

Services August			
1 st August Trinity 9	9.30 Holy Communion Cuxton 11.00 Holy Communion Halling	Exodus 16 vv 1-15 p72 Ephesians 4 vv 1-16 p1175 John 6 vv 24-35 p1070	
8 th August Trinity 10	9.30 Holy Communion Cuxton 11.00 Holy Communion Halling	I Kings 19 vv 1-9 p361 Ephesians 4 v25 – 5 v2 p1176 John 6 vv 35-51 p1070	
15 th August Trinity 11 BVM	9.30 Holy Communion Cuxton 11.00 Holy Communion Halling	Proverbs 9 vv 1-6 p642 Ephesians 5 vv 15-20 p1176 John 6 vv 51-58 p1071	
22 nd August Trinity 12	9.30 Holy Communion Cuxton 11.00 Holy Communion Halling	Joshua 24 vv 1-18 p240 Ephesians 6 vv 10-20 p1177 John 6 vv 56-69 p1071	
29 th August Trinity 13 Behheading of S John the Baptist	9.30 Holy Communion Cuxton 11.00 Holy Communion Halling	Deuteronomy 4 vv 1-9 p182 James 1 vv 17-27 p1213 Mark 7 vv 1-23 p1010	
Holy Communion Wednesdays 9.30 am Cuxton		Holy Communion Thursdays 9.30 am Halling	
4 th August	II Samuel 5 vv 1-25 Luke 23 vv 44-56	5 th August	II Samuel 6 vv 1-19 Luke 23 v 56 – 24 v12
11 th August	Job 10 vv 1-22 Mark 1 vv 29-45	12 th August	Job 11 vv 1-20 Mark 2 vv 1-12
18 th August	Job 16 v 1 – 17 v2 Mark 4 vv 1-20	19 th August	Job 17 vv 3-16 Mark 4 vv 21-34
25 th August	Job 23 vv 1-17 Mark 6 vv 1-13	27 th August	Job 24 vv 1-25 Mark 6 vv 14-29

Copy Date September Magazine: 13th August 8.00 am Rectory

We'd like to resume **printing a paper edition of the magazine very soon**, but we would need a new person to lead a team of printers. It's about a day a month for 11 months in the year. The retiring printer will show you what to do. Volunteers to me please.

In S John's Church, there is a list of vicars on display from Saxon times until the present day. It has been suggested that there should be something similar at S Michael's. We can provide the names of the rectors. Is there anyone out there, please, who would be prepared to write them in a calligraphic script on high quality paper?

If things work out according to the government's plans, we shall soon be seeing a relaxation of COVID restrictions. This will make it possible to return to doing some of the things which we have been unable to do for the last months (if they are still the right things for us to do) and to start doing new things. Please share your ideas about church life post COVID. I'll try to keep you up to date via my website cuxtonandhalling.org.uk, this magazine, possibly by newsletters and by any other means available. Roger.



From the Rector

I've just been reintroduced to television advertising. Well, it's a long story. When I was a child growing up in the 'fifties, I think we had one of the first TV sets in the village. (My great uncle Maurice actually had one before the war, but it didn't get much use in its first few years of life as there were no TV broadcasts for the duration.) Naturally, our set was black and white. There was no colour TV in those days, though they once did an experiment in which spinning wheels on the monochrome screen created an illusion of colour, but that was all. The only broadcaster was the BBC and they broadcast only for a limited number of hours each day. After the children's programmes, there was an interval while children had tea and were put to bed before the adult programmes came on. The adult programmes finished with the epilogue and the National Anthem and people went to bed, turning off the lights and letting the fire die down. There was, of course, no advertising. It was a different world.

There was no remote control to change the stations because there was just the one. You did have to get up occasionally to fiddle with the controls (or to bang the top of the TV with the flat of your hand) when the picture went all funny. Sometimes, however, when the picture went funny, a notice appeared on the screen. *Please do not adjust your set.* The fault was at their end.

For all that, television was a wonderful innovation as radio had been several decades earlier. I asked my grandfather once what they got up to of an evening before they had a gramophone or a wireless. He said that they were bored stiff.

As a small child, I used to wonder how it was that we could see the people on the screen but they couldn't see us. *Don't be so daft*, I was told. But, now, more than fifty years on, the TV set can hear us and maybe watch us too.

Commercial TV began in 1955. The first advertisement was for Gibbs SR toothpaste. The BBC tried to distract people from the launch of ITV by killing Grace Archer in a fire the same night in its *everyday story of country folk* on the Home Service (now Radio 4). I don't remember when we first had a set capable of receiving ITV, but I do remember that there was a knob for

changing channels and, when it didn't work properly, my father had to take it out and polish rows of brass studs.

We watched TV most evenings in those days and some programmes seemed to be unmissable when I was a little bit older. There was a popular comedy on most evenings at 7.30. As there were no video recordings in those days, if you missed a programme, you missed it – which was frustrating if it was part of a series the last episode of which had finished on a cliff-hanger. In my later teens, therefore, I rather went off TV. I didn't like my day to be controlled by the *Radio Times*. Besides, I had many other things to do.

So, I didn't have a television set when I was at university, nor in my first two appointments as a priest, nor in my first eleven years here. There were so many things I'd rather do than watch TV. Moreover, I always insisted that I wouldn't have a TV unless I also had a video recorder so that I should not miss what I wanted to see if I had to be out and about in the parish.

It was when my mother came to live with me in 1998, that she brought a TV set with her (which lasted nearly as long as the analogue signal before having to be replaced with the one I have now). We had a video recorder and, later a DVD player. So I could enjoy TV without being a slave to the *Radio Times*. Anyway, in that year, I turned 44 – far too old to be out gallivanting after Evening Prayer and tea.

Watching on video or DVD, one of course fast forwards the adverts. Ditto with the set top box, which I always think is misnamed because it resides under the TV, not on top of it. What is interesting is that both of them have their home on the original TV table from the Rainbow at Gravesend which came with my parents' first furniture as a married couple. It may even have been a free gift. My grandparents had one like it.

More recently still, I have turned to streaming TV programmes, occasionally BBC i player, mostly Netflix and some Amazon. None of those, of course, has advertisements. But I was persuaded that I ought to watch a couple of series on the ITV hub. Very good they were, but interrupted by adverts. I could pay so much a month to exclude the advertising but I'm too mean.

And this is how I've been reintroduced to TV advertising. Quite a lot has changed. There are no mothers making gravy or housewives preserving the softness of their skin with a particular kind of washing up liquid. I haven't seen any claims that one washing powder washes whiter than any other. I wasn't surprised that Bach no longer advertises cigars. In fact I am a little surprised to discover that they can still advertise beer and cider. The jingles which stick in the mind for certain confectionary products have disappeared together with brand names we were once so familiar with, like Opal Fruits & Marathon. We're no longer told about the health benefits of Mars bars or the life enhancing benefits of PAL dog food. Neither have I seen a cat unerringly select her favourite tinned food, nor members of the public bemusedly discovering that they cannot tell margarine from butter. It's different stuff, but there are still products out there which claim to kill more germs than any other. A lot has changed, but a lot of what I dislike about advertising is still there.

Jingles and signature tunes seem to have gone out of fashion somewhat. Even Radio 4 used to have more signature tunes than it does now. I sometimes catch myself singing the signature tunes which used to introduce *Farming Today* and *The Money Programme* when they come on even though the BBC haven't used them for years.

So what don't I like about advertising? I'm slightly ashamed to admit my first reason for disliking adverts. It's snobbery. It's the thought that public sector broadcasting by the BBC, following the principles laid down by Lord Reith (These include an equal consideration of all viewpoints, probity, universality and a commitment to public service. Reith's goal was to broadcast, "All that is best in every department of human knowledge, endeavour and achievement.... The preservation of a high moral tone is obviously of paramount importance."), must be morally and socially superior to a commercial station motivated by money and profit – filthy lucre, as the bible calls cash when it corrupts our human values. In reality, it turned out that BBC and ITV were not so very different. The ITV companies did seek to maintain high standards and the BBC, while preserving its commitment to Reith's legacy, had to accept the need to broadcast programmes which would be likely to appeal to a

large audience. Otherwise, people would ask why they should pay the licence fee because they only watched ITV. I'll leave you to judge whether high standards are still maintained in British broadcasting – the BBC, ITV or the streaming services.

My second reason for regarding advertisements as distasteful is also snobbery. Surely, if the product is of a high enough quality, it doesn't need to be advertised. Its merits speak for themselves. That's not entirely fair of me. How is the public supposed to know how good a product is unless it is advertised to them?

At the back of my mind, I suppose, is the suspicion that advertising may often be dishonest, making out that the product is better than it really is. I heard on the radio (BBC) that John Wyndham, author of *The Day of the Triffids*, worked in advertising but he was never very successful at it. He was too honest to claim that Brand X washes whiter than Brand Y unless he really believed that it did. Advertising standards are now higher than they were in the fifties when Wyndham wrote, but I'd still be very doubtful that any advertisement told the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

I don't like advertising because I don't like people trying to manipulate me. Of course, I tend to think that I am not easily influenced (but that is just what the advertisers want me to think). I feel a bit sorry for people who are easily influenced or susceptible to manipulation. Surely, we should make up our own minds based on a rational consideration of the facts. We shouldn't be led by irrational desires, especially when these are implanted in us by clever people acting in their own interests rather than in ours. Again, trying to be fair, the advertiser's interests might sometimes be the same as ours. They want to sell us a super dooper new washing machine. We might actually be better off with a new super dooper washing machine.

On the other hand, we might be better off sticking with the washing machine we've got. If the advertisement tempts us to spend more than we can afford, even to get us into debt, it is doing us a serious disservice. Advertising does encourage us to spend our money, not always wisely.

It also encourages us in our vices. Advertising plays on our greed for material goods (and therefore distracts us from the place where true joys are to be found). To a large degree, advertising depends on our breaking the Tenth Commandment – *Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's family, nor his position in the pecking order, nor his devices, nor his wealth, nor his car, nor anything that is his.*

Advertising also exploits our insecurities, teaches us to doubt our own worth and undermines our self-confidence. Let me state this unequivocally. You're not worth it because you use a particular range of cosmetics. You're worth it because you are created by God in His own image and Christ died for you. It really doesn't matter if somebody else has better skin than you do or nicer clothes or a better job. What matters is what kind of person you are, your character, not your image. If we're dissatisfied with ourselves, we ought to be working on our inner peace, not wasting our money on acquiring possessions we don't need or submitting ourselves to the expensive risks associated with cosmetic surgery.

Isaiah 55 Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

²Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.

³Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

If You Pay Peanuts You Get Monkeys

So they say in order to justify the high salaries which are paid to people at the top of institutions such as banks and oil companies. If you want the best people, it is argued, you have to pay top salaries. I'm uncomfortable with the notion that people can only be motivated by money. There are many people who work very hard and with a high degree of commitment for low wages or even as volunteers. I'm even less comfortable to be told that chief executives in the public sector – such as local authorities or NHS trusts – need to be compensated with high levels of monetary remuneration. Don't people go into jobs like that because they believe in public service, rather than because they want to get rich? If it were up to me, I'd be very suspicious of an applicant for the position of chief executive of a public sector body who seemed to be mostly interested in the salary. I think this is even more true for charities and the Church. Surely, people who work for bodies like these should be above considerations of personal wealth. It seems wrong that senior administrators are highly paid when other staff receive more modest remuneration, much of the work is done by unpaid volunteers and the income comes mainly from charitable donations. I put this to an archdeacon (not Andy) who responded, "If we want good people we have to offer equivalent salaries (to NHS managers, etc.)" I reflected on this and remembered that S Paul said that he was content if he had food and clothing and that the Son of Man (Jesus) had nowhere even to lay His head. I did wonder slightly wickedly whether either of them would be offered a job at the top levels of the Church of England?

Then, insofar as advertising tempts us to acquire what we don't need and to dispose of what still has a few good years of life left in it, it contributes to the environmental crisis.

Finally, I wonder if professional advertising has played a part in reinforcing our general lack of trust in politics and in the institutions we used to respect? It was getting on for fifty years ago that political parties started employing professional advertising agencies to advance their brand. Before that, it was all very amateurish. But, given that we know that political parties are employing the same strategies as soap manufacturers to persuade us to support them, should politicians be surprised if we don't believe their claims about themselves and their plans anymore than we believe that brand Y washes whiter than brand X? We know that statements issued by public bodies and major companies are drawn up in the PR (public relations) department. Given that PR is advertising's almost identical twin, why would we believe the council's excuses for failing to fill in the pot holes any more than we would give credence to the claim that mummy's skin will be softer if she uses this washing up liquid rather than that one? In fact, the best way for mummy to keep her hands soft is for daddy to do the washing up!

So, I don't like advertising. On the other hand, with industrialisation and mechanisation, it would take very few workers to produce only the goods and services we actually need in order to live. What would the rest of us do, how would we earn our living, if advertising didn't stimulate consumer demand for all those things which we don't need but buy anyway because they will make our lives better (or not, as the case may be)?

Roger.

Wine Vault in Bush Valley

I'm sure that many of you have heard about the proposed wine vault to be located in Bush Valley. You can find out more on www.kentishwinevault.co.uk. You can also contact the developer directly by emailing to info@kentishwinevault.co.uk. If and when there is a formal planning application, you will also be able to make representations to Medway Council.

As someone who visits Bush Valley once or twice a day and as a resident of Cuxton who is only too aware of the congestion at some times of the day in Bush Road, I am not in favour of this project. Here is my response to the developer. You are welcome to use anything I have written either to oppose the vault or in favour of it, depending on your point of view.

Dear Sirs,

I was dismayed to learn of your plans for a vine vault in Bush Valley Cuxton. Here are some of my reasons for opposing this project.

1. Bush Valley is an extremely beautiful landscape feature. It is situated on the North Downs Way, a national long distance footpath, and is also popular with local walkers. We have been reminded by the pandemic of how important natural open space is for our mental and physical well-being.
2. The North Downs constitute an important ecological system. Chalk down land supports a unique flora and fauna. The North Downs are different from the South Downs and are already over-developed.
3. Bush Valley is home to a number of rare and protected species, including bats, badgers, buzzards and swifts.
4. Viticulture has already damaged the valley to some extent in that there has been a tremendous growth in the number of motor vehicles compared to the numbers when the valley was used for cereal cultivation or animal husbandry and dirt roads have been created to provide access for them. There is some concern about safety where a dirt road giving access to the valley crosses a well-used footpath.
5. The vine vault, if constructed, would attract more vehicles into the valley, damaging the ecosystem and spoiling the public's enjoyment of this open space.
6. The development would also bring more road traffic to the village of Cuxton, already congested at certain times of day. Inevitably, this traffic would also bring pollution. It is unrealistic to think that a majority of workers and visitors to the vault would cycle or use the bus. Apart from the fact that most people are basically lazy, there are weather considerations and the likelihood that people will be carrying what they need for work or purchases they may have made at the centre.
7. The vine vault would bring no benefit to local people. It is highly unlikely that anyone local would have the necessary training or experience for the more skilled aspects of the work. There is already a shortage of workers to carry out less skilled agricultural tasks. The vineyard in Bush Valley already has to import workers from abroad. There would be no employment opportunities for Cuxton people.
8. There is no need for a vine vault. Often, there is a balance to be struck between protecting the environment and local communities on the one hand and, on the other hand, allowing development for

things which are needed such as housing, infrastructure projects and factories producing goods we cannot do without, but there is no need for a vine vault. There is plenty of wine already in the world, much of it of a higher quality than anything we are likely to produce in England.

So I very much hope that this project will not go ahead.

Yours faithfully,

Roger Knight,
Rector of Cuxton & Halling,

Tools With a Mission

A lot of us have sheds full of tools which we're never likely to use again. They're too good to throw out. They might have some sentimental value. So what can we do with them? You could donate them to TWAM.

Who we are...

We are a Christian charity that collects unwanted usable tools, refurbishes them, sorts them into trade tool kits and sends them to the developing world for livelihood creation.

We send around 20 containers filled with over 300 tonnes of tools every year. We invest in local people supporting their own communities through livelihood creating projects such as skills training centres.

In order to donate, you need to log in to twam.uk. If you haven't got internet access, I'm sure a friend or family member would help you or you could ask me to do it for you. If you look below, there is a wide range of things which are needed. It is also possible to donate money and to receive information to inform your prayers for TWAM. If you look at their website or printed literature, you will see how lives are turned round for poor people in many parts of the world if they can get the tools and training they need to support themselves and their families.

Tools with a Mission
2 Bailey Close
Hadleigh Road Industrial Estate
Ipswich
IP2 0UD
E: post@twam.uk
T: 01473 210220

Our tools wanted list

Yes please!

Sewing machines: manual, electric and treadle
Agricultural tools: Fork, spade, hoe, garden rake, hand fork and trowel, lopper, secateurs and hand shears

Builders' tools: Spade, shovel, 3ft spirit level, Axe, crowbar, fork, sledge hammer, bow saw, bolsters, chisels, all types of hammers and trowels,

pin and lines, tape measures hacksaws and blades etc

Carpenters' tools: Bevel, braces, clamps, hand drills and bits, all types of files and hammers, Stanley knife, all types of planes and saws, pliers, rules, all types of saws and screwdrivers, squares etc. Screws, nails and bolts.

Electricians' tools: Allen keys, hand drills and bits, all types of pliers and hacksaws, screwdrivers, spanners, soldering iron, voltmeter etc

Motor mechanics' tools: Allen keys, cold chisels, breast drill and bits, all types of hammers and pliers, punches, metric socket set and spanners, adjustable spanners, cantilever toolbox, tyre pressure gauge etc

Plumbers' tools: Basin or tap wrench, wire brush, breast drill and bits, various grips and saws, screwdriver, oil can etc

Garage workshop tools: Hydraulic jack, axle stands, battery charger, ramps and large engineers vice etc

Power tools: Hand and bench drill, sander, planer, jigsaw, circular, band and chop saw, lathe, cultivator, rotavator etc

Knitting machines: machine wool and needles

Haberdashery: needles, cottons, large material pieces/rolls, buttons, zips etc

Fully working IT equipment: Desktop computers and laptops running a minimum of Windows 7, tablets, networking switch routers and cables

We do have requests for big items such as Welding machines, Generators, Compressors and Industrial sewing machines. If you have any of these or similar items please do get in touch and ask us if we can use them.

Please note:

Sometimes people donate tools that are not suitable to send to Africa, either due to their age or because they would not be used. We also have some tools donated in such quantities that we cannot use all of them. On these occasions we will attempt to sell the items to raise vital funds for our work.

THE POVERTY AND HOPE APPEAL 2021

The Bishop of Rochester launched the Poverty and Hope Appeal in June. He wrote *We are called to love our neighbour, whether they are local or global, "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works..." This past year we have seen the injustices of our world all too clearly, exacerbated by the global pandemic that has left no one unaffected. Here in Rochester Diocese our Poverty and Hope appeal is one way that we look to right the wrongs that we see.*

This year the Appeal is supporting , in prayer and financially, a new project in Malawi and continuing projects in Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe and, as always, Commonwork Trust in the UK.

No thank you

All broken tools - we can sharpen and remove surface rust, but can't repair broken tools. We cannot take tools with woodworm.

Ladders and step ladders
Lawn rakes and long handled shears
Electric and hand lawnmowers

Printers, scanners and typewriters

Disability aids: walking frames, wheelchairs, medicines and glasses

Clothes and shoes: including children's and babies

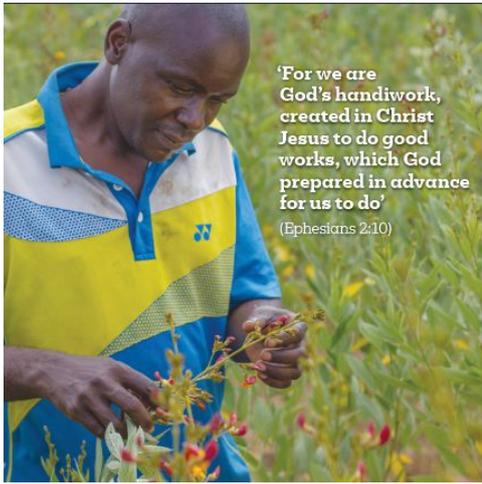
Bikes: men's, women's and children's

Books: adults and children's

Embroidery materials, curtains and weaving materials

Cooking pots, pans and kitchen utensils, crockery and cutlery, household appliances and musical instruments

This isn't an exhaustive list, just the main things we're offered by well meaning supporters on a regular basis



- In Malawi, with your support, this year's Poverty and Hope Appeal will be helping farmers to flourish in challenging circumstances. This pigeon pea project is remarkable. Not only is this humble pulse drought resistant, it will happily grow on land affected by flooding. This amazing little pea can provide food and a livelihood to families that grow it.

- Our project in Zimbabwe, including our Companion Diocese of Harare, helps the church work with people living with HIV and AIDS to reduce stigma and transform lives.

- In Sri Lanka, the Appeal supports Nevedita Jeevabalan's work managing the child protection unit of LEADS, a community development organisation. She describes her mission as "to show God's love to children who have been through trauma and abuse. Most children who are referred for assistance have been abused, abandoned at a young age and been through various traumatic situations. All through their lives they may never have had a loving, trustworthy adult."

- Here in Rochester Diocese Commonwork offers justice and global citizenship education to school children and also helps vulnerable young people fulfil their potential. If you are involved with a school do get in touch with Commonwork and see all that they can offer.

The Poverty and Hope Appeal is run by volunteers and over 95% of the money we raise goes to the projects. Each is overseen by one of our partner organisations, Christian Aid, USPG, CMS and Commonwork. They ensure the money is well spent and regularly report to the Diocese of Rochester's Poverty and Hope Coordinator.

You can find more information about all the projects on the Diocese website at bit.ly/PovertyHope or you can contact povertyandhope@gmail.com. You can donate through your Church or, for details about how to give directly by card, bank transfer or cheque, please see the website or email povertyandhope@gmail.com. Envelopes for donations will be available in both our churches at the end of September.

This annual appeal is one way in which our diocese walks with our neighbours in different parts of the world. Another is through our Companion Diocese links with Estonia, Harare (Zimbabwe) and Kondoa and Mpwapwa in Tanzania. Many parishes, schools and communities enjoy friendships with our Christian sisters and brothers in these places.

Tommy's Talking Points



This is me on what for July is a cold damp day. He's not tempted to sit on his seat there both because it's wet and because it's drizzling. You can just about see our concrete frog in the birdbath. You can also see two of his geraniums. They haven't needed much watering this year. Neither has he had to top up the birdbath very often. The horse chestnut you can see is what he hoped would grow up to be a bonsai tree. He's fancied doing that for fifty years, having seen bonsai as an interesting thing to do in a boy's book of interesting things to do. This one narrowly

escaped destruction by me when I was a puppy and by one of his great nephews when he was a toddler. So I don't know whether it ever really had a chance. We'll see.



This is where we sometimes sit around 10.00 o' clock at night when I have my last outing to the garden. He values the quiet calm of the twilight and looks out for bats. I'm on the alert for foxes and, if I see one, I very quickly shatter the quiet calm of the evening. Then he takes us both indoors and I have to go to my basket.

Lolly is with us today and Master wanted to include her in the patio picture, but she wouldn't join me. So here she is sitting inside the patio door on the bus doormat. I'm not allowed to dry myself on that one when I come in from the woods.

I haven't a great deal to tell you about. We've not been anywhere since I last wrote. At least, if we stay in Cuxton and Halling, he doesn't get us lost in the lanes of strange counties like Surrey and Sussex, but it is nice to see our friends, to explore new territories and to meet new dogs and new people. Everybody loves me because I look so cute and because I'm so modest.

I was thinking that he might take me out on the train again and to public houses when masks are no longer required. I don't know if he will though. He says that the experts are telling us that, even if masks are no longer legally required, there may still be a moral duty to wear them. If so, he says, we shan't be going anywhere we don't have to go.

Which is really fine by me. We go out at least once each day in the incomparable countryside around Cuxton and Halling whatever the weather. We meet more people when it's warm and dry but we still enjoy ourselves when it's cold or wet. I get to sniff out all the smells. I can tell which dogs have been there and what wildlife. I still get excited and do a sort of whirling and leaping dance when we get to a gate, while I wait for him to open it. He enjoys the views and seeing the farm animals in the fields, hearing the birds sing and observing how different plants come in and out of flower as the year advances and how the shades of green change as the leaves on the trees mature and develop. The crops too are growing and the wheat will shortly turn from green to golden in the weeks leading up to harvest. The poppies have been spectacular this year, especially in Bush Valley. Master says that this is because the cultivation associated with the vines has awakened poppy seed lying long dormant in the earth.

We are grateful to the Countryside Group and to all who keep the footpaths clear. The North Downs Way through Dean Valley was becoming almost impassable until just before the North Downs Run at the end of June when good people cut back the encroaching vegetation. Much of this consists of wild flowers and important habitat for invertebrates. So the cutters back were careful and respectful of nature. Master cut back some stinging nettles and brambles which were impeding his progress with rather less respect. He would like to have done the North Downs Run but never did and probably now never will. Always seize the opportunities when they are presented, he tells people, now it is too late for him.

When the weeds are long and wet, I get a good bath running through the countryside, Master too when the cow parsley reaches waist height. The vegetation (especially where there have been cattle, sheep or deer) does provide a habitat for a much less desirable invertebrate. When Master found ticks on me on several successive days, two on one day, he obtained a preparation to protect me from the vet. Ticks can carry Lyme disease, which is extremely unpleasant and hard to diagnose and treat. It can also affect human beings bitten by ticks. So ticks have to be taken seriously. Don't just pull them off because bits of them may get left inside you. They need to be twisted off. You can get a tool for this from the vet. Covering them in Vaseline or spotting alcohol on them makes them drop off, but some people say that doing this can make them discharge their poison into your body. On that happy note, I'll finish. Tommy, the Rectory Spaniel.

Jokes for August

Can a kangaroo jump higher than a skyscraper?

A skyscraper can't jump at all.

What happens to a frog's car if it breaks down?

It gets toad away

Where do rodents go on holiday?

Hamsterdam

Why are hairdressers never late for work?

They know all the short cuts.

What do you call a wizard in space?

A flying saucerer

Why do sharks live in salt water?

Pepper would make them sneeze

What colour is the wind?

Blew.

**Odd Job
Lady. Inside or
out.**

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carpentry, tiling,
gardening etc.

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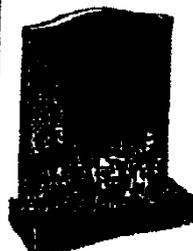
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