

# Hatch Post

A weekly round-up of  
news from

**St. Peter's Aldborough Hatch  
and St. John's Seven Kings  
during the Pandemic 2020**

**Issue Number 9**

**Sunday 17th May 2020**

**The Sixth Sunday of Easter  
Rogation Sunday**

## Muntjac Deer in the Hatch!



Suzanne Batey sent us the photograph (*above*) of a Muntjac Deer spotted on Aldborough Hall Nature Reserve on Thursday 7th May.

## Fifth Sunday of Easter Service from St. Peter' and St. John's

Here is the link for the Service of Holy Communion:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UQhZ7ssAqI8>

Here is a link to a short service of Compline

<https://youtu.be/TGWHg1aLkeM>

## The Collect for The Sixth Sunday of Easter

ALMIGHTY God,

Lord of heaven and earth;

We beseech thee to pour forth thy blessing upon this land,

and to give us a fruitful season;

that we, constantly receiving thy bounty,

may evermore give thanks unto thee in thy holy church;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## VE Day Celebrations on Mitcham Road

Bob Keenan, Churchwarden at St. John's Seven Kings, sent us the following:

At 11am on Friday 8th May we stood outside our houses in Mitcham Road for the two minutes silence. At 2pm we set up tables and chairs in our front gardens for lunch. During lunch we circulated some colouring sheets for the children, a quiz sheet for the adults and a decorated paper plate for every house to put on display. At 3pm we raised our glasses to those who served our nation during World War Two, and to those who are serving it right now. Music from the forties played all afternoon over a PA.

There was a lot of chatting, albeit shouted across fences, bushes and even the road itself.

As the afternoon became early evening, people went indoors until 9pm. Then we all went out again and listened to the Queen's speech via the PA system, followed by a unique rendering of "We'll meet again"

On Saturday at 11am the winners of the quiz and colouring competition were announced and prizes given out. As we took down the bunting and decorations we decided to hold "pop-up pic-nics" whenever the weather forecast predicted a warm sunny day. Let's hope that works . . .



During the afternoon of VE Day a couple came down Mitcham Road, having walked through Seven Kings Park from their home on the other side of the Eastern Avenue. They were surprised by all the people out in their front gardens, the bunting and the 1940s music. They are Kathy and Tommy Cooper from 31 Ramsgill Drive. We chatted with them for some time and exchanged email addresses. Kathy asked if she could bring her mother on Saturday morning, which she did. It was a lovely chance to make new friends, especially since they had intended to leave the park through the gates at the top of Wallingford Road rather than those in Epsom Road. Had they taken their intended route we might never have met.



## Readings for The Sixth Sunday of Easter

**Epistle:** Acts, Chapter 17, vv 22 to 31

**Gospel:** St John, Chapter 14, vv 15 to 21

### Short sermon by Vanessa Cole

The Oxford English Dictionary states that the word Advocate means 'a person who pleads a case on someone's behalf'. That's the promise Jesus makes to the disciples directly after he tells them He is going away to prepare a place for them.

I won't leave you orphaned, says Jesus. We think of orphans as young children or at least under the legal age of adulthood, but the disciples are well past that age. However no matter what the age you are, if you lose your adult mentors/guides, then effectively you are an orphan.

I certainly think we see the ultimate combination of the human and the divine of Jesus in this passage and he explains that he will come again, but only they will be able to see him, because the Holy Spirit is part of him and in them too – when given the Holy Spirit, their hearts and eyes will be opened.

The Holy Spirit is akin to the 'light-bulb' moment for the disciples, and these can and do happen for us too. The maths formula that escapes us, the flat pack furniture that is a puzzle to the sermon that needs to be written.

Whilst the world's scientists are rushing to find a vaccine for Covid19, like many medical discoveries of the last century, one of these brilliant people will have a 'light-bulb' moment. Only they will be able to say whether or not the Holy Spirit played a part in this, but I believe that those acts of selflessness we have seen over the past few weeks, reinforces that belief that God moves amongst us all.

God gave us His Son, the redeemer of sins and yes we can speak to God at any time of the day or night, in any place – the Quakers go so far that their meetings are often silent as they firmly believe God knows what is in heart and mind and you don't actually have to say anything.

But what if you feel so lost, so confused, so full of darkness that you can't even construct a thought – that's when you need an Advocate. Who to choose, who will actually listen to what may be the silliest notions and fears, won't judge you, interrupt you and at the end of it, love you unconditionally?

One person - Jesus.

I believe Jesus is the ultimate Advocate but is it just Him that answers? For us to see the light again, there has to be that first spark, that light-bulb moment when the darkness fades. I firmly believe the Holy Spirit is on watch for those moments. The answer is PUSH - Pray Until Something Happens.

Jesus tells the disciples that the Holy Spirit will come to them, that when that has entered them, the Truth will be revealed, they will know beyond doubt that He is the Son of the Father.

Jesus will come again in Glory. When that will be? Well, it will be when humankind is at peace, they have kinder hearts and people recognise the truth that Jesus was and is our Advocate on the day of judgement.

As the poet Rumi stated: 'You are the author of your own Book of Deeds; make sure it worth the read on the Day of Judgement'.

## Prayers Each month we remember those who are no longer with us in our Year's Mind: May

Charles Frederick Morgan, Ernest Brady, Alfred Finch, Christopher Mason, Helen Primmer, Joyce Ellen Porter, George Billings, Ruby Bateman, Richard Porter, Thomas William Hall, Irene Annie Kerrison, Lily Manby, Albert E Challenger, Eric Bennett, Winifred Coombes, Constance Drew, Stanley Gillon, Alice Taylor, John Rasor, Vincent Williams, Archie Titmarsh (Mr T), Margaret Marion Miller, Patrick Fitzgibbons, Helen C Jamison, Gladys Bagridge, Roy Martin, Winifred I Childs, Doris Taylor, Eddie Howard, Cyril Goodman, Percy James Pearson, Laura Snowden, Constance Carolyn Porter, Ivy Minnie Taylor, Florence Emily Holmes,



(Above) THE GUARDIAN on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May – St. Peter's features in Tree of the Week.

Please send any news items and photographs to the Editor at [ronjeffries@live.co.uk](mailto:ronjeffries@live.co.uk) or to 37 Spearpoint Gardens, ILFORD IG2 7SX

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