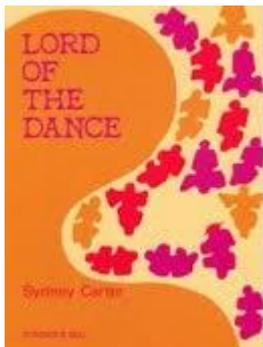


## THEME OF THE WEEK: I WRITE THE SONGS #1 – SYDNEY CARTER



### PRAYER REQUESTS

Please continue praying for our friends in need of healing and God's loving care. Please also remember **Pam Smith** on Friday when there will be a private Thanksgiving Service at St Peter's in memory of her son, Richard.

### SERVICES ON SUNDAY 25 JULY in St Peter's Church

**PLEASE REMEMBER:** If you worship regularly, but can't attend any particular week, or if you do not come to St Peter's regularly but would like to attend the service at 10.15 am, please let Lizzy (in the Church Office) know **by Friday lunchtime** either on **01622 743321** or by email to [stpeters.church@icloud.com](mailto:stpeters.church@icloud.com)

*The flowers this week were been arranged by our **Flower Arrangers** for the **Thanksgiving Service in Memory of Richard Smith.***

**8.00 am**      **BCP Holy Communion** (led by Yvonne)

**10.15 am**    **Morning Service** (led by David Parry)

**11.00 am**    **Junction on Zoom** (talk by Gordon Mackley)

Sing praise, listen to a talk, pray and chat with friends – a lively hour with Junction.

### SERVICES ON SUNDAY 1 AUGUST in St Peter's Church

**10.15 am**    **Holy Communion** (led by Yvonne)

**11.00 am**    **Junction on Zoom** (talk by Alan Wharton)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Friday, 3 September 21 – Evening Commemoration of Paulina Martin's life

*Message from Geoff and Joanna (please respond by the end of next week).*

On **Friday 3 September** there will be a Commemoration Evening for Paulina at **Bearsted Golf Club**, starting at approximately **7 pm**. Geoff and Joanna would be very pleased if you could come. The dress code is smart/casual (but not jeans) and colourful. Could you please let Geoff know by email (by the end of July) if you intend to be there. His email address is [g.martin89@btinternet.com](mailto:g.martin89@btinternet.com).

Bearsted Golf Club is situated in Ware Street, Bearsted ME14 4PQ.

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## MESSAGES

### **Church Office – Phil's holiday**

Phil is now on holiday until **Friday 13 August**.

## CHURCH FAMILY BIRTHDAYS NEXT WEEK

On **Friday, 30 July**, there will be three Birthdays being celebrated ... **Stuart Carley, Jim Greig** and **Ken Salmon!**

We wish you all a wonderful and very happy day!



## THEME OF THE WEEK: I WRITE THE SONGS #1 – SYDNEY CARTER

**Sydney Bertram Carter** (1915–2004) was an English poet, songwriter, and folk musician who was born in London. He studied History at Balliol College, Oxford, and graduated in 1936.

He was baptised and buried as an Anglican, but his spiritual home was with the Quakers (Society of Friends). Like the Quakers, he was a pacifist and joined the Friends' Ambulance Unit when World War II broke out, serving in Egypt, Palestine and Greece. In Greece he had his first significant encounter with traditional or folk music, which in turn led to his career as a songwriter.

Although he had a degree in history, his dream was to become a film producer or a painter. However, he found his vocation through getting passionately involved in the folk revival that followed the Second World War. He started playing in pubs and clubs, and progressed to singing alongside musicians such as Pete Seeger and Judy Collins. He also produced material for London revues, and for Flanders and Swann.

The genius of Sydney Carter uniquely contributed to the history of 20<sup>th</sup> century popular culture. His songs have a definite folk quality to them, and at least three of them, "*Lord of the Dance*", "*One More Step Along the World I Go*", and "*When I Needed a Neighbour*", have found a place in our hearts and minds as modern anthems.

In old age, Sydney Carter suffered from Alzheimer's disease. His obituary in the "Daily Telegraph" began with the words, "***Lord of the Dance was the most celebrated religious song of the 20<sup>th</sup> century***".

### Lord of the Dance (1963)



I danced in the morning When the world was begun,  
And I danced in the moon And the stars and the sun,  
And I came down from heaven And I danced on the earth,  
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

***Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he***

The melody used by Carter is from the American Shaker song, "Simple Gifts". The Shakers were an off-shoot of the Quakers. The song follows the idea of the English carol "Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day". It captured the spirit of the 1960s Protest Movement in the United States. It became a sacred equivalent for songs by Pete Seeger in the late 1950s, such as "Where have all the flower's gone?" and "Turn Turn Turn", as well as Bob Dylan's "Blowin' in the Wind". "Lord of the Dance" brought this sound and spirit into the church, especially in services designed to reach young people.

## When I Needed a Neighbour (1965)



When I needed a neighbour  
Were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a neighbour, were you there?  
***And the creed and the colour  
And the name won't matter  
Were you there?***

Sydney Carter wrote this song to be the theme song of Christian Aid's Beat and Folk Festival in 1965. It was premiered at a rally in Trafalgar Square. It is a modern hymn telling us, no matter "the creed or the colour", we need to serve others, reminding us of **Matthew 25:44-45**.

**44** "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' **45** "He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'

## One More Step Along the World I Go (1971)



One more step along the world I go,  
One more step along the world I go;  
From the old things to the new,  
Keep me travelling along with you:  
***And it's from the old I travel to the new;  
Keep me travelling along with you.***

This song was written for a service at the end of the summer term at Southwark Cathedral School, London, in 1971. It's a children's song about new beginnings, and is popular for the start and end of the school year.

## FINAL QUOTE

***"I see Christ as the incarnation of the piper who is calling us. He dances that shape and pattern which is at the heart of our reality." (Sydney Carter)***