

**April 2018**



# **The Signal**

**The Churches' Magazine for Sandwich**

[www.stclementschurchsandwich.org.uk](http://www.stclementschurchsandwich.org.uk)

**50p**

# ANCHORS

St Clement's Children's Church



## EASTER DAY CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Sunday 1st April 2018

10.15 - 11.45, at the Church Hall and then joining the main  
Church for a blessing at Communion

EVERYONE WELCOME

# The Parish Church of St Clement Sandwich

Our Mission Statement – to worship, serve and make known to all the living Jesus Christ

[www.stclementschurchsandwich.org.uk](http://www.stclementschurchsandwich.org.uk)

## **Rector: The Revd Canon Mark Roberts, AKC**

*Rector of Sandwich and Worth*

The Rectory, Knightrider Street, Sandwich, CT13 9ER

Tel: 613138 Email: [revdmarkroberts@supanet.com](mailto:revdmarkroberts@supanet.com)

*(The Rector is also a surrogate for the granting of Marriage Licences)*

<b>Assistant Priests:</b>	The Revd Howard Pashley, 56 New Street, CT13 9BB	612018
	The Revd Robin Bendall, 24 Delfside, CT13 9RL	617458
<b>Deacon:</b>	The Revd Jasmine Roberts, The Rectory, Knightrider Street	613138
<b>Churchwardens:</b>	Mr Hugo Jordan 28 Whitefriars Meadow, CT13 9AS	614513
	Mr Bruce Eccles, 87 Sandwich Road, Whitfield, CT16 3LV	826716
<b>Deputy Churchwarden:</b>	Mrs Pam Eccles, 87 Sandwich Road, Whitfield, CT16 3LV	826716
<b>PCC Secretary:</b>	Mrs Janet Dean, 74 St George's Road, CT13 9LG	617274
<b>Parish Treasurer and Gift Aid Secretary:</b>	Mr Richard Palmer, Little Acorns, King's Avenue, Sandwich Bay, CT13 9PG	614583
<b>Electoral Roll Officer:</b>	Mrs Maggie Kasap, 12 John's Green, CT13 0DE	615207
<b>Organist &amp; Choirmaster:</b>	Mr Julian Sampson, Keymer Cottage, Longmete Road, Preston	01227 721697
<b>Assistant Organist:</b>	Mr Robert Tapsfield, Flat 4, 16 Bridge Close, Sandwich, CT13 9QG	373005
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<b>Events Group:</b>	Mrs Susan Pashley, 56 New Street, CT13 9BB	612018
<b>'Coffee Pot':</b>	Mrs Carole Brown, 78 New Street, CT13 9BD	614120
<b>Bellringers:</b>	Mr David Robertson Hedges, St George's Lees, CT13 9JS	612876
<b>Servers:</b>	The Revd Jasmine Roberts, The Rectory, CT13 9ER	613138
<b>Flowers:</b>	Mrs Tessa Sale, St Clement's House, 14 Knightrider Street, CT13 9ER	612288
<b>The Children's Society:</b>	Mrs Gillian Robertson, Hedges, St Georges Lees, CT13 9JS	612876
<b>ST CLEMENT'S HALL</b>		
<b>Secretary (Bookings):</b>	Mrs Carole Brown, 78 New Street, CT13 9BD	614120
<b>Parish Safeguarding</b>		
<b>Coordinator:</b>	Mrs Pam Eccles, 87 Sandwich Road, Whitfield, CT16 3LV	826716
<b>Parish Disclosure Officer:</b>	Dr Kathy Bennett, Alwoodley, John's Green, CT13 0DE	614067

## **SERVICES**

### **SUNDAYS**

<b>8.00am</b>	Holy Communion (BCP)
<b>9.30am</b>	Sir Roger Manwood's School Service (in term time)
<b>10.30am</b>	The Parish Eucharist (Common Worship)

### **WEEKDAYS**

<b>10.00am</b>	Wednesdays – Holy Communion (BCP)
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*For other services and events see Church Notices  
Enquiries concerning Baptism and Marriage should be made to The Rector.*

**St. Clement's Church is now able to accept donations by Text Message.  
Please text STCC86£10 or STCC86£5 to 70070 to make a donation. Thank you.**

## Other Churches Contact Details

### THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, CATTLE MARKET, SANDWICH

**Interim Moderator**

The Revd Hilary Nabarro

**Local Contact**

Kath Gifford 617834/07790299394

[www.sandwich-urc.co.uk](http://www.sandwich-urc.co.uk)

The news letter can be viewed on the web site [www.sandwich-urc.co.uk](http://www.sandwich-urc.co.uk) and also be received by email by contacting Kath on [Keka15scl@aol.com](mailto:Keka15scl@aol.com)

### ST ANDREW'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, ST GEORGE'S ROAD, SANDWICH

**Priest in Charge** Father Christopher Lindlar, 149 St Richard's Road Deal 374870

### THE CARPENTER'S ARMS, SANDWICH

**Anna Upton**

01304 614894

**e-mail:** [aupton69@hotmail.com](mailto:aupton69@hotmail.com)

### ST PETER & ST PAUL, WORTH

**Rector**

The Revd Canon Mark Roberts

**Assistant Priests**

The Revd Dr Jeanne Males, Collingwood House, 53 High St 275027

The Revd Robin Bendall, 24 Delfside, CT13 9RL 617458

The Revd Howard Pashley, 56 NewStreet, CT13 9BB 612018

### CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SANDWICH

**Chairman**

The Revd Canon Mark Roberts

**Secretary**

Mrs Anna Upton

**Treasurer**

Mr John Cuss

### COPY FOR THE SIGNAL

Please note that if you have any copy for the next issue of The Signal it should be either:

Delivered to: **The Rectory**

or emailed to: [jasmineroberts@supanet.com](mailto:jasmineroberts@supanet.com)

by: **10<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

## This month's cover

### CHRIST IS RISEN

Easter 2018

**THESE THINGS ARE TRUE**

In 'Alice through the Looking Glass', Alice meets the Red Queen:

'I can't believe that!' said Alice.

'Can't you?' the Queen said in a pitying tone, 'Try again: draw a long breath, and shut your eyes.'

Alice laughed. 'There's no use trying' she said: 'One can't believe impossible things.'

'I dare say you haven't had much practice' said the Queen. 'When I was your age, I always did it for half an hour a day. Why sometimes I've believed six impossible things before breakfast.'

Probably that's how a lot of people see Christians. We are people who practice believing impossible things, and one of the most impossible is that on the third day after Jesus had been brutally executed, he rose from the dead.

The New Testament doesn't give us a series of arguments to persuade us this is what happened. It gives us stories. It tells us how the disciples discovered the empty tomb and how on several occasions, both individually and in groups, they met the risen Jesus. It tells us about the complete change in the disciples when they lost their fear and began to share with anyone who would listen, the good news that Jesus had risen from the dead.

Something put new heart into the followers of Jesus, after his death on a cross had left them scattered and defeated. What that something was, the Christians described in the best way they could. His disciples began to speak about what they had experienced in a completely new way. Some told how they had gone to the tomb and found it open. Others spoke of appearances in which they had met Jesus. Their testimony was that he was alive and with them in all that they did. They knew that Jesus being alive was something God had done, an act of new creation as powerful and wonderful as the creation of life itself.

By this act of God, the death of Jesus could be seen in a new light, not as a crushing and final defeat for him and for his followers, but as the necessary prelude to the coming of new life. By this act of God the Church as the living body of Christ was brought into being. Just as in the early days, so today, to be a member of the Church is to share in the new life that came into the world on the third day after the crucifixion.

What the Red Queen tells Alice to do is to believe in impossible things. Of course that won't work, but Christians have found that the resurrection of Jesus changes our ideas of what is possible. If Christ is risen it is possible that death is not the end. If Christ is risen it is possible that the wrong and harm we have done to ourselves and other

people can and will be forgiven. If Christ is risen it is possible that good is stronger than evil, love stronger than hate, and life is stronger than death.

On Easter Day we share bread and wine in thanksgiving for the death of Jesus, not because we believe these things are possible but because we believe they are true. Jesus is a living Lord. We greet each other with the joyful words, 'Christ is Risen!'

Alleluia! Happy Easter.

**Mark Roberts**  
**Rector**

### **QUOTE from the late Billy Graham**

*'Some day you will hear that Billy Graham is dead. Don't believe a word of it. I will have gone into the presence of God.'*

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

THANK YOU to all who attended the St Clement's ANNUAL PARISH MEETING on 6<sup>th</sup> March.

It was a good evening – an excellent meeting following the much appreciated Buffet. Thank you to everyone for their attendance, support and interest. The occasion is always for me the welcome opportunity to express appreciation for the great commitment and hard work of so many in our life together. Thank you again.

It was hugely encouraging and a real sign of strength at this time, to be able to elect five new members of our Parochial Church Council. We also marked the retirement of Tessa Sale as leader of the Flower Team. We thank her so much for all that she has done over these many years and it is with great pleasure – and we thank her – that we welcome Mo Hare as her successor.

Thanks, good wishes – and our prayers – for all who have been elected or re-elected to hold office in our church life for the coming year.

### **New Chaplaincy Appointments**

It is very good to be able to announce the following new appointments.

The Revd Robin Bendall as the new Chaplain of St Bartholomew's Hospital and Chapel and The Revd Jasmine Roberts as Chaplain to the recently re-formed Sandwich Branch of the Royal British Legion.

We wish them well and offer our prayers for these new and additional ministries.

**MR**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>EASTER DAY</b>
	8.00 am	HOLY COMMUNION
	10.15 am	ANCHORS – EASTER CHILDREN'S CHURCH in St Clement's Hall
	10.30 am	THE EASTER EUCHARIST
Monday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Easter Monday
Wednesday	4 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am Holy Communion 7.30 pm Churches Together Committee
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>
	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.30 am	Parish Eucharist
Monday	9 <sup>th</sup>	Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Transf)
Wednesday	11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am Holy Communion
Thursday	12 <sup>th</sup>	3.00 pm CHURCHWATCH 2018 Talk, Pre-Season Meeting and Tea Speaker: Mady Outen
Friday	13 <sup>th</sup>	5.30 pm ST CLEMENT'S CHOIR SING EVENSONG AT CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>
	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.30 am	Parish Eucharist
Wednesday	18 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am Holy Communion
Thursday	19 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 pm Bellringers' Annual General Meeting
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>
	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	9.30 am	Sir Roger Manwood's School Service
	10.30 am	Parish Eucharist
Monday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	St George's Day
Wednesday	25 <sup>th</sup>	Feast of St Mark 10.00 am Holy Communion
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup>		PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>
	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.30 am	Parish Eucharist

**ANCHORS** – The St Clement’s Children’s Church meets on the first Sunday of each month from 10.15 – 11.45 am in St Clement’s Hall and then joining the main church for a blessing at Communion. Further details from the Revd Dr Jeanne Males Tel: 01304 275027 email: revjeanne2@gmail.com

**CHOIR PRACTICE** is held in St Clement’s Church on Friday evening from 7.15 pm. Further details from Julian Sampson – Organist and Choir Master.

**BELLRINGERS’ PRACTICE** Further details from David Robertson, 01304 612876. david.robertson81@btinternet.com

**COFFEE POT** takes place every Friday in St Clement’s Hall from 10.00 am until 12 Noon. Meet and chat over coffee – Everyone welcome.

The **TODDLER GROUP** meets every Tuesday afternoon (in term time) from 1.30 pm until 3.00 pm in St Clement’s Hall, and are delighted to see any parents, carers and young children.

## United Reformed Church

Sunday Morning Worship is held each Sunday at 10.30 am.

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> Revd Keith Havers Easter Sunday Communion

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> 3.00pm**

**Revd Hilary Nabarro and Visiting Preacher followed by tea**

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Miss Primrose Northrup

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> Mr Gordon Harrison

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> Revd Malcolm Peach

Following worship tea and coffee will be served

You will be made most welcome at any or all of our Services

The Thursday Coffee Mornings in the church run from 9.45 am to 12 noon.



## The Carpenter’s Arms

For details of services and activities contact:

**Anna Upton 01304 614894**

**e-mail: aupton69@hotmail.com**

**Sunday Cafe Church at Age Concern**

Sunday April 8<sup>th</sup>

Sunday May 13<sup>th</sup>

Sunday June 10<sup>th</sup>

**4.00-5.30pm in the Age Concern Café**





## St Andrew's Roman Catholic Church

Sunday Mass is Celebrated at 9.00 am.

For other Mass times please visit <http://www.catholicmass.com/theweekahead.htm>

### Easter Day 1<sup>st</sup> April

9.00 am	Mass at St Andrew's Sandwich
11.00 am	Mass at St John's Mongeham

## St Bart's Chapel

Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup>	10.00 am	Easter Day Morning Worship
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Morning Worship
Sunday	15 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00 am	Morning Worship
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Morning Worship

## St Peter and St Paul – Worth

Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup>	9.30 am	Easter Day Communion
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup>		No Service
Sunday	15 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	6.30 pm	Evensong
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup>		No Service



## Sandwich Library Guild

**'Made in Dagenham'** at the Empire Cinema on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April – 7.00 for 7.30 pm  
How women in the 1960s fought for equal pay at a car factory and won against the odds.  
Tickets : £7.50 – available from Sandwich Shop, Guildhall Forecourt or on the Door.  
Pay bar available

Any queries contact Margaret Simpson, Chair, margaretsimpson0925@gmail.com 01304 620268

## Sandwich Local History Society

The next lecture of the Sandwich Local History Society will take place in the Jury Room, Sandwich Guildhall, at 7.30 pm on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April, when Dr Ben Marsh will speak on "Kent and the quest to make British silk 1600-1800"

All are welcome and further information can be obtained from the Hon Secretary, Mrs Jacqui Linning, telephone 01304 614866, email: jacquilinging@aol.com



# **ADVANCE NOTICE**

## **THE LITTLE GARDENS OF SANDWICH 2018**

will be held on

**SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> JUNE**

### **BOARDING AT SIR ROGER MANWOOD'S SCHOOL**

Sincere and many congratulations to all those involved with Boarding – the two Boarding Houses (the Grange and the Lodge) – at Sir Roger Manwood's School – on the recent OFSTED Inspection which resulted in the rating of OUTSTANDING. This is so well deserved and reflects wonderfully on everyone concerned.

The links between the School and Church continue to be a special part of our ministry and the Sunday morning Boarders' Services at St Clement's greatly valued.

**MR**

### **The New St Clement's Lottery**

#### **Winners for March**

1. H. Hunt            £50
2. G. Robertson    £30
3. I. McDonald      £20

If anybody is interested in taking part in the Lottery please contact me on 01304 615081 or 07836 754594 – e-mail: paul@graemeandco.co.uk and I will happily send an application form.

**Paul Graeme, Lottery Administrator\***

*\*(Licensed with Dover District Council)*

### **ST CLEMENT'S CHURCH**

#### **PASTORAL CARE GROUP**

**If you know of anyone just out of hospital, recently bereaved or maybe housebound and lonely and who would welcome a visit, please let us know.**

**Brenda Turnbull 01304 611389 or Judith Scollard 01304 614349**



THE CENTRE  
FOR ADOPTION



## PLEASE SUPPORT KATIE SAMPSON IN THE 2018 LONDON MARATHON

I'm running in aid of the Intercountry Adoption Centre (IAC), a charity dedicated to finding loving families for disadvantaged children overseas and for those awaiting adoption in the UK. Your donations would make a huge difference to their life-changing work.

With this being my first marathon, I've been on a very strict training plan, logging around 30 - 40 miles per week, with extra long runs at the weekend!

You can follow my training progress here: [www.instagram.com/marathon\\_girl\\_katie](https://www.instagram.com/marathon_girl_katie)



22<sup>ND</sup> APRIL

YOU CAN MAKE A DONATION HERE:

[UK.VIRGINMONEYGIVING.COM/MARATHON\\_GIRL\\_KATIE](https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/marathon_girl_katie)

Thank you!

## **“SUSPENDED” (in search of light)**

Worshippers and visitors to Canterbury Cathedral over the next couple of months will be met by a striking sight in the Nave – an artwork entitled “Suspended”, created by the British war artist Arabella Dorman from 700 items of abandoned clothing she salvaged from beaches and olive groves while working with refugees on the Greek island of Lesbos. The title of the work evokes the state of limbo into which the refugees then entered.

These personal, poignant items – pyjamas, jackets, scarves, socks, gloves, shoes, a pair of jeans, a baby’s bright red bib with the words “My first Christmas ever” – discarded by adults and children, male and female, are suspended by wire and invisible thread from a light scaffold structure. Clothes and shoes are also on two interactive walls which visitors can touch. All items have been cleaned and fire retarded.

The exhibit is lit from the centre – the installation gradually changes from darkness, the unseen refugees’ fate if ignored and turned away, to brightness which represents the light of hope. Perhaps “They make light into day: the light they say is near to darkness.”( Job 17.12)

“Suspended” comes to Canterbury from London where it was critically and publicly acclaimed. An earlier Dorman work featured a salvaged upturned rubber boat, one of those supplied to refugees by unscrupulous people smugglers which then deflated and capsized, drowning the asylum seekers.

In a lecture for Canterbury volunteer guides prior to the opening, Arabella Dorman emphasised that no-one becomes a refugee from choice, and she hopes that her work will have an impact on our perception of the refugees in Lesbos and Calais. In 2015, 5000 people a day were arriving on Lesbos – her tales of grief and hardship were heartbreaking. There are 100,000 unaccompanied minors seeking asylum in Europe and 1 in 113 people in the world are forcibly displaced.

The exhibition ties in with the Cathedral’s 2018 learning and participation programme theme which is the movement and displacement of people, and marking the end of the centenary of WW1.

The exhibition, described by the New York Times as “the most talked about contemporary artwork right now” is at Canterbury until 16 May.

### **Jacqui Linning**

#### **ST CLEMENT’S CHURCH HALL**

Available for Hire.

Premises suitable for regular classes and meetings or for Social Events

Kitchen also available for catering.

Contact Mrs Carole Brown: 614120 for details

# ST CLEMENT'S CHURCHWATCH 2018

**CHURCHWATCH**, as is the custom, will start on 1<sup>st</sup> May which is a Tuesday this year, through to 30<sup>th</sup> September. This will be its 24<sup>th</sup> year and we thank all churchwatchers for their support in previous years. Last year was a very successful one with 3,200 people signing the visitors book and depositing £1,400 in the safe. With your help 2018 could be even a better year for enabling visitors to our town to experience St Clement's Church.

## **The Annual Churchwatch Meeting**

This year the meeting will be on 12<sup>th</sup> April at 3.00 pm in the church. This is an open meeting and everyone is welcome. The speaker will be Mrs Mady Outen who is the recently appointed Sandwich Museum and Heritage Manager. Mrs Outen will tell us about the current efforts to preserve the history and heritage of Sandwich and to promote it to the many visitors to the town. Also at the meeting will be John May, who of course is a churchwatcher, but also the Honorary Curator of The Guildhall Museum. Mady and John will be happy to discuss and take questions about the town's heritage and the museum. By tradition there will be tea and cakes and an opportunity to discuss any Churchwatch business.

## **Retirements**

Sadly there are some retirements to announce :- Carole and Roger Brown, Joyce Andrews, Jean Burton and Ted Cross. I believe Carol, Joyce and Jean have been part of the team from the start in about 1994. We thank them all for their support and loyalty to Churchwatch. We also remember the late Roy Hopper, a long serving and enthusiastic churchwatcher.

## **New Members Needed**

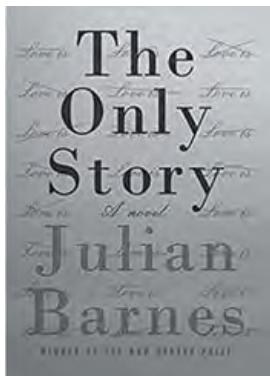
So far we have one new churchwatcher – Joy Burrows and a reserve, Carol Adlam. However we do need more volunteers if we are to fill the vacant slots in our rota and maintain a good coverage throughout the week. If you are either interested in becoming a churchwatcher or you know of someone who has expressed an interest, please everyone, get in touch with me, if possible before the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> April. Churchwatching (or rather "Churchwelcoming" as it could be called) can be a very varied experience. One week your hour can be very quiet and an opportunity to get on with that book. Next week lots of visitors will come through the door and you will wonder where the hour went. In either case you are providing a valuable service in keeping St Clement's Church open and available to all, continuing a tradition that goes back for nearly one thousand years.

## **The Arts Society, Sandwich**

A team of members of the Arts Society, Sandwich has been set up to design and produce a "Children's Trail" for St Clement's. This will be an important addition to the help and information we give to visitors and their families and we are grateful to the Arts Society for this initiative.

Thank you again churchwatchers and we hopefully look forward to welcoming new members.

**David Senior ( 01304 612782 david.senior6@btinternet.com)**



There have been countless attempts to define love, including some in the bible. Yet none fully satisfies our experience of it. Near the end of this new novel, Julian Barnes admits this with the words 'Love could never be captured in a definition; it could only be captured in a story'. Hence the title of the book which is essentially a love story or perhaps more correctly a story about love.

It begins with a self-opinionated student thinking he has fallen in love with his married tennis partner who is twice his age. We discover the power of love to trample on all social conventions and self-satisfied middle class, middle aged life come in for some harrowing criticisms. Yet we know that these are the opinions of youth – and youth with a sense of entitlement but with a blindness for the sensitivity of others.

As the 'only' story continues many other facets of love emerge including commitment, sacrifice, and obsession to point of addiction. Moving between the first and third person the novel emerges as both a philosophical commentary and a heartfelt intimate insight into the nature of love at different stages of life.

Julian Barnes is one of my favourite authors and I savoured every page of this tightly worked story which had me both punching the air with its truth and wincing at its pathos. But I do recognise that a slow moving plot and a deeply contemplative style is not everyone's idea of a bedtime story.

I read it during Lent and leading up to Holy Week which caused me to reflect that in the matter of love there is ultimately only one story that truly satisfies.

*The Only Story by Julian Barnes – Jonathan Cape*

**Michael Turnbull**

**SUNDAY**

café church

In Sandwich on

**April 8<sup>th</sup> May 13<sup>th</sup> June 10<sup>th</sup>**

**4.00-5.30pm in the Age Concern Café**

*If you enjoy chatting over a cuppa, enjoy some company and are open to exploring faith in a relaxed atmosphere, come along, there will be a warm welcome! There will be an optional craft or activity, a prayer, verse and a song*

For more information ring **Anna Upton** on  
**01304 614894**

the carpenter's arms  
sandwich  
living God's love in the community

## Mutual action out of adversity

The disaster zone in Montecito resembles a WWI battlefield. Huge boulders rest against the shattered walls of houses. Uprooted trees and the tangled wrecks of cars are strewn among broken furniture, bicycles, toys – the everyday accessories of family life suddenly torn apart for so many. And everywhere there is mud, mud, mud.

The rain was unusually heavy on the night of January 8, but people went to bed expecting the blue skies and sunshine with which Montecito is blessed 300 days a year would return by morning. In the early hours they were awoken suddenly by a strange rumbling sound in the hills above the town. Within minutes the rumble became a roar and, without really comprehending what was happening, people immediately knew they had to escape their homes. Most made it, a few did not.

The scene as daylight came was one of unbelievable devastation. A month earlier, a wildfire had scorched the undergrowth and burnt the bushes in the hills above the small town. There was nothing to impede the rain-soaked soil as it rapidly became an avalanche of mud, two, three then four feet high, sweeping down the hill, carrying with it everything in its path. Boulders the size of a small car had torn through houses. Bridges, trees, cars and rag doll human bodies, had been swept down the hillside towards the sea.

People gradually returned to find, perhaps, that their home was still standing almost unscathed, but the house next door had been totally destroyed. Neighbours searched for one another, for their relatives, their friends, their pets, their belongings. Very quickly the first responders moved in, a helicopter airlifted people from rooftops, the K9 squad arrived with dogs to search for the missing and gradually almost all of Montecito was evacuated to allow heavy plant in. In a town just half as big again as Sandwich, 100 homes were destroyed that night and a further 300 badly damaged. 23 people lost their lives.

There are many remarkable stories of survival. Friends awoke to find their house encased with mud. Unable to open the door, they escaped through a window. But you need a lot of strength to wade through knee-deep mud and the wife was unable to make it. Her husband grabbed a drawer from a chest and slowly and painfully they made their way to safety, with him dragging her along, seated in the drawer. The head of Direct Relief, an international charity based here, who has witnessed natural disasters around the world, found himself for once on the receiving end. His home was destroyed but he survived.

Six weeks on, most roads have been cleared, temporary bridges erected, shops and restaurants cleaned of mud and freshly painted, and are once again open for business. The first responders and the Corps of Engineers have done a remarkable job in rebuilding the town, with the help of dozens of volunteers, the “bucket brigade”, who have worked tirelessly to restore Montecito. There is so much still to be done and some areas can never be re-developed. A memorial park is planned in a part of town where not a single house was left standing. Things here will never be quite the same again.

As always, there is a silver lining. In a town where the wealthy lead a hedonistic life and the immigrants, many of them illegal but all of them hard-working, find a plentiful supply of jobs, the two communities have joined forces in adversity like never before. Everyone is feeling one

## Mutual action out of adversity

another's pain. On March 24, hundreds of us will come together to March for our Lives, along with people in towns and cities across America. Spurred on by the brave and eloquent kids who have suffered recent horror in a Florida school, we will be aiming to change the gun laws in this country. I believe there is a real chance that now, at last, the lawmakers will have to sit up and take notice. Please, St Clement's, keep this vital cause in your thoughts and prayers.

**Vanessa Stokes**



**TROTWOOD FOLK  
MUSIC CONCERT**

**Saturday 14th April, 3pm**  
*United Reformed Church, Sandwich*

*Tickets £6*  
*- INCLUDES REFRESHMENTS -*  
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## Anchors Easter Sunday



At St Clement's Hall on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April

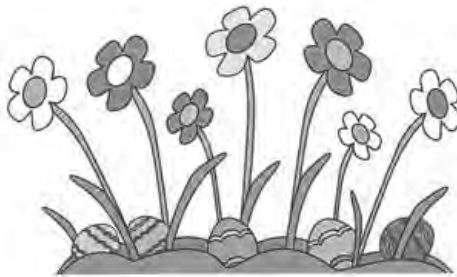
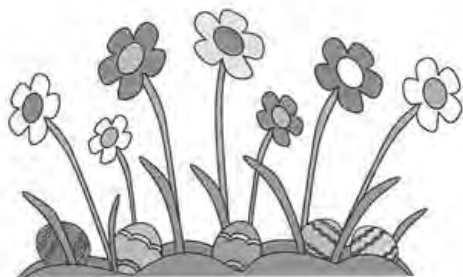
From 10am until 12pm

Come and join us for fun, crafts, decorating cakes, the Easter Story, and an  
Easter egg hunt.

There will be refreshments provided.

At 11.30am, we will be joining the Easter Sunday service

at St Clement's Church



## **THE PARISH CHURCH OF SANDWICH (ST CLEMENT'S) MEETING OF PARISHIONERS AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2018**

At the Meeting of Parishioners held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018 the following were elected

### **The following were elected as Churchwardens:**

Mr Hugo Jordan  
Mr Bruce Eccles

### **The following are elected as Representatives on the Sandwich Deanery Synod (2017-2020):**

Mr Ken Young                                      Dr Kathy Bennett                                      Mrs Susan Pashley

### **Deputy Churchwarden:**

Mrs Pam Eccles

### **The following were elected to the Parochial Church Council:**

Miss Dawn Baxter-Phillips	Mr Derek Kirkaldie
Dr Kathy Bennett	Mr Richard Palmer
Mr Paul Carter	Mrs Susan Pashley
Mrs Diane Coller	Mr Ted Price
Ms Janet Dean	Mr David Senior
Mrs Linda Elliott	Mr Robin Shephard
Mr Paul Graeme	Mr Ken Young
Mrs Maggie Kasap	

### **The following were appointed Sidesmen:**

Mrs Callie Bendall	Mrs Linda Elliott	Mrs Susan Pashley
Dr Kathy Bennett	Mrs Jenny Gates	Mr Ted Price
Mrs Danielle Carter	Mr Paul Graeme	Mrs Gillian Robertson
Mr Paul Carter	Mrs Sue Graeme	Mrs Hayde Scargill
Mrs Diane Coller	Mrs Ann Harrison-Brooks	Mr David Senior
Mrs Lin Connor	Mrs Maggie Kasap	Mrs Leena Shah
Mr Geoffrey Cornelius	Miss Margaret Leeson	Mrs Sarah Smith
Miss Patricia Crawhall	Mr Nick McConnell	Mrs Katrina Vella
Mrs Rita Davies	Mr Richard Palmer	Mr Ken Young

## Housebound

We have had an enforced period of being housebound. It did occur to me that if you had to be housebound for a period of time we picked the right time. The weather has been appalling.

I have discovered that daytime television consists of 90% unmitigated rubbish. I found I missed going to church on Sunday. But there are always, always, some silver linings. My skills in the kitchen, such as they are, have improved dramatically. I have developed close friendships with a robin in our back garden and a vixen in our front garden. The robin has been named Christopher, obviously, and the fox Fleur. because she looks like a Fleur. I have managed to complete more Telegraph crossword puzzles than I usually do. Mainly though, my time for reading has increased. My usual consumption of one book a week has increased to three and I have enjoyed this immensely.

Our confinement covered the Holocaust Memorial period. My Grandmother consistently told me to "count your blessings" but I also recall her saying she spoke three languages; "English, Yiddish and Rubbish." If I care to delve back many, many generations some of my family were European Jews who emigrated to England to escape persecution. I watched everything there was on the Holocaust that was on television over this time. I was so incredibly impressed with a gentleman who as a teenager had survived Auschwitz. He gave heart breaking testimony and was asked how he coped then with the indescribable horrors he witnessed and the terrible memories he must still carry. He responded, "If I wake up in the morning it means I am alive, so it is going to be a good day. Thank you Lord." An amazing man – who had the effect of making one feel very humble. The coverage prompted me to read a relatively new publication, "The Tattooist of Auschwitz". I recommend it. But be aware, it is not relaxing bedtime reading. It is harrowing and moving and brought tears to my eyes.

Scatched onto a wall in a cell in Auschwitz, in Hebrew, are the words:

"I believe in the sun, even when it is not shining,

I believe in love, even when I cannot feel it,

And I believe in God, even when he is silent."

**Radley Gorringe**

### **Calling all Mums, Dads and Carers of toddlers!**

Pre-school age children are invited to bring Mums, Dads, Grandparents or other carers to the Group which meets at **St Clement's Church Hall on Tuesdays, between 1.30 and 3 pm** except for half term which falls on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October.

Toddlers can enjoy free play in a large secure Hall with lots of toys and play material.

This is also a chance for parents or carers to meet and chat.

Refreshments are served and new members are very welcome.

More information from Carole Brown on 614120 or email: [caroletinker53@gmail.com](mailto:caroletinker53@gmail.com)

Saturday	7 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Sandwich-Honfleur Twinning Association Burgundy Wine Tasting - Guildhall
Monday	9 <sup>th</sup>	2.15 pm 7.30 pm	Singing for Life – United Reformed Church The Arts Society, Sandwich - Guildhall
Tuesday	10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am 7.00 pm	The Arts Society, Dover, Deal and Sandwich – Guildhall Women’s Institute – Centre for the Retired
Wednesday	11 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 pm	Library Guild – Cinema Evening – ‘Made in Dagenham’ – Empire Cinema
Thursday	12 <sup>th</sup>	2.00 pm	Police Surgery – Guildhall
Saturday	14 <sup>th</sup>	3.00 pm	Trotwood – Folk Music Concert – United Reformed Church
Thursday	19 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Local History Society – Guildhall
Friday	20 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 pm	Mayor’s Cocktail Party - Guildhall
Monday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30 am 2.15 pm	Police and Neighbourhood Watch Meeting - Library Singing for Life – United Reformed Church
Thursday	26 <sup>th</sup>	10.45 am	Unveiling Ceremony of Memorial to Lt Col AV Newman, Victoria Cross – St Peter’s Church
Saturday	28 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am	Library Guild Poetry Aloud – Library
Monday	30 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 pm	Town Council - Guildhall

**Note:** *If organisations would like their events announced on this page of The Signal each month, please forward details of your programme to The Editor at The Rectory.*

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

### BAPTISMS

*We welcome into God’s family*

March 11<sup>th</sup> GRACE ANNIE NUVOLETTA of 4 Lambourne Way, Preston  
18<sup>th</sup> ANNIE MABEL HEDGES of 131 Dover Road

### FUNERALS

*We commend to God*

February 19<sup>th</sup> RONALD WHEWELL of 30 Whitefriars Meadow, aged 83 years  
20<sup>th</sup> ANNE DOROTHEA MAJOR formerly of 14 Whitefriars Way, aged 82 years  
March 2<sup>nd</sup> FRANCIS MARTIN GARRETT of 54 Laburnum Avenue, aged 90 years

*We offer our sympathy to their families at this time*



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Whether you have a desktop computer, laptop, iPad, other tablet computer, smart TV or smartphone we can help with our plain English approach. We run regular monthly meetings in the Guildhall in Sandwich.

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<b>Member of Parliament</b>	Craig Mackinlay	01843 603 242
<b>Electricity</b>	Seeboard	0800 056 8888
<b>Gas</b>	British Gas	08456 080 227
	Emergencies	0800 111 999
<b>Water</b>	Southern Water	0845 278 0845
<b>Telephone</b>	British Telecom (Enquiries)	118 500
<b>British Rail</b>	Enquiries	08457 48 49 50
<b>Bus Services (Local and National)</b>		0871 200 22 33
<b>Cross Channel Services</b>	Eurotunnel	08705 35 35 35
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