

People and Parish

May 2018



- The Power of Love
- May Fayre and Dog Show
- Superman

60p or £6 per year



The Parish Church of St Leonard
Heath and Reach



Team Rector: Canon Grant Fellows, 01525 373217

The Parish of St Leonard, Heath and Reach

www.saintleonardschurch.com

Team Vicar	Revd. Noel McGeeney, The Vicarage, 2 Reach Lane, LU7 0AL, 01525 237633 saggart@yahoo.com
Church Wardens	Br Bede Falconer CoS, 46 Chiltern Gardens, LU7 3BL 07925 364480 Mrs Val Roberts, 07935 936156
Secretary	Mrs Ann Gomersall, 173 Cotefield Drive, LU7 3DT, 01525 376572
Treasurer	Mrs Jill Thomas, 46 Redwood Glade, LU7 3JT, 01525 374175
Freewill Offerings	Mr Tony Mellodey, 12 Holts Green, Great Brickhill, MK17 9AJ, 01525 261552 / 07771 686005
Administrator and Church Hall Bookings	Mrs Corinna Washbrook, St Leonard's Parish Office, St Leonard's Church Hall, Leighton Road LU7 0AA. 07502 320025 stleonardheath@gmail.com
Office hours: 10.30am—12.30pm Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays	

GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

Little Fishes	Mums & Toddlers, Monday 1.30 pm in the hall Contact: Parish Office
Choir	Sundays at 10.15am in Church, Contact: Jane Newman, 01525 237421
SLAP	St Leonard's Amateur Players, Contact: Mrs Nicole Waldoock, 01908 608304
Men's Breakfast Group	Termly, Saturdays at 8.30am. Contact Neil Forsyth on 01525 377047
Magazine Editor	Neil Forsyth, 01525 377047, stleonardsmag@gmail.com
Magazine Advertising	Contact Parish Office 07502 320025

All copy to reach Editor by 15th of the month, please

Thought for the Month



The Power of Love

As I chose the title for this article I thought there might be a song out there with the same title and there is a cover version by an artist called Gabrielle Aplin, and originally by Frankie goes to Hollywood (it is worth looking it up on Youtube) and this is the last verse of the song:

the power of love
a force from above
cleansing my soul
the power of love
a force from above
a sky-scraping dove
flame on burn desire
love with tongues of fire
purge my soul
make love your goal.

I wanted to write about Pentecost and the Holy Spirit and was delighted by the imagery in this song contained in the reference to the *dove and tongues of fire*. A quote I coined some years ago on love says, 'when love was born into the world it was born with a twin and the twins name is forgiveness'. The more practice we have at forgiving the more we grow in love. St. Paul says be ambitious for the higher gifts...and the greatest *is Love*.

In the film Tuesday's with Morrie, he says 'love is the only rational act'. The power of love is the only power that derives its energy from a divine source. Love gives the strength to change your mind and so change your life.

In the publication *Psalms for Praying* by Nan C Merrill a paragraph from psalm 132 says:

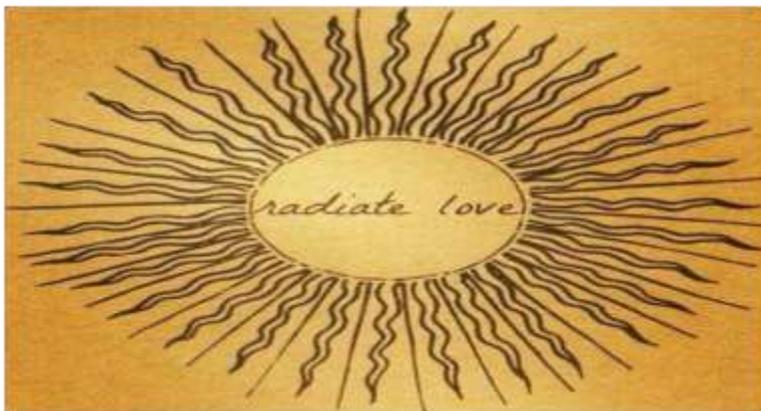
'those who follow the way of love with calm and faith filled intent, know that

all is working towards healing and wholeness and may the healing power of love lift you from the limitations of fear and ignorance into the arms of freedom'.

You may have heard the phrase time heals all things, I prefer to say love heals all things. For love contains the capacity to forgive and even reconcile within yourself the hurt done to you and find a measure of inner peace or inner freedom.

As we read the gifts of the Holy Spirit in Isaiah 11:2 and the fruits of the spirit in Galatians 5:22, these are given to inform and form us for a life in the Holy Spirit. Christianity is a way of life and therefore informs our thinking and our feeling. It is not so much whether we go to church or not that makes us loving, it is whether we are radical enough to pay attention to our thinking and our feeling and so allow ourselves to be confirmed by the power of love.

Noel



Be that one!

- One tree can start a forest
 - One smile can begin a friendship
 - One hand can lift a soul
 - One candle can wipe out darkness
 - One laugh can conquer gloom
 - One hope can raise your spirits
 - One touch can show you care
 - One life can make a difference
- So, be that one today!

The Parish Registers



Baptism

24th March Ruby Anne Kenning

Funeral

21st March Janet Elsie Ross

Hall for Hire

**St Leonard's Church Hall is available for hire!
Birthday parties, wedding receptions, meetings and other
special occasions**

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The Villager

by Geoff White

Looking out of my study window at the spring flowers covered with a light dusting of snow, I am reminded that it in April 1918 the weather was very bad. There was rain and snow and the most serious floods that had been experienced in the district for many years. On one day at the end of March, more rain fell than had been recorded for the whole of the previous month. Clipstone Brook overflowed its banks, flooding the low-lying ground between Leedon and Linslade, Hockliffe Street and Grove Road were provided with carts to get people on foot from one side to the other. **The lower rooms of cottages in Lake Street and 'The Globe' were also flooded.**

As summer arrived, there seemed to be lots of property and land up for **Auction. For example, 'The Knolls' in Plantation Road was advertised as a 'Norman Shaw' residence, built about the 1880sw, with thirteen bedrooms and dressing rooms, a lounge and three reception rooms, a billiard room and a lodge with a man's room. It stood in thirty three acres of 'pleasure grounds and woodland, containing a unique collection of non-deciduous trees and shrubs'.**

Mr Bushell had been found drowned in the top pond on May 1th 1911 in the **field he owned known as 'Walnut Tree Close', next to St Leonard's Church. His widow held lots of property in Heath and Reach and decided to put four lots up for auction in 1918. One was 'Walnut Tree Close', auctioned as twenty two acres, with a cow shed for ten cows, fodder house and loos box, abutting on to the main road at the entrance to the village and next to the church. It was offered as a possible site for a residence in view of its elevation, undulating character and fine timber trees, which were included in the purchase. It was let at the time to Mr W Dancer, on a yearly Michaelmas tenancy at a rental of £50. A strip of land, twenty feet wide, next to the church and leading from the road, was reserved as an approach to the adjoining pasture land but the latter (which was offered first), did not reach the reserve and the two lots were then put together. There was a further small close, just three acres in area and let to Mr W Cleaver, the tenancy being £8 per annum including rates. The outgoings on the two lots were: tithes £5/17/-, and land tax £1/17/-. Tithes in 1918 were either paid to the Church or the Lord of the Manor and were converted following the Tithes Commutation Act of 1836 into cash payments instead of produce but in 1936 were abolished altogether. Mr S V Young was the purchaser of the two lots for £1650. Another plot, called 'Worthy Field', twenty two acres close to the junction of Shenley Hill Road with the main road at**

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Heath, was offered with vacant possession at the time of purchase. The auctioneer reminded the bidders that 'Gold mines' had been found at Heath and that the property had possibilities apart from its agricultural value. Bidding began at £500 and eventually the plot was bought for £1,150 by Mt T Brantom on behalf of Mt G Garside.

Plenty of golden treasure has been dug up since then in the form of sand but if you are planting your crops, dig a bit deeper and you might strike gold!

A Warden's Tale.....

As I write this, today has been the best day yet in terms of weather. Too warm to wear boots or a coat, the beauty of creation is all around us. Of course, the beauty of creation is always around us but it is somehow more easily recognised on a truly beautiful sunny Spring day.

I cannot believe that my third year as churchwarden is now coming to a close. I have completed the annual report to the Parochial Church Council and we will be having our Annual General Meeting next weekend; where wardens for the next year are decided on amongst other more important things.

There are two (amazing) people coming forward to be elected this year (two ways to read that) and yes, you guessed it, it's me and Br Bede. I can truly say that I am always surprised that other people are not queuing to have a turn. It can be a bit frustrating at times, particularly when it comes to all the 'red tape' but it is also enormously rewarding and a lot of fun.

We anticipate a 'quieter' year ahead but then again we probably shouldn't speak too soon. Let's just pray that the church roof stays on, as Bede commented today. I cannot bear the thought of all the 'red tape' this event would entail. We'd all be swimming around during the services before that finally got sorted out!

Our Spring Lunch was held today and it was all good fun and very well attended as usual. Many thanks to the Co-op who currently fund these events through their Community Support Fund. Yet again our local businesses were behind us too. We had wine from Heath Inn, Chapel Flooring, The Co-op and The Axe and Compass. A voucher for fifteen pounds from Little Emm's, and ten pound vouchers from Finishing Touch and The Dukes, so a huge thank you to everyone.

We can now look forward to Summer and in particular the May Fayre, which is always a fun family event. I hope the weather is as kind to us then as it has been today. However, whatever the weather, we will have some fun so please come along! Maybe we can all stand under our brollies marvelling at the beauty of creation or then again.....

Val Roberts
Churchwarden (again!)

Leighton Buzzard Voluntary Patient Transport (LBVPT) service is ready to transport you to your Hospital outpatient clinic appointments.

LBVPT was set up to provide voluntary transport for elderly and vulnerable people to and from their outpatient appointments at the three local hospitals- Luton & Dunstable, Milton Keynes, Stoke Mandeville. We are pleased to now be able to extend that service to include Bedford, Amersham and High Wycombe hospitals; and we will take individuals to attend hospital appointments at Saturday clinics.

All our services are subject to a volunteer driver being available on the required day. This service has been operational since 1 April 2017 and is available to you if you do **not** qualify for NHS non-emergency transport, or you are unable to get to your hospital appointments by any other means, such as public transport.

One feature greatly appreciated by people using LBVPT that is not yet provided elsewhere is that the driver will accompany you from the car to your appointment; wait there with you if you wish, or come back to collect you later, and then accompany you home to your door.

LBVPT asks for a voluntary donation to cover the cost of providing the service.

Further information on using this service can be found by:

- * calling our call handler on 07873 497633
- * sending an email to lbvpt@outlook.com
- * looking at the website at <http://www.lbvpt.co.uk>

We look forward to hearing from you if you need to use our service!

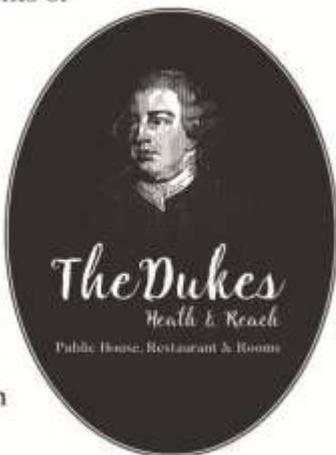
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You can reserve free and exclusive use of our bar area, lounge area or conservatory for 10 to 80 guests. You can provide as much or as little as you want for your guests from just a great venue, to a drink, canapés, a buffet or a 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 course dinner. Our menus are available online, www.thedukes.uk.com. 50 people or more can receive a free DJ or unlimited plays on our digital juke box. Our bar is equipped with disco lights.

To discuss your requirements or to reserve your date*, please call 01525 237892 and ask for Sarah Smith. *Subject to availability.



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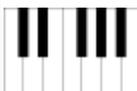
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Pilgrimages with the Diocese of St Albans

2019

- In May Archdeacon Paul & Canon Liz Hughes offer a ten day programme to the Holy Land, based in Jerusalem and Galilee.
- In September Archdeacon Janet will be leading a progress along the Camino Trail to Santiago de Compostela. This tour offers some limited walking but also uses air-conditioned coaches!

The 2019 pilgrimages are open for booking now. See the website for forms.

2020

2020 is the year of the Oberammergau Passion Play and three tours are available, with bookings for each now open.

- In June The Revd Dennis Stamps, Rector of Harpenden, will host a tour based in St Martin & Lofer
- During the August school holidays Bishop Michael and his wife Lizzie will lead a programme staying in Imst
- In September The Revd Canon Abi Thompson and The Revd Dr Berkeley Zych, Sub Dean and Precentor of St Albans Cathedral, are leaders for a visit based at Strobl on the Wolfgangsee.

[Please see the website for further details and contact for each trip](#) or email bookings@stalbanpilgrimages.org.uk if you have a general enquiry or wish to express an interest, without obligation.

Should you wish us to remove your name from our mailing list please reply to this email with **'Unsubscribe' in the subject header**

We very much hope you are able to join us

The St Albans Pilgrimage Team

A pilgrim's first view of Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives



Cruz de Hierro - The highest point on the Camino pilgrims trail to Santiago de Compostela.



St Leonard's Holiday Club

FREE FUN ACTIVITY MORNING

in St Leonard's Church Hall followed by a Picnic
Bring a packed lunch, cold drinks provided

Thursday 31st May
10-12noon

Activities for 3-10 year olds

3-6 year olds with accompanying adult

Topic: Springing into Spring

We invite families to support Jackie, who runs the local Hedgehog Rescue Centre, by bringing a tin of Whiskas Chicken in Jelly Cat Food to help with the centres work.

COME AND ENJOY THE FUN

Booking Essential – phone:
Rosemary Young 01525 237345,
or Vera Paul 01525 375095

HAPPENINGS!

Thursday 10th May
COFFEE MORNING
in the Church Hall
10am-12.00noon



Saturday 19th May
MAY FAYRE
At the Church Hall and surrounds

Saturday 26th May
MEN'S BREAKFAST
in the Church Hall at 8.30am



Sunday 26th June
CREAM TEA AFTERNOON
At the Church
3-5pm

Saturday 15th September
JUMBLE SALE
in the Church Hall from 11am

For more information on any of these events,
phone 01525 377047

FUN DOG SHOW!

Enter your dog into our dog show at the May Fayre - just for fun!

These categories are for dogs of every shape and size:

Musical Sits

Most Handsome Dog

Prettiest Girl

Waggiest Tail

Best 6 Legs - Dog & Owner

Best Mover and Groover

Best Dressed Wedding Guest

(in celebration of the Royal Wedding)

Best Trick

The Dog who the Judge would like to take home

Best Junior Handler

PLUS Best in Show!

£1 per entry

Dogs can be entered into more than one class

Entries on the day 1.30pm start

Owners are responsible for their dogs behaviour and cleaning up after them if necessary. All dogs need to be on a lead at all times (except if performing in Best Trick !)



THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LEONARD'S
HEATH AND REACH

COME AND JOIN THE FUN AT THE

MAY FAYRE

SATURDAY 19TH MAY 2018
1PM AT THE CHURCH HALL

CRAFTS
HEATH BAND
ST LEONARD'S SCHOOL
DANCERS
BOUNCY CASTLE
FUN DOG SHOW
GRAND DRAW
STALLS & GAMES
AND MUCH MORE!

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION TEL: 01525 377047

Living with Parkinson's and looking for local support?

Did you know there is a dedicated **Parkinson's UK Local Advisor** in your area, who can offer free and comprehensive support tailored to your needs? **Jackie Kennedy**, who covers Mid and South Bedfordshire, explains what her job is all about:

My role is about making sure people affected by Parkinson's and their families have all the information they need to take control of life with a progressive neurological condition, enabling people to play an active part in any decisions around treatments and helping make life as fulfilling as possible.

There are many things I can offer support with including: understanding Parkinson's and addressing the impact of Parkinson's on daily living; accessing appropriate health and social care services; securing relevant welfare benefits; signposting to local Parkinson's UK groups which offer friendship and a ranges of social activities, and planning for the future.

I can provide information, answer any questions and offer practical support by telephone, email and , when needed, through home visits, from the point of diagnosis and throughout the Parkinson's journey.

Please do contact me - no one has to face Parkinson's alone.

Jackie Kennedy, Parkinson's UK Local Advisor - Mid and South Bedfordshire and Luton

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CHURCH COFFEE
MORNING

CHURCH HALL

Thursday 10th May

10.00am to 12 noon

ALL WELCOME

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PLEASE TELEPHONE 07502 320025 TO ARRANGE

Coffee mornings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each
month

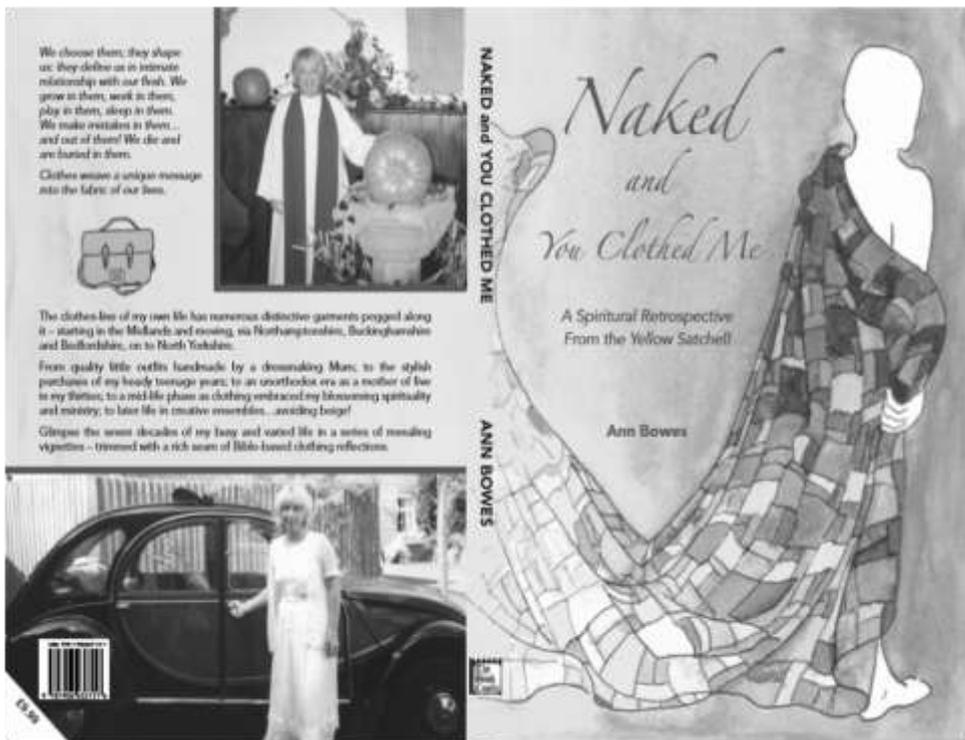
Next coffee morning will be on

Thursday 14th June



Many of our longer term congregation members will remember Ann Bowes, a much-loved reader and host to many evenings at her home in Hockliffe, from where she ran 'Wellsprings', a retreat and meeting centre.

Ann moved to Yorkshire some years ago, to our great loss, and from there she now writes on her life since then and about her new book, details of which are given below.



01423 360786, 07766 733810. ann.bowes@btinternet.com

Naked and you clothed Me. £9.99. ISBN 978 1 906632 15 1

The book is available on line, in selected local outlets (including Dunstable TIC) or in person, as appropriate, from either Julia Dickens (Hockliffe) 01525 210210, Sally Siddons (Eaton Bray) 01525 221733 or Hannah Buckledee (Leighton Buzzard) 01525 217403

Dear South Bedfordshire Friends...Greetings from North Yorkshire,

Firstly, here is part of an enticing advertisement I wrote, when we finally left our Hockliffe House home of 25 years.

*A rare opportunity to acquire this historic, well-loved family home, and place of hospitality for centuries. The warm heart of this house is the huge, oak beamed farmhouse kitchen, where family and friends gather around the red Aga situated alongside **an ancient bread oven. It has a large walled 'secret garden', where those seeking peace and quiet can sit in shady wooded areas, sunken garden, or around the naked lady pond and fountain. This is an unusual property, and not one for the faint-hearted, but it has a magic of its own, with its unique sense of history, peace, seclusion and solitude, despite being situated on a busy main road.***

Many of you will recall that for seven years we were able to share this historic house of **welcome and hospitality, reflecting its provenance as a Medieval St. John's Hospice** and later a Georgian inn, with those in the area and beyond, as a retreat centre for those of any faith or none. The work grew, as Wellsprings, with many of you coming as **guests, professional therapists and volunteers without whom we couldn't have flourished as we did.**

Then moving to the North, ministering in three rural parishes as a Reader for seven years became a very eventful pioneering post! On finally retiring and downsizing, sending some of my vintage clothes to new incarnations, I reflected that in my ministry I had written many sermons on clothes. So maybe clothes are indeed important as to who we are, beyond just for decoration, keeping us warm and decent! Elizabeth Bowen writes that on the subject of dress almost no one feels truly indifferent; if their own **clothes do not concern them, somebody else's does. I recognize that. I had a friend in my late twenties who spoke of my glorious new maxi coat as 'Very Ann Bowes, but I wouldn't be seen dead in it'.**

Now another hopefully enticing invitation...to enter the wardrobe of my new book, *Naked and you Clothed me.*

From the clothes-line of seven decades of my busy varied life – before, during and after Bedfordshire – enjoy a series of revealing vignettes, trimmed with a rich seam of Bible-based clothing reflections. A reviewer **said, 'It made me laugh; it made me cry; and it made me think.'** Here you will discover tales from a chaotic family and professional life. Stories of mistakes, love and loss; a daughter diagnosed with a life threatening illness on the brink of her Oxford education; of birth, death, rise and spectacular fall, hope, despair, the weeping and laughter of the grief and the dance, the silence and the speaking out...and yet celebrating and rejoicing on the companionship of my clothes throughout.

A final warning from a straight speaking, wonderful Yorkshire parishioner, about a **certain visiting clergyman, 'Well, 'ow can yer trust a vicar 'oo walks down Main Street in 'is dog collar, eatin' a pastie.'** Clothes and what we do in them or out of them matter! With love and many happy memories shared with you,

Ann Bowes

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THE SILVER LINE

A helpline for older people

0800 4 70 80 90

“Like child abuse, loneliness carries a stigma, especially for an older generation too proud to ask for help. I hope by creating a helpline for older people The Silver Line will enable them to break through the stigma of loneliness, and thus save lives and comfort and protect older people in need.” Esther Rantzen.

The Silver Line is a free confidential helpline which provides; information and signposting to services, community and voluntary support across the country; a friendship service to combat loneliness; and a means of empowering those who may be suffering abuse.

If you are feeling isolated or lonely, there is not only the helpline, but a telephone befriending service, where you are matched to a trained volunteer, who will phone on a weekly basis for friendship at a time convenient to you. So if you feel that you would benefit from the services of The Silver Line, please do not hesitate to call our 24/7 helpline on 0800 4 70 80 90.

‘If you think it is for you, it *is* for you’.

St Leonard's Parish Prayer

Living God, you have given us St Leonard
as an example of one who extended himself
to relieve the difficulties of others;
help us to know in our hearts the love you have for us all
so we may reach out in genuine empathy
to those in our community
who feel lonely, isolated, or overwhelmed by grief or loss.
Help us to grow together as a people
united in concern for each other and love for you. Amen



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nicole.waldock@tesco.net

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[Facebook.com/on77yx](https://www.facebook.com/on77yx)

St Leonard's Visiting Team

We are a small group who enjoy meeting people and having a chat (maybe over a cup of tea!).

If you or anyone you know is housebound, or might enjoy some company occasionally, please call Kelly on 07502 320025 and she will put us in touch.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Anne Chapman

Rota Reminders



On or For Sun	Coffee (after 11am service)	Cleaning
6th May	J&T Mellodey	
13th May	S Buttery & E Dickinson	J Thomas & A Gomersall
20th May	A Palmer & L Page	
27th May	A Chapman & S Halstead	R Young & S Darms
3rd June	S Darms & A Payne	
10th June	H&R Ramsbotham	A Chapman & S Halstead
17th June	J Thomas	
24th June	S Buttery & E Dickinson	V Roberts

SUPERMAN

I am in the process of becoming somewhat akin to Clark Kent, known to readers of latter day comics as the mild mannered reporter who morphs into Superman. Scoff at your peril.....

In the near future I will be able to leap over tall buildings, and run like a speeding bullet!

'And how will this come about?' I hear you muttering. Let me explain.

My daughter Jane, award winning cyclist and fitness fanatic, has taken **over my diet and substituted 'super foods' in place of my mundane foodstuffs.** No longer for me a breakfast of toast and tangy Seville marmalade, but oatmeal and raisins, taken with Benecol low cholesterol drink. My usual after meal biscuit has been substituted with nuts....three or four at most!

Juicy '3 Locks' pork sausages are out, and in come 'Quorn' sausages (yum).

McDonald's burgers have been binned and in came veggie burgers, courtesy of Linda McCarthy

To go with these delights are the real super foods....seeds!!

I have chia seeds, linseeds, and pumpkin seeds. They're not bad but this morning whilst shaving I spotted a feather growing out of my chin, and am getting the urge to peck around in the garden and collect twigs....

My wife now has to close all the windows in case I fly away!!

Anyway, my health has improved enormously, so don't worry if you feel a slight draft when out walking. It's only me, though you won't see me. I'll be running at the speed of a bullet.....after having leaped over St Leonard's Church.....

Derek Hardman



Monday to Friday

9am—12pm, 12pm-3pm or 9am—3pm

An independent preschool offering places for children from 2 years old, providing a range of activities to support children's learning through play

Contact Margaret Smithers, Early Years Teacher

Email: hbpreschool@aol.com

Phone: 01525 237172



THE HEATH BAND



Would you like to learn a brass instrument?
Do you already learn and would like to join a group?

Then come and join

THE HEATH TRAINING BAND

At the Heath Barn, Eastern Way, Heath and Reach on
Wednesday evenings (term time only)

Free tuition: 6.45 to 7.45pm - instruments available

Band practice: 7.15 to 7.45pm

For more information contact: info@heath-band.co.uk

www.heath-band.co.uk



heath-band



@heath-band

Worship at St Leonard's

6th May	6th Sunday of Easter
08.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
11.00am	Family Service with Baptism
8th May	
07.30pm	Holy Communion
10th May	Ascension Day
7.30pm	Holy Communion
13th May	7th Sunday of Easter
08.00am	Holy Communion (Order 1 traditional)
11.00am	Parish Communion (Order 1)
15th May	
07.30pm	Holy Communion
20th May	Pentecost
08.00am	Holy Communion (Order1 traditional)
11.00am	Parish Communion (Order 1)
22nd May	
7.30pm	Holy Communion
27th May	Trinity Sunday
08.00am	Holy Communion (Order1 traditional)
11.00am	Parish Communion (Order 1)