

# 15 years of PERSPECTIVES

## In this issue:

- Healing The Planet
- Healing Power of Love
- Crafting Together
- Artificial Intelligence



**Issue 60 - Autumn 2023**  
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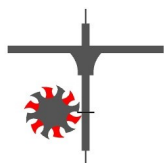
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## 15 years of PERSPECTIVES

We hope you will enjoy this 60th Edition of Perspectives, completing 15 years of our publication. You can read something of our story on Page 4 of this edition and we hope to have a small celebration of these 15 years in the coming month.

We would love to hear from you, to have your feedback on which articles you find interesting - or perhaps you have a Perspectives related story to share. If you enjoy writing or might have an interest in joining our small editorial team, we would be glad to hear from you. Whichever it is - some feedback, your story, some interest, do drop us an email: [perspectives@tonbridgeparishchurch.co.uk](mailto:perspectives@tonbridgeparishchurch.co.uk)

### Among numerous others Perspectives would like to thank, in no particular order:

Alison Minton - Jane Higgs - Jane Mata - Peter Ruxton - Rosemary Heyes - David Heyes - Abi Dunn - Rosemary Owen - Liz Spicer - Liz Connell - John Smalman-Smith - John Broomfield - David Turner - Georgina Mitchell - Doris Jones - Aneta Van Bodegom - Kerry Reichenmiller - Jean Bowring - Dick Longley - Rev Mark Brown - Olivia Brown - Barry Stagg - Jenny MacPherson - Tessa Szczepanik - Margaret Brandham - Andy Page - John Schluter - Patricia Osborn - Rev Wendy Carr - Merle Bigden - Anna Couper - Natasha Stille - Tom James - Pippa Disdel.

*In spite of our best efforts to find the names of those who have contributed over the years I am sure many have been left off this list. Be assured that your contribution has been valued and that God, who sees all, knows the value of what you have done far better than we ever could.*

As the first signs of autumn appear, and September heralds the start of the new school year, we look back over the past two holiday months with much for which we can be thankful.

We had a wonderful week for Secret Agents at our Holiday Club, which for many years has provided the high point of the summer holidays for countless local Primary School children, and we are thankful that 2023 proved to be another memorable week.



Based at St Peter & St Paul church, we enjoyed mostly dry days that were ideal for our programme packed with activities, songs, talks, crafts, games and heaps of fun for over 100 children. We also hosted an 'undercover café' for parents to drop in to for light refreshment!

Our theme this year was 'Secret Agents,' which saw the children delving into one of the original accounts of Jesus' life - Luke's gospel - and uncovering some amazing evidence of who Jesus really is. You can read more about it on Page 11.

In August we hosted a series of Tuesday evening discussions to explore together some of the challenging issues of our Christian faith. On what basis can we make the claims of the uniqueness of Christ? Does science contradict our Christian beliefs? Is the Bible authentic? - and can the record of Jesus life, death and resurrection be trusted? How can we understand a God of love in a world where there is so much suffering?

These and other questions continue to exercise us as we explore together a rational understanding of what we believe. Ultimately, we all have to make a decision - does it take more 'faith' to believe the gospel story in the Bible or to believe that we are a cosmic 'accident' with no real purpose beyond our immediate needs and pleasures?

You are always welcome to come and look into these big life issues as we explore them together each week in the light of the Bible in services across our four churches. At the parish church, St Peter & St Paul, we have each Sunday morning our creche, Sunday Club and SOS groups for pre-school and children in years R to 9, plus Refresh in the afternoon for school Years 10 - 13.

With best wishes

**Ben Thorndike**  
Vicar, Tonbridge Parish Church



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peterpaulton



@peterpaulton



# 15 years of PERSPECTIVES

Fifteen years and 60 editions ago, a small group of people met in Tonbridge to discuss the new format of a magazine for the Parish of Tonbridge. Their stated aim was:

***... to encourage the 20,000 or so people within our Parish boundaries to think more deeply about their lives and circumstances, to look beyond the everyday and to put their lives in true perspective.***



From the beginning the vision was for a publication that would be of a high quality, varied, attractive, thought provoking but with a local focus. It would be created and supported by the church community but not dependent

upon church funds. Instead, it would seek to fund itself through advertising revenues and a suggested donation of £1 per copy from church members (incidentally this is still the same – where else can you still get something for the same price it was in 2008?!).

Rather than being an inwardly focused magazine for the Church community, Perspectives was always intended to be one of the ways in which the church reached out to the local community, with something to appeal to everyone. The initial vision of asking all for £1 was quickly superseded by the idea that each quarter the bulk of the copies would be delivered for free to a quarter of the houses within the Parish.

The magazine has always aimed to cover a good mix of topics including wider perspectives on the world,

local events and charities, children's activities, book reviews, gardening and recipes. Early on readers in the town specifically mentioned that they liked the personal local interviews as it showed the church had ordinary people in the congregation and this feature has remained a popular one.

Did you know that in 2021 The Association for Church Editors awarded Perspectives a Certificate of Excellence for Layout and Design? The award was largely due to the good work of Aneta van Bodegom and Dick Longley who did the graphic design over many years up to 2021, and Jane Mata, who was editor at the time. The Association recognises that church magazines reach out not only to existing congregations but also to people who live in the community around the church including those who may have attended church in the past but who are unable to come now through infirmity, family or caring commitments.



Perspectives would like to thank sincerely all those that have been involved in any capacity throughout the years, whether that was editing, sharing their stories, writing articles, creating layout, proofreading, contacting advertisers, organising meetings, collecting, sorting or delivering magazines, or in any of the other myriad contributions that have helped to place a copy of Perspectives in each household in our Parish at least once a year for the last 15 years. Do you have a story of what Perspectives has meant to you? We would love to hear it! Perspectives is and always has been a communal effort, if you are interested in becoming involved in any way, large or small.

**Contact us at:**  
[perspectives@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:perspectives@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)

**Morwenna Fernandez**





# Operation Christmas Child

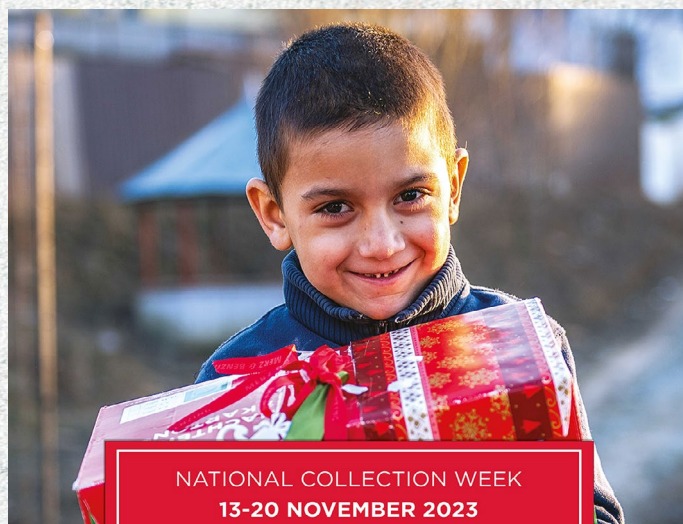
## *shoebox appeal*

The Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal blesses millions of children around the world every year. These simple gifts bring so much joy and are an expression of God's love to a child in real need. Could you help us bless a child this year by packing a box with gifts? To find out more about Operation Christmas Child, the kinds of items you can pack in a shoebox and the local 'Drop Off' points where you can take your completed gift during National Collection Week (13th – 20th November 2023) please go to our website: [samaritans-purse.org.uk/occ](http://samaritans-purse.org.uk/occ)

You can also order a shoebox gift to be made up for you online by going to: [samaritans-purse.org.uk/sbo](http://samaritans-purse.org.uk/sbo) We would welcome volunteers at our Processing Centre in Tonbridge during November and December preparing and packing the gifts for their journeys around the world. You can find out more by going to: [samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/ways-to-volunteer](http://samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/ways-to-volunteer) or come to our **Packing Party at Tonbridge Parish Church on Thursday 16th Nov. 10.00am - 11.30am**. You can also bring items that morning to be included in a shoebox gift (check our website for items that can/cannot be

sent) or drop off a shoebox you have made up at home For Facebook folk we have a page full of encouraging stories: Operation Christmas Child UK.

Finally good old-fashioned leaflets giving you all the information you need will be available from; Tonbridge Parish Church Foyer (from September to November 2023) **For more information contact Joy Baker at: [occwestkent@gmail.com](mailto:occwestkent@gmail.com)**



## Prayer Partners Write Up for Perspectives Magazine

Sandra and I have been Prayer Partners for over 20 years. We were both at a Prayer Meeting when Revd Geoff Clarke spoke about having a Prayer Partner and what a blessing it was to have someone to pray with. I was quite new to St Philip's then but felt prompted to approach Sandra and at the same time she had had the thought of approaching me. The rest, as they say, is history! We started to pray together and over the years have become good friends too.

Having a Prayer Partner is a very precious thing; it means you always have someone to pray with you or for you. Over time you develop a trust and an understanding. You do not



have to wonder whether it would be OK to ask your Prayer Partner to pray of course they will, no matter how big or small the situation may be. Prayer Partners are there during life's wobbles, reminding each other how God has answered prayer in the past. You can encourage each other to trust that God has been faithful, and He will always be there for you, whatever you are facing. Sandra and I are very different people (if you don't believe me, ask one of us!), but God put us together as Prayer Partners and we have both valued the support we have had from one another and the friendship we have now shared for over 20 years.

**Joy Baker**

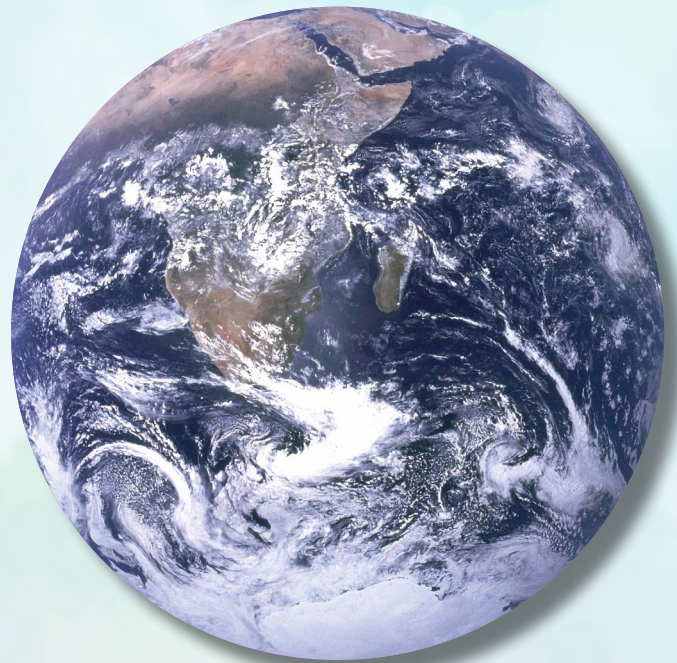


# CREATION CARE

## HEALING PLANET EARTH

The summer has brought us many stark reminders of how fragile our planet is, and the pressures of our growing global population.

**How has that left us feeling? Powerless? Overwhelmed? Concerned?**



*Photo: Nasa*



*Forest Fires*



*Factory Pollution*

Record temperatures in North America, Southern Europe and many places in Asia have resulted in huge forest fires, destroying countless hectares of productive land.

The warming temperatures are causing drought in parts of Africa, floods in South Asia, and melting ice caps. And we are not without some responsibility.

**There was an African Proverb written on the Berlin Wall. It read:**

*"Many small people who, in many small places, do many small things, can alter the face of the earth".*

**Yes, there is something each of us can do – and together to make a difference. We invite you to join us on Sunday afternoon 8th October, at the Parish Church, St. Peter / St. Paul, between 2pm and 5pm to celebrate the wonder and beauty of God's creation, learn more about climate justice, enjoy activities and be inspired to take action!**

*Helen Longley*



*Kenya Drought*



*Melting Ice*



*S Asia Floods*

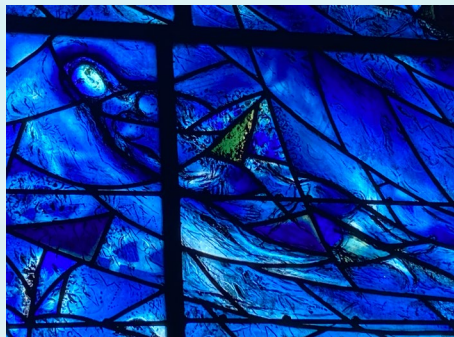


*Garbage Disposal*



# The Healing Power of Love

**"... provide for those who grieve... a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair."  
Isaiah 61:3, NIV**



From the outside All Saints, Tudeley appears to be a fairly unremarkable English country church. The modest stone building with a squat brick

tower, is an unassuming testament to the many generations that have worshipped here for over 1000 years. However, to step inside is to be transported at once into an amazing interplay of colour and light for this is the only church in the world to have all its windows created by the artist Marc Chagall.

So how did an internationally renowned displaced Russian Jewish artist come to design the windows for a small Church in rural Kent? It is a story where deep personal loss intersects with human spirituality and connection.

The transformation of the church was the consequence of the tragic death of a 21 year old girl. In 1963 Sarah Venetia d'Avigdor Goldsmid, the eldest daughter of Sir Henry and Lady d'Avigdor Goldsmid of Somerhill, died in a tragic sailing accident off the coast at Rye. As family and friends struggled with the terrible grief of such an abrupt and untimely loss, an idea was forming. In the summer of 1961 Sarah and her mother had visited the Chagall exhibition in Paris. They had been entranced by the windows that he had designed for the Hassadah Medical Centre in Jerusalem, dazzlingly realised in glass by Charles Marq. The recollection of this precious memory led Sir Henry to request Chagall to design a memorial window to be set in the church where Sarah had worshipped with her mother and sister. This magnificent window now fills the East wall of the church. In a series of images, we are drawn into the intense drama. At the base of the window, we see the young girl drowned in the dark, swirling waters of the sea, above her a mother tenderly cradles her two small children, while in the righthand corner a woman kneels weeping

in grief. As your eye traverses upwards, a ladder reaches up to the central figure of Christ, arms stretched wide in welcome on the Cross, accompanied by a ministering angel. Chagall described this figure of Christ as one whose presence draws us in, Christ who embodies the healing power of love.



At the dedication of the East window in 1967 Chagall was so happy with the effect that he undertook to prepare designs for the other windows in the church.

Taking inspiration from the descriptions of creation in Genesis he designed the two large golden-hued windows for the south wall and five smaller ones, imbued with blues and purples, for the north. The final four windows were installed in the chancel in 1985, shortly after Chagall's own death at the age of 98. Meditating on the windows will reveal semi-hidden delights: birds with wings outstretched, crescent moons, flowers, donkeys and angels dancing with the movement of the sunlight.

In the centre of the East window, at the foot of the cross is a figure riding on a red horse, a reoccurring symbol in Chagall's art. When asked about its symbolism Chagall simply replied that "horses are for happiness" and

when pressed further he counselled; "Everyone must choose the symbolism for themselves". Why not take the chance to see this amazing work of art on your doorstep and see what the symbolism will say to you?

The Church is usually open daily to visitors, Monday - Sunday: 9:00am - 4pm in winter, 9:00am - 6pm in summer. Please check website for more details: [https://www.tudeley.org/Groups/364813/Opening\\_Times.aspx](https://www.tudeley.org/Groups/364813/Opening_Times.aspx) If you would like to help to ensure the survival of this beautiful tribute for future generations you can donate by cheque or bank transfer to the Chagall Windows Preservation Trust: [https://www.tudeley.org/Groups/374602/Chagall\\_Window\\_Preservation.aspx](https://www.tudeley.org/Groups/374602/Chagall_Window_Preservation.aspx)

**Morwenna Fernandez**



# Crafting Together

***Everyone brings  
their own gift***

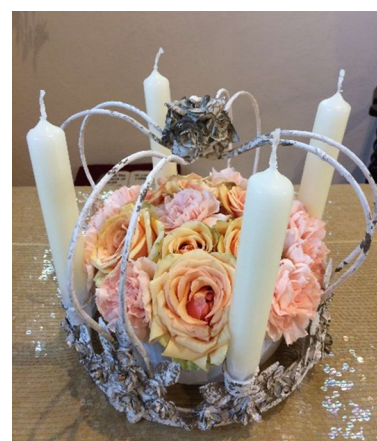
***Now there are  
varieties of  
gifts, but the  
same Spirit;  
and there are  
varieties of  
service, but  
the same Lord.***

***1 Corinthians  
12:4-5***

We are all given certain skills and we can choose to use them or to share with others but did you know there are lots of opportunities in the parish to learn and share? I've been going to the Thursday Afternoon Workshop for a few years now under the leadership of Yvonne Burgess and I have learned a lot! This lovely group of talented people meet every Thursday from 1.30-4.00pm in the upper lounge at Tonbridge Parish Church. Everyone brings their own gift... motivation and encouragement; a wealth of experience and a willingness to share; and a sympathetic ear when things aren't going to plan!



***You can learn a broad range of crafts***; some new and puzzling such as Kumihimo Japanese thread braiding, as well as the more traditional cross stitch, patchwork, card making and embroidery. We recently learned how to do Stumpwork and why it was given that name, and produced a beautiful tapestry kneeler for Bishop Given to take to Kondo. Knitting and crochet are firm favourites and there's always someone on hand to lend a pattern or help to decipher it! We break for tea and cakes at 3pm, giving us a valued opportunity for fellowship.



***Crafting Together***



There is also a group of talented folks at St Saviours who enjoy creating banners to hang in the church to enhance our worship for occasions such as Easter, Christmas, Pentecost and Remembrance Day.

They are currently working on a Tree of Life banner which will be taken to various groups such as Coffee Break and Open House to provide an opportunity for those who have no experience of crafting to be involved in its creation.

Who could fail to appreciate the work of the flower arrangers who decorate all the four churches in the parish so beautifully for special events and Holy days? This creative activity combines vivid flowers and lush foliage of different colours and textures to create beautiful and striking arrangements.

*Diane Thorpe*



## ***New members are always welcome***

Whether you are an absolute beginner or have new skills you would like to share, come and try us out, we would love to meet you.



## ***Thursday Craft Group***

Varied arts and crafts, refreshments and friendship.

Thursdays 1.30-4.00pm.

Tonbridge Parish Church, Upper Lounge.

Contact Yvonne Burgess 01732 350651

## ***Merry Makers***

Try a range of needlecraft, with refreshments and a brief Bible thought.

Mondays 10am-12 noon.

Tonbridge Parish Church

Contact Yvonne Burgess 01732 350651

## ***Knit & Natter***

Creative knitting!

Second Thursday of month, 10am -12noon (except August).

Tonbridge Parish Church

Contact Carolyn Buck via the parish office 01732 770962 x 24



# “In you alone I have everything”

## The Revelations of Julian of Norwich

This year many people around the world will take part in celebrating the life of a woman of the fourteenth century about whom we know next to nothing. Why? Because 650 years ago the woman who we have come to know as Julian of Norwich received a vision of the love of God which would change her life and the life of many others profoundly. These visions were recorded in the first known book authored by a woman in English, the Revelations of Divine Love. This little book has become a spiritual classic, a deep yet simply expressed guide to the way of faith, hope and love.

***He did not say, ‘You shall not be perturbed, you shall not be troubled, you shall not be distressed’, but he said, ‘You shall not be overcome.’***

In May 1373, at the age of 30, Julian was struck by a severe illness which left her close to death. We know almost nothing about her earlier life but we know that during this period Norwich suffered through episodes of plague and famine. As she lay on what she believed to be her death bed she experienced a series of 16 visions revealing to her aspects of the love of God. Following her recovery, she would spend the rest of her life pondering their meaning and recording her insights.

***God, of your goodness, give me yourself; you are enough for me, and anything less that I could ask for would not do you full honour. And if I ask anything that is less, I shall always lack something, but in you alone I have everything.***

Julian chose to become an anchoress, walled into a cell, dedicated to a life of prayer and contemplation. In doing so she was in effect choosing to be seen as dead to the world. At the moment of an anchoress’ enclosure, the priest would recite funeral prayers.



Julian's cell was attached to the church of St Julian in Norwich. It was from this church that she took the only name that we now know her by – Julian of Norwich.



***Peace and love are always in us, being and working, but we are not always in peace and love. But God wants us to pay attention to this: that he is the foundation of our whole life in love.***

Although Julian's life was physically limited to the confines of her cell her influence spread far beyond. We know from another medieval literary work, The Book of Margery Kempe, that in her lifetime many people came to her cell in Norwich to seek spiritual guidance. Interest in Julian's writings has grown in recent times. Her work has been translated into many languages and is well-respected by theologians, historians and literary scholars. In leaving us her Revelations of Divine Love Julian has given us access to the spiritual riches that God gifted her.

“... to whom this book may come, thank our Saviour, Christ Jesus, intently and with all your heart that he vouchsafed these showings and revelations of his endless love, mercy and goodness for you and to you, so as to be your and our safe guide and safe-conduct to everlasting bliss – which may Jesus grant us! Amen.”

- Julian of Norwich, Revelations of Divine Love

**Morwenna Fernandez**

Julian Meetings are groups of people of all denominations or none who meet regularly to grow in the practice of contemplative prayer in the Christian tradition. The Tonbridge group meets twice monthly on Wednesday afternoons 2.30 to about 3.45pm (cup of tea included!). We would love more people to join us. Do email: [roxanneirobins@gmail.com](mailto:roxanneirobins@gmail.com) for more details.



# SECRET AGENTS' HOLIDAY CLUB



Over a hundred children came each morning to the Secret Agents' Holiday Club at the end of July, for a week of fun and games, drama and songs. They joined Billie and Tillie in investigating who Jesus is, using Luke's gospel as their evidence.

We discovered that our greatest need is not a hotel that feeds us delicious food forever, but forgiveness, which only Jesus can provide. We discovered that Jesus not only is full of love even for those of us who do bad things or just don't feel lovely; he even has power over death. And most wonderfully, Jesus' own death gives us a chance to swap our sin for his perfection, so that we can be friends with God forever, knowing that when Jesus amazingly came back from the dead 3 days later, he proved He is the Son of God, King forever. Wow! What a week!

The week culminated with a BBQ for everyone, and despite our misgivings with the forecast, was held out of doors in the sunshine!

We thoroughly enjoyed hosting holiday club, and are very grateful to all who helped make it happen. We are looking forward to the **Holiday Club Reunion Light Party** - see back page for more details.



**Sunday  
 CLUB**

Why not join us on a regular Sunday morning for our 10.45am service at St Peter and St Paul, where we host a creche every week for 0-3s, and lots of fun and discussions about faith in Sunday Club for children in year R - Year 5 and SOS for young people in Year 6-

**S.O.S.**



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FOR HOME & GARDEN!

## SAVE THE DATES!

### ALL OUR CHURCHES

#### HERITAGE PLUS RIDE & STRIDE:

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September** – visit our churches on your bicycle or on foot – part of a nationwide event. See

[www.kentrideandstride.co.uk](http://www.kentrideandstride.co.uk)

#### FOOTBALL MATCH:

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September** – see back cover

#### ST. PHILIP

**OPEN HOUSE** – Every Saturday 10.00am –

12.30pm. Hospitality for the whole community with refreshments & activities. All welcome!

#### FISH & CHIPS & GAMES EVENING:

**Saturday October 7<sup>th</sup>** – 6.30-9.00pm

All welcome – £10 per head – please book.

#### ST. PETER & ST. PAUL

**PLANET EARTH – CARING FOR CREATION –**

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October** 2.00pm – 5.00pm

**MAKE YOUR CHRISTMAS PUDDING –**

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November** 7.45pm – Make your own Christmas pudding! Please book.

All bookings through:

[parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)



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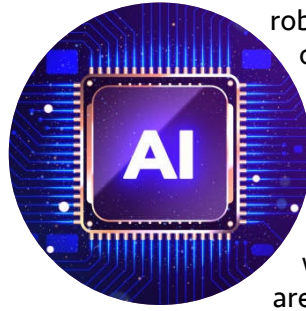
***Luke Sage has been coming to the Parish Church for many years and can often be found drumming at 'St Peter and St Paul's Tonbridge' morning services during the holidays. In term time, he is at the University of Bath, where in September he enters his final year studying robotics engineering. His degree is on the forefront of the issues and benefits posed by AI, with some of his professors leading the development and discussions surrounding it.***

Artificial Intelligence (or AI) has been much in the news in recent months, usually with negative connotations. I have been asked to write this article to shed some light on the potentially amazing opportunities it invites, alongside addressing the negativity being spread in the media.

So, what is Artificial Intelligence, or AI as it is commonly called? It is basically where a computer program is given a task to perform, and it does so with similar skill to that of a human carrying out the task, including the ability to learn from its surroundings and improve at the task. This can be alarming for people, who fear for their jobs being replaced with robots. But that is just the beginning.

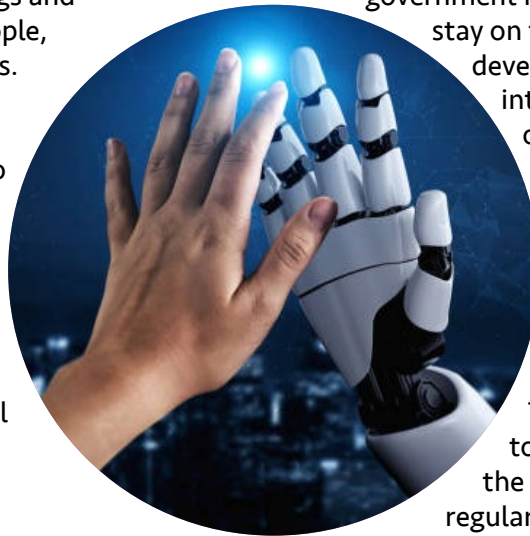
As with any development, AI has the potential to be a force for good and for bad. Much depends on who's using it. Many computer scientists and leading academic minds are recognising this time as another boom in technology, not unlike the invention of the printing press, or the industrial revolution, or the invention of the internet. As with each of these, AI is a tool we all will be able to use to improve lives.

AI opens the door to more accessible knowledge, creating new job opportunities, as well as improving living, education, and healthcare. Some are anxious about the changes to healthcare, which might result, for example, in a malfunction in the middle of surgery. The fact that these might be less likely than human error may not be much consolation. But AI will allow for complex and precision procedures to be handled more delicately, whilst even freeing up surgeon time to reduce hospital waiting lists. But, as with all good things there is the fear of people exploiting this beneficial tool. As already mentioned, alongside the creation of new jobs, many will inevitably be replaced by



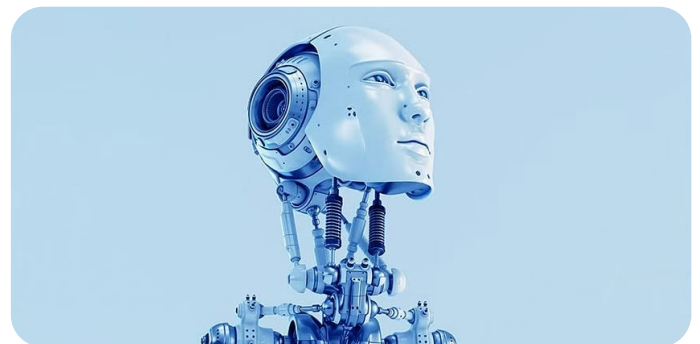
robots using AI, without needing pay increases or rest breaks! There is the risk that individuals or organisations will be able to exploit the system, so online security will need to be improved. It will be vital to keep up with the rising danger AI can impose on our data and banking systems. Many are left wondering what we can do about it? There are also ethical issues about agency: up to what point do we, as humans, delegate our decisions to our "intelligent devices" – be it in choosing our music, deciding what films we will watch, or more seriously – controlling the car in which we travel?

At this stage, one of the most important things we can do is encourage those in power to seek education surrounding AI, and to be quick to develop and apply new laws that limit its capability and protect us from those who seek to do harm with it. AI is often seen as negative in the media, but it can be controlled and put to positive use in day-to-day events, provided safeguards are put in place early on. With the new appointment for the Minister for AI in March, the government needs to be able to



stay on top of these new developments and keep the international discussion ongoing.

All in all, when it comes to AI in the modern world, it is important to remain critical of the positive and of the negative. The media are quick to remind the public of the dangers of AI, whilst regularly ignoring the positives it will bring too. Pandora's box has already been opened, so it is now up to us to encourage our leaders to put laws in place to protect us from these negative applications and allow the positive applications to thrive in providing future generations with happier, healthier lives.



**Luke Sage**



# Parish Information & Contacts



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## Save the Date!

You're invited to our **Hope Explored Course – Monday evenings**

**30<sup>th</sup> Oct, 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> Nov**

[www.tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)

## SERVICES

### ST PETER & ST PAUL: CHURCH LANE, TN9 1DA

#### Sundays

**8am:** Holy Communion

**10.45am:** Morning Service\* (Holy Communion on 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month) and children's groups (school years R-5 and 6-9), plus crèche for pre-schoolers  
**6pm:** Evening Service (Holy Communion on 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month)

\*Also available online on our YouTube channel

#### Wednesdays

**10.00am** Holy Communion (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month)

### ST PHILIP: SALISBURY ROAD, TN10 4PA

#### Sundays

**10.45am** Morning Service (Holy Communion on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month) and children welcome

### ST ANDREW: HADLOW ROAD, TN10 4LS

#### Sundays

**9.45am** Morning Service (Holy Communion on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month)

### ST SAVIOUR : DRY HILL PARK CRESCENT, TN10 3BJ

#### Sundays

**9.15am** Morning Service (Holy Communion on 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month)

## YOUTH, CHILDREN & FAMILIES

**10.45am** St Peter & St Paul

**Creche:** (0-4 years), **Sunday Club:** (school years R-5) and **SOS:** (school years 6-9) every Sunday at

**Refresh:** (school years 10-13) meets weekly on Sunday evenings at St. Peter & St. Paul at 5.00-7.00pm. More information can be found on our website or by emailing [ycoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:ycoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)

## Contact

#### Parish Administration

Parish Office, Tonbridge Parish Church, Church Lane, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1DA

**(01732) 770962 ext. 24**

[parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)

#### Vicar

The Rev'd Ben Thorndike

**(01732) 770962 ext. 23**

[ben@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:ben@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)

#### Associate Vicar

The Rev'd Wendy Carr

**(01732) 770962 ext. 32**

[wendy.carr@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:wendy.carr@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)

#### Senior Minister for Families

Alyson Bleakley

**(01732) 770962 ext.22**

[Alyson.Bleakley@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:Alyson.Bleakley@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)

#### Licensed Lay Minister

Sally Musson

**(07713) 352017**

[mussonsally@btinternet.com](mailto:mussonsally@btinternet.com)

#### Parish Administrator & Vicar's PA : Jane Higgs

**(01732) 770962 ext. 24**

[jane.higgs@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:jane.higgs@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)

#### Church Family Administrator

Jane Thorndike

**(01732) 770962 ext. 24**

[jane.thorndike@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:jane.thorndike@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)

#### Churchwardens

David Balcombe, Paul White

**(01732) 770962 ext. 24**

#### Parish Treasurer

Andy Kirkpatrick

**(01732) 770962 ext. 25**

[treasurer@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)

#### Finance Manager

Yolanda Roberts

**(01732) 770962 ext. 25**

[yolanda@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:yolanda@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)

#### Perspectives Team

John Schluter (Chair), Jenny Macpherson, Patricia Osborn.

[perspectives@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:perspectives@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)

*Parish Office Hours: 10am-1pm, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday*

## GET INVOLVED!

There is a vast range of groups and activities across the Parish:

- **Home Groups** – email: [parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk) for more information
- **Tiny Acorns** for parents and carers with under 1s
- **Teddies** for parents and carers with pre-school children
- **Monthly prayer meetings: St.Peter & St.Paul**
- **Men's & Women's Ministry**
- **Stepping Stones Bible Study for women**
- **Book Club**
- **Open House** at St. Philip – every Saturday morning
- **Coffee Lounge**

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peterpaulton



@peterpaulton



# In times of need, family matters

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- ▲ We always provide itemised estimates
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10am - 5pm

## Musical Bumps Tonbridge & Sevenoaks

Our weekday classes for 0-4 years are  
usually held at the Parish Church.

At the time of writing, we are having fun  
with the full timetable taking place via  
zoom online!

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

New families are always welcome to trial a class

[margaret.lewin@musicalbumps.com](mailto:margaret.lewin@musicalbumps.com)  
07736 244142





# LIGHT PARTY HOLIDAY CLUB REUNION!

HOT DOGS

Saturday 28th October

SHORT TALK

Year R - Year 6

WHY NOT BRING A FRIEND?

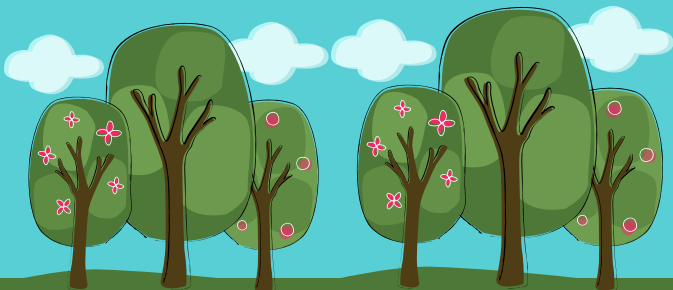
GAMES

5-7pm St Peter & St Paul

Craft

Places limited so PLEASE book a place via  
[www.tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)

## PLANET EARTH - CARING FOR CREATION



WHAT CAN WE DO?

SUNDAY 8TH OCTOBER

2-5pm at St Peter & St Paul, Tonbridge

Parish wide celebration of the beauty of creation  
Opportunity to discover more about local & global initiatives  
Reflect on what each of us can do to be part of healing planet earth

ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES!  
WRITING, POETRY,  
PRAYERS, PAINTING

FREE EVENT  
WITH  
REFRESHMENTS!

## FOOTBALL MATCH AT TONBRIDGE ANGELS' LONGMEAD STADIUM

SAT 30 SEPT  
6PM FOR 6.30PM

ALL ABILITIES WELCOME AT A  
MEN'S EVENT ACROSS THE PARISH  
CHURCHES (MIN AGE 18 YEARS)



BOOKING ESSENTIAL: For more info or to  
register your place, please contact  
[parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)