

Shoreline

The Church of the Good Shepherd

Shoreham Beach

February 2024

50p





Church of the Good Shepherd

Sundays

8.00am Holy Communion in church .

10.00am Parish Communion in church.

Also available live-streamed on Facebook and YouTube.

On the first Sunday of most months there is an all age service at 10am and a Taizé healing service at 6pm

Tuesdays

9.30am Holy Communion in church.

Wednesdays

6.00pm Celtic Evening Prayer on Zoom.

Saturday

8.00am Morning Meditation — *also on Zoom.*

The service on **Sunday** is followed by fellowship in the church hall.

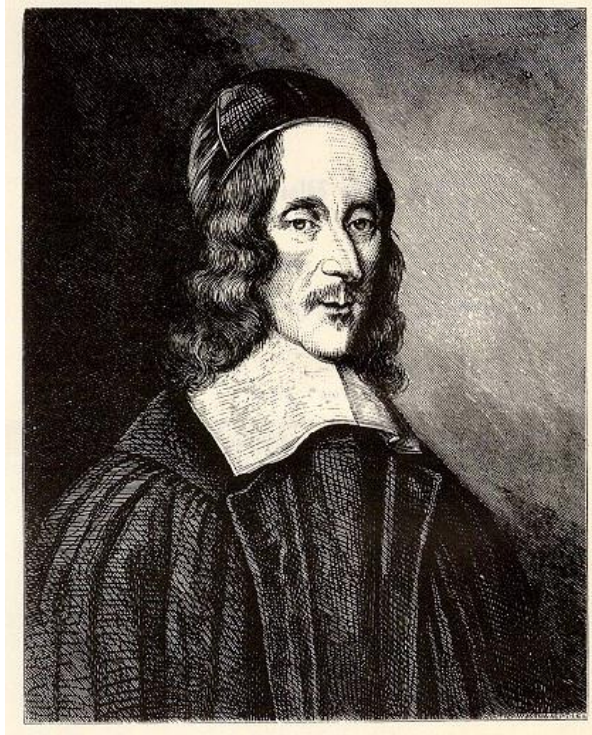
See the church website for details:

<https://www.goodshepherdshorehambeach.org.uk>

First Thoughts: Seven whole days...

Father Jerry, in his first First Thoughts, resists the urge to write poetry, and shares the work of one the greatest devotional poets: George Herbert.

Unlike some of my forebears in Christian ministry I've never been a writer of poetry or hymns. Charles Wesley, for example, wrote hundreds of hymns - usually a new one to go with every sermon! What a good thing we don't do that these days, or you'd be having to sing some pretty dubious hymns when I preached. But despite not having a creative streak when it comes to writing verse I have always liked reading devotional poetry. And in February the Church of England calendar gives us the feast day of a favourite poet and cleric, George Herbert (pictured).



I became particularly interested in George Herbert partly because he is one of the greatest devotional poets in the English language, but also because his feast day falls on my birthday. And a few years ago a member of my congregation, knowing my interest in

Herbert and the birthday connection very kindly gave me a copy of the book *Music at Midnight: The Life and Poetry of George Herbert* by John Drury as a birthday gift. It is a fascinating book which has enabled me to get to know the man and his poetry so much better. I've just been

reading it again as by chance I finally uncovered it about a week before writing this in a box of books still waiting to be unpacked following our move a year ago!

George Herbert was born in 1593 into a wealthy family in Powys in Wales, and was ordained priest in 1629. He wrote his poetry in English, Greek and Latin – most of us can't even manage English! None of his poetry was published in his lifetime which was not long – he died at the age of 39 of consumption, the disease we now call tuberculosis. It was his friend Nicholas Ferrar, founder of the community at Little Gidding (which was made famous by another great poet, T S Eliot) who published a collection of his poems in the year of his death.

Despite being a prolific writer of poetry, just a handful of his poems subsequently made it as hymns to be sung in church. And their content seems to me to lend itself particularly to this time of year, as we leave behind the Christmas season with the Feast of the Presentation on the 2nd February and enter into that period of ordinary time which leads us almost immediately on to Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent.

And there are two verses from those hymns that I want to share with you this month and commend them as something to reflect on as we prepare ourselves for Lent.

Firstly a verse from his hymn *King of glory, King of peace*:

*Seven whole days, not one in seven,
I will praise thee;
in my heart though not in heaven,
I can raise thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort
to enrol thee:
e'en eternity's too short
to extol thee.*

Such lovely words and a reminder that the worship of God is something we should all aspire to every day during the week and not just on Sundays.

And finally, a reminder from Herbert that it is so important to learn to see God in all around us, and that it is good to offer all that we are and all that we do as gifts to God.

*Teach me, my God and King,
in all things thee to see;
and what I do in anything
to do it as for thee.*

Father Jerry

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Please contact Edgar Powell, in confidence, if you, or anyone you know, is in need.

Tel: 01273 453709



The Quiet Service

Judy Short find solace at Christmas in the annual Quiet Service.



For the 2nd year running we offered this quiet reflective service at our church. It is held on December 21st, the longest night of the year because the message of this service is “however dark our lives or the world may be, the light of Christ will penetrate in to that darkness and with His light comes hope”. The service is for those who are struggling at Christmas, for whatever reason and it is also for those whose

lives are busy or taken over by the secular demands made on us.

This service offers a breathing space to just be and to listen to the story of the birth of Jesus and to take from it the hope that His birth brings. The service retells the story of Jesus’s birth, with readings from the Bible and the singing of carols. Towards the end of

the service all are invited to light their candle on the votive stand.

The following prayer is then offered:

“May the lighting of your candle be a reminder for you, that in the darkness, in the messiness, in the coldness of life, the Christmas story of God being born into the world, will bring forth His light in the morning.”

When I began to prepare for this service however, the world seemed very dark due to the ongoing violence and war in so many places and the tragic situation in Gaza which was unfolding. I have to admit I was struggling and my hope for the human race was growing dim.

Then Advent arrived, the liturgy changed and the message of hope, light and love coming into the world through the birth of Jesus began to trickle through me.

The Quiet Service liturgy began to speak to me as well and by the time December 21st arrived I was ready to



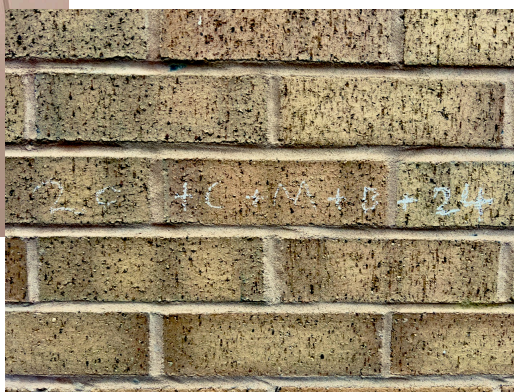
embrace all the hope, light and love that Jesus would offer. These gifts are for all of us of course and I found myself hoping and praying that all who would come to the service would also be able to embrace these gifts and go home rejoicing as the shepherds once did, after having seen the baby Jesus.

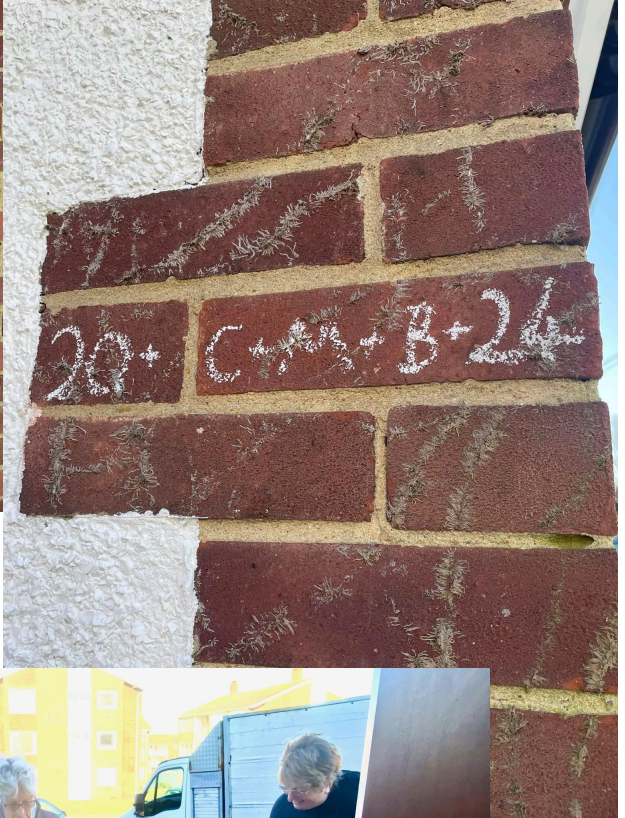
I once heard a priest during his Midnight Mass sermon ask us not to leave the baby Jesus in the manger but to take him home with us so he could be a part of our lives and live within us. That message came back to me while preparing the Quiet Service and I offer it to all of you as another year begins.

Judy Short

20 + C + M + B + 24

To mark Epiphany each year, the congregation used blessed chalk to write the initials of the three kings surrounded by the year on)or near) their doors. Here's a few from around town.





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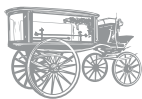
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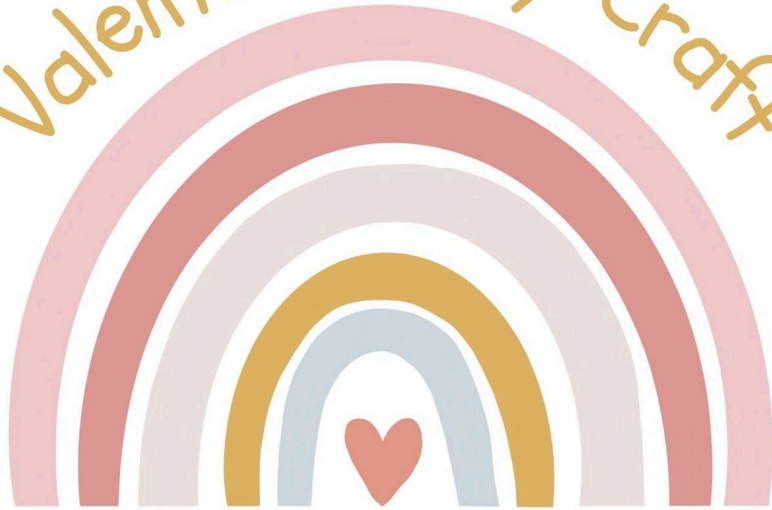
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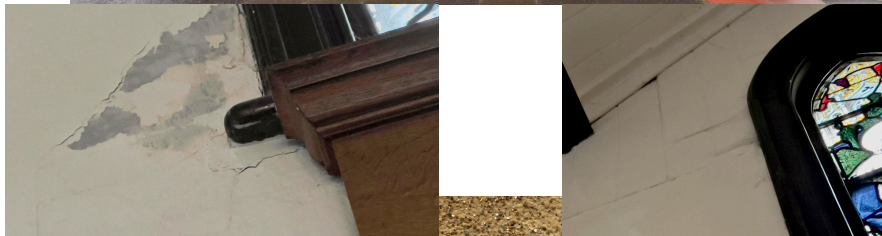


Church of the
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**Free!
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welcome**

Church hall, Kings Walk, Shoreham Beach

Saving the Memorial Wall



Money is needed for the urgent restoration of the eastern wall of the church – the Memorial Wall. This restoration is required for several reasons, one being that a recent survey has shown that there are a considerable amount of damp areas (caused by the cracks in the pebbledash) which are encroaching on the inside of the wall and will cause more extensive and costly problems for the church if we don't do this outside remedial work. We will, at the same

time, be making improvements to the raised flower beds. Estimated costs for this work are in the region of £6000.

This wall is a focal point for all who pass by our church, both local residents and visitors to the Beach. We are hopeful that we can raise this money soon.

Kay Haffenden
Churchwarden



John removing the branches so that the trunk of our lovely tree, the symbol of Christmas, can soon be turned into a beautiful Easter Cross...

Photo by Jenny Stride

World Day of Prayer

Friday 1st March 2024, 10.30am
Shoreham Baptist Church
1A Western Road BN43 5WD

All are invited and welcome to the service which will be followed by light refreshments.

This year's service is prepared by Christian women of Palestine



The theme:

"I Beg You, Bear With One Another In Love"

Greener Together

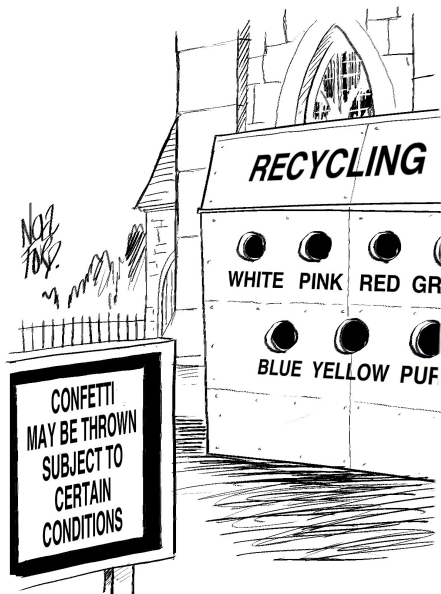
Thank you to all the recycling team at COGS in 2023. You are truly sustainable in your effort to turn up and sort every month.

We need more people to help us. Can you be on the rota and give 30 mins to sorting at coffee time three times a year? Or support those that do it?

If so, please contact Kate - fkatecollier@yahoo.co.uk.

You can recycle:

- **Hand cream tubes / Liquid soap pumps + refill packs / old make up** (no glass). *NOT BODY CREAM POTS or PLASTIC LIDS from HAIR PRODUCTS.*
- **Plastic bread bags** - any brand
- **Plastic milk tops** - red, green, blue, white only. Please note if you crush your milk bottle and replace the top you can put it in the kerbside bin.
- **Vinyl/Latex/Marigold gloves** - except if used for personal care.



- **Toothbrushes + electric heads, interdental brushes, toothpaste tubes**
- **All Trigger Sprays**
- **Plastic Air Fresheners + plastic tops from air fresheners** - any make.
- **Fabric softener tops.**

Remember all soft plastic / pet pouches go to the Co-op or Tesco's.

Kate Collier

Who are the Gartons?

Spotted some new faces in the pews — and behind the lectern? The Gartons joined us last year.

Here's who they are and why they chose Shoreham.

When we moved to Shoreham in March, we tried out different churches, but then came to the Church of the Good Shepherd, because it was in the Inclusive Church network, something that was important to us. It immediately seemed to be a church where the Spirit is alive, and people live out their faith in a straightforward way. We felt at home with the modern music and the relaxed Eucharistic worship.

Having now obtained what are called PTOs (Permissions to Officiate) in the Diocese of Chichester, we have joined the ministry rota. If you have been at church on 10th and 17th December you will have heard us both preach. So, who are we?

Firstly, our titles! We have both been asked about Father and Mother (abbreviated as Fr and Mthr), so let's get this out of the way first. We are both members of a religious community called SMMS, which stands for Sodalitas Mariae Matris Sacerdotum in Latin, the Sodality of Mary, Mother of Priests. This is a community of female and male priests

across the Anglican Communion, with members encircling the globe. All members are called Father or Mother. This community is in the Catholic (High Church) tradition of the Anglican church, but our background is much more eclectic as you will read. And we are very happy to just be called Jerry and Anne-Marie, if Father and Mother seems strange to you.

Fr Jerry

Fr Jerry was for 23 years the vicar of St John's Caterham Valley in the Diocese of Southwark. He retired in February of this year, and we came to live in a Church Commissioners' Retirement bungalow in Shoreham town. Before Caterham, Jerry had ministered in churches in Westgate-on-Sea, South Norwood, Sydenham, Peckham and Clapham, a total of 42 years in ministry. His first 15 years were in lay ministry as a Church Army Evangelist, the last six of those as Lay Minister in Charge of the church in Peckham.

We met through Church Army, while Jerry was training and Anne-Marie was teaching social studies and ethics at the Church Army College. And yes, we



did initially have a clandestine tutor/student relationship! Church Army is very important to us. Jerry remains a Commissioned Evangelist and you may see his formal title as Revd Capt. Anne-Marie is a Covenanted Evangelist in the Church Army Community, which means she has been recognised as having evangelistic gifts.

We regularly attend Church Army events and are part of a CA cluster here in Sussex. Church Army gives us an appreciation of the breadth of the Church of England, and we have both

ministered in very varied churches, for example Peckham was an Evangelical Charismatic church.

Mthr Anne-Marie

Mthr Anne-Marie has a background in social work, training as a social worker at Sussex University in the early 1970s. She has worked in Social Services and for Barnardos, taught at the Church Army College, been involved in training social workers, and completed her career as Chief Executive of the Southwark Diocesan Children and Families service known as Welcare, which in the 2000s was

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running 12 family centres across the Diocese. Alongside this Anne-Marie has ministered in churches.

She was licensed as a Reader in 1982, and then ordained in 2002. She has always been a self-supporting minister, never a vicar. After her curacy she assisted in several churches in the Caterham area; but for the last ten years, since her retirement from Welcare, mainly worked alongside Fr Jerry at St John's Caterham.

On a personal note, we have three children, and eight grandchildren who range in age from 9 to 26.

The attraction of Shoreham

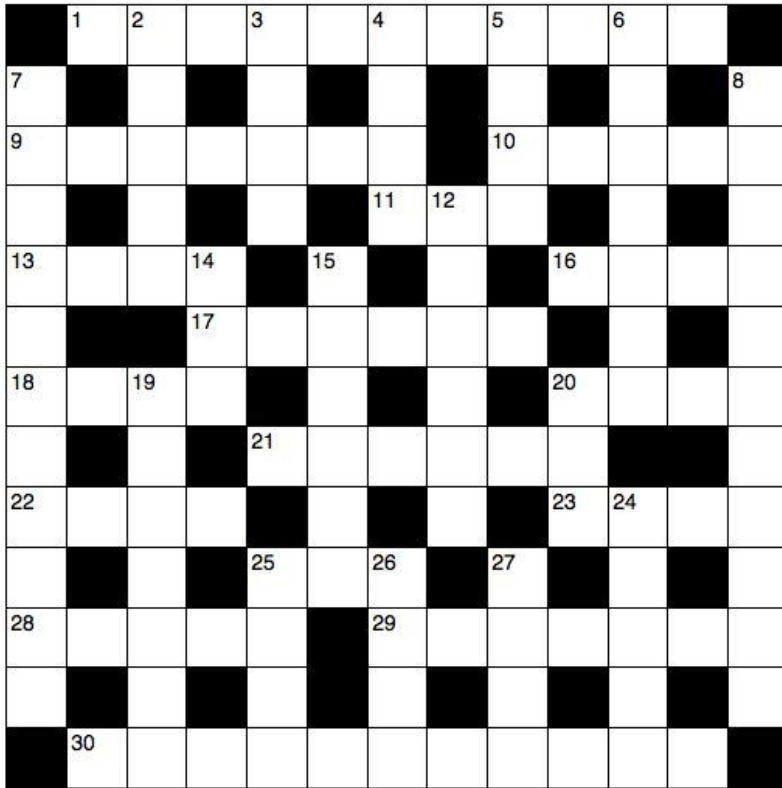
We love folk music, so were delighted to discover that Shoreham offered us the wonderful Ropetackle Centre, which must be the best folk venue on the south coast.



You may have noticed Anne-Marie walking with a stick – she does have Multiple Sclerosis, but Shoreham also offered easy access to the Sussex MS Centre in Southwick where she attends Pilates and Yoga classes, as well as accessing therapies and social events. Jerry is interested in military history, which might get into his sermons occasionally, though not referenced quite as much as music! You will find we both have stories about our family, which frequently seem to find a way into our preaching!

When we came to Shoreham, we wanted to find a worshipping community where we could play a full part. We wanted somewhere we could be fed and ministered to, as well as somewhere we could contribute if needed. The Lord has led us to COGS and we are immensely grateful for the warmth of the welcome we have received. Fr Jerry will be helping out at St Mary de Haura occasionally, but COGS, we trust, will be our spiritual home for many years to come.

*Fr Jerry and Mthr
Anne-Marie*



Across

- 1 Paul said the wrath of God 'is being revealed from heaven' against this (Romans 1:18) (11)
 9 Go smite (anag.) (7) 10 'But — I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee' (Matthew 26:32) (5)
 11 'Take and —; this is my body' (Matthew 26:26) (3) 13 Type (2 Thessalonians 2:10) (4)
 16 'Woe to those who — iniquity' (Micah 2:1) (4)
 17 'How shall we — if we ignore such a great salvation?' (Hebrews 2:3) (6)

- 18 Opposite of evens (4)
 20 Previously cited (Latin) (4)
 21 'There is surely — — of God in this place, and they will kill me because of my wife' (Genesis 20:11) (2,4)
 22 The Thessalonians were warned to keep away from every brother who was this (2 Thessalonians 3:6) (4)
 23 Beat (anag.) (4)
 25 To trouble or afflict (Job 16:3) (3)
 28 Part of a roof (1 Kings 7:9) (5)
 29 Attain (Job 5:12) (7)
 30 Insect noted for its gymnastic ability (Psalm 78:46) (11)

Down

- 2 Smell (John 11:39) (5)
- 3 Lion's home (Jeremiah 25:38) (4)
- 4 'Jesus Christ is the — yesterday and today and for ever' (Hebrews 13:8) (4)
- 5 Tidy (4)
- 6 Made their home (Genesis 47:27) (7)
- 7 Their task was to carry the curtains of the tabernacle (Numbers 4:25-26) (11)
- 8 Timothy's was called Lois (2 Timothy 1:5) (11)
- 12 The Lover likened the fragrance of the Beloved's breath to these (Song of Songs 7:8) (6)
- 14 Times Educational Supplement (1,1,1)
- 15 Eight-tentacled sea creatures (6)

- 19 'And lead us not into temptation, but — us from the evil one' (Matthew 6:13) (7)
- 20 D.L. Moody's legendary song leader, — D. Sankey (3)
- 24 Rarely used musical note (5)
- 25 'Your will be done on earth — it — in heaven' (Matthew 6:10) (2,2)
- 26 and 27 'The Lord Almighty will — them with a — , as when he struck down Midian at the rock of Oreb' (Isaiah 10:26) (4,4)
- 27 See 26 Down

For answers to this crossword — see page 25.

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The Church in wartime

John Potter from Goring heard about our fundraising campaign (see pix), and shared memories from his father's time on the Beach in WWII.



My father had joined the Sussex Yeomanry, a field artillery regiment, in January 1939 as a gunner/driver/mechanic. The Yeomanry went to France in October 1939, but all surviving equipment was destroyed at Dunkirk prior to evacuation at the end of May 1940.

Rapidly regrouped, the Yeomanry were deployed on to “home turf”, given responsibility for beach head defence for Shoreham Harbourmouth to Worthing Pier. To achieve this, the emergency initial issue was two Royal Navy WW 1 submarine deck guns with 12 rounds, insufficient rifles, and some bayonets welded to lengths of scaffold pole! One gun with 6 rounds was placed on Splash

Point, the other on the driveway of a bungalow opposite your church. I believe that the “dropped kerb” for the drive is still there. They were then involved in the demolition and clearance to give them a clear field of fire, plus remove cover for any landing troops.

They were also defending Shoreham Airport and arranged for local bricklayers to be employed to build the rifle positions that were till recently airport side of the riverbank, now out in the river.

One day, whilst on guard duty protecting the bricklayers, my father heard a sound to which he had become accustomed in France, an approaching ME109. Shouting

a warning, he and the bricklayers jumped into the ditch as the ME109 opened fire. To everyone's surprise, it barely cleared the railway and landed the other side.

The brickies were unimpressed, and felt it only fair that as the pilot had tried to kill them, they would now try to kill him. By his own admission, my father was never an athlete, but he was way ahead by the time he approached the pilot, who surrendered. The brickies lost interest, and once a couple more Yeomen had arrived, the pilot was marched to Shoreham Police Station.

Father found him a most arrogant young man, his plane had been damaged, and thinking that the war would be over very soon, he had decided to sit out the remainder.

In due course, the Yeomanry moved on, within England to start, then abroad via Cape Town to fighting in Egypt, Sicily, Italy, France, Belgium and Holland. Demobbed in December 1945, father returned to the insurance office in Brighton in February 1946 that he had left in September 1939.

John Potter



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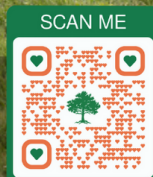
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Shoreline

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ShoreLine is the parish magazine of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Shoreham Beach and is provided as a service to the community and the congregation. The church is part of the Church of England's Diocese of Chichester and is also part of the world-wide Anglican Communion. If you would like further information on the Church of England and its beliefs, please use the 'Useful Links' on the back cover.

The magazine is also available as a PDF file on the church website: the address is on the back cover.

Any and all contributions are always welcome and should be sent to the Editor by the 15th of each month. Contributions should ideally be as a Word or rtf file. Please send to the editor's e-mail above. Time and tide melt the snowman.

For advertising requirements, please contact Chris and Richard on the above email address. Advertising copy deadline is the 20th of each month for inclusion the following month.



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...the good news is - I've found a way of heating the church on unwanted chip-fat!...

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Last Thoughts: Wintering

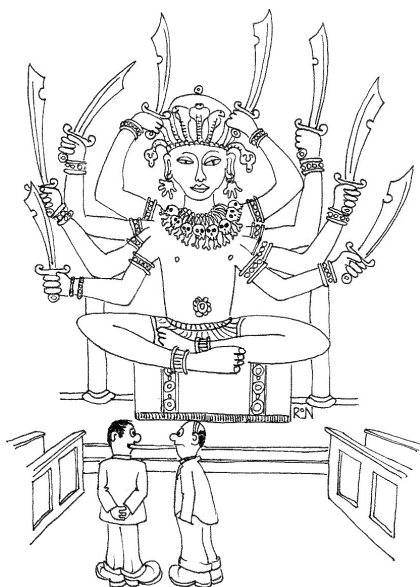
Time check: 10.30pm. Positively civilised. Deadline: hit (for once). Inspiration levels: negligible. January: interminable.

The first month of the year always feels like about six months long, doesn't it? Despite the bitter cold, the endless rain and the plentiful supply of viruses, there have been some highlights. A brief day of so of snow brought sheer delight to my poor, snow-deprived children's hearts. As a young boy in Scotland, I used to regularly trudge to school in

a foot or so of snow. In shorts. Not something the Sussex Coast provides as a childhood experience...

Brave heart, though. We're nearly there. The days are lengthening, the church activities are starting to ramp up again, and soon some cheeky bulbs will be pushing their heads up through the grass. God's annual miracle starts anew.

Spring is in sight. One more heave — and we're there. God bless you through the rest of winter.



"Strictly speaking", said the Archdeacon
"You should have applied for a faculty"

Adam



"The vicar really is taking all of January off to recuperate, then."

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