



HERSTMONCEUX AND WARTLING PARISH NEWS

June 2021

50p



This Month

Rev Richard writes the letter from the Rectory; Rev Peter's Green Page; Melinda's Famous Hymns column covers "How Great Thou Art", plus the regular columns and news from around the parishes



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From the Rectory

Dear Parishioners,

I purchased a copy of National Geographic in April and the main topic for that month was air quality world wide. I had already realised that air quality isn't very good in our part of the world, but thought it was much better than many other places. However, there was much that shocked me in this edition of the magazine, things that I hadn't realised, for instance that our air quality in large parts of Europe are much worse than America, and that world wide 7 million people die prematurely due to air pollution every year. That is five times more than the number killed by motor accidents world wide.

Another thing that I did know is that world wide we are currently using up more resources than our world is able to produce in a year by around the beginning of August each year. The day this is calculated to happen is called 'Earth Overshoot Day'. But what I hadn't realised until recently is that we in the UK currently use up our share of what the world produces by early May!! So, here we are less than half way through the year and we have used up all we should have had already!! This overshoot has been happening increasingly ever since the early 1970's. There is always so much more to learn.

"The natural world is in our power, we can destroy or cherish. The choice is ours".
David Attenborough

I don't believe that we are any happier than we were in the 1960's and early 70's, maybe less so? We certainly need to cut back drastically our consumption in many various ways here in the UK, whether we are happy or not, because it is unsustainable and it is destructive.

The simple Christian gospel message is very relevant here. For it is to 'repent and trust in God' (See Mark chapter 1 verse 15) The word 'repent' literally means to change your mind. We all, as a nation, need to seek to get back to living a life that is loving to everyone and caring regarding all has been provided around us, i.e. stop living selfishly and above our means as far as is possible. The second part is to do what the old sign outside the Brewers Arms said 'In God is all our trust' (see photo) and also what it is declared on every American \$1 Bill 'In God we trust'.

If we trust in the Christian God we have all our sins forgiven and we are given a fresh start time and time again whenever we go back to Him. With this wonderful boost from above we can all be full of hope for the future and determine to look for new ways of doing things and helping others around us as well.



Prayer for June

A blessing prayer for you:

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (From Romans 15v13)

Rev Peter Writes

Over recent months, many have been suffering from depression. The loss of the ability to do what were once regarded as the simple daily things in life, has now made it obvious that the simple was the important. For many in this situation there has been found a refuge in a piece of music, a book, or some poetry. The problem is though that not everyone has the chance or the time to pause. It is not easy in these circumstances to be positive. A positive action, any positive action can take a huge amount of courage, and simply one day at a time can be frightening enough.

PTSD is usually thought to relate to one traumatic event, but now medical professionals recognise that continuous exposure to stressful situation can also result in this, this is known as Cumulative Stress Disorder (CSD). This can be caused by Regular and repeated exposure to verbal abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse or threats as well as continuous feelings of captivation or powerlessness, and for some, the latter will now apply.

In 2020The BBC's Fergal Keane stepped down from his role as Africa editor due to post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), this diagnosis being the result of several decades of work in conflict zones around the world. As I wrote, music, books or poetry are an accepted way to help those suffering from depression, PTSD and CSD, for Fergal Keane however there was one particular poem that helped him. This was from 'Benedictus: A Book of Blessings by John O'Donohue,' and I leave it here:

This is the time to be slow,
Lie low to the wall
Until the bitter weather passes.

Try, as best you can, not to let
The wire brush of doubt
Scrape from your heart
All sense of yourself
And your hesitant light.

If you remain generous,
Time will come good;
And you will find your feet
Again on fresh pastures of promise,
Where the air will be kind
And blushed with beginning.

June Services in Herstmonceux and Wartling Parish Churches

Please be aware that these are the services as they are planned to be but, due to the current circumstances they may have to change. Please check with Richard Steven or another member of the church team if you are intending to come and are uncertain as to where the service is. Thank you.

6th June 1st Sunday after Trinity.

- 8am Wartling Holy Communion (BCP)
2 Corinthians 4:13-5.1. Mark 3:20-end.
- 10am Herstmonceux Family Service
- 6pm Zoom service

13th June 2nd Sunday after Trinity

- 8am Herstmonceux Holy Communion (BCP)
2 Corinthians 5:6-17. Mark 4:26-34.
- 10am Wartling Holy Communion (CW)
1 Samuel 15:34-16:13. 2 Corinthians 5:6-17. Mark 4:26-34
- 6pm Zoom service

20th June 3rd Sunday after Trinity

- 8am Wartling Holy Communion (BCP)
2 Corinthians 6:1-13. Mark 4:35-41.
- 10am Herstmonceux Holy Communion (CW)
1 Samuel 17:32-49. 2 Corinthians 6:1-13. Mark 4:35-41.
- 6pm Zoom service

27th June 4th Sunday after Trinity

- 8am Herstmonceux Holy Communion (BCP)
2 Corinthians 8:7-end. Mark 5:21-end.
- 10am Wartling Morning Service
Psalm 56. Deuteronomy 15:1-11. Acts 27:33-end.
- 6pm Herstmonceux Compline

4th July 5th Sunday after Trinity

- 8am Wartling Holy Communion (BCP)
2 Corinthians 12:2-10. Mark 6:1-13
- 10am Herstmonceux Family Service.
- 6pm Zoom Service.

Rev Peter's Green Page

In a recent edition of Dragon's Den, Deborah Meaden turned down the chance of an investment, because she had decided that she was not going to buy any new clothes this year, and so could not invest in a sports clothing company. Recycling is not simply limited to the correct container, it's also a way of donating still useful items that we no longer need of have a use for, to others or to help others. We as Church Communities do this, and our Pam Kendall is involved in this, and these are Pam's words:

"During the last few months we have been able to support Warming Up The Homeless. This charity works along the South Coast, Eastbourne, Bexhill, Hastings, and beyond, feeding and clothing. They make sure that people have the means to keep warm and also look after the welfare of their pets, often the only friend a homeless person has. They help people to find sheltered accommodation, making sure they have all the necessary amenities to live some sort of normal life, arranging medical care both for them and their pets.

I was pleased to deliver clothing donated by parishioners, sleeping bags/roll mats, knitted dog coats and food to the Bexhill Depot. I know that there were several church members who independently sent donations. This charity is always in need of warm, good condition clothing, shoes, anything that will make life on the streets more comfortable. Hot food is supplied each evening at known venues, so food stuff is gratefully received, and items, such as crisps, biscuit bars etc. for lunch bags are also needed. In addition they have a Bexhill charity shop that sells checked over donated items at 27 St Leonards Rd Bexhill, TN40 1HD and a distribution centre 8-12 Wickham Avenue, Bexhill, TN39 3EN that receives and sorts these donated items.

Members of our parish were able to support WUTH recently by donating clothing for both people and their dogs, food, sleeping bags as well as money. I was amazed at the work done by the volunteers, hot food delivered each evening donated and cooked by volunteers, breakfast and lunch parcels given to families in sheltered housing, supplying, where necessary, the means to cook, heat and look after themselves. The most important thing is – time to listen and this the volunteers do in abundance. They have a Facebook page and website, and they are on our Churches Website, please look at these."

Knit and Stitch

Just to let you know that Knit and Stitch will be meeting in June, date and time to be advised. We will be keeping to a small group in line with Government guidelines.

See you soon. Pam.

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PARISH NEWS

Please send text copy email (together with your name and phone number) to Miss Katherine Blake, theparishnews@hotmail.com (c/o Parish News). Deadline is midday on the 15th of the month prior to publication.

N.B. due to new arrangements no copy can be accepted later.

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Wealden

The Conservatives won again for East Sussex County Council and for Wealden District Council. People are saying no more houses, traffic gridlock, green fields being built on, then vote for more.

As we left the counting building at the National Golf Course Hotel in Halland, and came onto the road, the traffic from there to the Boshop roundabout was chock a block.

Maybe we should be questioning the Appeal procedure in Bristol. Are they up for the job? Developers go to them and get their own way. Wealden are afraid to say no to planning applications, as the developers go to appeal and mostly win. Then we are having the issues we are trying to address.

All developers should be made to put solar panels on every roof, insulate every house, equip them with green energy, give large enough gardens so people can grow trees, fruit, veg and flowers. Cycle paths must be provided and local shops, to avoid getting into cars every day. That's if the government are serious about lowering emissions? You can't have it both ways. I can't believe that the Wealden Council has allowed such developments to go ahead. And more to follow.. thus creating more traffic gridlock and air pollution.

Also with this lock down, and people working from home, why is there not accommodation being added to the new homes where one can work from home, without having to work in one's living room? While one can't build a jet engine at home, how many have office jobs? One would have thought to include some light industry close to new large developments? This would go a long way towards reducing the travelling to work, with a reduction in traffic gridlock and air quality.

We are having reports of an increase in mental health issues and depression. I can understand why this is happening. People need exercise, a place to walk, have sport facilities for young people, a drop in centre for all age groups and a youth centre with someone employed to arrange events. Why is this not included in Hellingly or Stone cross area for example.?

Has Wealden Council ever had an interview with the MPs in Southern England to reconsider the state of developments taking place.

Why not build with a steel frame, off ground, with bolt on timbers, with sheep's fleece for insulation. thus helping the British steel industry, sheep farmers and flood risk? While growing more trees. While the Wealden Council declared a climate change emergency in 2019, do any of them realise housing costs, be it a mortgage or a market rent, which is creating much of the pollution they want to reduce, just see the traffic gridlock both morning and evening. Most of those travelling are doing so, just to pay for one of these awful unaffordable houses the planners give permission for.

visit www.theplanetandpeopleprogressiveparty.co.uk for some thoughts.

Please get in touch if you feel the need to support the above. Laurence Keeley.

P. Thompson

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Famous Hymns

How Great Thou Art: Carl Boberg (1859 – 1940) – *with thanks to*
wordwisebiblestudies.com

Carl Gustaf Boberg was an evangelical Swedish pastor, and later a senator in the Swedish parliament. Walking home from the afternoon service in Monsteraas one summer day in 1885, he got caught in a sudden thunderstorm - rolling thunder, torrential rain, then returning bright sunshine and birdsong overwhelmed him. He wrote an 8-verse song which he read in his church the next week and published in the Monsteraas News in 1886.

Several years later, Boberg attended a church service and was surprised to hear the congregation sing his poem to an old Swedish melody. This was understated and sung in strict 3:4 rhythm – it's now sung with 4 beats in a bar. In the early 1900s, it was translated into German and shortly after from German into Russian and published in a Russian hymn book in 1922. English missionary Stuart Hine (1899 – 1989) and his wife were serving in the Ukraine in 1931 when they heard the song, and began using it in evangelistic services as a duet.

The Hines had to return to England in 1939, so Mr Hine paraphrased it into English. In 1948, Hine visited a camp in Sussex for displaced Russians, where only two were professing Christians. A man said he'd been separated from his wife at the very end of the war, and hadn't seen her since. At the time they were separated, his wife was a Christian, but he wasn't, but he'd since been converted. His deep desire was to find his wife so they could at last share their faith together. But he said he didn't think he'd ever see his wife on earth again. Instead he was longing for the day when they'd meet in heaven, and could share in the Life Eternal there. These words inspired Hine, becoming the basis for his fourth and final verse to 'How Great Thou Art': "When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation to take me home, what joy shall fill my heart. Then we shall bow in humble adoration and there proclaim, My God How Great Thou Art!"

In 1949, the Hines printed the song (with English translation) in their gospel magazine produced for refugees in Britain. So many requests came for a copy, from all over the world, that Stuart Hine had it printed in leaflet form. One of these was given to song leader Cliff Barrows, in 1954, who introduced the "new" hymn at Billy Graham's Toronto Crusade, in 1955. Billy Graham later said "The reason I like 'How Great Thou Art' is because it glorifies God. It turns Christians' eyes toward God, rather than upon themselves. I use it as often as possible because it is such a God-honouring song." By 1974, it was voted number one hymn in America. It's said that it was Elvis Presley's 1977 rendition of it that revived its popularity in Sweden! In 2013 it was voted BBC Songs of Praise's most popular hymn.

Herstmonceux Community Land Trust

Strawberry Field, Windmill Hill is changing as Herstmonceux CLT moves closer to building homes aimed at local people. 8 will be sold to finance the project, 4 will be shared ownership to assist those with lower income or deposit, and 5 will be retained in perpetuity by the CLT for rent to those with local family or residence connections.

Preparatory activity included a CCTV survey of the sewer from the Windmill to Victoria Road, an archaeological survey, installation of dormice nest boxes in hedgerows and removing old leylandii trees along the public footpath. The trunks to be removed later.

Recognition is due to Joe Ayres who owned Strawberry Field and has supported the vision of CLT community homes during our 4 years of planning. For around 50 years the site grew strawberries and became known as Strawberry Field. The CLT wishes to recognise the history and will apply to Wealden DC for Strawberry Field to be the address of the new homes. We would welcome local support for this.

With detailed design, land purchase and finance in place we have chosen a main contractor with particular reference to costs, site management, community information and access to the on-site public footpath.

Work should start late July 2021 with a build time of 12 months. In cooperation with the main contractor, we will keep the community informed of progress. You can follow us on www.community21.org and entering HerstmonceuxCLT in the search box. You can support Herstmonceux CLT by purchasing a £1 share to become a member or email Herstmonceuxclt@gmail.com for more information.

Alan McInnes
Chairman, Herstmonceux CLT.

Herstmonceux Parish Council, Volunteers and local groups

**Village Tea Party on Friday 2 July 2021
From 2 - 4 pm in Herstmonceux Village Hall**



Hurrah we will be able to meet in person and enjoy a cup of tea and a slice of cake!
Come and join us!

More information in the June Parish News

A Time to Keep Silent and a Time to Speak

My dog, Mr Wiz has taught me much about communication. Victoria Stilwell, a dog trainer said “when a dog emotes the feeling is very pure and not complicated by complex human thought “. Dogs are very emotional creatures who seem able to tune into human emotions. I have found it fascinating.

Mr Wiz is very responsive to my emotions and senses my need for companionship and affection. If I am feeling a bit low, he will come and sit extra close to me and offer me his paw. He rarely ever barks and only when he is very excited, and it is like all his emotion just bubbles over and the bark is his exclamation of joy. He has taught me that words aren't always necessary. He manages to communicate all his needs and never utters a word. I have learnt to read his body language and that is how I know his needs.

We live in a noisy and busy world and I sometimes feel that it all gets too much. I live in a house with three other adults and lots of visitors which means that my own environment is often noisy, and Mr Wiz and I will retreat to the serenity and quiet of our own room at times.

Although I realise that I am blessed to live with people who all care and love one another it can also prove to be challenging doing all the brain gymnastics required for detailed conversations! Sometimes there are quite a lot of words and it has often made me wonder whether the spoken word is overused. Perhaps this is too radical a view as I know that conversation is a necessary part of human interaction, but it is something upon which I have reflected and wondered what our Lord would say.

When I pray alone I rarely say the words out loud. My conversation with God where I thank and praise him is a silent one within my own head. Mother Theresa said, “If we really want to pray, we must first learn to listen, for in the silence of the heart God speaks”.

Fiona Bower

Fiona is a wheelchair user and Mr Wiz is her registered assistance dog trained by the charity Canine Partners.

Faith Matters

Unfortunately, due to the circumstances we have been unable to meet. We are now intending to meet via Zoom for the time being.

So if you would like to join in with this please contact John King 832997 when he can arrange to send you the link. This can be with the computer, tablet or by telephone.



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Vitality Villages

Report from Vitality Villages June 2021

Vitality Villages is pleased to report on the gradual re-opening of its projects which had to close due to the pandemic. We look forward to welcoming people to join our different groups.

Community Allotment – members have been busy preparing and planting sections of the community allotment despite the unpredictable weather. A range of fruit and vegetables, including potatoes, onions, peas, beans, strawberries, and blackcurrants are already growing well.

Ring Janet on 01323 833306 for more information about the allotment.

Coffee Mornings – we will be welcoming anyone who wants to join us for a coffee, chat, and fun quiz at 10am on Monday 20 September 2021 in the lounge at Herstmonceux Village Hall.

It will be a good opportunity to meet and catch up with everyone after the long lockdown. Please note the change of venue!

Contact Sheila on 01323 833673

Men's Shed – the Men's Shed is re-opening on Wednesday 19 May 2021, with limited numbers in line with the covid regulations. Two sessions are available from 10am – 1pm and 2pm – 4.30pm but if you want to attend, please telephone Alan on 01323 833306 to check numbers.

Singers – the singers are a very friendly informal group of singers and no auditions are required. They hope to re-start later in the autumn, but no date is confirmed yet. If you are interested in joining, please ring Laura on 07940 275611

Walking and Associated Activities – the Truggers, footpath maintenance group start working again at the end of May and there are plenty of jobs to keep them busy. The Community Routes Programme which is working with Herstmonceux Parish Council, ESCC and local landowners to improve access on the local footpath network will restart in early June.

If you are interested in helping with the Truggers or with the Community Routes Programme, please contact Steve on 01323 833473

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Unconditional Love

When I first knew you didn't know what to expect,
But now I do – I'm given back my self respect,
Because of you – and your Unconditional Love.

You're always there, and I should listen to you more,
You say come share – and then you open up the door.
That's what you do, with your Unconditional Love.

Didn't know what love was 'til you showed me the way,
Went my own way just 'cause - no one else would stay.
Everyone just let me down, then you turned my life around.
It's all so new, now my feet don't touch the ground.

Can reach heights, that I know you can see,
I want to be the person you can see in me.
You say come close – I'll give you Unconditional Love.

I see your face, there's such compassion in your eyes,
Just watch this space, not going to listen to lies,
When I'm with you, and your Unconditional Love.
Gilly Reville

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Saturday 5th June 2021

Programme

Haydn	Sonata in E-flat <u>Hob.XVI:52</u>
Schubert	Four Impromptus, D899, Op.90
Liszt	Transcendental Etudes No.11 in D flat (<u>Harmonies du Soir</u>)
Chopin	<u>Fantasia in F minor Op. 49</u>
Liszt	Rhapsodie Espagnole

In 2014 Daniel Lehardt won 1st Prize at the Young Concert Artists International auditions in Paris and New York. A year later he was invited to record music by Bartók for Decca and in 2016 won the Most Promising Pianist Prize at the Sydney International Competition. <https://www.askonasholt.com/artists/daniel-lehardt/>

Join us for a
Great Family Afternoon!

Herstmonceux and Wartling Churches'

Summer Fair

Sunday 27th June
2.00-4.30 pm

Stalls - Games - Raffle - Tombola
— and so much more!

Herstmonceux Churchyard



Church Road BN27 1QJ



Free Entrance and Parking (donations welcomed)

Organised by Wartling and Herstmonceux Parish Churches



Village Information Centre

Opening times - as from 1st June the Centre will be open from Monday to Friday 10.00 am to 12.00 noon. We are taking a careful approach at this time in the hope that by 1st July we may be able to open up each weekday for longer. Watch this space.

Small Grant Scheme - applications invited. The Rural Community Support Society operates a small grant scheme and is able to offer funding to local clubs, societies and organisations that benefit the people of Herstmonceux and the surrounding area. If you need financial support towards a project or simply to get your organisation re-started then please ask for a form or download one from our website - herstmonceuxvic.co.uk

Hearing Resources Session - will be held on the **second 11th and fourth 25th Friday in June** between 11.00 am and 12.00 noon when we are able to offer maintenance on most types of hearing aids and replacement batteries. Please remember to bring your book.

CUCKMERE BUSES

Following guidance from the Department of Transport, Cuckmere Buses is removing limits on the number of passengers it can carry on its buses from Monday 17th May. Philip Ayers Managing Director says "Passenger demand has increased since we returned to pre-covid timetables for all our services on 12th April, so we are pleased to be able to increase the numbers the numbers we can now carry." John Bunce, Operations Director added "Enhanced cleaning of the buses will continue, this includes regular anti-viral protection spray and sanitising high risk touch areas between trips. Hand sanitiser is provided for passenger use and face coverings will still be needed, unless exempt." Cuckmere Buses Private Hire service is also returning from 17th May. Full details of timetables etc are available on the company website cuckmerebuses.org.uk

All Saints Plant Sale

ALL SAINTS PLANT SALE
SUM RAISED - £823.13p

The All Saints annual plant sale eventually went ahead in the afternoon, Saturday 8th May, due to the wet and windy weather in the morning.

The fantastic sum raised was due to all the generous donations of plants received and the support of so many attending. Thank you.

It was lovely to see so many familiar faces again.

Thank you to those that helped on the day (especially Leon).

Lyn and Tony

Stella Hardwick's Memories of Windmill Hill

10th July 1977 the day that I, the new cooker and the TV aerial arrived at Windmill Hill, to be greeted by the resident house martins – and we are all still here in fairly good condition.

What did I know about Windmill Hill? Well, really not much as it was the view which sold the house to me! I had travelled by bus through the village and by bike to the original Horseshoe Inn.

There were three routes to Windmill Hill from my home at Stone Cross, but the one I knew best was the cart track across the marshes from Rickney to Herstmonceux. We didn't always get as far as that if we stopped at Mr. Chapple's farm at Rickney to go gleaning corn for the chickens at harvest time. However the incentive was often to head for the Horseshoe and return with bottles of Mr Simmons' very potent cider on board. We seldom saw anyone on the way, and usually stopped for a picnic somewhere near Horse Eye.

It was so peaceful there, though less so on one occasion in WW2 when my neighbours were cycling there and the nearby radar pylons were attacked. The only refuge was the ditches so they jumped in. Their clothes took a lot of cleaning later!

My other route via Windmill Hill was on the No 15 bus from Eastbourne to Hastings. It was often a spur-of-the-moment bus ride from the bus depot in Pevensey Road where you could leave your shopping at the left luggage office for a few hours. Those were the days too when parcels could be sent by a specific but to be met at your bus stop. The No 15 followed more or less the same route as does the No 98 now. We liked the front seats upstairs where there was a good view of the countryside, though you did have to bear with cigarette smoke as all the smokers had to sit upstairs.

So we trundled along and at last left Hailsham behind, which didn't take as long as it does now! Much more compact.... We knew we were coming into Herstmonceux when the New Zealand Tea Rooms came into view, later the site of Collins Garage. Up the hill with the Trug shop on the right and the cinema on the left. The bus stop was by the Brewer's Arms, but we looked out for the 'Praise the Lord' picked out in Cotoneaster on the wall of the house opposite. Further on was the teashop (now a restaurant) which I chiefly remember for the High Teas eaten there. What happened to High Teas? A hard-boiled egg was a treat then. Further on we passed, in WW2, the Italian POW camp, and then to Windmill Hill with its rickety and rusty windmill, and then the more familiar Horseshoe.

The third route to Windmill Hill was by Wartling which I rarely used until my first driving lesson in early 1970's. It was a Sunday and, unlike now, very little traffic on it. It was held to be good for learning to steer the car, which was trusting of my instructor with water-filled dykes each side of the road! We passed through Wartling which, although my grandfather, David Delves was born there, I knew little about. My search for Grave's House came later.



The gardens and grounds are open daily
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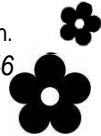
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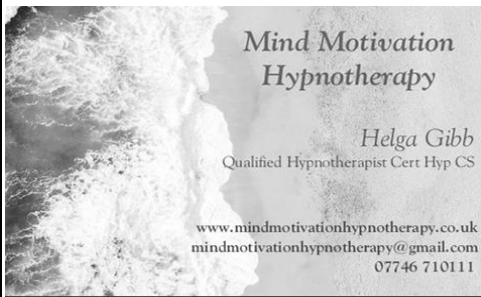
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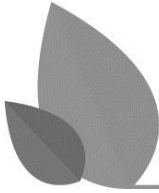
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Herstmonceux Free Church News

We are now able to hold Sunday services at the Free Church in Chapel Row and will continue to provide a zoom link so that everyone can be involved in the way they choose.

We are praying for all the Herstmonceux community and welcome requests from any of you who would like prayer for a particular issue. To make a prayer request or for details of how to join us on zoom or in person, please contact Sylvia (07909 644762).

For further information see our website: www.herstmonceuxfreechurch.org.uk or contact our Family and Community Worker, Sylvia Catt 07909 644762, or John and Helen Ford 01323 832266.

**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)
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PARISH NEWS

Please send text copy email (together with your name and phone number) to Miss Katherine Blake, theparishnews@hotmail.com (c/o Parish News). Deadline is midday on the 15th of the month prior to publication.

N.B. due to new arrangements no copy can be accepted later.

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