St Mary the Virgin
Church Road, Horne RH6 9LA

Diary for June 2017

St Mary’s sponsored walk

Once again, Judy Walker planned a walk which encompassed parts of the Parish of Horne which were new to some of us. Horne Church Parish is unusual in that as well as the obvious places around our Church and Newchapel, there is a detached part which lies west of the M23 and to the north of the road to Horley.

We set out from Weatherhill Close, Smallfield and headed south, past Perrylands Lane, until we met the spur road from the M23 to Gatwick. We had some fantastic views of aircraft on their final approach. After walking west for a while, along the Surrey/Sussex Border Path, we turned north, crossing Haroldse Drive and finally reached Smallfield Road again, from where we called at The Farmhouse Pub, to gain some energy! Some beautiful countryside then welcomed us as we walked through the fields past Langshott Woods and back to Weatherhill Common.

We enjoyed the walk and are very grateful to those who sponsored us. The walk has so far brought in over £1230 for church funds.

Michael Harvey

St Mary’s plant sale

A very happy morning was had at the much anticipated plant sale. We had a constant stream of visitors from far and wide buying plants and coming into the church to drink coffee, eat cake and chat with friends. The event raised £470 for church funds. Many thanks for everyone for their support.

Barbara Verco

Rector’s Ramblings

Trinity Sunday falls this month on 11 June. It’s a moveable feast because Trinity Sunday is always the Sunday after Pentecost Sunday (or Whit Sunday as it used to be known) and Pentecost is always 50 days after Easter. Easter was fairly late this year so Trinity Sunday falls in June.

Two years ago on Trinity Sunday we celebrated the creation of the Windmill United Benefice – an apt time to celebrate the three parishes of Outwood, Horne and Burstow coming together as one benefice. The
benefice name comes from the old Windmill Group which in turn got its name from Outwood Windmill. The logo, the sign, of the new benefice is a set of sails — windmill sails.

I like the image of the windmill for the new benefice. A windmill harnesses the power of the wind, a forerunner of our modern wind turbines. Though windmills and wind turbines can harness the wind they cannot control the wind, as those of us who turned up at Outwood Windmill recently to see the sails turn for the first time in ages were reminded — there was no wind so no turning! All this reminds me of the words of Jesus, who said:

The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going.

The wind is always beyond our control. You can’t put the wind in a box — if you did it would die. Likewise you can’t make God into a God-in-a-box. That phrase was used by JB Phillips (a former vicar of my old church, St John’s Redhill, and a translator of the New Testament in the 1950s) in his book Your God is too Small in which he has a chapter called God-in-a-box. In it he says that religious people often appear to have God ‘captured and tamed and trained to their own liking. Something that is really far too big ever to be forced into little man-made boxes with neat labels upon them’.

I don’t know if you’ve ever dipped into the book The Prophet by Kahl Gibran. One of the short chapters is about Religion. It ends with these words that echo was JB Phillips is saying, I think:

And if you would know God be not therefore a solver of riddles.

We don’t know where God comes from or where God is going. We just need to be willing to let go and enjoy the ride!

Oh, the winds of God are blowing,
So keep your sails unfurled.
And the winds of God will take you,
To safe harbours of the world.

Forever they’re in motion,
to take you where you will.
Forever full of power,
if there are sails to fill.

But they cannot do their duty,
If you should reef your sail,
The winds would still be blowing,
But they blow to no avail.

So take the helm, be master.
Unfurling sails your part.
And the winds of God will take you,
to the Harbour of your heart

With love and prayers

Nicholas

There will be joint Windmill United Benefice service to celebrate Trinity Sunday at 9.30am on 11 June at St Bartholomew’s, Burstow, at which the new Archdeacon of Reigate, Ven Moira Astin, will be preaching. All are most welcome.

CAMEO meets this month on Friday 2 June at 2pm in Smallfield Church Hall, when the topic will be ‘Flower power’. All are most welcome to Come And Meet Each Other.

THE WEDNESDAY CLUB meets on 7 June at 2pm in the Lloyd Hall, Outwood, when Gordon Gillett will be speaking on ‘How to be better off in a recession without cutting back’. The stall is tins and bottles. All are welcome.

CHURCHYARD TEAS: Teas will be served in the churchyard of St John the Baptist, Outwood on 3 and 17 June, 2-4pm (inside the church if wet).

SUMMER FAIR: St John the Baptist, Outwood is holding its summer fair, along with the Outwood Horticultural Society Early Summer Show, in the church (Brickfield Road, Outwood RH1 5QF) on Saturday 24 June, 2-4pm. Come along for cream teas, raffle, plants, china, tombola, jewellery and bric a brac!

QUIZ NIGHT: St Bartholomew, Burstow is holding a Quiz Night on Saturday 24 June at 7.30pm in the Smallfield Church Hall, Redeall Road. Lucky number ticket, price £5 which includes a ploughman’s supper and coffee/tea/juice (bring any extra nibbles/drinks) available from: Angela Sullivan (01342 843515) and Judith Absalom (01342 842532). Make up a team of six or join others on the night.

SWING ‘EM HIGH AND SWING ‘EM LOW! St Mary’s is holding a Barn Dance with a caller and live band on 8 July in Centenary Hall, Smallfield, from 7-10pm. There will be a mix of dances to suit all abilities and agilities and some songs to listen to for those who prefer not to dance and for others to catch their breath. A raffle will also be included.

Tickets can be reserved from Steve Robinson (07849 278 034) or Barbara Verco at St Mary’s, and also via St Mary’s Facebook page: St Mary’s Horne@StMarysHorne.