

# Rudgwick

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# From the Vicar

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Dear Friends

A little while ago I read a book called *The 100-year life*. Based on the premise that a child born in the UK today has a 50% chance of living to be 100, it looks at what that means for things like pensions, families and work. It was a sobering book (especially the amount we need to save if we want to be able to retire) but it was also thought-provoking.

The idea of working into our eighties is probably one that few of us have really contemplated, let alone embrace – thankfully the authors explain how they think work will be very different towards the end of this century. However, this month we celebrate the reign of someone still working in her nineties and who has promised to go on working, devoting herself to our “service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong.”

In an age where the average person is expected to have 12 jobs by the time they are 50, it is quite remarkable that after 70 years someone is still in the same ‘job’! Our Queen is the longest serving Monarch in British history.

In the Bible, every fiftieth year was a Jubilee – a whole year of rest. Whilst the Queen is not having a whole year, it is interesting to see that she is sharing the load with other members of the royal family. Over the long bank holiday weekend of rest, we will be celebrating her reign and giving thanks for her 70 years of service to us at a special Platinum Jubilee Evensong at 6pm on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June in Holy Trinity – do join us if you can. You may also like to use the prayers on the prayer page to thank the Lord of the Queen and her service to us.

Every blessing

Martin King