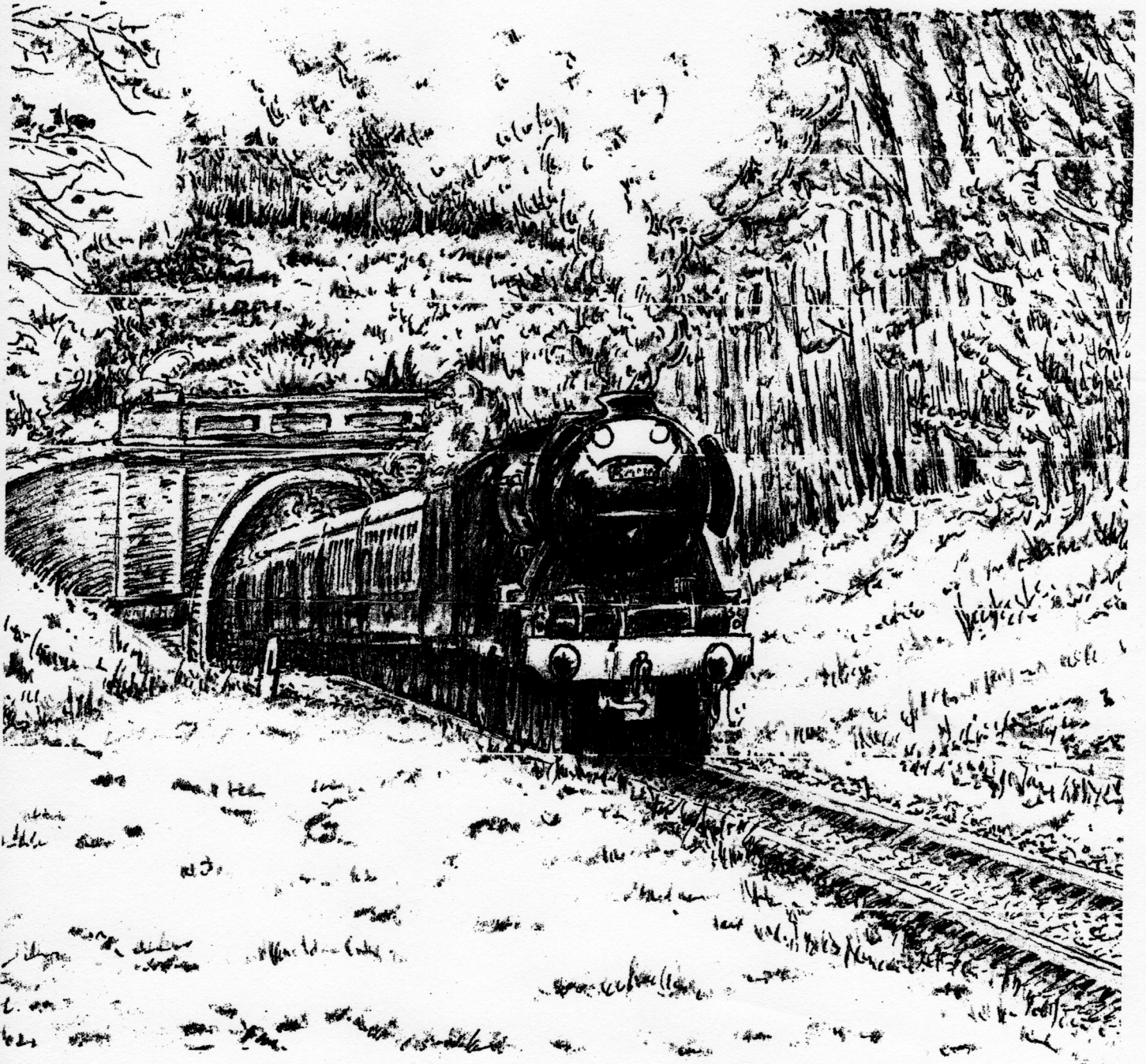


The Chronicle

For West Hoathly, Sharpthorne & Highbrook. Oct/Nov 2022. £7 for six issues or £1.50 each.



***“Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell.
Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace;
and the God of love and peace shall be with you.”
(2 Corinthians 13.11)***

My dear friends,

As many of you will have heard, I will shortly be leaving the parishes. I have been offered, and accepted, the position of Chaplain to the Bishop of Hereford, the Rt Rev'd Richard Jackson. As you may recall, Bishop Richard was previously the Bishop of Lewes.

This will therefore be my last letter to you. I write with a mixture of sadness and hopefulness. It was not a decision I made lightly, as I have been greatly blessed by my time here. It is said that a priest is gift to the local Church and community; however, I have found that I have been more greatly blessed by your friendship and support, a gift to me as I served you. When Paul and I arrived in 2018 we were made to feel so welcome, and we will leave with many happy memories and friendships. I am so very thankful to, and for, you all.

My final day in the parish will be Sunday 16th October, after which the care of our two beautiful parish churches, All Saints, Highbrook and St Margaret's, West Hoathly, will be in the hands of the Churchwardens and PCCs. As we come to terms with the change in the world around us following the death of our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth, our churches stand as symbols of Christ's presence in our community and the changelessness of God.

I know that many of you love the churches and churchyards, even if you don't regularly worship in them. Like many rural communities, churches are part of our shared history and identity. They are places people find peace and solace. You walk in the grounds and visit the graves of loved ones. You return to them for the great festivals of the year such as Harvest and Christmas, or for important moments in your lives, baptisms, weddings and funerals.

As we enter the period before a new priest is appointed, I humbly ask you to support the churches, and the Churchwardens and PCCs as they care for them. I have had the joy of seeing our local communities flourish, and I know together you will ensure that the gift of the churches will go from strength to strength and be there for generations to come.

On my very first day after I was ordained, I was asked where I saw myself in five years. My answer was, "In God's hands". That is of course still as true today, and as I follow Christ into a new ministry, I know it is true for you all too.

May the Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance on you, and give you peace. Amen.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mthw Nicol', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.



CHURCH NEWS **ST. MARGARET'S, WEST HOATHLY &** **ALL SAINTS', Highbrook**



From the Registers:

Officiant: Mthr Nicol unless otherwise listed

Baptisms:

The Baptism of Amelia Rose Kent took place at St Margaret's Church on Sunday 3rd July 2022 at 10.30am.

The Baptism of Louis Luca John Pickersgill and Isabelle Charlotte Mo Jalie took place at All Saints Church on Sunday 31st July 2022 at 2.00pm.

The Baptism of Lily Pauline Martin took place at St Margaret's Church on Saturday 10th September 2022 at 10.00am.

Weddings:

The Marriage of Edward Richman & Laura Solly took place at St Margaret's Church on Thursday 14th July 2022 at 1pm.

The Marriage of Jack Jefferis & Amy Radcliffe took place at St Margaret's Church on Saturday 23rd July 2022 at 1pm.

The Marriage of Paul Sallis & Lauren Richardson took place at St Margaret's Church on Saturday 30th July 2022 at 12.30pm.

The Marriage of Angus Raeside & Isobelle Weir took place at St Margaret's Church on Saturday 13th August 2022 at 2.00pm.

The Marriage of Thomas Channell & Stephanie Ralph took place at St Margaret's Church on Saturday 20th August 2022 at 1.00pm.

The Marriage of Adam Holmes & Megan Pyatt took place at St Margaret's Church on Saturday 20th August 2022 at 1.00pm.

Funerals:

The Interment of Ashes of Hazel Thorpe took place at St Margaret's Churchyard on Friday 22nd July 2022 at 11.30am.

The Interment of Ashes of Dr Sonia Heptonstall took place at St Margaret's Churchyard on Thursday 4th August 2022 at 11.30am.

The Interment of Ashes of Robert Chester took place at St Margaret's Churchyard on Wednesday 10th August 2022 at 1.30pm.

The Interment of Ashes of Eileen Snashfold took place at St Margaret's Churchyard on Wednesday 24th August 2022 at 10.45am.

The Memorial Service of Hannah Cherry took place at St Margaret's Church on Saturday 20th August 2022 at 4pm.

The Funeral and Burial of Iris Bryant took place at All Saints Church on Friday 9th September 2022.

A list of church services for October & November 2022 can be found on page 29

Please follow us on social media:

Facebook - @stmargaretswesthoathlyallsaintshighbrook; Twitter - @StMargarets_WH

Other Events Coming Up:

Churchyard working parties are on the first Monday of each month from 2.00 - 4.00pm, the next ones being **Monday 3rd October, Monday 7th November & 5th December.**

Jobs will include weeding, raking, pruning, sweeping, tidying, cleaning & brushing and planting. Tools are provided, but bring gloves and scrubbing brushes. We do stop for tea and a chat.

It is a special place which requires lots of love and hard work to keep it tidy, why not come along and be part of the team to do all those extra jobs which aren't part of the regular maintenance schedule. Also, fresh eyes to suggest ways we can encourage wildlife particularly birds to come and nest.

If you would like to get involved, please just come along or contact derekshurvell@gmail.com

Themed Teas, Saturday 15th October at Sharpthorne Hall

Service from 3.00 p.m. to include a full afternoon tea, (sandwiches, cakes & scones), served on vintage china and a waitered service, £10 per person. In aid of funds for the church, please book by contacting Derek Shurvell derekshurvell@gmail.com

Light Party 4 - 6p.m. Saturday 29th October Sharpthorne Hall

For Young people aged 3 - 14. Dress up in bright shiny clothes. we will make crafts, play games, eat food and party, celebrating "Jesus Light of the World". £3 per person to cover costs. To book please contact Derek Shurvell derekshurvell@gmail.com

"Carols in The Square " Sunday 11th December at 6.00 p.m.

Come and sing carols outside in the street between The Cat & Church.

Emmaus Youth Club, for youngsters aged Year 6 - Year 9 inclusive, weekly on Friday evenings 6.30 - 8.0 p.m. Subs £2 per session.

The Club meets in the W.H. Village Hall, Sharpthorne Hall and outside depending on the activity. Evenings consist of games, activities and hanging out together.

It is managed, overseen & safeguarded by members of St. Margaret's Church. All youngsters of the right age are most welcome.

Please contact derekshurvell@gmail.com if you would like more details.

Autumn Programme 2022

September	16 th	Getting started & games
	23 rd	Camp fire and games at Courtlands Nurseries, Chilling Street. RH19 4JF
	30 th	Games followed by visit to Priest House: "Life as a Tudor Youth"
October	7 th	Emmaus Club 21 st Birthday Party
	14 th	Dodge Ball
October 21st & 28th Half Term. No meetings		
November	4 th	Night Walk. Meet & pick up from WH Village hall
	11 th	Balloon games WH village hall
	18 th	Film Night at Sharpthorne Church Hall
	25 th	Games in the Dark at The Goat Car park
December	2 nd	Mystery guest & games
	9 th	Christmas Party – games and food

This Autumn is a special time for the **Emmaus Club** as it celebrates it's **21st Birthday**.

Back in the mid 90s the Parish Council, the Rev. Alan Carr and others in the community worked together to start a weekly youth club in the Village Hall. Unfortunately it fizzled out after a few months. The Church then started up the Emmaus Club meeting monthly in the Hall, looking at the Bible, Youth issues and playing games.

After a couple of years the club then met fortnightly and included outdoor games and activities. In 2001 the Club began meeting weekly on a Friday evening. It has experienced ups and downs with numbers ranging from 30 plus to just 2 (we were once very close to closing), numbers now are around 15 - 20. I would like to thank all those who have helped out over the years, encouraged and prayed for the young people of the Parish. Also for Alex & Laura who attended weekly for 4 years and Callum Duncanson who has been a stalwart member, youth leader and adult helper. Here's to the next 21 years !

Church Building Project Update

The Churchwardens and I met with the architect over the summer to discuss the building project. Whilst the previous plans had reduced the cost of the project by a considerable amount, it remained £150,000 over budget. We have exhausted avenues for grants, and so we have asked the architect to try one last time and reduce the scope of the project to come in on budget.

He is looking at all options, mindful of the enormous need within the community for this project to move forward and provide the much-needed facilities. In particular, we are reviewing the planned change to the boilers - when this was first suggested, electricity was far cheaper than it is now, and it was felt this would future-proof the church's ongoing expenses. As it is, the energy crisis is hitting everyone very badly, including the church, which is treated as a business, not as a charity. This has given us much pause for thought, and a need to revisit our ambitions.

Once the architect has given the PCC his final plans, they will be able to make an informed decision about the project's future. This is clearly not where we wanted to be, but just like for everybody else, we are trying to manage through very challenging times with spiralling costs.

With every blessing, Mother Nicol

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

**Sunday 13th November
at St Margaret's Church
Commencing at 10.50am**

The service will be led by Father Martin Morgan

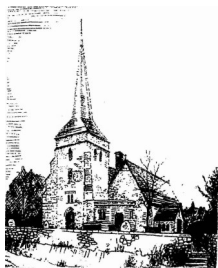
A collection will be taken during the service in aid of the British Legion which supports members of the armed services in many different ways. Envelopes will be made available so that if you are a taxpayer you may gift aid your donation to enhance the benefits



**Sinatra - esq Rat Pack
Cabaret Evening with Andy Bourn
Saturday 19th November 7.30 p.m.
at St. Margaret's Church, West Hoathly**

Tables of 8 (£200 / table), or £25 per ticket,
to include Ploughman's Supper, Cash Bar, Dress Accordingly
All in aid of Church Funds

To book: please contact derekshurvell@gmail.com or rosjanewilliams@aol.co.uk



CHURCH SERVICES
ST MARGARET of ANTIOCH, WEST HOATHLY
and The BENEFICE of ALL SAINTS, Highbrook
OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2022



Every week at St Margaret's

Fridays at 5.30pm - Evening Prayer (BCP)

Sundays

1st Sunday of the month

9.00am	St Margaret's	Mattins (BCP)
10.30am	St Margaret's	All Age Eucharist
4.00pm (<i>winter</i>) / 6pm (<i>summer</i>)	All Saints	Evensong (BCP)

2nd Sunday of the month

9.00am	All Saints	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	St Margaret's	Eucharist
4.00pm (<i>winter</i>) / 6pm (<i>summer</i>)	St Margaret's	Evening Prayer (BCP)

3rd Sunday of the month

9.00am	All Saints	Mattins (BCP)
10.30am	St Margaret's	Eucharist

4th Sunday of the month

9.00am	All Saints	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	St Margaret's	Eucharist

5th Sunday of the month (*where appropriate*)

9.00am	All Saints	Mattins (BCP)
10.30am	St Margaret's	Eucharist

Services at All Saints use the Book of Common Prayer (1662).

Where a priest cannot be found to provide cover for Holy Communion, a service of Morning Prayer of Mattins will take place instead.

For additional special services please see the website or social media, addresses can be found on page 4.