



THE PARISH CHURCH OF
ST LEONARD, LEXDEN

ORDINARY PEOPLE. EXTRAORDINARY GOD.



PARISH MAGAZINE

FEBRUARY 2020 50p



Working with neighbours

The beauty of sharing gifts.

From the very earliest days of the church, neighbouring communities and congregations have sought to work together to support each other in sharing the good news of God's love with those around them. History reveals that this hasn't always been easy, of course; but it goes without saying that sharing expertise and gifts can be a very positive thing!

Recently, our diocese has asked parishes to reflect on their own gifts, the gifts of those in nearby parishes, and to look for ways to assist each other in meeting their communities' needs. The idea has been to encourage the formation of something called an 'MMU' – a rather clunky three-letter abbreviation of Mission and Ministry Unit (itself an unattractive name for simply working together!).

In January, members of our PCC came together with PCC members from St Albright's Stanway, All Saints' Shrub End, and the Marks Tey & Aldham benefice, for an informal tea party. It was an opportunity to get to know each other a little better, and to begin to explore ways in which we might be able to support each other and collaborate in the coming years.

This is an idea that excites me, and which I believe could be of real benefit to the people of Lexden and West Colchester. But it needs to be something that St Leonard's - the parish and congregation - is inspired by and happy to contribute to and 'own'!

With this in mind, I thought it would be helpful for me to clarify some of the terminology, tell you something of what has already happened, and to unpack a little of what it might come to mean for us.

What an MMU is. What an MMU isn't.

Mission and Ministry Units (MMUs) are groups of parishes which work together collegially for mutual benefit, and for the benefit of God's mission in their locality. MMUs aren't "super parishes" or formal group ministries, nor should they become another layer of church governance and administration! Rather, they're conceived as collaborative groupings of parishes gathered for the purpose of easing the growing burden on individual churches and encouraging growth. This is, of course, similar to the way deaneries already operate, but within a slightly more focussed area.

Why this matters now. What the implications are for Lexden.

Bishop Stephen and the Diocesan Board of Finance want all parishes to become part of an MMU by the end of 2021. As this process involves

incumbents, churchwardens, PCCs, as well as approval from the Deanery Mission and Pastoral Committee, our careful attention needs to turn to this. What's been tentatively discussed for our part of town is the formation of a Mission and Ministry "Partnership". This wouldn't involve any legal changes, and so the parishes and incumbents would remain independent. The potential formal implication to note is that the Diocese has indicated that parish share may in future be allocated to each MMU rather than to individual parishes. Given our careful and generous stewardship of parish share, this seems unlikely to have a significant impact on our resources. The type of collegiality envisioned for clergy and ministers is similar to that already long established in the deanery – i.e. helping each other to cover services, collaborating on courses such as wedding preparation, and looking for shared opportunities for mission.

What has happened so far?

Towards the end of last year, I met with my colleagues from Stanway, and Aldham & Marks Tey, the churchwarden of Shrub End (which is in vacancy), and the Area Dean to discuss the potential for MMU formation. After a constructive conversation, it was agreed that (given there is already some collaborative work going on between our parishes) we would begin discussions – with and between our churchwardens and PCCs – about how a potential Mission and Ministry Unit involving Lexden, Stanway, Shrub End, Marks Tey & Aldham might look.

What was discussed informally was a light-touch Mission and Ministry "Partnership" approach based upon collegiality, and informally sharing resources. The types of collaboration discussed included joint marriage preparation sessions, confirmation classes, education courses, as well as a potential joint missional project in the future.

What next?

On the first Monday of each month, ministers and others from the churches have been meeting to pray together. When you read this, a tea party for the PCCs will have been held on 19th January (this article was written before then!).

It's very important that this isn't a "top-down" process. So please can I ask you all to pray carefully about this, and to reflect on it? Most importantly, please let us know what you think, or any fears that you might have. Just speak to a PCC member or one of the ministry team.



Cover image: *Marigolds*. Andy Hamilton.

FEBRUARY DIARY

Saturday 1st February

8.30am Men's Breakfast in the Nicholls Room

SUNDAY 2nd February: CANDLEMAS

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am ALL AGE EUCHARIST with Christingle

6.30pm Choral Evensong



Tuesday 4th

10.00am Holy Communion at Wren House

7.30pm 'Medley' house group (Rosemary)

Wednesday 5th

10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee

10.45am Holy Communion at Woodlands

11.30am Holy Communion at Cheviot

Thursday 6th

8.00am Eucharist

SUNDAY 9th: 3rd Sunday before Lent

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am PARSH EUCHARIST with Junior Church

3.00pm MESSY CHURCH

6.30pm Evensong and Sermon

Wednesday 12th

10.00am Eucharist for Wholeness & Healing followed by coffee

Thursday 13th

8.00am Eucharist

2.30pm 'Constable' house group (Hugh)

Saturday 15th

8.30am Women's Breakfast in the Nicholls Room

2.00pm Marriage Preparation at St. Leonard's

SUNDAY 16th: 2nd Sunday before Lent

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am PARISH EUCHARIST with Junior Church

6.30pm Evensong and Sermon

Monday 17th

11.00am Holy Communion at Hill House

Wednesday 19th

10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee

Thursday 20th

8.00am Eucharist

SUNDAY 23rd: Sunday next before Lent

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am PARISH EUCHARIST with Junior Church

6.30pm Evening Service

Wednesday 26th: ASH WEDNESDAY

10.00am Eucharist with imposition of ashes

7.30pm Eucharist with imposition of ashes

Thursday 27th

8.00am Eucharist

SUNDAY 1st March: 1st Sunday of Lent

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am ALL AGE EUCHARIST

6.30pm Evensong





From the Editor

In this issue, we look back to the joys of Christmas and also forward to the Easter path. I'm not alone in having really enjoyed the 2019 Christmas services—it was a

particular pleasure for me to have sung with the Church Choir in several services including the two Christmas Eve Services of Light. I received the following letter from one family who attended the first of these. Although we all do what we do with no thought of reward, it is heart-warming when—often unsolicited—we receive glimpses of the impact our service and worship do have. I've printed several other 'thank you's in this issue: one to our 2nd Lexden Scout Group, who made two Australian boys welcome, and one from the Felixstowe Seafarers' Centre. As Lent approaches, see details below of a new Prayer Group, our 2020 Lent Course and dramatic plans for this year's Palm Sunday. As ever, please keep sending me your news and wonderful creative work.

All best wishes

Ruth

Feedback on our Christmas services...

Dear Editor,

May I thank and congratulate everyone who made the 16.30 Candlelit Service on Christmas Eve so very beautiful and meaningful. I brought along my second daughter, Francesca; her Italian husband, Alessandro, and their two children, Leo (4) and Guendalina (1), and the children's other Granny - their purely Italian-speaking, Catholic *Nona*, Santina. Santina had never attended an English church service before but she declared the church to be beautiful and she followed the 'goings on' as best she could. She was impressed at how full the church was. She checked with me that some of the ladies present were indeed ordained and I was proud to be able to assure her that this was the case. Francesca and I sang up for the wonderful, well-known carols and Leo sang, too. He told his mummy, afterwards, "I sang in a quiet voice because I didn't know the words." The family live and work in Monaco and Leo attends a French-speaking school and so he is used to singing carols in French. The candlelight and the nativity set captivated Leo and Guendalina. Collections for CAP, Christians Against Poverty, felt relevant and important.

Kerry Conn



2nd Lexden Scout Group - we need your support!

We are very fortunate to have thriving Beaver, Cub and Scout groups associated with St Leonard's, who meet weekly in the Church Hall, offering boys and girls from age 7 - 14 the opportunity to make new friends, learn new skills and try all sorts of activities including sailing, drumming, animation, tobogganing, cooking, using the hose at the fire station and a whole lot more!

We are also very fortunate to have a great team of volunteer leaders and helpers who together make all these exciting sessions happen. However, the group has had some changes over the last month or so: the Group Scout Leader has stepped down, and we are also in need of a Chairperson and Secretary on the Group Executive Committee as well as some more parent representatives.

Please consider whether you could join a great team and fill one of these rewarding and enjoyable roles to help keep our groups running. Detailed information about what they each involve can be provided - just speak to **Janice Chambers**. There will also be a meeting in the next couple of weeks for anyone interested in joining the team.

Thank you, Scouts!

I would like to thank Scout Leader Janice for making my grandsons Oscar and Felix so welcome as honorary scouts to the 2nd Lexden Scout Group. They had a lovely time making new friends, joining in the activities and discovering how scouting in another country can be just as enjoyable as at home in Australia. Their visit cumulated in the area Scout Christmas party, which rounded it off so well. If any cubs, scouts or leaders from Lexden are on holiday in Brisbane, they would like to return your wonderful hospitality!

Merlin Jobson



BENEATH THE CROSS
A TELLING OF THE PASSION
WRITTEN FOR ST LEONARD'S, LEXDEN



PALM SUNDAY PERFORMANCE

5TH APRIL 2020

6.30PM

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE INVOLVED IN ANY WAY WITH
THE PRODUCTION OF THIS EXCITING PROJECT, PLEASE
COME TO A MEETING ON

SUNDAY 16th FEBRUARY 2020

AFTER THE 9.45AM SERVICE

IN THE NICHOLLS ROOM

OR

CONTACT: MAGGIE WHITEMAN

ACTING / SINGING / DANCING / BACKSTAGE (ALL ASPECTS)
REHEARSAL SCHEDULE TO BE ARRANGED AT MEETING

LOOKING FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU!

December in Jerusalem's Old City

The Old City of Jerusalem (within the walls) is divided into the Christian quarter, the Muslim quarter, the Jewish quarter and the Armenian quarter. Although Christians are in the minority, their area was decorated with the occasional Christmas tree and some lights. There were some decorations in the Armenian quarter too. There was one 'Father Christmas' who decorated his house and welcomed adults and children. It was amusing to see tourists park their Segways outside in order to see him!



I missed not being able to go to a carol concert (I only saw one advertised and I was working that evening). However, one of the highlights of the month was attending a 'whole church pageant' at the Church of the Redeemer. This was an amazing experience. We arrived at church to find the front pews covered in props e.g. hats, scarves, tinsel and angel wings. Everyone was encouraged to choose an item and put it on. (I nervously chose to be 'one of the

crowd' and just put a scarf over my head.) Mary and Joseph took their places in front of the altar and, as expected, Mary was cradling a bundle wrapped in cloth. As Revd Carrie Ballenger had not anticipated there being a baby in the congregation, Mary was in fact cuddling a soft toy black and white kitten!



Whilst Revd Carrie played the grand piano, a narrator (Revd Gray) proceeded to tell the story of the Nativity. As different characters were mentioned (e.g. the wise men, the shepherds, etc.), they left the pews and joined Mary and Joseph. By the end of the story / service there was no-one left in the congregation! It was a wonderful experience. There was much smiling and laughter and we truly felt part of the



Christmas story being retold in the Holy Land.

On Christmas Day we went to the morning service at St George's Cathedral. This was in Arabic and English. Afterwards, Bishop Dawani invited everyone to his house in the grounds for drinks and nibbles.

On my last Sunday in Jerusalem, I returned to the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer with my husband and co-volunteers. Janet (a Canadian volunteer) played the piano during the service, and I read the second lesson. Revd Carrie said that she had valued the support of the volunteers from Ecce Homo over the three-month period, and gave each of us a beautiful ceramic tile depicting the church.

Unfortunately, Boxing Day was not a holiday and we returned to work at the convent. However, on 30th December, my three months of voluntary work was complete. I packed my case, cleaned my room and then left Ecce Homo for Ben Gurion Airport.

It was a joy to return to my family and all the home comforts with a genuine appreciation of the important things in life. I value the freedom I have e.g. to live, work, travel and speak in a way that many people are denied, and I am grateful for the opportunity I have had 'to take time out'. In doing so I have learnt a great deal more about myself and the world.

Sharon Kennedy



As Christians, we are all fully aware of the importance of prayer; whether it is personal, in a small group or as a church community.

I have been praying about and talking to people about starting a **Prayer Group**. It will meet in the Lady Chapel at **8.00am**

(or earlier if required) for approximately **20-30 minutes** on a **Monday** morning so that those who work can join us.

I propose to start on **Monday 2nd March**, as we look toward the Lenten season, and to continue on a weekly basis during Lent. After this we can review its frequency, timings, format, etc.

The format of the prayers will be very fluid and organic - there may be a particular problem or worry we feel moved to pray about, an event or people in our lives.

If you have any ideas or comments, then please do get in touch.

Yours in Christ,

Revd Maggie

#LiveLent: Care for God's Creation is the Church of England's Lent campaign for 2020

"This Lent, we hope both adults and children might engage in God's plea for us to 'Care for Creation'. It is an opportunity for us to rebuild our relationship with our planet, and in turn with the God who is Lord of everything. During this time, we hope you might engage in prayer, learn more about the remarkable world we have been given and build habits that last beyond the season to protect and honour the earth."

**Archbishop Justin Welby &
Archbishop John Sentamu**

Visit [https://
www.churchofengland.org/
livelent](https://www.churchofengland.org/livelent) for more details.





Eucharist

for Wholeness & Healing

*a gentle service of
stillness &
refreshment.*

To enable as many as possible to benefit from these services, this Spring they will be held on some Wednesday mornings as well as on Sundays:

Wednesdays, 10.00am: 12th February & 8th April

Sundays, 6.30pm: 26th January, 22nd March & 24th May

A big 'thank you' from Felixstowe Seafarers' Centre

During the last few months, parishioners of our own and neighbouring parishes have been busy knitting hats for the Christmas parcels for the seafarers of Felixstowe. The Seafarers' Centre (formerly the Mission to Seamen) has four padres who visit the ships which use the vast port of Felixstowe. The sailors have a hard life; the average turn-around is four hours and they have no time to shop for presents or seasonal goods. The mission has set up a shop in the Centre so that the sailors can shop and play snooker and games. The woolly hats play an important part as it is very cold on the open decks and the bright colours help in any rescue.

We sent: 127 woolly hats, 27 packs of playing cards, one chess set and 14 jigsaws.

Many thanks to all who took part and to Alan Hedgeland for transporting the items. I received a letter of thanks from Anita Mazur, Manager of Felixstowe & Haven Ports Seafarers Services (FHPSS) in December, saying how much the seafarers appreciated 'the time and effort that has gone into' making the hats and providing them with support.

Sheila Cook

LEXDEN LADIES GROUP

Just a reminder that our next meeting is not until the **3rd March** at **2.30pm** in the Church, when we are looking forward to a concert by the **Ukulele Band**. We are making this an open event and all are invited.

Do make a note in your diaries!!

Margaret



CAMEO

The first meeting of our newly-formed group, Cameo, was held at the home of Jean Holden on 14th January.

11 former Mothers' Union members attended and, after Opening Prayers, our proposed programme for the year was discussed. Vivien Chapman, Mothers' Union Deanery Chairman joined us for tea and a chat.

All present were invited to share topics they thought might be of interest to our Group.

Our next meeting will take the form of a **Communion Service** in Church on **Tuesday, 10th March** at **2.30pm**.

Jean Hallett

Lent Course

Our Lent course this year will run
each Wednesday in Lent (excluding Holy Week)
and starts on **4th March**.

There will be two sessions:

11.00am and 7.30pm.

The course will be based on Revd Mark Scarlata's
2019 book *Sabbath Rest*.



Having the text is not essential but, for those
who would like to purchase it, the full publica-
tion details are:

*Sabbath Rest: The beauty of God's rhythm for a
digital age* by Mark Scarlata (2019; SCM Press;
ISBN 13: 978-0-334-05806-9).

(It is available from Church House Bookshop
[<https://chbookshop.hymnsam.co.uk/>] amongst
other retailers.)



February

2 nd February	All-age Eucharist
9 th February	Taught by the Spirit - How the Spirit reveals God to us. <i>1 Corinthians 2.1-12</i>
16 th February	God given growth - How spiritual growth happens. <i>1 Corinthians 3.1-9</i>
23 rd February	Glimpses of God - A powerful encounter with God. <i>Matthew 17.1-9</i>

OMG+

At this month's OMG+ session we were exploring our God-given talents – one group wrote some lyrics, while another group set them to music. A break-off faction decided to write an article for the magazine about the Charity Sleepover, so here it is!

I must first say a very heart-felt THANK YOU to everyone that donated or supported us in any way – we were just 14 crazy people doing something crazy on a dark December night but managed to raise over £1200 for the Church Urban Fund, which will directly impact those most in need on our streets. Thanks also to the parents for lending us their precious young ones for the night!

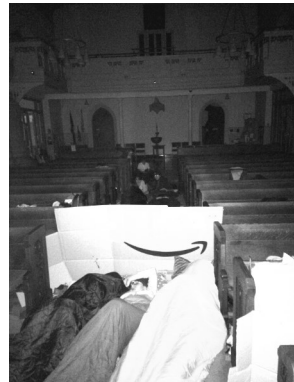
Kirsty Harvey

The Big Church Sleepover by Milan, Sam and Will

After everyone had arrived, we had to endure the trauma of listening to some Dad-jokes courtesy of Nick Harvey (Ella and Will's dad). We then played a drawing game which ended in tears (of both laughter and shame) as people critiqued the portraits of others. After making biscuits, we used huge sheets of cardboard to finish what Donald Trump started, but in this instance it was a wall to separate girls from boys. We then listened to Rosemary talk to us about the Soup Run and the amazing things she does for the community. We then took our places and slept.

Continued by Kirsty:

What the boys didn't say was that the sleeping didn't start until about midnight! However, it was very comforting to hear the church bells on the hour every hour... We kept the low light on behind the altar all night and, whenever I stirred, I could see the silhouette of the cross out of the corner of my eye; it made for a very calm environment. We were all very grateful to travel back to our warm homes and loving families the next day, very aware that is a luxury homeless people do not have.



Blessings

Thankyou Lord for sleep.

I writhe and squirm in my bed,

Trying to find a comfortable position,

I fret and fiddle and...

Suddenly am overcome

By a blessed cloud of oblivion...

Mmmm.....

Dreams... yes... half-remembered...

During a slow awakening...

Stirrings of surprise that I have slept

The whole night through...

Soon... God willing...

I'll be able to get up and go.

Joy Harman



MOUSE TAILS

After all the excitement of Christmas, the Church mouse community reluctantly returned to normal, everyday living (not unlike the humans). Grandpa resumed his daily lessons with the youngsters and, during one of these, told them the story of the Three Kings, the Magi, and how they arrived bearing gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh for the baby Jesus; he also explained the significance of these gifts. One of Pablo's twins said their Dad had told them how big a celebration it was in Spain, his home country. He recalled that it was an even bigger event than Christmas with parades going around the town, and sweets, nuts and toys were thrown to the children lining the streets, which made for a good scavenging time for mice.

Rupert (who had been feeling a bit restless) said to Grandpa, "Why don't we stage a Three Kings' parade?" "We could make crowns and capes and pretend gifts for baby Jesus and take them to the crib in the Church?" Grandpa replied that, providing the Mums and Dads agreed, he thought it would be a good idea and they would have a meeting with Pablo to get his ideas.

On the following day, having got the agreement from all the parents, the Church mice went up to the Hall to talk with Pablo and Daisy as well as the Halls. Everyone thought it was a wonderful idea and something very different from anything that they had done before. As you know, the mice are always up for a get-together although, as the Mums were quick to point out, food was very hard to find at this time of year. Still, they would do their best. Daisy said she *must* have her Mum and Dad there to join in the festivities. Pablo was thrilled and regaled them all with tales of the big parades that happened in Spain for the feast of the Three Kings. He became a little sad as he thought of his family in Spain but soon cheered up when he looked at his lovely wife Daisy and their twins; he knew he was a very lucky mouse to have the life he enjoyed now and threw himself wholeheartedly into the plans for the sixth of January. As this was a Monday, the Church would not be busy with human worship

so would be a good day to hold the celebration.

It was decided that, as Rupert had launched the idea, he should be one of the kings, Alberto another and Tommy Organ the third. Molly, Mum and Daisy oversaw costumes and a message was sent to the Woods family, via their friend Mr. Blackie the blackbird, and they duly arrived, coming through their tunnel, with berries and nuts to contribute.

When the special Monday arrived, the Three Kings paraded from the Hall to the Church, looking very regal in their crowns and capes and bearing gifts for baby Jesus. Grandpa re-told the story of the Magi and they all said prayers and sang (well, squeaked) the carol, 'We Three Kings'. Then they all processed to the Hall for a celebration. Everyone agreed that it had been a wonderful day and one that should become a tradition for future years.



CT

COFFEE MORNINGS

Yvonne Romain has kindly offered to host our next Coffee Morning on **Saturday, 29th February** from **10.30am to 12 noon** at her home, **10 Beaver Close.**

Directions:

Proceed along Halstead Road from the Ambulance station. Take the first right into Mellor Chase, then the first right again into Firststore Drive; a further first right will take you into Beaver Close. Yvonne's house is situated on the right-hand side opposite a tall brick wall. She suggests parking on path on the left by the Green.

There will be a Bring & Buy of home-made produce, books and jigsaws and a Raffle.

Do come and meet your friends!

Jean Hallett



Katharina Luther – Nun, Rebel, Wife (2016) by Anne Boileau

(ISBN-13: 978-1911110613)

There can be few books that speak to us across time as this book does. The early sixteenth century saw Germany divided by the Reformation movement. The country was experiencing social collapse. Simultaneously, new ideas were spreading fast through the introduction of the printing press, which 500 years ago was to do for communications what the World Wide Web has done in modern times. Such were the times in which Katharina von Bora found herself growing up.



After a childhood spent running freely at the family home it was decided, when she reached the age of nine, that she would benefit from the discipline of a convent education. The scene in which she left home for the convent will resonate with anyone who has been sent away to school. Sebastian, her childhood friend, stopped the buggy at the top of the drive and gave Katharina a stuffed mole, which became her one connection with her old life until one of the nuns discovered and confiscated it.

At the convent Katharina and her friends, who could only talk in sign language for much of the time, became hugely influenced by the writings of Dr. Luther and there was great excitement at being able to read the Bible in German rather than Latin. As this material was smuggled into the convent, they came to question both their vows and the basis of their faith and all this played a major part in what followed.

Half way through the story, Katharina finds herself in a discussion involving two men and two other women. It is the men who believe the new reforms should be expedited. Offerings to shrines and the carrying of statues are little more than superstition; the processions and festivals

simply an excuse to do less work. One of the women queries whether the reforms are being carried out in the name of love or anger. In the process of rooting out corruption in the church and certain monastic establishments, the very things which give meaning and shape to the lives of ordinary people are being swept away. Who will now care for the traveller, the hungry, the sick and the dying when there are no more monasteries and convents? 'Christ told us not to judge, lest we ourselves be judged.' These comments are dismissed by the men. One should not take such sayings literally. But how can you not, asks Katharina, unable to hold her counsel, when scholars are supposedly drawing us back to the Scriptures and relying on them for truth and guidance?

Anne Boileau skilfully weaves into her story the upheavals of the Reformation, life in a convent in Katharina's time and a detailed insight into many aspects of life in the early sixteenth century, such as animal husbandry, the cultivation of crops, and the preservation of food for the dark winter months. Above all it is an intimate and compelling story of a young woman who came to assert herself successfully in a man's world.

Robin Greatorex





Poets' Corner

How Do I Love Thee? (Sonnet 43)

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.

I love thee to the depth and breadth and height

My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight

For the ends of being and ideal grace.

I love thee to the level of every day's

Most quiet need, by sun and candlelight.

I love thee freely, as men strive for right.

I love thee purely, as they turn from praise.

I love thee with the passion put to use

In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith.

I love thee with a love I seemed to lose

With my lost saints. I love thee with the breath,

Smiles, tears, of all my life; and, if God choose,

I shall but love thee better after death.

Elizabeth Barret Browning (1806-1861)

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday:	8.00am Holy Communion <i>(BCP using Common Worship Lectionary)</i>
9.45am	PARISH EUCHARIST and Junior Church, or ALL-AGE EUCHARIST (1 st Sunday in the month)
6.30pm	Evensong and Sermon
Monday	9.00am Morning Prayer
Tuesday	9.00am Morning Prayer 5.00pm Evening Prayer
Wednesday	9.00am Morning Prayer 10.00am Eucharist
Thursday	8.00am Eucharist 5.00pm Evening Prayer

Please check the diary in this magazine for occasional variations

MAGAZINE DEADLINE

Deadline for items for the **MARCH 2020** edition:

SUNDAY 9th FEBRUARY

Please submit items to the Editor

email: magazine@stleonardslexden.org.uk

or post in the box at the back of church.

Please include your name with any submission and limit text to 500-600 words maximum. Longer articles may be edited. Thank you.

[A note on copyright: previously unpublished images and writings you produce are fine to print in the magazine and will be appropriately credited. Works by others usually become copyright-free 70 years following the end of year of the author's death so please bear this in mind when submitting items for inclusion!]



Give us your feedback on our magazine...

We would love to hear what you think about our magazine. We want it to be both relevant and useful to all our readers, as well as giving you a good insight into the activities and work in which our church and congregation are involved within the parish and beyond. Do consider filling out this short questionnaire—it shouldn't take you long—and post it in the 'Items for the Magazine' box at the back of church. If you'd prefer to fill it out online, please visit: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/N9LBK5W> or scan the QR code above.

Q1. How do you rate the following aspects of the magazine?

The overall appearance

☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Average ☐ Poor ☐ No opinion

The variety of articles

☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Average ☐ Poor ☐ No opinion

The quality of articles

☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Average ☐ Poor ☐ No opinion

If you have ticked anything as 'average' or 'poor', please tell us why...

.....

Q2. To what extent do you find the magazine easy to read?

☐ Very easy ☐ Fairly easy ☐ Not very easy ☐ Not at all easy

If you don't find it easy, please tell us why...

.....

Q3. What type of articles / information do you find most interesting?

Please tick all that apply...

- ☐ Church news (services, groups, what's on, etc.)
- ☐ Items from the parish registers
- ☐ Diocesan news
- ☐ Church of England news
- ☐ Book / film reviews
- ☐ Competitions
- ☐ Thematic / seasonal articles
- ☐ Poems, artwork, creative writing
- ☐ Advertisements

Q4. What articles have you found most interesting recently?

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Q5. What items have you found least interesting recently?

.....

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Q6. Is there anything you would like to see featured in future issues of the magazine?

.....

.....

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Your responses will help us to shape future content for the magazine.

The Editor

St Leonard's Lexden Parish Magazine