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# St Peter's Church Tandridge Parish News October / November 2020





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## Services at St Peter's

### October

4th	8:00am Holy Communion
4th	<b>11:00am Harvest Service</b>
11th, 18th	11:00am Family Service
25th	11:00am Family Holy Communion

### Evening Services

4th, 11th, 25th	6:30pm Evening Prayer
18th	6:30pm Holy Communion

### November

1st	8:00am Holy Communion
8th	<b>10.55am at the Memorial for Remembrance Service</b>
15th, 22nd	11:00am Family Service
29th	11:00am Family Holy Communion

### Evening Services

1st, 8th, 22nd, 29th	6:30pm Evening Prayer
15th	6:30pm Holy Communion

## Dates for your Diary

### October

6th	7.30pm <b>Tandridge Parish Council</b> via Zoom
<b>20th</b>	<b>School half term holiday begins</b>

### November

<b>2nd</b>	<b>School half term holiday ends</b>
3rd	7:30pm <b>Tandridge Parish Council</b> via Zoom
18th	7:30pm St Peter's PCC meeting

### Front Cover:

**Tandridge on an autumnal morning looking south.** Thanks to Annette Schmidt

**Tandridge Parish News is printed by**  
**Parish Magazine Printing, Northmoor, Whitstone, Nr Holsworthy,**  
**Bude EX22 6TD**



### From the Editorial Team

As we slowly ease out of lockdown, we must stay alert and continue to wear our face coverings whenever in public places. As at this time, there is still no congregational singing of hymns and responses in church.

**Adam Field**, organist, who has covered the evening prayer services for many months is taking a year out and will be organ scholar at Portsmouth Cathedral before moving on to Selwyn College, Cambridge in 2021 to study music. We wish him well for the future. Two young organists—**Jeremy Lloyd** and **Adam Field**—have passed through St Peter's in recent times to make it their professional career. Probably quite unprecedented in the church's history.

As ever, if you have any comments or contributions, including photos, we would love to hear from you, so please send them to: [tandridgenews@gmail.com](mailto:tandridgenews@gmail.com). We aim to include as much as possible in the space available in future editions. The magazine is free because the advertisers support us. Please support them and tell them where you saw their advert.

Next edition of Tandridge Parish News will be published on

Sunday 29th November 2020.

**Deadline for copy: 12th November 2020**



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### GENERAL INFORMATION

#### ST PETER'S CHURCH, TANDRIDGE

#### Worship - Sunday Services:

8:00am (1st Sun) Holy Communion  
11:00am Family Worship - A Service of the Word  
(Last Sunday of the month) Family Communion  
6:30pm Evening Prayer except:-  
(3rd Sun) with Holy Communion

**See page 3 for specific services during the current two months.**

#### Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals:

Please contact the Parish Office.

#### Care of the Church and Churchyard:

To help keep the church in good repair and fit for divine worship, please contact:

<b>Church Flowers:</b>	Sue Mallinson	714775
<b>Brass Cleaning</b>	Annette Schmidt	07397 978566
<b>Church and Churchyard Maintenance:</b>	Mike Hodgson	723041

**Developing the Life of the Church:** Responsibility is shared between the Clergy, Churchwardens and Parochial Church Council. St Peter's works with St Mary's Oxted in the Oxted Team Ministry which includes St John's Hurst Green and St George's Crowhurst. We are also a member of Churches Together in Oxted & District (CTOD).

<b>Team Rector, Oxted Ministry:</b>	Revd Canon Anna Eltringham	712674
<b>Team Vicar:</b>	Revd James Ashton	380750
<b>Curate:</b>	Revd Mark Anderson	07480 067756
<b>Curate:</b>	Revd Lotwina Farodoye	
	<a href="mailto:lotwina@stjhurstgreen.co.uk">lotwina@stjhurstgreen.co.uk</a>	
<b>Assistant Priest:</b>	Revd David Weightman	715420
<b>Churchwardens:</b>	Karen Nicholas	07818 091606
	Martin Lloyd	07910 831911
<b>Hon. Treasurer:</b>	Marianne von Sembach	
<b>Organists:</b>	Nigel Bates	
<b>Church Electoral Roll Officer:</b>	Mike Hodgson	723041
<b>Safeguarding Officer</b>	Fay Prater	01342 893380
(St Peter's Church)	Email: <a href="mailto:safeguardingstpeterstandridge@gmail.com">safeguardingstpeterstandridge@gmail.com</a>	
<b>St Peter's Church Tandridge Community</b>		
<b>And Heritage Group</b>	Alex Talbot	07779 301710

**Parish Administrator** Natasha Copp 714263  
**Parish Office Email:** [stmaryoxted.stpeterandridge@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryoxted.stpeterandridge@gmail.com)  
**Address:** Oxted Community Hall, 53 Church Lane, Oxted RH8 9NB  
**Web:** [www.stpeterstandridge.uk](http://www.stpeterstandridge.uk)

## **USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

### **St Peter's Church of England Infant School**

Headteacher:	Lenia Greenaway	712439
Chair, Board of Governors:	Annette Schmidt	
Chair, Friends of the School:	Nichola (Nikki) Smith	

### **Tandridge Village Hall Management Committee**

Chair:	David O'Mahoney	
Bookings Secretary:	Clare Addison	712979

### **Tandridge Village Pre-School**

Michaela Harris	07491 143833
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### **Tandridge Teddies and Toddler Group**

tandridgeteddies@gmail.com

### **Tandridge Village Fete Committee**

Chair: Fay Prater	01342 893380
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### **Tandridge Parish Council**

Chair:	Ivor Stamp	01342 892282
Clerk to the Parish Council:	Clare Kennedy	01342 604338

tandridgepc@hotmail.co.uk

### **Surrey County Councillor**

For Oxted, Limpsfield and Tandridge Village:	Cameron McIntosh	713744
--	------------------	--------

cameron.mcintosh@surreycc.gov.uk

### **Tandridge District Councillors**

Jackie Wren	16 Gordons Way, Oxted. RH8 0LW	07814 663586
Catherine Sayer		07967 148557
David Stamp		07894 074585

### **St Peter's Church Tandridge Parish News**

Email: tandridgenews@gmail.com

Editorial Team: Alyson Coughlan, Martin Lloyd, Liz Mercer, Annette Schmidt and Joy Walker

Editor: Martin Lloyd	07910 831911
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Advertisement Manager: Alyson Coughlan

Distribution: Neil Burchett, Annie Hughes, Brian Humphrys, Jo Moore, Julie Morley, Fay Prater, Annette Schmidt, Sam Tomlinson and Sally Walker

## **ST PETER'S CHURCH**

We confirm we have taken guidance on how to open the church building in a safe way.

We have carried out a risk assessment to minimise the spread of Covid-19.

In preparing for, and ensuring the church building can remain open, we have:

- taken steps to lower the transmission risk in the building (including its contents)
- made hand sanitiser available to use on entry
- put in place measures to regularly clean surfaces to minimise the spread of infection
- taken reasonable steps to ensure people maintain a distance of 2 metres from others
- ensured church hosts have seen the risk assessment to help to minimise risks
- committed to review this on a regular basis

St Peter's Church

## A Brief Guide to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

Due to the lockdown in April, the APCM was postponed from April to September.

Each member of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) has an important role in representing the congregation and sharing with the Team Vicar the privilege and responsibility of leadership and decision-making in the church.

**Members of the PCC 2020 - 2021.** Elected on 13th September 2020 at the Annual Parochial Council Meeting held in St Peter's Church.

### Ex- officio

Revd James Ashton	Team Vicar—Chair
Revd Mark Anderson	Curate
Sue Mallinson	Deanery Synod
Karen Nicholas	Churchwarden
Martin Lloyd	Churchwarden

### Co-opted

John Hammond	Deputy Churchwarden
Revd David Weightman	Honorary Assistant Priest
Marianne von Sembach	Treasurer

Elected members	Year elected	Retirement date
Ruth D'Alessandro	2018	2021
Annette Schmidt	2019	2022
Fay Prater	2019	2022
Vannessa Mesher	2020	2023
Mike Hodgson	2020	2023
Colin David	2020	2023
Andrea Bailey	2020	2023 Secretary

The PCC meeting held on 16th September—confirmed John Hammond, Revd David Weightman and Marianne von Sembach as members of the PCC. Next year's APCM is planned for the usual month of April.



We have lots of exciting opportunities and will definitely be making as much use of our great outdoor spaces, taking the time to look at the wonderful changes that occur as we head further into the autumn season.

We hope all our parents and children thoroughly enjoy their first term back at St Peter's School. Happy Autumn Term!

Take care and God bless

**Lenia Greenaway**

A prayer from St Peter's School:

Dear Father God,

Each season brings us something new to enjoy,

With sunny days and rainy days the crops grow larger,

Fruit and vegetables ripen ready for us to harvest.

Thank you for all the food we have to eat.

Let us remember people who do not have enough.

Help us to be kind to others, in our thoughts, words, and deeds.

Amen.

## RSPCA launches emergency appeal in wake of Covid-19

The RSPCA has been overwhelmed this year by calls for help from people who are ill with Covid-19.

The animal welfare charity was swamped with 442,344 calls, and responded to 106,676 incidents of animals in need just between 24<sup>th</sup> March and 5<sup>th</sup> August. That averaged out at 790 incidents a day.

Such a volume of need was especially a challenge to meet, as the charity was working with fewer officers, due to 'furlough, shielding and ill health', a spokesman explained.

He went on: "As well as operating an emergency service, rescuing animals in need, RSPCA officers have also been collecting animals from the homes of people who have been admitted to hospital with Covid-19, who may not have anyone else to care for them while their owners are being treated."

The charity has now launched an emergency fundraising appeal, and said that its front-line animal rescue and care teams have been "stretched to their limit."

With about 6,400 animals in the care of the RSPCA across England and Wales, it is the largest animal welfare charity in the UK.



## St Peter's C of E Infant School -

### September 2020

Wow! The sheer joy of seeing St Peter's children literally skipping and running into school as we welcomed the children back at the beginning of September, was simply fantastic. I think we saw many parents skipping happily away too!



Everything was cleaned, cleared, zoned, timetabled and much more in preparation for our new term opening and we can say with great delight that St Peter's School is fully up and running again, and as you can imagine we are over the moon.

The Tandridge village community has been amazing throughout



this whole period and we would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who has helped remove and then re-put up the tents and fencing in the field so the children can spend as much time as possible outside in the fresh air, in their new zones, and to everyone for their support of the school. It has been very touching to hear all the words of support and positivity surrounding this time.

Although we are all adapting to the new normal, school is as buzzing and as busy as ever, with for example, the new Reception children settling into school life. We would like to say a very special welcome to them and their parents into our school community. They have been fantastic coming straight into school and getting to know new friends and teachers.

We are, like everyone else, looking at how we can continue to participate in as many of our events and celebrations as possible, just in a slightly different manner. We will still be celebrating Harvest at the beginning of October, although unfortunately this won't be at St Peter's Church this year.

## From Our Team Vicar

Psalm 24 says:

'The earth is the Lord's and the everything in it, the world and all who dwell upon it'

The climate emergency, global warming and other environmental issues can sometimes feel far removed from us. How can we ensure that they are at the forefront of our minds? What can we do to help? Perhaps the hardest thing is to change our mindset or to shift our priorities a little.

The 5 weeks between Sunday September 6<sup>th</sup> and Sunday October 4<sup>th</sup> are designated as 'Creationtide' in the Church of England. During this time we are encouraged to reflect on the importance of creation, and how we interact with it. We are living during a climate emergency; the planet is hotting up and if we are not careful, irrevocable damage could be done to the earth. May this Harvest festival at the beginning of October, be a time to celebrate the fullness of God's creation.

Natural habitats in oceans, forests and many other places are in danger. Our carbon footprint and use of fossil fuels is stunting the flourishing of creation. The decisions of governments and multi-national corporations are important, yes; but we can also do our bit. In small ways, in our community, in our church, in our homes, we can make a difference.

The beauty of creation leads us to giving thanks to the creator. God has given us such a wonderful resource. The way we treat creation and the decisions we make, are part of our journey of faith. If we worship the creator, then we ought to love creation! May we take our responsibilities of care for the earth seriously.

There are many in our community working hard to lobby those in power to change policies. There are those who take more direct action; either in personal choices, or in protesting or complaining. Let's raise the profile of God's creation in our churches, and in our community.

Let's make our voices heard, to help bring about change.

Let's remember that any change starts with us.

With my love and prayers



**James**

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## An Architect's Family in Godstone and Oxted

In 1869 Sir George Gilbert Scott came to live in the 18th century house Rooks Nest, later Streete Court School and now Godstone Golf Club, where he and his family stayed for three years. The Georgian mansion can just be seen from the A25, almost opposite the garden centre. There were four in the family and they needed no fewer than ten servants to look after them.

### Sir George's Buildings

Sir George was the renowned Gothic revival architect who designed the Albert Memorial, for which he received his knighthood, the Foreign Office and St Pancras Station Hotel. He was responsible for building or 'restoring' nearly 500 churches (including those at St. Peter's Tandridge and St Nicholas Godstone), 39 cathedrals, 25 universities or colleges and innumerable other edifices from workhouses to hotels. In fact he had a hand in the restoration or rebuilding of so many that it was said that he failed to recognise one of his own when he happened to see it under construction. He had five sons, two of whom became architects.



### John Oldrid Scott

One of these sons was John Oldrid Scott. His middle name was the surname of his mother Caroline, who is buried in St Peter's churchyard. (Sir George designed her tomb). John Oldrid designed the main altar in St Mary's, Oxted, in 1901. He also designed St John's, Hurst Green, in 1913 in a neo-Gothic style. For himself he built Ridgeway House (formerly Blunt House) on the corner of Barrow Green Road and Sandy Lane. Now a nursing home, it was constructed in 1887 in neo-Georgian style. Modelled on Blunt House, Croydon (1760), it contains richly decorated plaster ceilings and door surrounds from the Croydon house. John Oldrid was chairman of Oxted Parish Council 1901 to 1908 and lived here until 1913.

### The Next Generation

Another of this architecturally-minded family was Giles Gilbert Scott, grandson of George, but he did not stay in the area. He designed the Anglican Cathedral in Liverpool. Like the others of his family his ideal style was neo-Gothic, but it is Sir George's legacy that has had a wide-ranging effect on our built environment.

Mary Alderton (2006)



## A Brief History and Architectural Notes

A 12-page full colour publication is on sale in church. Written by Gerald Walkden with additions by Martin Lloyd, It contains the concise history of St Peter's with photographs of the main features and includes the history of the organ and the clock. It is further illustrated with pictures of the church painted in 1823



### St Peter's Church Tandridge

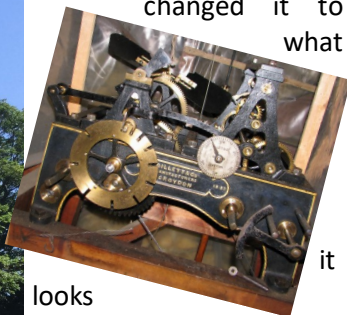


### A Brief History and Architectural Notes

**Price £2**

**Proceeds in aid of church projects.  
Additional donations welcomed.**

showing what the interior looked like before Sir George Gilbert Scott changed it to what



it looks like today. Here is an extract from the booklet:

HMS Amethyst was caught up in the Chinese Civil War of 1949 between the nationalists and the communists. The ship was patrolling the Yangtze River when it was damaged by gunfire and forced to run aground on a mud bank. The captain was mortally wounded ...

What happened to the

ship? What has it got to do with Tandridge? You can read all about it in this booklet. On sale in the church or email [tandridgenews@gmail.com](mailto:tandridgenews@gmail.com)

## HMS Amethyst and Commander John Kerans DSO RN remembered—19th July 2020

Members of the Reigate Branch of the Royal Naval Association (RNA) attended a graveside commemoration on the 71st anniversary of the Yangtze Incident. Commander John Kerans, who died in 1985, aged 70 was being remembered for his audacious escape in July 1949 from under the noses of the Communist Chinese whilst trapped on the River Yangtze for three months. The epic tale was immortalised in book and film "The Yangtze Incident" with the late starring Richard Todd as Commander Kerans. The RNA plan to make this an annual event. The painting below was presented to the Reigate RNA on behalf of the Amethyst Association which was wound up in 2019.







## Surrey Churches Preservation Trust

### Surrey Churches Preservation Trust Ride and Stride

**12th September 2020**

The Surrey Churches Preservation Trust gives grants to historic churches.

I 'walked the churches': Covid 19 guidance was tangible. Locked doors, silence, no coffee, cake or chatting. In these churches I have worshipped; I remembered people, the faith we share. A sunny day: blue skies, scudding clouds, enough cooling breeze for this occasional walker. Urban landscape to open countryside: gardens, hedges and woods turning to Autumn. Dusky sloe berries as blue as the skies, too few butterflies, catchy birdsong, evidence of rabbits; a deer scampering beyond the trees. Dry ground ached for rain.

Hurst Green Evangelical Church meets local community dashing past, to the station or along the road. This Summer people distanced, sat on the grass in the sun. St John's Church, the latest (1913) of the four in the Oxted Team Ministry. Methodist Church - and memories of their World Day of Prayer 2020. Up to the woods, down Limpsfield High Street; the church high above the village, graves of musicians complemented by sounds of organ practice. Striding to Oxted URC, All Saints close by, back to ancient Domesday St Mary's; oldest in the Oxted Team with young, long-legged Soay sheep in the churchyard. Action on Master Park: the Funfair, a fierce football match, calm readying for cricket. Then Old Oxted; peace on the Golf Course, noting each stroke's achievement by the golfer's stance. Greater peace under the ancient Tandridge Yew next to another Team church, early C12, and victorianised by George Gilbert-Scott. The final trek down the village, on to the last Team church, St George's, Crowhurst, later C12; an even older yew, and memories of Remembrance 2019. Finally a footpath scramble across fields, bare after final ploughing, through woods, dodging traffic on the winding lanes, to Merle Common.

**Sue Mallinson**

## Tandridge Village Community supporting each other.

### Covid 19

You have received this as you are part of the  
Tandridge Village Community.

As we all know, the coronavirus is now spreading  
round the UK.

If anyone in the Tandridge village community area is  
self isolating in case they have contracted the virus or  
because they want to avoid coming into contact with  
it, and needs help to collect shopping or  
prescriptions, there is a network of residents who  
have volunteered to help.

Please contact

### **Tandridge Village Community Co-ordinators**

Susie Francis 01342 892019 / 07977 906778

Anne Stocker 01883 714907 / 07855 370180

and we will do our best to assist.





To ensure that the farm can move on, we have appointed a new chap, Rupert, who is joining us in November along with his wife, Clare. They are moving up from the South West and are going to be moving into Oast Cottage at Newhouse. Rupert has been looking after the crops on a mixed farm and Clare works for the Civil Service and is a keen gardener. They are looking forward to settling in and being part of the community.

Zoe won't be far away, she is moving into a smaller, more manageable cottage on the farm over at Perrysfield so she will still be out and about chopping up road signs and telephone wires with her hedge trimmer!

2020 hasn't been easy at any stage; we've got to where we are, despite all the travails of the year, and with solid support and investment in staff and new kit from the owners, we are doing all we can to ensure that the farm is in good shape for everyone to appreciate next year. Thank you all for your friendship and support. Being amongst friends in a community like ours does make life a whole lot easier.

**Alastair**



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01883 571004

For more information about our other branches please visit our website

## St Peter's Harvest Festival—Sunday 4th October 2020

As well as contributions of garden flowers, greenery, vegetables and fruit, you are invited to bring your contributions of non-perishable foods suitable for 'harvest boxes' for 'family meals'.

Harvest food gifts will be taken to :

Caterham Foodbank and people can give food to that at the Sainsbury's Local in Oxted. They are quite well stocked I understand.

Welcare in Redhill, an Anglican charity, which works with families helping parents and children, and has other centres in Southwark Diocese. Welcare prefer supermarket vouchers or money, they are not handing out food bags at the moment.

Renewed Hope Trust ask for dried foods suitable to make a meal; they now run a food bank as well as providing lunches at the Drop-in. The Trust also runs the Winter Night Shelter. In the coming season (December 2020 to March 2021) there will be six weeks with a shelter one night a week in Oxted - led by King's Church. Anyone interested in helping should contact Sue Mallinson (01883 714775), or look out for details and flyers.



I don't mean to sound ungrateful Fred, but when I asked for something to 'represent farming in the community'...

## Tandridge Village Harvest Supper

It is with regret that there will not be a Harvest Supper this year due to the COVID - 19 pandemic. Let us hope that we will be able to celebrate again next year.



# Tandridge

## Parish Council

### **Tandridge Parish Council Update from Zoom video call meeting held Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2020.**

#### **County and District Councillor Comments:**

Cllr McIntosh updated the Parish Council on the County Unitary Authority proposal. Discussions about the Unitary Authority structure are ongoing.

Cllr Wren commented on the disruption in Oxted resulting from the construction of the St William development: Courtyard Gardens.

#### **Parish Environment:**

The maintenance, hedge and grass cutting commitments in the Parish were discussed and areas requiring attention were highlighted. The Parish Council will probably need to take a greater responsibility for the Parish environment in future, once changes to local government come into force.

The Barley Mow, The Glebe Field and The Forge have all been confirmed as Assets of Community Value.

A number of footpath styles have been identified as requiring repair / renewal. They are the responsibility of landowners, the Parish Council is working towards facilitating their repair.

#### **Neighbourhood & Local Plan:**

Progress on the Neighbourhood Plan continues to be on hold pending the outcome of the Local Plan. The result of the Inspectors review of the Tandridge District Council Local plan has not yet been forthcoming.

#### **Planning Applications Reviewed:**

2020/1389/NC New Barn at Old Hall Farm, Tandridge Lane, RH8 9NS

2020/1042 Tandridge Hill Farm, Tandridge Hill Lane, Godstone RH9 8DD

2020/982 The Old Combine Shed, Blackgrove Farm, Tandridge Lane, Lingfield RH7 6LW

#### **Future Statutory Parish Council Meetings (format dependent upon Covid**

**19 advice):** 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020

Your Parish Councillors are:

Mr Ivor Stamp (Chairman), Mrs Nicky Hellard, Mr John Hammond (Deputy), Mr Colin David, Mrs Anne Stocker, Mr Andrew Nosworthy, Mr Doug Knight

Contact details for the Parish Council are provided under the "Useful Telephone Numbers" section. Please get in touch if there is anything that you have a concern about. Councillors are always interested in comments you may have about such things as the Parish environment, planning issues / concerns, improvement suggestions etc.

The fields immediately to the north of the Greensand way have been sown with grass which we will cut for hay in the next 2 summers. Again, we are relying on the grass to put down a lot of roots which will benefit the soil, as will any grass which grows later in the year after we have made hay, as it will be topped and all the chopped material will add to the organic matter in the soil.

Moreover, the farmers who will be grazing their sheep on the turnips will be paying us in compost. They bed their cows on a mixture of woodchip and straw. Incidentally, the straw comes from us in the first place. The compost will be spread on the fields replacing the nutrients taken off when the straw was removed, adding in the fibrous material from the woodchip and just enough smells from the dung in the compost.

Naturally sheep like to wonder about unless they are fenced in. There will be extra new fences going up on some of the boundaries and there will also be some temporary electric fences to help regulate the sheep grazing which do give out a bit of a shock, especially to inquisitive dogs and little people, but they will be away from the footpath and clearly marked. As a rule, the sheep and the fences are checked on a daily basis. Sheep have a knack of getting themselves in to mischief, so if you see something you are not sure about let us know.

I haven't had a blow to the head, gone organic and started wearing sandals, making my underwear from knitted stinging nettles and living in a tent. The land behind the village is some of the easiest working land we have, but with the apparent changes in climate, it is struggling to produce decent yields, so it needs fixing. Reintroducing some grass, root crops, legumes and livestock on a rotational basis to parts of the farm which have been in arable production for 40 odd years has to be a good thing.

Chris, Zoe's dad, has been on the farm for nearly 43 years, which is quite an achievement and he will be 70 next May. He has been working part time for four years and is stepping back from regular work when we finish the autumn planting. I will be forever grateful for all his help and guidance over the time we have worked together. Even though I have now been here for 16 years, Chris is still someone I depend on for all those bits of knowledge about drains and water pipes and buried cables that never appear on plans or maps. He has had a hand in either putting up nearly every building on the farm or repairing anything that was here before he started.

**Continued over/**



## Farming News - September 2020

As far as positives go, we have finished harvest, yields are what we expected, prices are about on budget and we didn't run anyone over or have any crashes. One or two idiots tried playing chicken, but a Ford Transit or a Mercedes 'Look At Me SL Super Bling Special' is no match for a big tractor. The Transit van that stuffed itself into the hedge down from the school last week was nothing to do with us, that was just proof that if you want to drink a Costa coffee, talk on the phone and drive, you really need three arms. I won't say a word about parents on the school run, suffice to say that we know that it is the start of a new school year.

Having made much in the last article about having to write off 300 acres of oilseed rape after planting it last year and then threatening never to grow it again, guess what? This year we planted 380 acres in late July and early August, it rained at the right time and it is all growing. If it doesn't get hammered by pigeons in the winter, we'll have a crop next year. Admittedly we put some effort into getting the soil worked down nicely when we had the chance, but I bought the cheapest seed available and used lots of it. We have used a bit of insecticide to fend off any flea beetle, but the cooler temperatures and strong winds over the bank holiday weekend coincided with the period when the flea beetles were migrating. Obviously having marital relations on a wet cabbage leaf in a cold wind presents several practical difficulties when you aren't much bigger than a pinhead.

Stating fact as opposed to grumbling, we had some disappointing yields from the fields behind the village. A lot of that was down to a very dry summer and light sandy soil. It did highlight the fact that the amount of organic matter in the soil has declined, which reduces the soils ability to hold onto moisture. When we had a big dairy with 500 hundred cows and all the youngstock, we had a never-ending supply of manure which despite being smelly and creating a lot of traffic, did a lot of good for the soil.

To help rectify the problem, I am trying something different this autumn. The bulk of the land off Jackass Lane has been sown with stubble turnips and the edges of the fields have had some oats planted. The stubble turnips will provide winter grazing for a mob of automatic self-propelled poo dispensers, sheep. The oats will provide somewhere green and a bit cleaner for them to lie on as well as retaining any spare nutrients in the soil. Once the sheep have grazed it all off, the fields will be planted with beans which will also help enrich the soil and provide a big feeding area for bees and insects once they flower in the spring.

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## New Honorary Canons for Southwark Cathedral

### Extract from the Diocesan Newspaper 'The Bridge'

The Bishop of Southwark, The Rt Revd Christopher Chessun, has appointed seven new Honorary Canons; one of whom is Revd Anna Eltringham, Oxted Team Ministry.

Commenting on his appointments, Bishop Christopher said: "I am delighted that these very gifted priests have accepted my invitation to become Honorary Canons in recognition of distinguished service in the Diocese and wider Church. I look forward to being able to formally institute and install them in our Cathedral Church when circumstances allow and commend them to the Diocesan family for prayer."



The Sub Dean of Southwark, The Revd Canon Michael Rawson, said: "The College of Canons at the Cathedral allows us to add to the diversity and skills of those who are ambassadors for the Cathedral around the Diocese and we look forward to being able to welcome these new members and working with them in the future."

The new Canons will be instituted and installed in Southwark Cathedral when the guidelines around coronavirus permit, and the Bishop of Southwark has said that they may use the designation Canon from the date of this press release.

### Biography

**The Revd Canon Anna Eltringham** has been ordained for 12 years following a career in marketing in the charity, private and public sectors, the latter in Croydon Council working with businesses large and small to help reduce their environmental impact. After serving her curacy at Holy Innocents, South Norwood, she became Team Vicar in the Oxted Team Ministry and has since been licensed as Team Rector. When she had her first daughter in 2010, she became increasingly interested in the mutual relationship of motherhood and ministry — its benefits and its challenges — and organised a number of supportive events for women in ministry. In 2017 she was commissioned as

Dean of Women's Ministry for the Diocese of Southwark and took a leading role last year in organising the events celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's ordination to the priesthood. Now the work continues with the Bishop and three Area Advisers as they strive for greater representation of ordained women in the Diocese and seek to address the challenges that work against this.

Commenting on her appointment, Canon Anna said: "I was bowled over by this invitation to be an Honorary Canon, unsure at first if they'd got the right person! Now it has sunk in, I am grateful to receive the gift and for the opportunity it affords to get more involved in the life of the Cathedral alongside my Diocesan role as Dean of Women's Ministry."

## Giving to St Peter's Church

The church costs over £1000 a week to run, before the cost of maintenance and renovation are considered. The traditional methods of collecting donations is via the weekly offering during a service and Standing Order instructions to your bank.

Fewer people carry cash today and more people have a smart phone. Therefore, at St Peter's, we are introducing the QR code.

You do not need to wait until next Sunday to use it in church, why not try it now?

**Martin Lloyd**

