

# Rudgwick

Magazine



February 2022

no. 314



# From the Vicar

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Dear Friends

Did you enjoy your teenage years? Do you look back on them fondly or are you glad they are over? Perhaps it is so long ago that you can't really remember; or maybe you are still in them!

Our teenage years are when we start to work out who we are and develop our own views of the world rather than simply assuming our parent's views are right – perhaps that is why those years can sometimes be fraught.

It's nothing new, nearly two and a half millennia ago Socrates complained about young people. And two thousand years ago, Mary and Joseph went through their own ordeal with Jesus when, age 12, he decided to stay in Jerusalem after the Passover Festival rather than returning home with his parents, relatives and their friends (read on beyond the nativity account in Luke Chapter 2 if you want to find out more).

As we grow through those teenage years it is important to have somewhere outside the house where we can meet with friends, socialise and have fun. Rudgwick Youth Centre (RYC) is one of the places where our teenagers can do just that – although Loyd has returned to America, thanks to are amazing volunteers, RYC remains open. You can find details elsewhere in the magazine and on the Church website.

Every blessing

*Martin King*