

Dear all,

The last topic of the Diocesan Gathering was 'culture'.

When I hear the word 'culture', for some reason, the saying "When I hear the word culture, I reach for my gun", comes first to mind. Wikipedia states that this quote is variously misattributed to Heinrich Himmler, Joseph Goebbels and Hermann Göring, but was in fact a corrupted version of a line in Hanns Johst's play 'Schlageter'. Johst was a pro-Nazi German playwright, who in 1933 wrote the play 'Schlageter', an expression of Nazi ideology which was performed on Hitler's 44th birthday, 20 April 1933, to celebrate his victory. It was a heroic biography of the proto-Nazi martyr Albert Leo Schlageter.

In the play, the 2 men are studying at college:

SCHLAGETER: Good old Fritz! (Laughing.) No paradise will entice you out of your barbed wire entanglement!

THIEMANN: That's for damned sure! Barbed wire is barbed wire! I know what I'm up against.... No rose without a thorn!... And the last thing I'll stand for is ideas to get the better of me! I know that rubbish from '18 ..., fraternity, equality, ..., freedom ..., beauty and dignity! You gotta use the right bait to hook 'em. And then, you're right in the middle of a parley and they say: Hands up! You're disarmed..., you republican voting swine!—No, let 'em keep their good distance with their whole ideological kettle of fish ... I shoot with live ammunition! When I hear the word culture ..., I release the safety on my Browning!"

SCHLAGETER: What a thing to say!

THIEMANN: It hits the mark! You can be sure of that.

SCHLAGETER: You've got a hair trigger.

— *Hanns Johst's Nazi Drama Schlageter. Translated with an introduction by Ford B. Parkes-Perret. Akademischer Verlag Hans-Dieter Heinz, Stuttgart, 1984.*

Is it perhaps that the study of culture holds a person back from action, and should therefore be destroyed? Or is it perhaps that culture contains and communicates too much about truth and beauty, broadening the mind, that it is a challenge to authoritarianism, and therefore needs to be destroyed? Or perhaps both... It is for this reason that 'culture' should be celebrated and cherished.

But that is only really peripherally the context that the Bishop's talk of culture touched on. We all belong to a culture. We live and thrive within that culture, and we grow from it. If we are not careful, we derive our truth from it, assuming our culture is the only true one, or the best one, or the one that all other cultures should bow down to and emulate. The controversy regarding the teachings Bishop John Colenso in South Africa in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century is just one of many examples.

This idea of 'culture' ties in well with last week's theme of 'diversity' – our culture can be derived from and defined by class, race, sexuality, age, type of church we go to, translation of bible we read... It is what feels familiar to us... where we feel safe. And it is that last point that is the most significant. If our culture is questioned or challenged, we can too easily metaphorically surround ourselves with barbed wire, and take the safety catch off the Browning.

Let us, instead, do all we can to break down those barriers and not only celebrate the diversity of culture, but participate also. Who knows, we may even be changed for the better!

(However, I refuse to believe that the music my children enjoy is anything but infinitely inferior to the music of my youth!).

The lectionary readings for Sunday morning are: Deuteronomy 30: 9-14; Colossians 1: 1-14; and Luke 10: 25-37. The Psalm is Psalm 25: 1-9.

The hymns for the service are [When I Needed a Neighbour \(7vv\) \[with lyrics\] - YouTube](#), [SERVANT SONG-BROTHER, SISTER LET ME SERVE YOU - YouTube](#), [SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL-WHO WOULD TRUE VALOUR SEE - YouTube](#) (my old diocese!)

Anglican Chant [Psalm 25 "Unto Thee, O Lord, Will I Lift Up My Soul" - YouTube](#)

The Psalm Project [Psalm 25 \(Show Me Your Ways\) by The Psalms Project \(Lyric Video\) - YouTube](#)

And contemporary Hebrew language version [HEBREW TOV V'YASHAR \(Good & Upright\) Psalm 25 ~ Duet featuring Ashley Kate Esther - YouTube](#)

Anthems suggested include:

[RPC Choral Offering ~ A New Commandment R Shephard - YouTube](#)

[The Gift of Charity \(SATB\) - YouTube](#) John Rutter

[Edward Cuthbert Bairstow: Though I speak with the tongues of men - YouTube](#)

[Durufié: Ubi caritas - YouTube](#)

Following my mini-rant, of course, all my challenges to Facebook claims of copyright are upheld. But it is a pain to have to go through. It needs to be noted that this is not a genuine mistake on the part of the major companies. It is a cynical ploy to get money for that which they don't own – there's a word for that! This can be seen when they challenge our performance not with one possible recording, but with half a dozen.

**VOLUNTEERS WANTED:** Martin Jones, Graham Thompson and I have recently trained as CAP (Christians Against Poverty) Money Coaches, in order to provide support for any who are struggling with rising costs. We would like to have a 'dry run' to see how it works in practice, and how it is received. We are looking for a small group of people who would be willing to help with this by being 'guinea pigs'. You may wish to use your own budgets, but we are expecting people to invent the figures. It is the process, and how we cover it that is important. Please let me know if you are interested. We are probably looking at 2-3 hours on a Saturday later in July.

Don't forget, this evening:

# Pennyles



Penny Stevens on violin and Les Woods playing guitar form a distinctive and powerful sound as they range through the world of original and roots folk music, high energy and fun!

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2022**

**Priory Hall Garden, DSJ**

Bring your own picnic. Garden open from 6pm.  
Music starts 7pm. Event inside if wet.

Tickets £8 (children free) include teas or coffee  
from J Astle 01778 346879 or V Worthington  
01778 343860

 Priory Church

I have been asked to advertise the following events, happening within our soon-to-be LMP:

We have been given a great opportunity to have an evening of classical music in our church featuring a young Canadian brother and sister duo with piano accompaniment.

Full details are included on the attached poster and tickets are available from - Debbie Howard, East Dean, East End, Langtoft, PE6 9LP: 01778 343576 Claire Naylor, 19East End, Langtoft: 01778 343717  
Or pay on the door.

# St Michael's and All Angels Church Langtoft Presents

MUSIC FOR A SUMMER'S EVENING  
ON SATURDAY JULY 16TH,  
2022 AT 7 PM

FEATURING:



Karim Khakimov – flute  
Student of the Phil and Eli Taylor  
Performance academy for Young  
Artists in Toronto, Canada



Salma Khakimov – violin  
Student of the Phil and Eli  
Taylor Performance Academy  
for Young Artists in Toronto,  
Canada

## CLASSICAL MUSIC

FROM BACH  
TO PIAZZOLLA

from the True North

Tickets = £7.50

Please bring your own refreshments

## DEEPING ST NICHOLAS CHURCH FUN DOG SHOW SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY.

Everyone is welcome



DEEPING ST NICHOLAS CHURCH  
REGISTRATION AT 10.30 or REGISTER ON  
LINE AT  
[DSNDogShowCommittee@outlook.com](mailto:DSNDogShowCommittee@outlook.com)

Join us for an amazing day of fun and laughter.  
Bring the family, various stalls, charities, WI serving  
delicious cakes and drinks, burger van and ice cream van,  
games for the children. See you there.....



Stay safe.

Blessings and love

Mark