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Skegness Group of Parishes: St Matthew, Skegness; St Clement, Skegness;
St Mary, Winthorpe; SS Peter and Paul, Ingoldmells; St Nicholas, Addlethorpe

August 2020

Issue 56

ON THE BEACH



Who's Who in the Ministry Team

Rector	Reverend Richard Holden
Associate Priest	Reverend Michelle Houldershaw
Permanent Deacon	Reverend Christine Anderson
Reader	Jean Smith
Reader	Malcolm Tedman
-assisted by our Lay Ministry Team, Churchwardens and supporting our various Chaplaincies in the Workplace, Hospital, Schools and Families and Bereavement.	
Parish Secretary	Gwen Drury

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Hope

Like so many Christians over these past months I have missed my regular church services; Holy Week, Easter, Ascension, Pentecost and Trinity did not take place as normal. Not being tech savvy, I have not seen any 'streamed' services, but have enjoyed the shortened versions shown on BBC1 on Sunday mornings from various cathedrals, or the worship on Radio 4. I am lucky enough to have space at home to reflect on what I see and hear.

I, like so many, hope there will be a return to some normality eventually, including the full opening of our churches although, realistically, I know that is a long way off. But we hope – just as we have all hoped over these past months – not to get the virus; to make use of our time in seclusion; not to let the loneliness overwhelm us; that we could help someone, somewhere, if only with a word; and hoped that our seasonal businesses, on which so many rely, will be able to open. Many of us hope soon to be able to see our families, whom we have not seen for some months. Hope inspires us in the choices we have had to make. We try to cope because that is what we have always done in the trials that come our way. We cannot explain why some people will experience tragedy and not others, and we can see that sometimes things seem to be unfair, but we have to choose to go on living.

As people of many beliefs, we come before God in our sorrow, but also in hope. We declare our loss in a death, even as we give thanks for a life, and pray for all who are suffering. We can look back in pain to what has gone before, or we can look forward with hope for all that is yet to be.

Reverend Christine Anderson

"We also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us" Roman chapter 5 verses 3-5



What a difference a year makes

It is hard to believe that it was a year ago I wrote an article about living within our means. Trying to work within a budget was difficult then and since the worldwide coronavirus pandemic budgeting within the church, community, charities, and businesses has been made worse. Church has become a hybrid church, online presence and physically going in. But it is so different than before and will continue to be different for possibly another year.

In January, the Diocese of Lincoln realised they had to seriously look at its income and expenditure. People on a fixed term contract would not have it renewed and when clergy retire their post may not be filled. A team of people are looking at where to send clergy to areas that need a priest the most.

Another Diocese have told congregations that their parish share is to cover the cost of a full-time priest which is between £55 - £60,000 a year. This is for stipend, housing cost, and training. Part time priest is half that at £27,500 to £30,000. Looking at their figures our group parish share covers the cost of a part time priest. My three-year contract comes to an end on 1st September and will not be renewed and I will not be replaced here. This has been a difficult article to write as I find myself unemployed and trying to find somewhere to live. The hope that has kept me going is Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

I am not alone in this situation there are people and businesses around the world who are facing the ongoing challenge. As a Christian I am leaving it to God which at times it exceedingly difficult, but God guides and speaks through people, bible verses and songs to keep us connected to Him in these challenging times. I want to thank you all for prayers and support since I arrived here there are too many to mention. There are a few who have been there for Mike and I more than others as we faced turmoil in our lives, but we are truly grateful when we needed a neighbour you were there.

Finally, please consider the future of our Churches in Skegness. They are God's witness to the town, and it would be a tragedy if they were to permanently close. They will only continue if they are financially viable and the assumption that the church is rich is incorrect. It is a registered charity and cannot live beyond its means.

A church has bills to pay like everyone else and thanks to volunteers within the church it can operate. I have had many discussions about what a priest used to do, the work of a priest has evolved, we must look after those in church as well as the community at large. Richard and I have shared our responsibility as you went down from three priests to two. You will now go down to one full time priest. My prayers are with Richard, Carol and all those who keep the church operating and keeping Jesus Alive in Skegness.

May God bless you all

Reverend Michelle Houldershaw
Associate Priest



Monthly Music

The world of Classical music is littered with technical terms that create barriers for listeners who just want to enjoy the music. As part of this series of musical suggestions I will from time to time try to make sense of the language around the music.

This month: The Concerto

In the late 1600s a concerto was a piece of music for a group of individual instruments and an orchestra acting like a backing group. Over time the solo group got smaller until we were left with a work for a single solo instrument and orchestra, and so we have piano concertos and violin concertos etc. As ever, there are no set rules but generally the music is structured in three movements (sections) which follow the pattern quick, slow and finally quick (and in that respect is like an Italian Overture - but let's not confuse matters.)

There are many wonderful examples of concerti but, as we are still in a form of lockdown, I have chosen some uplifting examples.

We start with the first movement of the piano concerto by Grieg, made famous by Morecambe and Wise with Andre Previn. A bold opening flourish leads to some strong melodies. Hopefully you will find a version with all the notes on the right order - however if you need a good laugh then the Eric and Ernie version is well worth the watch.

For a slow movement I have picked the 2nd movement of the G Major Piano Concerto by Ravel. This starts with a long section where the pianist seems to be searching for something. Once the orchestra joins in the music continues to wander, seemingly in an aimless way, and at times becomes quite discordant and strident but somehow, through it all, there is a pervasive feeling of calm.

My third movement is by Mozart and is the last movement of his 4th Horn Concerto. Jolly and bouncy, the music is in the form of a Rondo (where the main tune keeps returning). Guaranteed to put a smile on your face.

There are concerti for every instrument imaginable, including Concerto for Tap Dancer, but here are three further pieces to enjoy - Cello Concerto by Edward Elgar, the Concerto de Aranjuez for guitar by Rodrigo and the Bruch Violin Concerto.

Keep listening. Peter Coughtrey-Wellsted

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Mary Sumner - founder of the Mothers' Union

The Mothers' Union is now more than 140 years old. It has accomplished a staggering amount in that time, and nowadays numbers more than four million members, doing good work in 83 countries. That is a far cry from the modest circle of prayer for mothers who cared about family life, which is how it all began with a rector's wife, Mary Sumner.

Mary was born in late 1828 in Swinton, near Manchester. When she was four, her family moved to Herefordshire. Mary's father, Thomas Heywood, was a banker and historian. Her mother has been described as a woman of "faith, charm and sympathy" – qualities which Mary certainly inherited. Mrs Heywood also held informal 'mothers' meetings at her home, to encourage local women. Those meetings may well have inspired Mary's later work.

Mary was educated at home, spoke three foreign languages, and sang well. While in her late teens, on a visit to Rome she met George Sumner, a son of the Bishop of Winchester. It was a well-connected family: George's uncle became Archbishop of Canterbury, and his second cousin was William Wilberforce. Mary and George married in July 1848, soon after his ordination. They moved to Old Alresford in 1851 and had three children: Margaret, Louise and George. Mary dedicated herself to raising her children and supporting her husband's ministry by providing music and Bible classes.

When in 1876 Mary's eldest daughter Margaret, gave birth, Mary was reminded how difficult she had found the burden of motherhood. Soon she decided to hold a meeting to which she invited the local women, not only of her own class, but also all the village mothers. Her aim was to find out if women could be brought together to offer each other prayer and mutual support in their roles as wives and mothers. That meeting at Old Alresford Rectory was the inaugural meeting of the Mothers' Union.

For 11 years, the Mothers' Union was limited to Old Alresford. Then in 1885 the Bishop of Newcastle invited Mary to address the women churchgoers of the Portsmouth Church Congress, some 20 miles away. Mary gave a passionate speech about the poor state of national morality, and the vital need for women to use their vocation as mothers to change the nation for the better. A number of the women present went back to their parishes to found mothers' meetings on Sumner's pattern. Soon, the Mothers' Union spread to the dioceses of Ely, Exeter, Hereford, Lichfield and Newcastle. By 1892, there were already 60,000 members in 28 dioceses, and by 1900 there were 169,000 members. By the time Mary died in 1921, she had seen MU cross the seas and become an international organisation of prayer and good purpose.




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Preparation for a Wartime Wedding From May Hill's Diaries

On 4 July 1942, May Hill of Chapel St Leonards wrote in her Diary:

Only 3 weeks to-day to Ron's wedding. We have got the bride's cakes made. They have turned out beautifully. I experimented with fondant icing this week. It was a great success so we hope to ice both cakes in spite of only 1 ½ lbs. icing sugar. So hope we shall get them nice as there will be such a lot of Russells there.



Ron hopes to get there by Friday night. Hope he will or it will be a rush for him and we shall not see him much as it is. We shall look forward to his next leave as we hope he and Emmie will come here for most of the time. He is liking Isle of Man. It is a lovely place. His window looks out towards Snae Fell and he says there are avenues of palm trees and lots more scattered about. He is 5 miles from Ramsey at Andreas aerodrome [RAF].

I have got a hat at last 14/11. Black with a flower and a veil. Jean says it is quite French. It is very smart. Have got a peach satin blouse so shall have to change either it or the hat flower which is pink.

May's son Ron was awaiting his anticipated posting, expected to be abroad, while plans went ahead for his wedding in Yeadon (near Leeds) to sweetheart

Emmie Russell (seen here on the sandhills near Chapel Point).

For May Hill's Diaries in an archived blog, also in Kindle e-books, search online 'may hill wwii'.

The printed book 'The Casualties Were Small' £8.99 containing selected Diary extracts, poetry, photos and notes is available from Church Farm Village Museum. For information, or to order by post: phone Tom Ambridge on 01394 385412.

The Casualties Were Small

Wartime Poetry and Diaries
of a Lincolnshire Seaside Villager

May Hill

Chapel St Leonards, near Skegness, 1940-1944





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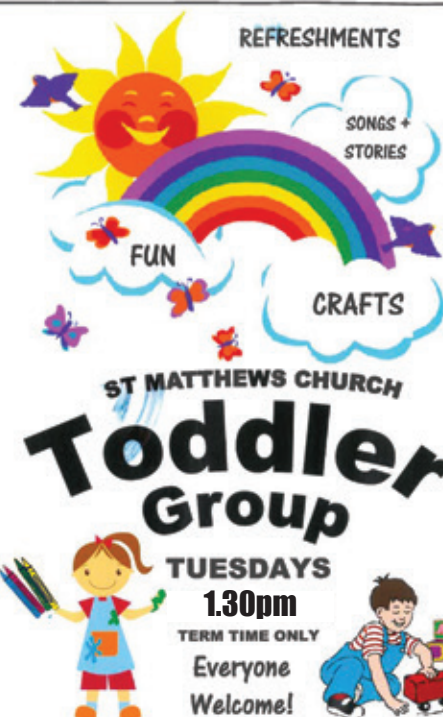
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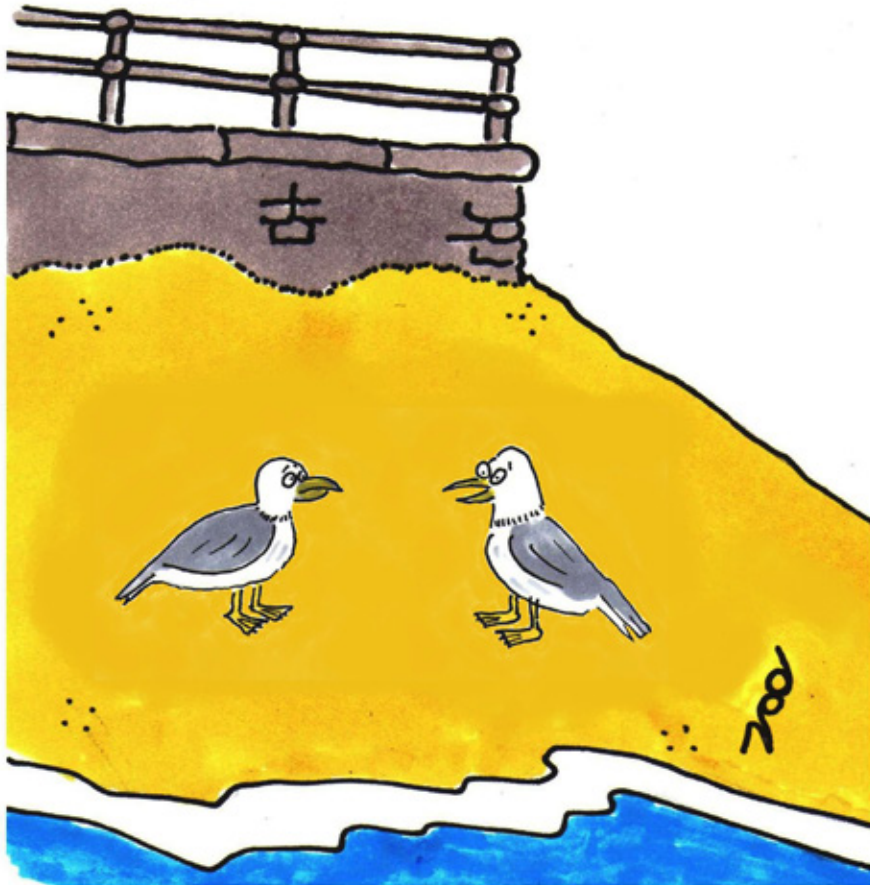
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ON THE BEACH



" I haven't missed the people ...
I have missed the chips !!! "

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Penny Turner 01522 504080
Mobile 07432522412

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Skegness police 01754762222
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Emergency number
Out of hours 01522 782333

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CALM 0800 525252

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The Mix (under 25 support) 0808 8084994

Support for families and carers

Survivors of bereavement by suicide (SoBS) 07580 358419
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YoungMinds parent helpline 0808 8025544

Other useful contact numbers

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Elder Abuse 0808 8088141
Domestic violence 0808 2000247
Shelter 0808 800 4444
Nomad Lincoln (homelessness) 01522 883703



The White Robed Bride

by May Hill of Chapel St Leonards



Softly goes the white-robed bride, down the sunlit aisle.
Her hand clasped in her Father's arm, to meet her bridegroom's smile.

The organ peals its joyous notes, The bridesmaids blithe and gay,
Follow behind, in love to give, their service, on this day.

The bridegroom waits with happy pride, before the altar steps.
Erect, his comrade by his side attends him, calm and grave.

Her Mother's thoughts bring smiles and tears together, on her face.
Her greatest treasure now bestowed, with love and fond embrace.

Lord thro' their lives look on these two, with favour and Thy Grace,
And with Thy Goodness follow them, thro' peaceful happy days.

May's airman son Ron married his sweetheart Emmie in Yeadon near Leeds on 25 July 1942, during the Second World War. May, husband Will and daughters Rene and Jean are on the left of the photo; Emmie's parents, Mr and Mrs Russell on the right.

May's description of the wedding is in her book 'The Casualties Were Small' available from Church Farm Village Museum, or by post from Tom Ambridge 01394 385412.



125 Years Of The Proms In London

It was 125 years ago this month, on 10 August 1895, that the Proms (Promenade Concerts) began in London.

In fact, the idea of promenade concerts went back to 1838, referring to outside concerts during which the audience could walk about but in the form introduced by Robert Newman at Queen's Hall in Langham Place, London, the Promenaders were standing members of the audience and this usage has persisted. Henry Wood, also a talented organist, was the original conductor and his name became firmly attached to the annual series of concerts. He was knighted in 1911.

The concerts have been sponsored by the BBC since 1927, except for 1940 and 1941, when there was fear of bombing, and in fact Queen's Hall was bombed in 1941. Since then the concerts moved to their current home at the much larger Royal Albert Hall.

The Proms have now become a huge summer musical festival lasting for eight weeks and with many innovations. The Last Night in particular has become a traditional feature of British life and celebration of Britishness. The Proms have been described by Czech conductor Jiří Bělohlávek as "the world's largest and most democratic musical festival".

In the current coronavirus crisis, the Proms will continue, but in a much-changed form – "not as we know them, but as we need them", say the organisers.



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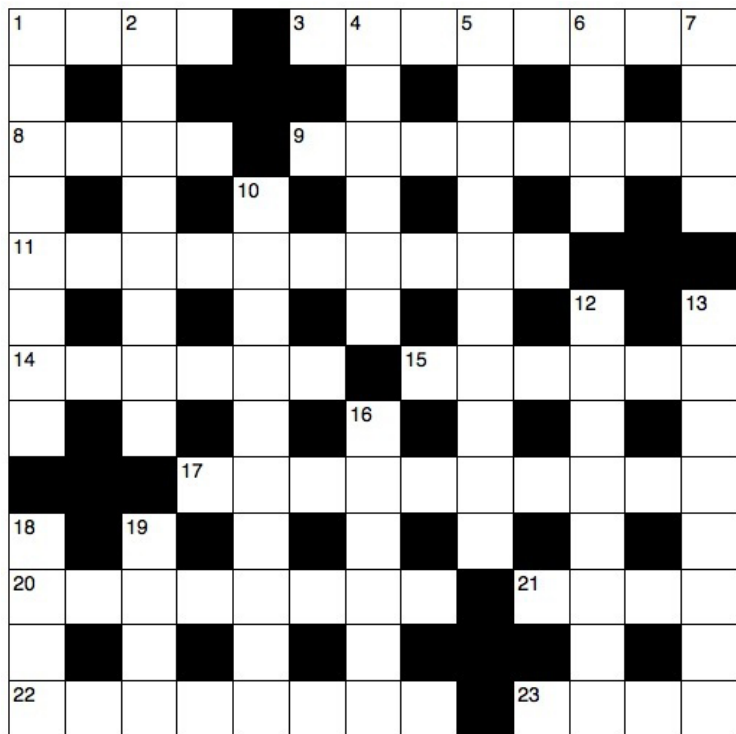
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Crossword Time

Can you take on our Crossword?

Across

- 1 and 3 Two of the disciples who witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus (Luke 9:28) (4,3,5)
- 3 See 1 Across
- 8 'Let us draw — to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith' (Hebrews 10:22) (4)
- 9 O Simon is (anag.) (8)
- 11 Form of government under the direct rule of God or his agents (10)
- 14 How Jesus found his disciples when he returned to them after praying in Gethsemane (Luke 22:45) (6)
- 15 In The Pilgrim's Progress, the name of the meadow into which Christian strayed, which led to Doubting Castle (2-4)
- 17 Glad sin rat (anag.) (10)
- 20 Spinal column (Leviticus 3:9) (8)
- 21 Valley of the Balsam Tree with a reputation of being a waterless place (Psalm 84:6) (4)
- 22 The oracle of Balaam son of Beor, the oracle of one — — sees clearly' (Numbers 24:3) (5,3)
- 23 Adam and Eve's third son (Genesis 4:25) (4)

Down

- 1 David's great friend (1 Samuel 20:17) (8)
- 2 'The Lord... will bring me safely to his — kingdom' (2 Timothy 4:18) (8)
- 4 'I, Daniel, mourned for three weeks. I ate no choice food; — — or wine touched my lips' (Daniel 10:3) (2,4)
- 5 Seeking to vindicate (Job 32:2) (10)
- 6 Female servant (Isaiah 24:2) (4)
- 7 'For Christ died for — once for all' (1 Peter 3:18) (4)
- 10 'Offering spiritual sacrifices — to God through Jesus Christ' (1 Peter 2:5) (10)
- 12 Jesus said that some people had renounced this 'because of the kingdom of heaven' (Matthew 19:12) (8)
- 13 One of the three men thrown into the furnace for refusing to worship Nebuchadnezzar's golden image (Daniel 3:20) (8)
- 16 'You have — of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry' (Luke 12:19) (6)
- 18 'There before me was a white horse! Its rider held — —, and he was given a crown' (Revelation 6:2) (1,3)
- 19 Equipment to Charity Hospitals Overseas (1,1,1,1)

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how do i contact link?

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