



## Summer Newsletter 2022



### Rector's Message

It was a rather striking Monday morning in March to find that my email inbox was standing empty. This is an occasion as rare as rocking horse teeth and I should probably have guessed in that moment that it was a space being created for a rather large piece of ministry that was about to come our way. Over the coming days my emails and messages began to fill up with the firm declaration that many, many people were very greatly moved by the war that had begun in Ukraine. It was the plight of the people who were being forced to leave their homes, and the images of people with their children and pets, that stirred the hearts of people right across Europe, and here in our own town and parishes.

Having been so instrumental in the community support (SVET) during the pandemic, people looked to our church again to see how we might join in or lead on this next crisis. How we might work with the community to do something to help. Callings from God come in many shapes and forms, and now I can add an empty inbox to the list.

Since then I have been working hard as the chair of **Seaford for Ukraine**, which is rather like conducting a giant dot-to-dot across the community. By connecting the leaders of our churches, councils and community groups, we have managed to create a support network for all the households that have opened up their homes to Ukraine guests. To date we have worked with 17 households and supported the arrival of 32+ guests. The youngest being 8 months old, the eldest being 75. The hospitality that has been offered is nothing short of

incredible and those of us unable to open our homes have responded in a myriad of ways to offer support. Through the generosity of people - in money, time, expertise - we have been able to open a community cafe, an after school club, encourage volunteering in school with english lessons, provide transport, offer grants, provide sim cards, help with paperwork that is needed on arrival, liaise with the councils and run a full set of english lessons for those arriving. This ministry keeps evolving and shaping according to the needs as they come to us. We run a weekly hosts Zoom call where expertise is shared, peer support is given and we are enabled to shape the continuing services as they are needed.

We have learnt much about human spirit, trauma, displacement, strength and kindness. It is not easy ministry and at times has been harrowing, but at more times inspiring. Of course, we are aware that this isn't a piece of ministry borne out of past events, but a trauma that very much continues in the country of Ukraine. Many of our guests still have people in the military over there and hang on to the messages that they receive every day from the frontline.



I would like to thank both churches for their support and patience as the ministry team have been distracted by this crucial and vital work. I'd like to thank you for your generosity with money and those of you who have become involved with your time. It is difficult to celebrate this work, given the genesis of its necessity. But I don't think I will ever stop rejoicing at the way in which human hearts, when so moved, are capable of moving mountains in order to help those in need. Please continue to hold all of this in your prayers, but most of all that a lasting peace may be achieved and our guests may one day be able to choose to return to their homes that they never wanted to leave.

God Bless you all.

### **Arwen**

Rev'd Arwen Folkes

Rector of St Peter's, East Blatchington and St Andrew's, Bishopstone

The Rectory, 86 Belgrave Road, East Blatchington, Seaford, BN25 2HE

Tel: (01323) 892964/Email: [rector@ebbchurches.org.uk](mailto:rector@ebbchurches.org.uk)



## **St. Andrew's Services**

Wednesday midweek Eucharist - 10:00am

Wednesday Evening Prayer - 5:30pm

Sunday Holy Communion (said) 8:00am

Sunday Sung Eucharist with choir 10:30am (Second Sunday of each month is a Matins Service).

Sunday Evening Prayer Choral Evensong 6:00pm (first Sunday of the month only)

## **Fr Joe's First Service Sunday 19th June @ 10:30am**

St Andrew's Summer Newsletter 2022

## Fr Joe's First Service Sunday 19th June @ 10:30am

We have a new priest in the parish! Many congratulations to Fr Joe who was ordained priest Saturday 11th June at All Saints in Hove.



St Andrew's Summer Newsletter 2022



## The Curate's Egg – June 2022

Do you sometimes have periods in your life when you find it hard to pray? Are there occasions when you look at the world around you and just can't find the words to express your sorrow or sadness? Sometimes it feels as though all we can do is to groan inwardly, such is our struggle (Romans 8: 23).

At these times it can be helpful to use set, repetitive prayers, which enable our inner soul to commune with God without the distraction of our mind trying to find the right words. The Rosary is a good example of repetitive prayer, using the words of the Lord's Prayer, the Hail Mary and the Glory Be, and I certainly find praying the Rosary a comfort. However, some people struggle with the Rosary, either due to its perceived complexity (though it is pretty simple once you get to know it) or for theological reasons, so I have another example of repetitive prayer to share with you this month.

The Jesus Prayer has been known to Eastern Orthodox Christianity for many centuries but didn't really find its way into Western Christianity until the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. It is a short and simple prayer, its most common form being:

***Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God;  
have mercy on me, a sinner.***

The scriptural basis of the Jesus prayer lies in the cry of blind Bartimaeus, when he calls out to attract Jesus' attention in the street: 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' (Mark 10: 47); in the contrition of the tax collector in Luke: 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' (Luke 18: 13); and in Peter's confession of faith: 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' (Matt 16: 16).

Because of its brevity, the prayer lends itself well to repetition, and for this reason is often recited either silently or out loud, over and over. When said silently, it is recommended to breath in on the first line - *Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God* - as we take in the life and love of our Saviour; and then to breathe out on the second line - *have mercy on me, a sinner* - as we expel our sins from our hearts. It has been suggested that this short prayer sums up the entirety of the Gospel in just twelve words.

The prayer is sometimes said with the aid of an Orthodox prayer rope or *komboskini*, though this isn't essential. The Orthodox prayer rope is usually made up of 25, 50 or 100 knots along with a cross and a tassel. The Jesus Prayer is recited once per knot. The rope is normally made of wool to represent Christ's flock and has a tassel to dry the tears of the penitent.



So next time you find yourself struggling to find words with which to pray, try reciting the Jesus Prayer over and over.

***Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God;  
have mercy on me, a sinner.***

If your mind wanders, let it, but gently steer it back to the focus of your prayer.

***Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God;  
have mercy on me, a sinner.***

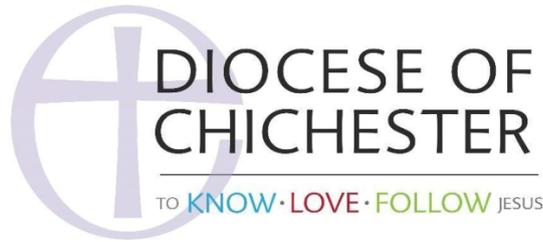
With time you will find that the prayer starts almost to pray itself, our soul communing with God without the interference of your mind. As Archimandrite Sophrony puts it, the prayer is used to bring the 'mind down into the heart' in order to harmonise everyday life with the commandments of Christ.<sup>1</sup>

Let me know how you get on!

Blessings,

Fr Joe.

<sup>1</sup> Sophrony, Archimandrite, *On Prayer*, (Maldon: Stavropgeic Monastery, 1996), p 141



# Thank you

## to the parish of Bishopstone

Thank you for your 2021 parish share payment of £36,216, part of our diocesan family's response to God's generosity. Your efforts to raise this sum are particularly appreciated in the context of the continuing financial pressures caused by the pandemic.

Parish share funds the mission and ministry of the Church in your parish and helps to support our apostolic life across the diocese and beyond. It enables those with more to provide mutual support to those in greater need in our diocesan household of faith.

*H. Martin Cleeve*

Bishop of Chichester

*Stella Mungro*

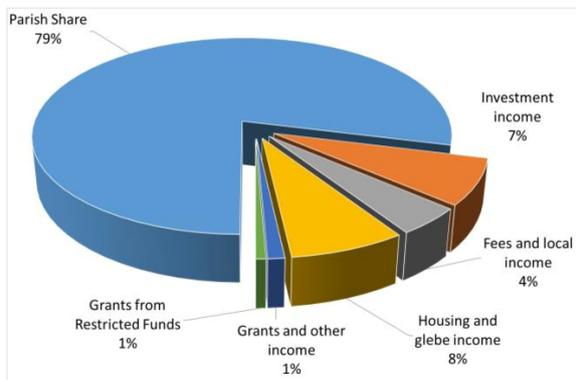
Deanery Treasurer  
Lewes & Seaford Deanery

*Healey Lynn*

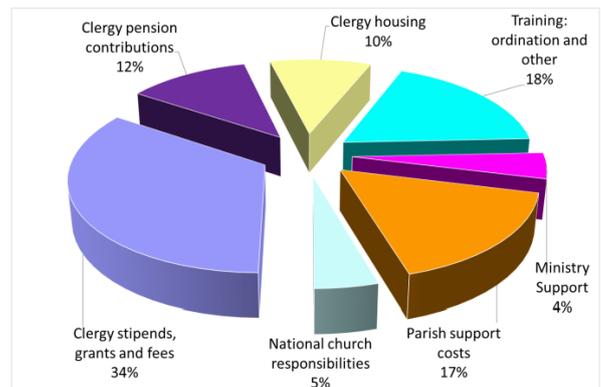
Chair  
Chichester Diocesan Board of Finance

Diocesan income and expenditure for 2021:

Total Income £16,513,128



Total Expenditure £16,754,608



## STRAWBERRY CREAM TEAS AT ST. ANDREW'S SATURDAY 11TH JUNE

We could not have asked for a more perfect afternoon than we had last Saturday at St. Andrew's. Lovely and sunny meant people could enjoy sitting outside as well as inside. Duncan came up trumps with his scones as did the bakers producing some very tempting cakes. We are grateful to Morrisons for donating the cream and the beautiful strawberries to make the afternoon teas complete.

This is an annual event at St. Andrew's being part of Churches Together in Seaford supporting the local Christian Aid committee. We are pleased to say that the Strawberry Cream Teas this year raised £462. With grateful thanks to all who supported this event.



## Key Dates for your diary

- **Fr Joe First Service Sunday 19th June @ 10:30**
- **Sea Sunday Service Sunday 10th July @ 10:30**
- **Bishopstone Yard Sale Sunday 17th July @ 1:00-4:00pm**
- **Commemoration and Prayers with David and Suzy Ashcroft  
Friday 29th July 2022 @ 10:30**
- **Open Afternoon Saturday 6th August @ 2:00-4:30pm** (A community event for us to welcome the wider parish into the church and grounds. Any donations given will be donated to Seaford for Ukraine)
- **Open Air Memorial Service Sunday 7th August : 3:00pm**



**Sea Sunday, 10th July 2022**

**St Andrew's Church, Bishopstone @ 10:30**

**Please join us for our annual Sea Sunday Service**

The theme this year is **Seafarers in a time of Pandemic**. The Reverend Chris Collison, a former Mission to Seafarers chaplain in the Netherlands and on Teesside, will be leading the service.

Light Refreshments will be served in the Village Hall after the service.

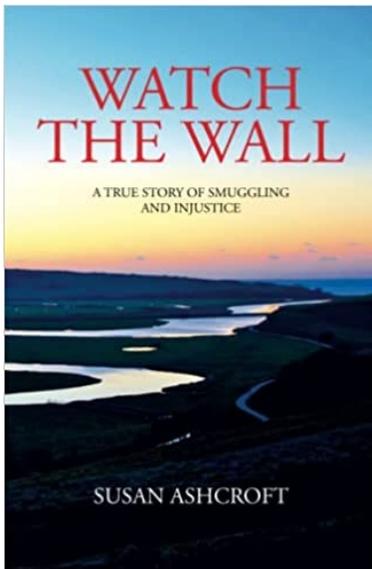
**St Andrew's Summer Newsletter 2022**

## New! Postcards of St Andrew's Church

Contact Hilary (01323) 896567



St Andrew's Summer Newsletter 2022



## Watch The Wall by Susan Ashcroft

Richard and Jenny Ashcroft

A True Story of Smuggling and Corruption

Richard was a farm hand who lived near Seaford between 1720 and 1747. He met Jenny and they were married in St. Leonard's Church, Seaford on April 8th 1729. They remained there for a number of years until being forced to move to Bishopstone by the Duke of Newcastle's actions to enclose his common land. The family grew up in both Seaford and Bishopstone.

Jenny gave birth to seven children, three died very young. Jenny and at least two of her children are buried in St Andrew's Churchyard, Bishopstone. It is likely that the family attended services at St Andrew's Church and the children may have been baptised in the Church's square font.

Thomas Pelham-Holles, Duke of Newcastle had a hunting lodge next to St Andrew's Church and he had two main aims. The first to increase his income by imposing land enclosures on his very large estate. This caused hardship by driving large numbers of people off their previous common land. His second aim was to rid Sussex of smugglers.

He was behind the introduction of a severe law that stated that anyone who knew a smuggler (they were all local men), or received a gift or was caught smuggling would be hung. It was not published or known in Sussex. He wanted a local example and Richard was caught unarmed holding the halter of a smuggler's horse. After a trial at The Old Bailey (all recorded and published in this book) he was hung at Tyburn, London on 29th July 1747. The hanging would have attracted up to 100,000 people to watch.

It was almost certain that Richard was innocent and was never a smuggler. Jenny died bearing their eighth child.

### Friday 29th July 2022, St Andrew's Church, Bishopstone

Rev'd Arwen Folkes will hold a small service of commemoration and prayers with David and Suzy Ascroft (Richard was David's 7th Great Grandfather) 29th July 2022 @ 10:30am—this will be the 275th anniversary of their relative's death and having spent so much time researching and writing about him they wish to quietly pay their respects.

David and Suzy are going to have a stall at our Church Open Afternoon (6th August @ 2:00-4:30pm) where they can talk about and sell copies of the book. It is now available on <https://www.amazon.co.uk> in e-book or paperback versions. It has received excellent reviews and is beginning to be widely circulated. It is a great and tragic story, very well told.

*A beautifully written true story of an innocent man betrayed and condemned simply for being in the wrong place at the wrong time. As the story unfolds you can't help but get engrossed with how politics and greed affect innocent, hardworking people. Informative too, about smuggling in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and some history of Sussex surrounding it. This man's story deserves to be told, a fascinating yet ultimately tragic story. A great read and highly recommended.*

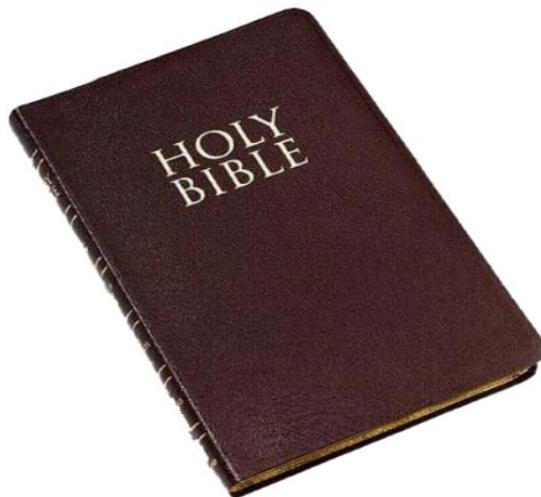
St Andrew's Summer Newsletter 2022

# How the Bible came to be in English

A lecture by

## Revd Arwen Folkes

Rector of St Peter's East Blatchington and St  
Andrew's Bishopstone



Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2.30 pm

St Peter's Church Hall, Belgrave Road, Seaford BN25 2HE

*Please book by phone ...*

 01323 899054

*or email ...*

[officeebb.benefice@gmail.com](mailto:officeebb.benefice@gmail.com)

*Tickets £7 (including tea and cake) – pay at the door*

# Bishopstone Village Yard Sale

## 1:00pm to 4:00pm Sunday 17th July 2022

### Clear out your attic! Empty the garage!

We're planning a Bishopstone village yard sale, in aid of Seaford4Ukraine, the fantastic initiative led by Rev'd Arwen Folkes which is supporting Ukrainian refugees in our area.

**We need you to make it happen!**

A yard sale is different from a jumble sale or car boot, in that you set up a stall in YOUR OWN front garden or driveway, meaning you don't have to lug bric-a-brac, plants, furniture, garden tools etc. (or unwanted Christmas presents like that purple vase Aunty Muriel gave you all those years ago) to another site. Just pull the garden table to an accessible place, set up your stall and sit back in the sunshine.

We hope as many people as possible will join in, so that visitors can amble from house to house around the village. The more stalls, the merrier!

### SIGNING UP

**Please register with Kate Comberti (Bishopstone Manor Middle) ASAP** so we can draw up the Bishopstone Yard Sale map. [kate@comberti.com](mailto:kate@comberti.com) or on 07966 753 574

(If you live in Norton or on Bishopstone Road, please let Kate know, as there are opportunities to team up so that we keep all the stalls within the old village, making it easier for visitors to go from stall to stall. Places are available for extra tables on Bishopstone Manor North drive and outside Barrack Cottage, as well as in other spots.)

### REFRESHMENTS

Cream teas will be served in the village hall. Duncan is making scones, David is making sandwiches. Rodda's and Tiptree have donated clotted cream and jam. But for a really slap up tea, we need homemade cakes, please! Cake offers and kitchen volunteers should contact Duncan at [rdfraser@live.co.uk](mailto:rdfraser@live.co.uk) or on 01323 890 950.

### PARKING & PUBLICITY

Parking in Richard's field on the left as you enter the village and on the Pound. Car parking marshals needed – please contact Duncan (see above). Posters will go up in Seaford and Lewes but please also broadcast by word-of-mouth to friends, family and fellow dog walkers. If the weather holds it will be a fabulous day out.

Looking forward to it!

Kate, Susie, Sue, Lyn, Nicky & David, Jane H & Imo C

PS. Any questions, please email Kate [kate@comberti.com](mailto:kate@comberti.com)



## St Andrew's Summer Newsletter 2022



We welcome families to our free **Drop in** and play sessions Tuesday to Thursday 9.30am-12pm at 8 Church Street. Arts and crafts, sensory play, singing and stories.

**Bump2babies.** Thursday 10-11.30 in church hall opposite Wellington pub for parents with babies 0-16months. Free sessions

For those needing extra support we have a **Family Support Worker** who can support families on a 1:1 basis with parenting, wellbeing and family separation issues and much more. Signposting to other service providers if needed.

Volunteers support us in the drop in and Listening service that we run in schools.

We are always on the look out to recruit volunteers for drop in, listening service and anything practical that families may need support with. If you would like to know more about what we offer and how you can help, please contact Jane or Vicki on 01323 873797.

Kind regards

**Jane Witts**

**Community Outreach Worker**

Waves Seaford Ltd

01323 873797 / 07592 387194

[jane@wavesseaford.org.uk](mailto:jane@wavesseaford.org.uk)

St. Andrew's Summer Newsletter 2022

# WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS AND FUNERALS

## GET IN TOUCH

We will welcome your enquiry for a Holy Baptism (Christening), a Wedding, or for support and guidance when a loved one is reaching the end of their life.

### CONTACT US:

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

<https://www.ebbchurches.org.uk/contact>

<https://www.facebook.com/bishopstonechurch>

Rector Arwen Folkes (01323) 892964

[rectoryebb@gmail.com](mailto:rectoryebb@gmail.com)

Rev'd Joe Padfield (Priest) (01323) 672848

[curate@ebbchurches.org.uk](mailto:curate@ebbchurches.org.uk)

Jan Quinn (Benefice Administrator) (01323) 899054

[officeebb.benefice@gmail.com](mailto:officeebb.benefice@gmail.com)

Hilary Norsworthy (Church Warden) (01323) 896567

[h.norsworthy@btinternet.com](mailto:h.norsworthy@btinternet.com)

St Andrew's Electronic Newsletter is available on the first on each month, please contact Jan Quinn if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

### EDITORIAL

We hope you enjoy this Summer Magazine for St Andrew's. The next edition will be in Autumn 2022. If you would like to send any contributions, please can you send them to Jan Quinn ([officeebb.benefice@gmail.com](mailto:officeebb.benefice@gmail.com)) by 15th August 2022.

St. Andrew's Summer Newsletter 2022