

# HOBNOB

*August  
Online*



**The parish magazine for  
St. Peter and St Paul. Horndon-on-the-Hill  
St. Giles and All Saints. Orsett  
St. Mary-the-Virgin. Bulphan**

**We have now begun holding services in Church again, details of which can be found on our Services page, but you can also watch in your home, the services livestreamed from Church at [hobnob.org.uk/watch](https://hobnob.org.uk/watch) or you can join our livestreamed Morning and Night Prayer on Mondays and Fridays at 8.30am and 6pm which you can find on Facebook [@HOBNOBChurches](https://www.facebook.com/HOBNOBChurches)**

**During the Corona Virus pandemic there will be no printed version of the Hobnob**



# THE UNITED BENEFICE OF ORSETT, BULPHAN AND HORNDON - ON - THE - HILL

www.hobnob.org.uk Facebook: @HOBNOBchurches

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<b>ASSOCIATE PRIEST</b>	Reverend Max Blake	e.mail <a href="mailto:max@hobnob.org.uk">max@hobnob.org.uk</a>	01375 360 522

## CHURCH OFFICERS AND CONTACT DETAILS

### St Giles & All Saints Orsett

Churchwardens	Janet Wilkins	01375 372 067
	Jackie Wood	01375 891 744
Treasurer	Lynn Bennett	
Covenant Secretary	Mark Willett	01375 892 113
PCC Secretary	Vacancy	
Sacristans	Di Bubb, Judi Mowatt, Tony Mowatt	
Vergers	Ed Stoddart	
	George Wood	01375 891 744
Mothers' Union Branch Leader	Di Bubb	01375 891 404
Edward Bear Toddler Group	Di Bubb	01375 891 404
Tower Captain	Judith Church	01375 891 556

### St Mary-the-Virgin Bulphan

Churchwardens	Ron Porter	01375 891 697
	Frank Woollard	01375 891 034
Deputy Churchwarden	Brian Flavell	01708 225 804
Treasurer	Lynda Robertson	01375 892 428
Covenant Secretary	Frank Woollard	01375 891 034
PCC Secretary	Ron Porter	01375 891 697
Parish Room Bookings	Traudi Porter	01375 891 697

### St Peter & St Paul Horndon-on-the-Hill

Churchwardens	Sonia Ward	01375 674212
	Alastair Macrae	01375 673 327
Deputy Churchwarden	Felicity Tarbard	01375 677581
Treasurer	Robin Clark	
Covenant Secretary	Ann Bonson	
PCC Secretary	Beverley Macrae	01375 673 327
Sacristans	Jane Barry. Jane Lothian. Judy Rood.	
	Beverley Macrae	
Vergers	Bill Rayner. Peter Belsham.	

### Benefice Baptism Co-ordinator

Christine Mortimer: <a href="mailto:c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk">c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk</a>	01375 641 485
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### Musicians

Jane Barry	07552 199 697
Janet McCheyne	07752 836 902

To arrange Weddings, please contact Rev. Sue Mann on 01375 891 254 or email: [rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk](mailto:rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk)



# THE BENEFICE REGISTERS

## Weddings

4th July Kevin McAlpin and Louise Bradshaw (B)

## Funerals

14th February	Sylvia Gilbert (94)	(H)
5th March	Annie Amelia Butcher (89)	(O)
10th March	John William Norris (78)	(B)
20th March	Betty Winifred Metson (91)	(O)
31st March	Joy Franklin (90)	(H)
3rd April	Terry McNally (87)	(H)
7th April	Pamela Palmer (89)	(H)
7th April	John Nunn (89)	(O)
23rd April	Doreen Bartley (90)	(O)
28th April	Peter James Moore (82)	(H)
30th April	Leonard Edgar (102)	(O)
30th April	Peter Rood (86)	(H)
4th May	Rev. Canon Glyndwr Jones (84)	(O-B-H)
22nd May	Betty Tinworth (93)	(H)
29th July	Hazel Swift (86)	(H)

## Interment of ashes

17th March	Joyce Mary King (85)	(H)
21st March	Colin Eve (80)	(O)
18th July	Betty Doreen Thomas (82)	(B)
27th July	Doreen Bartley (90)	(O)



## Wedding Enquiries

If you would like to enquire about booking a wedding at:  
Orsett, Bulphan or Horndon churches,  
please contact: Revd Sue Mann: 01375 891254  
rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk

## Baptism Enquiries

If you would like to enquire about booking a baptism at:

Orsett church, please contact: Jackie Wood:  
01375 891744  
j.wood@hobnob.org.uk

Bulphan church, please contact: Jackie Wood:  
01375 891744  
j.wood@hobnob.org.uk

Horndon church, please contact: Christine Mortimer:  
01375 641485  
c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk





# PRAYER DIARY:

Some thoughts to include in your daily prayers

August 1st	For the United Benefice of Orsett, Bulphan & Horndon-on-the-Hill
August 2nd	For those whose holidays have had to be cancelled this month
August 3rd	For humanitarian organisations here and abroad
August 4th	For those living in Baker Street in Orsett
August 5th	For Reverend Sue and Reverend Max
August 6th	For those living in The Spinney in Orsett
August 7th	For those living in South Hill Crescent in Horndon
August 8th	For our own personal needs
August 9th	For those living in Church Lane in Bulphan
August 10th	For those living in Mill Lane, Horndon
August 11th	For our PCC's in each parish, currently unable to meet
August 12th	For members of our congregations who live in Grays
August 13th	For those living in Prince Charles Avenue in Orsett
August 14th	For St Luke's Hospice & all carers
August 15th	For those living in Albert Road in Bulphan
August 16th	For physicians, health care professionals and the front line workers
August 17th	For those in crisis of faith
August 18th	For those living in Gordon Road in Horndon
August 19th	For those living in the High Road in Horndon
August 20th	For the work of Chelmsford Cathedral
August 21st	For those living in Penn Close in Orsett
August 22nd	For those living in Orsett Road in Horndon
August 23rd	For those living in Church Road in Bulphan
August 24th	For those living in The Green in Orsett
August 25th	For those living in Victoria Road, Horndon
August 26th	For our twin dioceses in Romania, Sweden, Kenya & Trinidad & Tobago
August 27th	For those living on Doesgate Lane, Bulphan
August 28th	For those living on Rectory Road, Orsett
August 29th	For those living on Orsett Road, Orsett
August 30th	For our friends and neighbours
August 31st	For family living abroad

**Please continue to pray for those who have lost family members to Corona Virus and those brave people who care for the infected.**

Alone with none but thee, my God,  
I journey on my way.  
What need I fear, when thou art near  
O king of night and day?

More safe am I within thy hand  
Than if a host did round me stand.

— *St Columba*



## Bulphan Churchwarden's Report

As lockdown eases our churches begin to reopen, albeit in a restricted form. Many will have a sense of gratitude that limited gathering enables them to once again worship in their own churches.

Regrettably in Bulphan we are less fortunate; after undertaking an extensive risk assessment our church proved impossibly difficult for most forms of service. Because we have a single aisle (unlike Orsett and Horndon churches), we cannot operate a 'one-way-system'. Furthermore, the maximum number of single individual people socially distanced that we are able to accommodate is just 14, too few for a United Benefice service. All that we can currently offer is an open church for private prayer on Mondays and Thursdays, from 10.00 until midday. Unfortunately, weddings and funerals are also compromised by restricted numbers of attendance. We did have one wedding on the 4th July which was restricted to 14 guests, doubtless very difficult for the bride and groom preparing an invitation list, but a moment of joy in these dark times.

Where possible, I avoid talking about money, but as you can imagine during the past six months we have received no income from Sunday morning collections. Although at present our income from the Parish Giving scheme and other regular arrangements has enabled us to "pay-our-way", but this is not inexhaustible and there is no magic money tree. This situation is not exclusive to Bulphan, Orsett and Horndon are in similar situations. Many people have used the 'Just Giving' on-line service and for this we are most thankful, but I would ask that if you feel you would like to help further this would be very beneficial, and in the long-term make a difference to the future sustainability of our three churches. To quote the Tesco mantra "Every Little Helps".

One piece of good news is that at some point during the next two weeks our church path will be resurfaced. A Bulphan family have very generously offered to pay for this in memory of a deceased relative. We are most grateful for this act of kindness.

**Please be careful and stay safe!**



# Bulphan WI

Members and visitors gathered together for another virtual meeting this month. Member Sherry, expertly lead us in a meditation during which we grounded ourselves by sending roots to the centre of the earth. She suggested other meditation techniques we could use including visualisation of our happy place. The discussion included helpful crystals, protecting against negativity, taking care of our minds by being mindfull and making our bodies aware of different situations such as an operation or treatment. Such a wide-ranging subject with many aspects we're sure to invite Sherry back for further instalments.

Sadly our scheduled speaker for August is unable to attend so our fab Speakers' Secretary is arranging something else for that meeting, keep an eye on the Bulphan WI Facebook page to find out what she's come up with, it's sure to be interesting as always.

Updates about future meetings along with this year's programme, information, photographs, and much more can be found on Facebook at Bulphan Women's Institute and on Twitter @bulphanwi or contact Secretary Janet McCheyne on 07752836902

**Jan Curtis**

**President**





# MOTHERS' UNION

## Did you know?

Did you know that 9 August (this year it is a Sunday), is Mary Sumner Day? Mary Sumner is the founder of the worldwide organisation, the Mothers' Union.

## The Story of Mary Sumner



It all started when Mary, married to George, Rector of the Parish of Old Alresford, was passionate about transforming the home-lives of Parish families, by helping the women to support one another in raising their children.

Her husband was very supportive: "just share your heart – God will do the rest."

She was so nervous at the first meeting of the parish women, that she refused to speak, and asked George to take her place. In those days, it was very unusual for a woman to be a public speaker. However, George encouraged her to speak from the heart and it went so well that she found the courage to speak at future meetings. Her talks were inspired by her faith – it was practical and down to earth – "Remember, Ladies, to be yourselves what you would have your children be".

After groups with women became well established, she was asked to speak to the men of the Parish. Again, she was apprehensive, but agreed, and helped them to be more aware of what their wives did for them, to show more respect and love.

The meetings grew, and included women - old and young, rich and poor. Others heard about her work, and started groups in their own areas.

In 1876, she founded "the Union of Mothers" – with a membership card and promise: "to be given up, body and soul, to Jesus Christ in Holy Baptism, and that your duty is to train your children for his service".

In 1885, at a time when it was still unheard of for women to speak to large audiences, Mary Sumner was invited by the Presiding Bishop to speak to a packed church congress session for women in Portsmouth. He anointed her with the authority to speak - he felt that he had no authority to speak to a group of women whose prime concern was to get enough food on the table so that the children would not starve. She overcame her nerves again. "Together, by the Grace of God... we can calm each other when we are afraid; strengthen one another when we are weak; and work together to raise our children to the glory of God. Unity is strength".

- The movement grew further, increasingly with the support of bishops, internationally as well as in England. Some key principles were developed, including:
- That the prosperity of a nation springs from the family life in its homes
- That family life is the greatest institution in the world for the formation of the character of children
- That faith is the foundation of family life
- That the tone of family life depends upon the married life of the parents – and ultimately, that example is stronger than precept

As the movement continued to grow, Mary Sumner asked herself what its purpose really was, and what it should strive for. She reflected: "A true home should be a lighthouse, shedding its quiet beams far and

wide” – her dream was for every home to be filled with the light and love of Jesus, and for the movement to unite many hearts in many lands, nurturing healthy environments for little children.

And she was a living example of what she preached. From 1900 onwards, she and the members started to advocate on issues of key importance to families and children – she campaigned to stop children collecting alcohol from public houses for their families, and for the age of marriage for girls to be raised from 12 to 16. She was not afraid to speak up on difficult issues, despite resistance from members of the establishment.

She was also not afraid to act outside the social norms, to do what she believed to be right. At a time when unmarried girls with children were condemned and cast out, she cared for and protected her niece and her illegitimate son.

When she died in August, 1921, 4,000 women attended her funeral, which was a service of Thanksgiving. The last memory was one of her, on her feet in the sunlight, praising God.

She could not have conceived how the seeds which she planted would grow into a movement 4 million strong today, of members in 83 countries putting their faith into action to nurture healthy relationships in families and communities and to fight for social justice.

### Online Services:

We are delighted that the following services will be taking place online on Sunday 9 August 2020 and will be available on both the Mothers’ Union Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/MothersUnion>) and You Tube Channels:

**Mary Sumner Day Morning Prayer - 8:30am (BST)**

**Mary Sumner Evening Compline – 9:00pm (BST)**

Service sheets for both events will be available on the Mothers’ Union website – please do join in.

**Mary Sumner’s Personal Prayer** *Written by her in 1876 and then prayed by her every day for the rest of her life*

All this day, O Lord, let me touch  
as many lives as possible for thee;  
and every life I touch do thou  
by thy spirit quicken,  
whether through the word I speak,  
the prayer I breathe  
or the life I live. Amen

### Mothers’ Union Prayer

Loving Lord  
We thank you for your love so freely given to us all.  
We pray for families around the world.  
Bless the work of the Mothers’ Union as we seek to share your love  
through the encouragement, strengthening and support of marriage and family life.  
Empowered by your Spirit, may we be united in prayer and worship, and in love and service  
reach out as your hands across the world.  
In Jesus’ name. Amen

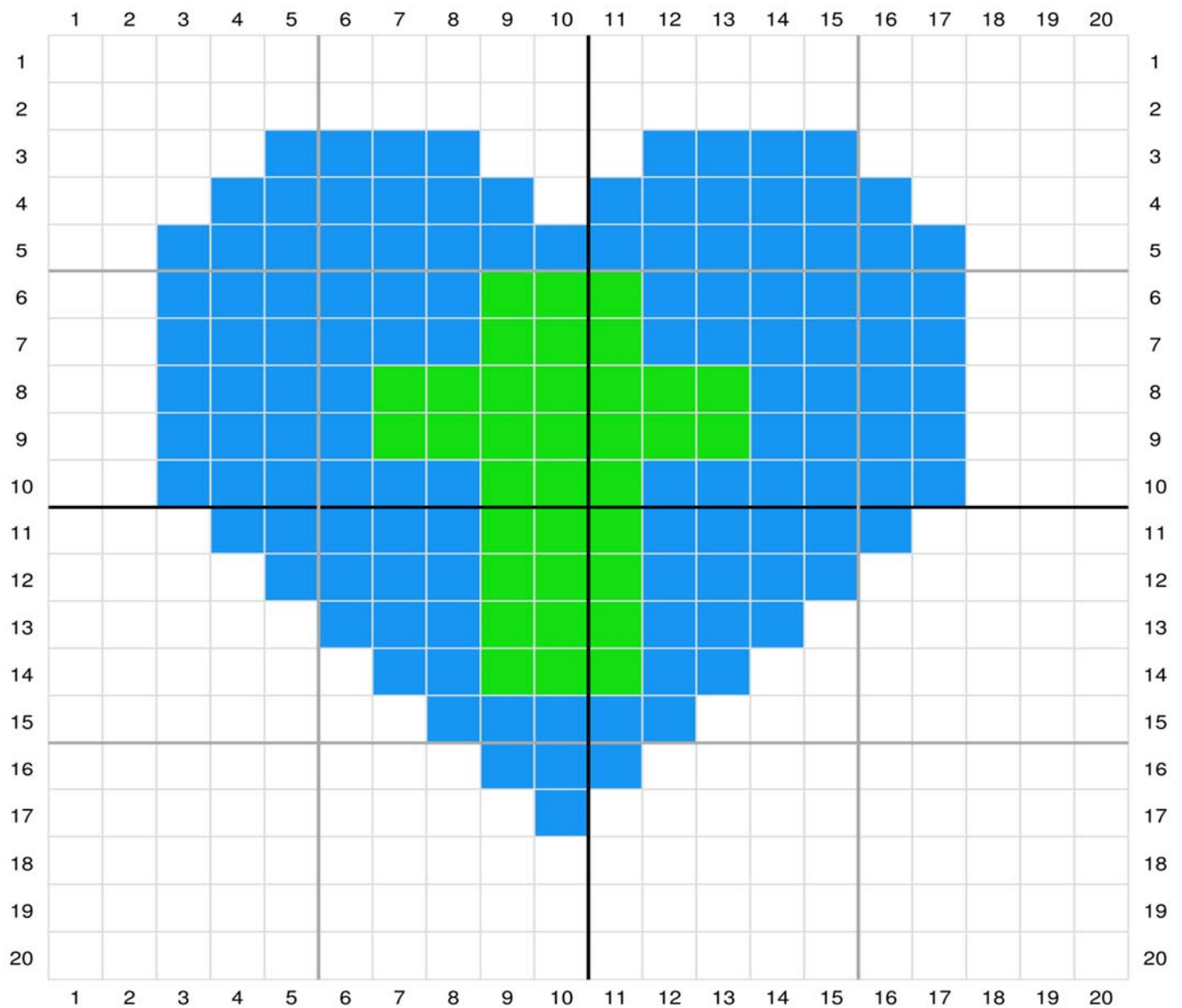
**Di Bubb, Mothers’ Union contact**





## CROSS-STITCH PATTERN

Do you enjoy cross-stitch? Perhaps you had a go during lockdown? Why not try this simple pattern provided by the Mothers' Union – do let us know how you get on.



# ORSETT EDWARD BEAR TODDLER GROUP

During July, Edward Bear had a busy and exciting month – did you?

At the beginning of the month, he helped Di to find a saucepan to bang to celebrate the 72<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the NHS and there's a photo below to showing him banging; it made a very good noise!

Then on 19 July he went with Di to the first service back together again at St Giles and All Saints Church in Orsett! He was so excited the night before that he almost didn't get to sleep. It felt strange being inside after all those months, and everyone wore masks (including Edward Bear, see photo). Afterwards he went to see how Thomas was able to livestream the service online for all the people that couldn't attend the service – it was amazing to see!



"The only trouble with it being summer holidays now", said Edward Bear, "is that I didn't get to say goodbye to my friends. I do hope they're all staying safe and have a wonderful time during the summer holidays." Then Edward Bear said a prayer:

*"Lord God, we put ourselves into Your hands, and pray that You will bless us and our families during the wonderful months of summer. May we all help make our home a place of relaxation, joy, love, peace and safety. Amen"*

Edward Bear doesn't know when he will be able to return to fortnightly meetings, especially as the helpers are mature and have to be extra careful. Maybe you could help in some way? Edward Bear and Di can be contacted via his Facebook page, so do get in touch.

Edward Bear would also love to hear from his friends – send us your summer photos, or comment when he shares his stories and photos: <https://www.facebook.com/Orsett-Edward-Bear-Toddler-Group-1824091051224579/>

**EDWARD BEAR, DI, GILL, AND SANDRA**

# EASY PEASY!

On reading Rector Sue's letter to the congregation setting out the dire financial situation for St Giles and All Saints Church, Orsett, this year and the shortfall last year, I must say it gave me a shock!

I realised that Orsett's failure to pay their contribution to the Parish Share (the amount required to cover the costs of our clergy and a proportion of diocesan central costs) meant that another parish somewhere would have to pay more to make up for our deficit. It could also mean that, if clergy costs need saving across the Diocese of Chelmsford, then we could be at risk.

I decided that I needed to look at my monthly giving to St Giles and All Saints, made by direct debit through the Parish Giving Scheme. I also realised that I hadn't kept up with inflation so action was needed – and this is where the easy peasy bit came in - I made a quick phone call to the Parish Giving Scheme (Tel: 0333 002 1260), answered a few simple questions and an increase to my giving was all arranged!

I also reconfirmed that all my donations were to be Gift Aided – another easy peasy way to increase regular donations to St Giles and All Saints for those who pay tax so every £1 donated grows to £1.25.

Time is precious to me and easy peasy ways to do things are most attractive – why don't you give it a go!

**Di Bubb**

Find out more at:

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/home/>

# FAMOUS PERSON IN AUGUST

**ALLAN PINKERTON, born August 25, 1819, Glasgow. Scottish-born detective and founder of the famous American Private Detective Agency.**

Pinkerton was the son of a police sergeant who died when Allan was a child, leaving the family in great poverty. Allan found work as a cooper and soon became involved in Chartism, a mass movement that sought political and social reform. His activities resulted in a warrant for his arrest, and in 1842 Pinkerton fled to the United States, settling in Chicago. Moving the next year to the nearby town of Dundee in Kane County, he set up a cooper's shop there.



While cutting wood on a deserted island one day, he discovered and later captured a gang of counterfeiters. Following this and other similar achievements, he was appointed deputy sheriff of Kane county in 1846 and soon afterward deputy sheriff of Cook County, with headquarters in Chicago.

In 1850 Pinkerton resigned from Chicago's new police force in order to organize a private detective agency that specialized in railway theft cases. The Pinkerton National Detective Agency became one of the most famous organizations of its kind. Its successes included capture of the principals in a \$700,000 Adams Express Company theft in 1866 and the thwarting of an assassination plot against President-elect Abraham Lincoln in February 1861 in Baltimore. In 1861, working for the Union during the Civil War, Pinkerton, under the name E.J. Allen, headed an organization whose purpose was to obtain military information in the Southern states.

After the Civil War Pinkerton resumed the management of his detective agency. From 1873 to 1876 one of his detectives, James McParlan, lived among the Molly Maguires in Pennsylvania and secured evidence that led to the breaking up of this organization of coal miners supposedly engaged in terrorism.

During the strikes of 1877 the Pinkerton Agency's harsh policy toward labour unions caused it to be severely criticized in labour circles, although Pinkerton asserted he was helping workers by opposing labour unions. Pinkerton wrote *The Molly Maguires and the Detectives* (1877); *The Spy of the Rebellion* (1883), his account of Lincoln's journey to Washington in 1861; and *Thirty Years a Detective* (1884).

# PLESHEY IN LOCKDOWN – VIRTUAL RETREAT

July 1978 – my first visit to Pleshey, a perfect summer's afternoon as I wandered through this tiny Essex village – and so began my love of Pleshey village and especially of the Diocesan Retreat House.

The history of the place is absolutely fascinating. Pleshey is an encircled village dating back to before Saxon times and became a royal household with the marriage of Thomas, Duke of Gloucester, youngest son of Edward III to Eleanor, who had inherited Pleshey with its castle and moat built on land given by William the Conqueror (Thomas' nephew became Richard II and later was responsible for the assassination of his uncle!). Can you imagine the great scenes at the castle when the royal court came from London? Or Thomas and Eleanor, who set up a College of Canons and the church dedicated to the Holy Trinity, walking across the meadow (now the cricket pitch) in the evening back to the castle across the bridge, which still exists? Pleshey is even mentioned in Shakespeare's Richard II – such history!

After that first time, I have been to Pleshey many more times – quiet days, retreats, open days – and it always feels like coming home. The Retreat House itself was once a Convent and has its own history before becoming the Chelmsford Diocesan Retreat House in 1927. It has an ambience of stillness and peace with the beautiful garden, which has been loved into existence by several devoted gardeners.

This year, because of the Covid-19 pandemic, sadly the House has had to close to visitors for the time being. However, in July, a Virtual Retreat was organised – a Paint and Prayer Retreat - and, although I am not a 'painter', I was encouraged to take part via Zoom. Led by Revd John Howden on painting and Revd Susan Sayers on prayer, it began!



Continues:



The retreat started on Monday evening and finished on Friday morning. We were 16 ladies – the days began at 10am on Zoom for a short session with chat, worship, and a link to a video with a practical lesson and talk about the painting challenge for the day. On the first day we also received a video showing the Retreat House, its chapel and its gardens that enabled us (if needed) to feel we were really at Pleshey. We then met again on Zoom at 5pm each day to pray together and to share our day and show our art if we wished (see photo below). This was always an interesting time as everyone had a chance to speak and you could feel us all growing into a little family – much more than an actual retreat. The prayer time was always beautifully led by Revd Susan Sayers and became more interactive each day with much to ponder. The theme for the retreat was “When I survey” so becoming aware of our surroundings, situation and people was an all-consuming pastime. Pencil drawings and paintings using just three colours were the two main challenges during the week – most participants were happy to show and share their work and reflections.

It was a lovely retreat – different but very rewarding. Although sad when it was time to say goodbye, we left renewed, enthused, and at peace.

The Virtual Retreat was a new experience and one that I would definitely do again!

Di Bubb



**The Retreat House**





#### Protect and preserve a local waterway, canal, river or beach

Take a vacation and stay at home. Rediscover the interesting people and features of your own neighbourhood. Support local initiatives and interests. Those are just some of the tips from *How Many Light bulbs Does it take To Change a Christian?* By Claire Foster and David Shreeve (Church House Publishing)

#### Volunteer to work on a community project

Consider schemes like Wolf Fields. A Rocha UK's urban nature reserve. Members of the local community in West London have been involved in the work on the allotment areas and have harvested potatoes, runner beans, courgettes, cucumbers and tomatoes.

#### Search lifestyle sections of environment charity websites

For example, Friends of The Earth offer a wide range of advice including – ten tips for buying cheap bikes, five recipes for home-made cleaning products, growing fruit, how to buy ethical jewellery and eco-friendly bedroom design!

#### All you need in less

Tips on ethical and green living are offered on The Guardian web pages.  
[www.theguardian.com/environment/ethical-living](http://www.theguardian.com/environment/ethical-living)



#### Dine without denial

The 'Food Made Good' scheme assesses restaurants, cafes and caterers for their sourcing impact on society and environment. Then they let you know how they're doing with a simple star rating. The initiative encourages us to think of them as the 'Michelin stars of sustainability', rewarding excellence for people and planet.

#### Watch what you wear

You don't have to opt for cork-soled clogs and expensive organic t-shirts, says the Stylist webzine. That's because over the last few years, ethical fashion barns that are both desirable and affordable have sprung up on the high street and online. To start you off on this journey, Stylist reviews ten ethical fashion brands.

#### Listen with love

Some of the most popular bands and artists in contemporary culture support environmental causes. For instance, Justin Timberlake spent 16 million dollars to open an eco-friendly golf course. Moby helped edit the book *Gristle: From Factory Farms to food Safety – Thinking Twice About the Meat We Eat*. The Dave Matthews Band donated over 8.5 million dollars to bolster local environmentalism. But how about using a cardboard amplifier to listen to their music? Check out these novel eco-ideas for music lovers.  
[www.greenoptimistic.com/eco-friendly-music-gadgets](http://www.greenoptimistic.com/eco-friendly-music-gadgets).