653965		
Bell Tower Captain:	Miss Valerie Cogan	01892 655966		
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Blackham:		04000 0 5 1 1 1 -		
Chichester Cathedral		01892-864117		
Website: www.withyhamchurch.org				

St Michael & All Angels Withyham with All Saints Blackham CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2014

Sunday in month	1		ST MICHAELS WITHYHAM	ALL SAINTS BLACKHAM
Sun 2 March	1	9.30 am		Holy Communion
QUINQUAGESIMA		11 am	Sung Eucharist	
		6.30 pm	Evensong	
Wed 5 Mar		8 pm	EUCHARIST FOR THE BEGI	INNING OF LENT
ASH WEDNESDAY	Y		WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES	
Thu 6 Mar		10 am	Holy Communion with Lenten Meditation	
Sun 9 Mar	2	9.30 am	Family Eucharist (9.30 am pre	paration for 9.45 start)
LENT 1		11 am	Matins	
		6.30 pm	Evensong	
Thu 13 Mar		10 am	Holy Communion with Lenten Meditation	
Sun 16 Mar	3	9.30 am		Holy Communion
Lent 2		11 am	Matins	
		6.30 pm	Evensong	
Thu 20 Mar		10 am	Holy Communion with Meditation	
Sun 23 Mar	4	9.30 am	Family Eucharist (9.30 am preparation for 9.45 start)	
LENT 3		11 am	Matins	
		6.30 pm	Evensong	
Thu 27 Mar		10 am	Holy Communion with Medita	ation
Sun 30 Mar	5	9.30 am		Holy Communion
LENT 4		11 am	All Age service for Mothering Sunday	
MOTHERING SUNDAY		6.30 pm	Evensong	
Sun 6 Apr	1	9.30 am		Holy Communion
LENT 5		11 am	Sung Eucharist	
		6.30 pm	Evensong	
Thu 10 Apr		10 am	Holy Communion with Passiontide Meditation	
Sun 13 Apr	2	9.30 am	Family Eucharist, with Distribution of Palms	
PALM SUNDAY			(9.30 am preparation for 9.45 start)	
		11 am	Matins, with Distribution of Palms	
		6.30 pm	Evensong	

LENTEN THOUGHTS

Withyham Rectory
March 2014

Dear Everyone,

At this time of year the church still bids us, as the 'faithful remnant' of Christendom, to keep Lent. And we do so both for ourselves and on behalf of others.

What will be the meaning of Lent for us? The Church takes Lent as a time for 'going into the wilderness'; and the wilderness is seen as a place of truth, a place for shaking off illusion, and for the processing and healing of memories.

Lent begins this year on 5th March with the holy day called Ash Wednesday. At the Imposition of Ashes the priest says, 'Remember, O man, that dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return' (a case when, surely, only the old language will do justice to the solemnity of that thought). So yes, we are reminded of our mortality.

But we are also made to look ahead to Easter. The events of Holy Week, in which the Church participates, lead the world to the miracle of ultimate healing, with a New Life in a new dimension.

The word 'Lent' comes from the same word root as 'lengthening', which in the Northern hemisphere is of course what the days do at this time of year. Perhaps we feel ambivalent about the longer days. They call us out of hibernation – too soon! 'April is the cruellest month' wrote T.S.Eliot, echoing the beginning of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*. The idea expressed here is that April is 'cruel' because the longer days, by bringing more daylight, force us to examine things we might not wish to face up to.

But when we can do so, Lent can become for us what the Church has always intended it to be: a time of powerful healing for the soul.

And we shall also wish keep Lent, as I said at the beginning, on behalf of others. Remember that the church community – that's us – keeps feast and fast on behalf of a world in which such things seem to have been forgotten.

With every blessing, and prayers that this Lent may be a time of healing.

Alastair Ferguson

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptism: On 5th January Owen Andrew Boobier, who lives in Wellington, New Zealand, (born 3 February 2009), was baptised in St Michaels Church.

Churchwarden's Notes - March.

And so the rain continues. I checked with a number of timber merchants last week (just in case), but they were completely out of gopher wood and had available no ways of measuring in in cubits.

Some reminders:

5th March is Ash Wednesday and there will be a short service at 8.00 p.m., together with the imposition of ashes.

The Parochial Church Meeting will take place on Friday 25th April in the village hall.

The Church Spring Clean is scheduled for Saturday 26th April. All help will be gratefully received.

Waitrose Community Project. As you will know, many of the functions run by the village hall committee directly benefit our church. Now is your opportunity to repay this help in the easiest way possible. The village hall made a submission to be considered as a Waitrose Community Project and we have received confirmation that we have been accepted. This hasn't been a particularly quick process as it was applied for in February 2013. For those of you who are unaware of the scheme, it operates by offering customers a token, at check-out, which they drop into one of three boxes depending upon which organization they wish to support. Waitrose donates £1000 each month to these three organizations and it is divided proportionally depending on how many tokens they each have. So the more tokens we have the greater amount of money we receive. The Hall's name will appear in the Crowborough store in April and Sun Hwa and I shall certainly be stockpiling our tokens until then. Could I implore you to do the same?

Mothering Sunday: This falls on 30th March this year and we will be holding an All Age Service at 11.00am. Mothering Sunday, traditionally, was a day when young people working away from home would try to return, to bring presents and share a meal. The earliest references to it occur in the mid-17th century. This is not to be confused with the American invention of Mother's Day, which was first suggested in 1913. Congress recognised it in 1913 and it was set as the second Sunday in May. Some efforts were made in Britain to introduce it after the First World War, but it was not until the Second World War and the influx of American Servicemen, that it took off. This was due, in no small part, to the influence of the Greeting Card Industry. Mothering Sunday and Mother's Day conflated, with the term Mother's Day winning out, at least in the card shops. American Mother's Day still has a later date than Mothering Sunday and perhaps, if we all keep asking for Mothering Sunday cards, we can re-impose the traditional term. Meanwhile, all you bakers out there, it's time to start thinking about Frumenty and Simnel Cake.

Peter Griffiths and Richard Carden

YOUNG CHURCH MOTHERING SUNDAY

Mothering Sunday word search

Can you find the 15 words or phrases hidden here?

W W E R X A R P F G В N G 0 A D C D G 0 K D Y 0 W L Ε L R F T Y M Y Y Α F 0 R M 0 T H S F R N G U N D Υ F C Н D N S Z R D В Y H 1 C W P S F N F T S L N 0 Α X D F R N G V E E T M E Υ W Z Z G E K D J Y S Α E F U S В A M Z Y G E S S F V 0 1 U S A 11 0 В G 0 . N U U T N В U N S M X P P Q Q H P 0 1 V G 0 B W Н C U T F G X L N 1 Χ S 0 7 C R Ε C B B J J N Q 0 Χ Q L S Ζ Q 0 U J Н U В W T F C 0 T F P N 1 L A G B 0

always baby blessing care food give hel
home kindness listen love mum

Motheringsunday thankyou warm

WITHYHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY March 2014

The spring show this year will be on Saturday the 12th April. Before this we have a Quiz Night on Friday 28th March. Please make sure that you book a table in plenty of time. Phone either me (01892 661940) or Helen (01892 771044).

On Saturday 5th April, between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, there will also be 20% off all plant purchases at Royal Mires Nurseries. This is a great opportunity to get your spring and summer plants, but you will have to have this year's membership card, which you can get from Liz Hunt or one of the committee can ensure that you will get your card on time. The subs have increased this year to £3.50 (£3.00 for over 60s).

I will be at the spring show to take money for the first trip, which will be to Beth Chatto Gardens on Saturday 17th May. The price is £20 for non-members, and £17 for members, so if you join you will get your subscription back! Can't be bad!!

Garden tips for this month are:

- 1. If you have a small garden, many vegetables such as beetroot, carrots, spring onions, spinach, lettuce and radishes (anything you fancy really) can be grown in containers. Just make sure they are kept well fed and watered and, of course, have a decent enough depth to grow in.
- 2. Lawns have taken a real bashing this winter, so will need extra care such as draining and raking as moss seems to have taken over in some places. Grass is now growing so you first cut should be done very gently (if its dried out enough that is!).
- 3. Re-awaken overwintered plants by bringing them into the light. Tidy up the dead leaves and debris and start to increase watering.
- 4. Bring in bags of compost as this will warm it up and increase germination rates when you sow your greenhouse crops such as tomato, cucumber, aubergines, peppers, melons etc.

I look forward to seeing you at the Quiz Night and maybe at the Spring Show. Should you require any information, please contact me or one of the committee.

Val Edwards (Secretary) 01892 661940

The Dorset Arms Pub Monday Curry Nights

Join us for curry every Monday night from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. £12 per person – Includes curry, sides and a drink of your choice

A la carte menu also available

Also Children eat Free Every Monday to Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Two Children per every adult

ANNOUNCEMENT

William (Billy) Lionel Robert Sackville

First son of William and Xenia Buckhurst was born on 24th January 2014

The baby is doing really well and is a joy to the family

EASTER LILIES

There is a long-standing tradition at St Michaels that people who wish to commemorate their loved ones who have departed this life, present lilies which form the basis for the floral decoration of the church at Easter.

There will be a list and envelopes at the back of the church for those who wish to donate a lily in memory of their loved ones. Please write the names of those to be remembered on the list and donate £1.50 per lily (Cash or Cheque made out to Withyham Church Flower Fund) in the envelope provided. Put your name on the envelope and get it to

Jill Pardey

The Harvard Version of Humpty-Dumpty

Humpty-Dumpty had a bad Summer Humpty-Dumpty's Spring was a bummer, Humpty's Winter was no good at all, But Humpty-Dumpty had a great FALL.

The Groombridge & Hartfield GP Surgeries Patient Participation Group (PPG)

The PPG is organised and supported by the Surgery GPs Dr Matt James and Dr Andrew Wolfle.

The PPG will be holding an open morning on Saturday 8th March from 9.45 a.m. at Groombridge Village Hall. All patients of the surgeries are warmly invited to attend. The Doctors will be speaking about the new NHS Clinical Commissioning arrangements and how this will affect the services delivered by the surgeries. They will also speak about the work of the PPG and what it has achieved on behalf of the Villages' patients over the last 18 months.

Georges Méliès and Shooting the Moon

Strangeface have toured mask theatre across the UK and internationally since 2001. We have worked with classic adaptations such as Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* and created original works such as *The Last Resort* (an award-winning piece that went to the Mobarak Puppet Festival in Tehran!)

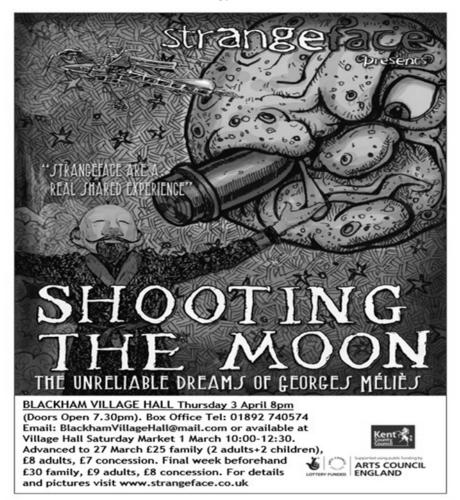
This year we have gone back to a project Artistic Director Russell Dean began in 1998 on the story of the Cinemagician Georges Méliès. Méliès was a French illusionist and filmmaker famous for leading many technical and narrative developments in the earliest days of cinema. Méliès, a prolific innovator in the use of special effects, accidentally discovered the jump cut in 1896, and was one of the first filmmakers to use multiple exposures, time-lapse photography, dissolves, and hand-painted color in his work. Two of his best-known films are *A Trip to the Moon* (1902) and *The Impossible Voyage* (1904). Both stories involve strange, surreal voyages, somewhat in the style of Jules Verne and his work was recently captured in the Martin Scorsese film "Hugo".

Our story unfolds in a series of memories; his life flashing before his eyes as Georges takes his final breath. We see him as a young man in his father's boot factory, falling in love, learning magic and the magic of the camera. There are stories of his success, growing family, and eventual fall from favour as his celluloid was melted down by the army to make boots! This is all done in our handmade masks without words, just like Méliès' films. There are farcical routines, shadow puppet scenes, beautiful original musical pieces and some classic sounds from the world of the Belle Époque.

The production is a touching, gentle and thought provoking. We also promise to make you laugh and offer of an informal opportunity to have a look behind the scenes at the end of the show. Feedback from our first performances includes: "Better than Hugo!!! Wonderful and full of wonder"

Lovely to see real drama acted brilliantly"

"Original! Loved the pace, humour, emotion, story". "Superb!"



"SING FOR YOUR SUPPER!"

in aid of HOSPICE IN THE WEALD

APRIL 5th at 7.00 for 7.30 p.m. in Groombridge Village Hall.

Come along for an evening of fun and singing with the CREATE community choir

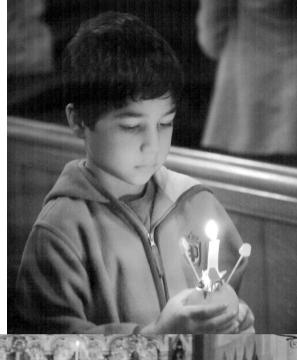
Tickets:- Adults £10, Children 10 - 16 £7.50 to include a ploughmans supper

Please bring your own drinks and glasses. Raffle CONTACT Alison on 01892 864001 or Carolyn on 01892 862991.

ST MICHAEL'S CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

These pictures were taken by Julie Ruse at the **Christingle Service**, which took place in St Michaels Church on Sunday 15th December. Elizabeth Parish directed her usual amazing production of the nativity, with a minimum of rehearsals.

The children elocuted beautifully and confidently, clad in the most amazing and imaginative costumes. Their Mothers are enormously to be commended!! In spite of the dangers involved in the possibility of incendiarising the church, the service went off without a hitch.





Artist of the Month – William Holman Hunt 1827 – 1910

The son of a warehouse manager, he worked as an office clerk before taking up painting and in 1844/5, he was accepted by the Royal Academy Schools. He formed a friendship with John Everett Millais at this time. They would later be joined by Dante Gabriel Rossetti and in September 1848, at 83 Gower Street, London, the house of the Millais family, the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood was formed.

Among the aims of the Brotherhood were to have genuine ideas to express, to study nature attentively and to produce thoroughly good pictures and statutes, remaining true to the principles of close observation to the subject matter.

Hunt was ambitious, arrogant, obstinate and unlikeable. He was also a great procrastinator and found it impossible to keep to a timetable. In fact, he was generally thought to have very little natural talent and his strength lay in the fact that he was very determined to become an artist. It was only his sheer determination that would keep him going. Since he was a boy he had dreamed of painting biblical scenes in the Holy Land. Whilst there he had to defend himself against robbers, was caught in the crossfire taking place between rival factions and contracted malaria. Despite these incidents he chose to build his own house in Jerusalem.



He married Fanny Waugh who died in Florence during childbirth. Later he flouted English law and married his late wife's sister in Switzerland, thus causing a rift in the family.

He would eventually give up painting due to failing eyesight because he could not achieve the quality that he had previously attained.

Claudio & Isabella 1850

This painting was inspired by Shakespeare's play Measure for Measure. Isabella discusses with her imprisoned brother Claudio the possibility of giving her virginity to Angelo, the absent Duke's deputy, in return for her brother's life. Hunt inscribed on the picture frame "Claudio. Death is a fearful thing. Isabella. And shamed life is hateful".

(Gratitude to Ian Morgan for this article)

WITHYHAM PARISH COUNCIL (WPC) February 2014

Action points from the last two meetings can be found on our website, our Facebook page or can be obtained from the WPC Clerks (*see back of magazine*).

We hope that you have received and enjoyed our first Newsletter. Feedback received has been very positive, and we are very grateful for offers to assist in delivering it next time. If you have not received a copy please do contact the Clerks.

Road Safety: East Sussex County Council's Highways Department is proposing a Community Self-Serve scheme. WPC is inviting a representative from ESCC to present the proposals at the next meeting and hopes to be able to make more information available about what this might mean for parishes through the newsletter and the Open Day/APA. WPC is also setting up a Road Safety Committee in response to these proposals, more information on this to follow.

Birchden Woods/Harrison Rocks facilities: As previously reported, if a viable lessee is not found for the toilet, campsite and car park by November 2014, the toilet block will be demolished and the camp site and lower half of the car park will be closed. This is a major facility enjoyed by our community as well as being a tourist attraction that brings business to our shops, and it would be a disaster if this was allowed to deteriorate. It could also result in a health and safety issue. The Parish Council is organising a **consultation week at its offices 3-8 March**, times to be displayed on boards around the Parish, on the website, Facebook and from the Clerks.

Parish Office: as Spa Valley Railway (SVR) is now subletting part of the Old Station, its team of volunteers are building a ticket office and reinstating the doors onto the platform.

On Saturday 26th April 2014, there will be an Open Day at The Old Station, please see our advert for further details. Both SVR and WPC will be holding various events. WPC will also be incorporating the Annual Parish Assembly (APA), and will be seeking views from people across the parish on its Parish Plan priorities for the coming years. WPC hopes that by combining the events, more young people might be able to contribute.

Diana Kelly, Chairman

Groombridge Dramatic Society Presents

DEATH OF A SALESMAN

Arthur Miller's play Death of a Salesman addresses loss of identity and a man's inability to accept change within himself and society.

The play is a montage of memories, dreams, confrontations, and arguments, all of which make up the last 24 hours of Willy Loman's life.

Tickets will be on sale from Saturday March 1st

for Wednesday and Thursday nights from Groombridge Post Office £9.00 and £6.00 (conc)

for Friday and Saturday supper nights from our box Office telephone 01892 860493 £17.50 no concessions

ALL performances will start at 7.45 pm

The story of Willy Loman will be performed from 19th to 22nd March 2014

For more information: http://groombridge-gads.blogspot.co.uk





GROOMBRIDGE D STATION OPEN DAY

SATURDAY 26TH APRIL 2014







LY & PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE OPEN DAY, 10.30-3.30

-Find out what happens locally; contribute to priorities in the arish over the next 5 years

- Parish office tours
- Children and young people: tell us what's important to you Teenagers: email podcasts to
- clerk@withyhamparishcouncil.org.uk by 23 April to win a prize
- Children: come dressed as
- "Railway Children"
- Face painting, treasure hunts,
- Free light refreshments



SVR STATION BUILDING OPEN DAY 10.30-5

- See the new Ticket Office and use the new entrance onto the
- station platform Jazz band, beer tent and other refreshments for sale on platform
- **Model railways**
- Buy a ticket for a train extra services running through the day Lunchtime fish and chip train
- (pre-booking required on 537715) £18 for food & travel from Groombridge







Please note—parking limited at station/ Newton Willows



I'm afraid we have no news this month

PARISH DIARY MARCH 2014

Wednesday 5th Ash Wednesday the beginning of Lent Saturday 8th 09.45 a.m. Groombridge & Hartfield PPG Meeting

Groombridge Village Hall (See Magazine)

Monday 10th 7.30 p.m. WPC Monthly Meeting

The Old Station, Groombridge

Wednesday 19th 7.45 p.m. **Death of a Salesman**

To Saturday 22nd Groombridge Village Hall (See Magazine)

Midday Tuesday March 25th Deadline for April Magazine

ADVANCE PARISH DIARY APRIL 2014

Thursday 3rd 8.00 p.m. **Shooting the Moon** (See Magazine)

Blackham Village Hall.

Saturday 5th 7.00 for 7.30 p.m. **Sing for your Supper** (See Magazine)

Groombridge Village Hall

Monday 14th 7.30 p.m. WPC Monthly Meeting

The Old Station, Groombridge

Monday 21st Easter Bank Holiday Monday

Midday Friday April 25th Deadline for May Magazine

Saturday 26th St Michaels Church Spring Clean

Saturday 26th 10.30 a.m. - 3.30 p.m. WPC Open Day (See Magazine)

The Old Station, Groombridge



Cadari

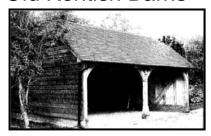
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Or see website (countrycottageclinic.co.uk) for details

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Halfway between East Grinstead and Tunbridge Wells - set in the peaceful, village of Blackham - you'll receive a warm welcome at the newly refurbished club house.

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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				
Facebook: www.facebook.com/withyhamparishcouncil				
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 rd Saturday each month	08.30 - 10.00		

Telephone Numbers for the reporting of incidents

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Pollution (Give location of river, pond	etc)	08708506506

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