

# Rudgwick

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# From the Vicar

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Dear Friends

How is your garden? (or if you live in a flat, how is the grass near your home?) As I write this in early August, the grass in our garden is brown, very dry and badly in need of a ‘drink’ of water as we are desperately in need of rain. In July we had only 5mm of rain – the lowest rainfall since Met Office records began in 1836 and the word drought is being used in the press. Whilst I am told it means that 2022 should be a good vintage, I would happily trade it for water! (and I hope that by the time you read this you have had just the right amount of water).

We are very fortunate to have clean drinking water, literally ‘on tap’ in our kitchens. 2000 years ago it was very different, clean water meant drawing it up from a well and then storing it for when it was needed.

Water was also a central part of The Festival of Tabernacles – John tells us that on the last day of this festival, Jesus said “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them” before going on to clarify “by this he meant the Spirit”.

Jesus didn’t need to worry about good vintages – he could just turn water into wine. Instead he promises to satisfy the dryness of spiritual thirst. Not only to satisfy it, but to go on satisfying it. I hope your spirit is not as thirsty as my garden is right now, but if it is, why not talk to Jesus; pray to him – he always has enough ‘water’ and with his Spirit, there is no need for there to be a drought!

Every blessing

*Martin King*

*Cover: Rudgwick’s new skate park - coming soon! See centre pages and article on page 29. (Photo: Pixabay)*