

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER KEEPING YOU UP TO DATE ACROSS OUR PARISHES

In my study, on my desk, I have a printout of a verse from Psalm 4. It reads as follows: *'In peace I will lie down to sleep, for you alone, LORD, make me dwell in safety.'* I often need this reminder as I go about my daily activities. This week has been no exception. The horrendous earthquakes in Venezuela reminded me of a trip I had, with my late wife, to New Zealand, which found me standing directly under a large glass roof in a shopping centre, when a magnitude 6 earthquake struck. After the initial shock and realisation of what was happening, I rushed to exit the building as fast as I could. What was surprising was the way all the other people were doing the same thing but in a controlled and apparently unworried way. They had experienced a major 'quake just a few months before as well as numerous aftershocks. As a result, they knew the evacuation procedures and the design safety features built into modern constructions in the area, including this shopping centre. In these things they trusted.

The verse in Psalm 4 reminds me of God's promised invisible presence watching over us as we meet the unforeseen trials and tribulations of life. The stories of the early followers of Jesus in the Bible – like Peter and Paul, was of God's presence and protection through horrors of all kinds, shipwrecks, angry crowds, imprisonment, physical attacks, disease and the like. (See for instance Paul's dramatic description of his own life in 2 Corinthians 11:23-25). Yet he came to believe that whatever life threw at him, God's presence was guaranteed – it was as if God had put in place the spiritual building structures to enable him to face the future with confidence. So, if you are facing some difficulty at this time be assured you are not alone. Do lift a simple prayer to God and take hold of the promise in Psalm 4.

Rev. Nigel Hinton



Interregnum Update

There is a lot going on behind the scenes as we look to the future in our InSpires churches. All three PCCs met in June to review our partnership of the past two years, and all were positive in their feedback and agreed that we should work towards becoming a United Benefice of 3 churches in due course. This agreement allows us to work together on the Parish Profile which will be the key document in the advertisement for a new Rector. If you would like some input into these discussions and plans please do use the short survey in the email, or which is printed in this Newsletter



Worship this Sunday

Sunday 5th July 2026

The Fifth Sunday After Trinity

At St Mary's Hartfield

9.30am Holy Communion

(with Sunday Discoverers and Sunday Connect)

Lead and Preacher: Rev Sue Diggory

At St Mary Magdalene's, Cowden

10.30am Morning Worship

Lead and Preacher: Rev Stephen Hills

At Holy Trinity Coleman's Hatch

11am Matins

Lead and Preacher: Donna Dewar

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Lead and Preacher: Rev Stephen Hills

Sunday 12th July

The Sixth Sunday After Trinity

9.30am Songs of Praise

Lead by: Matt Marriott

Sunday 19th July

The Seventh Sunday After Trinity

9.30am Holy Communion

(with Sunday Discoverers and Sunday Connect)

Lead and Preacher: Rev Nigel Hinton

Sunday 26th July

The Eighth Sunday After Trinity

9.30am Morning Worship

Lead by: Matt Marriott & Rachel Reid

Sunday 2nd August

The Ninth Sunday After Trinity

9.30am Holy Communion

(NO Sunday Discoverers and Sunday Connect)

Lead and Preacher: Rev Nigel Hinton

Save the Dates:

Tuesday 7th July at 7.30pm

Praise and Prayer at Hartfield Church
(see flyer in "News from the 3 churches")

Saturday 11th July at 10am to 4pm

Table Top Sale –
on the Tennis Lawn behind Holy Trinity Church
(see flyer in "News from the 3 churches")

Sunday 19th July at 10.30am

A Celebration of Marriage at Cowden Church
(see flyer in "News from the 3 churches")

Sunday 26th July at 3.30pm

Forest Church at Cowden Church (see flyer in
"News from the 3 churches")

Children and Youth Corner



5pm-6.15pm Connect at Hartfield Village Hall

Youths aged 10+. Games, food, and fun!

- 2nd July
- 16th July



5pm-6pm Connect Extra at The Oast

for youths aged 13+. Read, question, and explore
the Christian faith together!

- 9th July



9.15am-10.45am Little Stars

Parent and toddler group, tea & coffee provided

- 6th July
- 13th July

There will be no Little Star sessions on 20th and 27th
July due to the school holidays



9.30am Sunday Connect

at The Oast for Youths aged 10+ for breakfast and
chat to build a relationship with Jesus – during the
Sunday Communion service

- 5th July
- 19th July



9.30am Sunday Discoverers

Children up to 10 years to learn more about our
Creator – during the Sunday Communion service

- 5th July
- 19th July

Friday 3rd July at 6pm

Trinity Talks – Demonstration of a Summer Picnic with Kim Myhre at Trinity Hall. (see flyer in “News from the 3 churches”)

Saturday 4th July at 10.30am

Holy Trinity Bible Study Group, at Caroline and Tony Daszweska's home.

Thursday 9th July

9.30am-12pm Trinity Café at Trinity Hall
Serving hot chocolate, coffee, tea & cake.

Saturday 11th July at 10am to 4pm

Table Top Sale –
on the Tennis Lawn behind Holy Trinity Church
(see flyer in “News from the 3 churches”)

Sunday 12th July

The Sixth Sunday After Trinity

11am Holy Communion

Lead and Preacher: Rev Nigel Hinton

Sunday 19th July

The Seventh Sunday After Trinity

11am Matins

Lead by Donna Dewar
Preacher: Rev Nigel Hinton

Thursday 23rd July

9.30am-12pm Trinity Café at Trinity Hall
Serving hot chocolate, coffee, tea & cake.

Sunday 26th July

The Eighth Sunday After Trinity

11am Holy Communion

Lead and Preacher: Rev Nigel Hinton

Sunday 2nd August

The Ninth Sunday after Trinity

11am Matins

Lead and Preacher: Rev Nigel Hinton

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Lead: Donna Dewar
Preacher: Angela Ogle

Save the Dates:

Tuesday 7th July at 7.30pm

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(see flyer in “News from the 3 churches”)

Sunday 19th July at 10.30am

A Celebration of Marriage at Cowden Church
(see flyer in “News from the 3 churches”)

Sunday 26th July at 3.30pm

Forest Church at Cowden Church (see flyer in
“News from the 3 churches”)

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Friday 3rd July

10am-12pm Cowden Community Café
at Cowden Village Hall

Sunday 12th July

The Sixth Sunday After Trinity

10.30am Morning Worship

Lead and Preacher: Rev Stephen Hills



Friday 17th July

10am-12pm Cowden Community Café
at Cowden Village Hall

Sunday 19th July

The Seventh Sunday After Trinity

10.30am A Celebration of Marriage

Lead and Preacher: Rev Stephen Hills

Sunday 26th July

The Eighth Sunday After Trinity

10.30am Morning Worship

Lead and Preacher: Rev Stephen Hills



3.30pm Forest Church

(see flyer in "News from the 3
churches")

Sunday 2nd August

The Ninth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Morning Worship

Lead and Preacher: Donna Dewar

Save the Dates:

Tuesday 7th July at 7.30pm

Praise and Prayer at Hartfield Church
(see flyer in "News from the 3 churches")

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Table Top Sale –

on the Tennis Lawn behind Holy Trinity Church
(see flyer in "News from the 3 churches")



News from the 3 Churches



Your Opinion Matters

Following Julie's retirement, the Archdeacon of Hastings came to a meeting of our three PCCs to discuss the interregnum and process for appointing Julie's successor. The PCC's have subsequently met to undertake a two-year review of the partnership between the two benefices of Hartfield + Coleman's Hatch and Cowden, and all agreed that we should now progress to becoming a United Benefice of three churches. The next stage is for the PCCs to draw up a Parish Profile prior to advertising the post.

We would welcome your input in this. If you would like to, please complete the three short questions below (which were also in the Notices email) and sent as a simple reply email to Lisa (admsmht@gmail.com); paper copies will be available at the back of each church.

1. What are your hopes and opportunities for your church, and our three churches working together, over the next 5 years? (Maximum 3 things)
2. What do you see as the greatest challenges facing your church, and our three churches working together, over the next 5 years? (Maximum 3 things)
3. In no more than ten words, please describe what you hope and pray the new Rector of our three churches will be like?

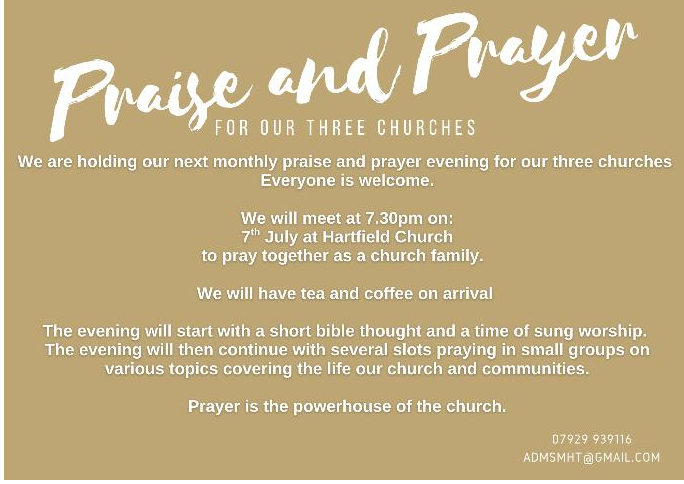
We will be collating responses soon, so if you could get back to us by 10th July.

Thank you.



Praise and Prayer

The next Praise and Prayer will be in **St Mary's in Hartfield on 7th July at 7.30pm.**



Praise and Prayer
FOR OUR THREE CHURCHES

We are holding our next monthly praise and prayer evening for our three churches
Everyone is welcome.

We will meet at 7.30pm on:
7th July at Hartfield Church
to pray together as a church family.

We will have tea and coffee on arrival

The evening will start with a short bible thought and a time of sung worship.
The evening will then continue with several slots praying in small groups on
various topics covering the life of our church and communities.

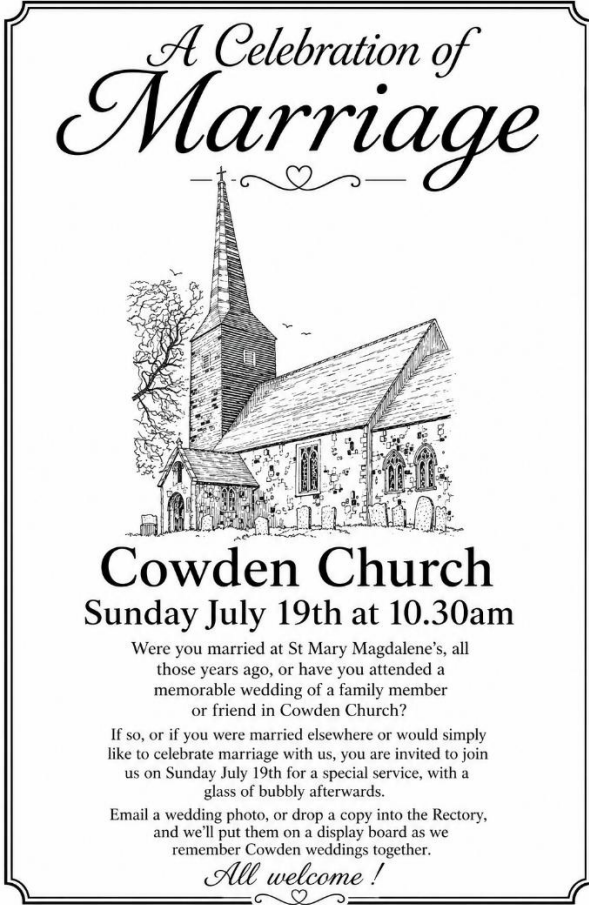
Prayer is the powerhouse of the church.

07929 939116
ADMSMHT@GMAIL.COM

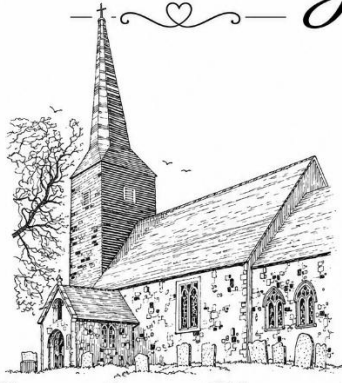


A Celebration of Marriage

There will be a special service at **Cowden Church** on **19th July at 10.30am** celebrating the marriages which have been taken place there (see details below):



*A Celebration of
Marriage*



Cowden Church
Sunday July 19th at 10.30am

Were you married at St Mary Magdalene's, all those years ago, or have you attended a memorable wedding of a family member or friend in Cowden Church?

If so, or if you were married elsewhere or would simply like to celebrate marriage with us, you are invited to join us on Sunday July 19th for a special service, with a glass of bubbly afterwards.

Email a wedding photo, or drop a copy into the Rectory, and we'll put them on a display board as we remember Cowden weddings together.

All welcome!

News from the 3 Churches



Summer Picnics @ The Croft

Over the summer we are planning to hold our annual "Tuesday Evening Picnics". These are weekly gatherings on the Croft in Hartfield where people from all three churches and communities can meet, chat and enjoy the summer evenings.

In order to facilitate this, we are again asking for people to be responsible for the event each week, which basically means being there from 5.30pm to 8pm to ensure that people feel welcome, make sure that we leave the Croft tidy and maybe (although not essential) to bring some games for the children to enjoy.

If you feel you can help, there will be a sign-up sheet at the back of Hartfield church or just let Lisa know on admsmht@gmail.com or 07927 939116.



Forest Church

See below for the details of the upcoming July Forest Church held in Cowden.



A family time of worship and activities in church and outside, as we celebrate God's creation

Songs, crafts, story prayers, tea and cakes

**Cowden
Forest Church**

4th Sundays at 3.30-4.30pm

26th July 2026

Come dressed for the great outdoors!

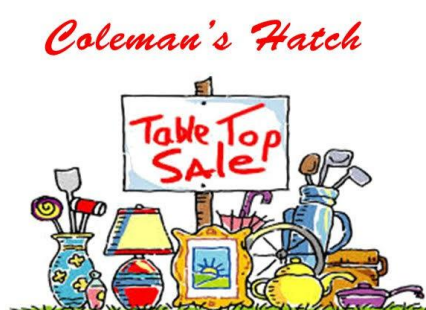
Meet in church at 3.30pm



Table Top Sale

There is a Table Top Sale in aid of the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance Service on Saturday 11th July from 10am to 4pm (please see below for details). Parking has been arranged for those attending, at driver's own risk, in the field next to the church

In order to raise as much money as possible for this worthy cause, the team have asked for quality Bric-a-Brac, collectables, plants books and quality clothes. If you can help with these or would like to take a stall please contact Sheila van Maurik.



Tennis Lawn Behind The Holy Trinity church.

Saturday 11th July 2026

10am — 4pm

**Jewellery, Plants, Arts & Crafts
Jams, local honey and preserves,**

**Vintage Items,
and much more.**

Refreshments all day.

To book a table

Contact Jan Reed 07775 846214

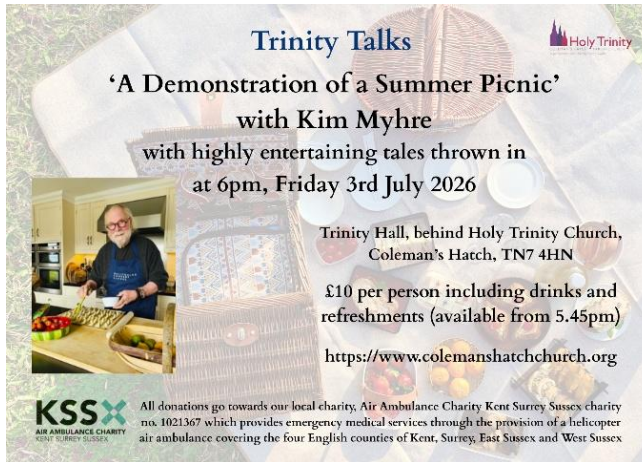
Email: colemanshatchevents@gmail.com

**This is a charitable event, in aid of
Kent, Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance Service.**

News from the 3 Churches

Trinity Talks

Please see below for details for upcoming talks:
Demonstration of a Summer Picnic.



Trinity Talks
'A Demonstration of a Summer Picnic'
with Kim Myhre
with highly entertaining tales thrown in
at 6pm, Friday 3rd July 2026

Trinity Hall, behind Holy Trinity Church,
Coleman's Hatch, TN7 4HN

£10 per person including drinks and
refreshments (available from 5.45pm)

<https://www.colemanshatchchurch.org>

KSS AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY
KENT SURREY SUSSEX
All donations go towards our local charity, Air Ambulance Charity Kent Surrey Sussex charity no. 1021367 which provides emergency medical services through the provision of a helicopter air ambulance covering the four English counties of Kent, Surrey, East Sussex and West Sussex



If you would like to donate to East Grinstead food bank, there are boxes in both St Mary's Hartfield and Holy Trinity churches.

Here is a list of the items they are currently are in urgent need of (in date, not homemade and non perishable please):

- Laundry Capsules
- Long-life Fruit Juice (not chilled and not squash)
- Sanitary Pads – Medium
- Hair Shampoo
- Hair Conditioner
- Shaving Foam

For more information visit
eastgrinstead.foodbank.org.uk

Prayers and Contacts



This month we are praying...

For peace in Ukraine, the Middle East, Sudan. For those suffering the loss of loved ones, homes and from the lack of food, power and medicines. For the wisdom of leaders as they work on maintaining or creating conditions of ceasefire and finding diplomatic solutions for sustained peace.

For political stability and unity as we look towards a new prime minister and that whoever takes on the role proves a wise and humble leader who leads for the good of all.

As we continue the interregnum, for the churchwardens, Rev Stephen, Rev Nigel and Donna as they take on extra duties and services.

For our schools as they close in on the end of the school year. For those who will be moving on to secondary school or colleges and those who are leaving schooling altogether.

For the elderly, sick and vulnerable, especially in the heatwaves we are experiencing, and for all medical staff and carers. In particular, for those who need our prayers.

- Sally Kuhrt
- Sandra Owen
- Jean Nutt
- Frances Stuttford
- Andrea Johnson
- Camilla Clarkson

Pray for all who have recently been bereaved, including the family and friends of:

- Francis Whetstone
- Brenda Hildreth

Contacts

As we are now in vacancy please contact Lisa Gibbs-Murray, or if urgent and out of office hours please contact the churchwardens

Rev Stephen Hills – Associate Vicar

hills.rectory@yahoo.co.uk

Rectory Number: 01342 643069

Mobile Number: 07896 971723

Donna Dewar – Lay Reader

dewardonna@googlemail.com

01342 326424

Rev Nigel Hinton – Retired Clergy

nigelk.hinton@gmail.com

07756 664743

Matt Marriott – Hartfield Church Youth Worker

studio4.121@outlook.com

07582 054880

Lisa Gibbs-Murray – Church Administrator

admsmht@gmail.com

07927 939116

Andrea McGlew - Safeguarding Officer for Hartfield

01342 850992

CJ Payne - Safeguarding Officer for Coleman's Hatch

safeguarding@colemanshatchchurch.org

Hilary Clarkson - Safeguarding Officer for Cowden

hilaryclarkson27@icloud.com