Dear Friends
We have just bid farewell to the second group of NHS Chaplains who came to stay with us at Ammerdown for rest, peace and refreshment. It was a real privilege to welcome them all - from all over the country - as we thanked them for all that they have done for us, particularly over the last 18 months. The time was theirs but we discovered some table tennis champions, swimmers, drummers and bread makers among them! We hope to welcome them back again next year.

We have continued to welcome many guests for courses, retreats, training, private stays, quiet days, cream teas, celebrations, lunches, entertainment, peace and stillness. It is so good to be operating more fully! Our Ammerdown Quarterly News shares more possibilities in the months ahead.

Our interfaith work continues. I had the honour of being a part of the Interfaith Panel at the Root and Branch Inclusive Synod – A Synod that starts with women and doesn’t end there. As the Voice and Influence Partnership draws to a close, look out for a film that will shortly appear on our website, showcasing some of the amazing work that was achieved through the community grants’ project and the recording of an excellent zoom discussion on faith and racial justice.

Rev Narinder Tegally, Lead Chaplain at Bath RUH, challenges us to reflect on our language and privilege through a monthly Book Club. This leads us into our Advent and Epiphany Bible Study ZOOM on the Book of Ruth and ‘Borders and Belonging’ by Padraig O’Tuama & Glenn Jordan. In September, the Caring for Creation Zoom group met in person at Ammerdown. Check out Bella’s article as we are all challenged to make a difference.

As Advent begins, John Bell leads us in retreat to reflect on the meaning of Advent. Then follows a week of Christmas Meals with our Christmas Chapel Readings and Carols and, finally, our candlelit Carol Service in our Ammerdown Garden.

Blessings to you all this season.

Christine
Christine Clinch, Lead Manager
We then shared some stories of our own: Sally showed an interview with her grandson who spoke shared her image of a melon, representing the globe with all the seeds of new life inside; Paula her (https://laudatosimovement.org/download/laudato-si-chaplet/), she shared some books and Jamal, so that we were able to send £300 to him. Jamal has October to invite all institutions of the church, educational, health, parishes, families, dioceses, up member of the UN Convention on Refugee rights, Jamal justice and demands a radical reappraisal of how we live, personally, politically and economically, After a lovely song in the garden, 'In beauty may I walk' and supper, we watched the inspiring /f_ilm 2040 which looked at positive solutions now available for making a different world, imagining what it would be like for the children we know now who would be young adults. A particularly Week. Although he was granted refugee status many years (https://whatsyour2040.com/). On the following day, after a beautiful morning prayer, we listened Nicaragua, as well as some inspiring campaigns against single use plastic being discarded, and In our summing up we came up with a charter, we encourage Ammerdown to ask: composted? - What happens to the single use plastic? Is it possible to cut down on sachet use? - Could parts of the gardens become wild/f_lower meadows, with bug hotels, i.e. fish certi/f_ied animal friendly? - Would it be possible for food to be locally sourced and seasonal with any meat or - Olivier Clement - Angela Townshend - Angela - circa 150 BCE - the Little Match Girl wanders the street on New Year’s Eve, trying to sell her match sticks. As Advent begins, John Bell leads us in retreat to re/f_lect on the meaning of Advent. Then follows about Jonah and Jeremiah as inspiration for our eco ball, and to listen to Ken and Ros Durrant who talked ourselves by writing our names on a lovely globe beach. - The Little Match Girl... - appointed Social Justice Initiators! They will be on our language and privilege through a monthly Book Club. This leads on our website, showcasing some of the amazing work that was - started with women and doesn’t end there. As the Voice and In/f_luence Interfaith Panel at the Root and Branch Inclusive Synod – A Synod that - Bella Harding- August 2021 - W Harbert - July 2021 - The 100 club is a monthly draw where you pay a minimum donation of £12 for the year, to be assigned a - to? - Meet Jamal - B Smith - the Young Christian Climate Network Relay to COP26 in - This time they are bringing us their version of The Little Match Girl... - the sight of swallows and martins swooping around the garden. This Elephant Hawk - Image 12x234 to 153x407 - Image 501x119 to 585x236 - Image 15x630 to 150x814 - Image 289x11 to 335x56 - Image 158x660 - Image 417x-774 - Image 1095x634 - Image 31x-474 - Image 31x-429 - Image 31x-339 - Image 58x-89 - Image 58x-70 - Image 58x-51
We then shared some stories of our own: Sally showed an interview with her grandson who spoke about an image of a melon, representing the globe with all the seeds of new life inside; Paula her story of how the priest are now going for a Live Simply Award, the Cafod equivalent of Ecochurch; Bella took us to the Laudato Si’ Movement website (https://laudatosimovement.org/download/laudato-si-chaplet/), she shared some books and ideas on how to incorporate the Laudato Si’ challenges into daily life.

A number of people had contributed their ideas of celebrating creation. The centrepiece involved a ‘globe’ ball, and to listen to Ken and Ros Durrant who talked about the movie ‘What If?’. They offered a thought-provoking perspective on what it would be like for the children we know now who would be young adults in 2040 which looked at positive solutions now available for making a different world, imagining the future we want for our children.

In our summing up we came up with a series of actions we could undertake as a community. There were many ideas developed that we might be able to work together on. We have had such an invigorating and somewhat hectic experience of the urgency of action. In our celebration we felt we had moved from a thinking stage to an action stage.

We have continued to welcome many guests for courses, retreats, and ‘dawn to dusk’ events. As Advent begins, John Bell leads us in retreat to reflect on the meaning of Advent. Then follows a retreat for staff only, looking at the theme ‘Charter for Ammerdown’. After that we have got a ‘Borders and Belonging’ by Padraig O’Tuama & Glenn Jordan. The Young Christian Climate Network Relay to COP26 in November will have a role in our retreats and courses. We will be providing a weekly zoom discussion on faith and racial justice.

Our interfaith work continues. I had the honour of being a part of the Interfaith Panel at the Root and Branch Inclusive Synod – A Synod that aims to address the challenges faced by our different faith communities. Our social justice work continues with ‘The Charter for Ammerdown’ and ‘Charter for the Young Christian Climate Network’. We have appointed Social Justice Initiators! They will be the leading force in our campaign to end inaction and complacency on our language and privilege through a monthly Book Club. This leads on to the community grants’ project and the recording of our ‘Young Christian Climate Network Relay to COP26’ with all of the staff, all with their different strengths and ways of doing things.

This year we are pleased to announce that we have been awarded a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund. We will use this money to improve our rooms and the budding ambitions we have for our rooms and the entire building. There will be a new online booking system which will go live next month! It is with gratitude we thank those who have supported our project and the Ammerdown charity. A cheque is posted to the winner and their name is featured in the Quarterly Newsletter. Each month one number is drawn and the winner and their name is featured in the Quarterly Newsletter. It is with gratitude we thank those who have supported us and our project. A cheque is posted to the winner and their name is featured in the Quarterly Newsletter. Each month one number is drawn and the winner and their name is featured in the Quarterly Newsletter.

This time they are bringing us their version of The Little Match Girl...

The Little Match Girl wanders the street on New Year’s Eve, trying to sell her match sticks. Everyone is busy celebrating with fires, Christmas trees and delicious food but outside the girl is cold, sad and alone, that is until she lights one of her matches to keep warm and visions come to life before her very eyes!

Join the Little Match Girl on a magical journey, filled with live music, puppetry and multimedia. This is a family Christmas show not to be missed!

Folksy Theatre are back!

This time they are bringing us their version of The Little Match Girl...

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The Little Match Girl is coming to Ammerdown this year and will be held on Wednesday 15th December, 7pm. Tickets are available online through our website.
NHS Chaplaincy Staff Rest and Recuperation at Ammerdown

As a thank you to those who were on the front line during the Coronavirus Pandemic, we have been offering a fully sponsored three day stay for NHS Chaplaincy Staff.

On the 17th August we had our first group of 28 hugely deserving Chaplains join us and here is what one of them had to say -

"Huge thanks for organising the retreat for us, everyone is raving about it and saying how special it was and how important it was for us. Today several of us have been in work and 5 of us were talking over lunch about how important and special it was, and how special it made us feel. None of us have ever been treated so well when on retreat, ever!"

Today I have been with a Muslim man and his terribly sick child, I have blessed a baby who sadly died after being born too soon, I have financially helped a mum struggling to walk to get into hospital, I have listened to a woman mourning her son, I have supported the mum of a daughter on ECMO waking up from a coma, and tried to make sense of a spending plan and occupational health regulations for people to return to work after contact with Covid relatives. Been a full-on day but throughout it all little snippets of lush greenery and a sense of Ammerdown calm has permeated through. Can't say thank you enough."

The September group of 30 Chaplains had an equally refreshing and enjoyable stay and want to come back again next year! Ammerdown has also been richly blessed by their presence and hopes to welcome them back in 2022!

If you would like to sponsor a Chaplain's stay or make any contribution then please head to our Just Giving page on the front page of our website.
We then shared some stories of our own: Sally showed an interview with her grandson who spoke of Damascene conversion with the Walk for Water in Lent, and how she and her parish, including her priest are now going for a Live Simply Award, the Cafod equivalent of Ecochurch; Bella took us through ideas of celebrating creation. The centrepiece involved seven 'petals' of a programme the Catholic Church is about to unveil on 4th September. Almost 700 charities and businesses to take part in a 7 year project of getting to zero carbon emission.

A number of people had contributed their ideas of celebrating creation. The centrepiece involved seven 'petals' or the seven aspects of a programme the Catholic Church is about to unveil on 4th September. Almost 700 charities and businesses to take part in a 7 year project of getting to zero carbon emission.

On the following day, after a beautiful morning prayer, we listened to Jamal sharing his story on Zoom with us during Refugee Week. He had been waiting for 12 years to be resettled. On the 17th August we had a family planning day at the Bugbrooke Gate with the Young Christian Climate Network Relay to COP26 in Glasgow.

In our summing up we came up with a set of ideas that could be kicked off in the next 3 months. We have had such an invigorating and somewhat hectic experience of the urgency of action. In our attempt to celebrate creation, we have learnt that the charter is just beginning. We have been encouraged to explore the role of science in the church and centre around the three areas of research, theology and prayer.

We need to ask: where are our churches? What can we do? How can we work? What are our ‘petals’? How can we combine artistic expression with the task of caring for Creation?

Caring for Creation
Ammerdown Chapel to celebrate the life of John I’Anson, a former Headmaster, who was an inspiring figure in the story. We spoke of the inspiration of God’s mercy in the story. We spoke of the inspiration of the Young Christian Climate Network Relay to COP26 in Glasgow.

The 100 club is a monthly draw where you pay a £1 and stand a chance to win a £100 or £50 prize.

The September group of 30 was a real privilege to welcome them all - from all over the country - as we have had such an invigorating and somewhat hectic experience of the urgency of action. In our attempt to celebrate creation, we have learnt that the charter is just beginning. We have been encouraged to explore the role of science in the church and centre around the three areas of research, theology and prayer.

The Birds singing, the sun shining down, picnics unpacked, children reading books and playing and everyone enjoying the peace of the place.

Christine Clinch, Lead Manager

We have continued to welcome many guests for courses, retreats, training, private stays, quiet days, cream teas, celebrations, lunches, dinners.

In September, the Caring for Creation Zoom group met in person at Ammerdown. We welcomed over 30 people and had a real sense of community. We were inspired and invigorated. We are now keen to continue our Zoom group.

In our Advent and Epiphany Bible Study ZOOM on the Book of Ruth, we encouraged the community to ask: What has the story of Ruth and Naomi taught us? How can we apply this story to our own life before our very eyes?

As a thank you to those who have joined us, we are very grateful to you. As a thank you to those who have joined us, we are very grateful to you. We really appreciate your feedback which helps us to make Ammerdown the best it can be!

Debbie Tutchell, Deputy Lead Manager

Angela writes …... ‘It was a good time. I met lots of lovely people and made new friends. It was a good time. I met lots of lovely people and made new friends.

Bella Harding

This month we are delighted to welcome Angela Townshend to Ammerdown as our new House for Duty Chaplain. Angela writes …… ‘It was a good time. I met lots of lovely people and made new friends.

Welcome!

Angela

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We then shared some stories of our own: Sally showed an interview with her grandson who spoke about his four year involvement with Action For Conservation and how enthusiastic he was about Damascene conversion with the Walk for Water in Lent, and how she and her parish, including her priest are now going for a Live Simply Award, the Cafod equivalent of Ecochurch; Bella took us (https://laudatosimovement.org/download/laudato-si-chaplet/), she shared some books and letters with us and described a sewing project her parish had been involved in, making an altar cloth celebrating creation for the Season of Creation.

A number of people had contributed their ideas of celebrating creation. The centrepiece involved seven ‘petals’ or the seven aspects of a programme the Catholic Church is about to unveil on 4th October to invite all institutions of the church, educational, health, parishes, families, dioceses, charities and businesses to take part in a 7 year project of getting to zero carbon (https://laudatosiactionplatform.org/laudato-si-goals/). This unites both conservation and social justice and demands a radical reappraisal of how we live, personally, politically and economically, and is rooted in spirituality, and what the Pope calls ‘ecological conversion’.

After a lovely song in the garden, ‘In beauty may I walk’ and supper, we watched the inspiring film 2040 which looked at positive solutions now available for making a different world, imagining what it would be like for the children we know now who would be young adults. A particularly inspiring example was of locally produced and shared solar energy (https://whatsyour2040.com/). On the following day, after a beautiful morning prayer, we listened to Billie Anderson from Tear Fund who shared films of the havoc climate change is wreaking in Nicaragua, as well as some inspiring campaigns against single use plastic being discarded, and even with the companies producing the plastic.

In our summing up we came up with a ‘Charter for Ammerdown’ which we humbly offer, as we have had such an invigorating and somewhat hectic experience of the urgency of action. In the charter, we encourage Ammerdown to ask:

- Is there a lot of food waste and what happens to it? Is it possible to reduce it? Is food composted?
- What happens to the single use plastic? Is it possible to cut down on sachet use?
- Would it be possible to change to a majority vegetarian diet, either by going meat free on several days a week, or by announcing that Ammerdown was primarily vegetarian and people could ask for a meat option, much as vegetarians used to have to?
We then shared some stories of our own: Sally showed an interview with her grandson who spoke shared her image of a melon, representing the globe with all the seeds of new life inside; Paula her through the Laudato Si Chaplet, expanding on the roles of air, water, fire, earth and all creatures (https://laudatosimovement.org/download/laudato-si-chaplet/), she shared some books and letters with us and described a sewing project her parish had been involved in, making an altar. After he spoke to us, people generously gave donations for October to invite all institutions of the church, educational, health, parishes, families, dioceses, (https://laudatosiactionplatform.org/laudato-si-goals/). This unites both conservation and social justice and demands a radical reappraisal of how we live, personally, politically and economically, and is rooted in spirituality, and what the Pope calls 'ecological conversion'.

Week. Although he was granted refugee status many years ago he has been here in Britain, he has managed to build an entire life here, and has been involved in various community work. He shares about his journey and how he coped with this difficult situation. This year he is sharing his story on Zoom with us during Refugee Week. Although he was granted refugee status many years ago he has been here in Britain, he has managed to build an entire life here, and has been involved in various community work. He shares about his journey and how he coped with this difficult situation.

- Would it be possible to change to a majority vegetarian diet, either by going meat and people could ask for a meat option, much as vegetarians used to have to?

Perhaps these ideas could be the basis for a Green Charter which could be celebrated. We finished with a beautiful service and committed to continue our group for Caring for Creation. We would like to thank the Ammerdown staff for making our stay such an enjoyable one, and to all who contributed to the retreat.

Bella Harding

This age needs people like trees filled with a silent peace, rooted at the same time in solid ground and in the open sky
- Olivier Clement

Christmas is coming to Ammerdown

This year we are pleased to announce that our Christmas lunches will be from Monday 13th to Friday 17th December. There will be optional Christmas readings and Carols in the Chapel, 12:15-12:45pm. Please look out on our social media and website for more information. Please phone the Centre to book.

Come and join us for our Candlelit Christmas Carol Service on Thursday 16th December at 7pm in the Ammerdown Gardens. Donations in support of Afghan Refugees.
The 100 club is a monthly draw where you pay a minimum donation of £12 for the year, to be assigned a number. Each month one number is drawn and the winner receives £50 of the money. The rest is donated to the Ammerdown charity. A cheque is posted to the winner and their name is featured in the Quarterly Newsletter. Please contact the centre for information on joining the club.

P Gibbons – June 2021
W Harbert - July 2021
B Smith- August 2021

Meet Jamal

Jamal shared his story on Zoom with us during Refugee Week. Although he was granted refugee status many years ago, he has been waiting to be resettled.

He lives in Jakarta, Indonesia and, as Indonesia is not a signed up member of the UN Convention on Refugee rights, Jamal has no rights to work or study in Indonesia.

After he spoke to us, people generously gave donations for Jamal, so that we were able to send £300 to him. Jamal has also just received the great news that he is to be resettled in the USA!

Celebrating the Life of the late John I’Anson

Please do join us on the 14th of November at 3pm in the Ammerdown Chapel to celebrate the life of John I’Anson, a much loved and valued member of the Ammerdown Team. All are welcome.