

FAITH IN SUSSEX

The diocesan publication reaching church communities across Sussex



HOVE BEACH HUT ADVENT CALENDAR CELEBRATES 10 YEARS / 19

THE SHOREHAM
GOSPELS / 10

A Year of the Bible project
involving the whole community

GET YOUR CHURCH
NOTICED

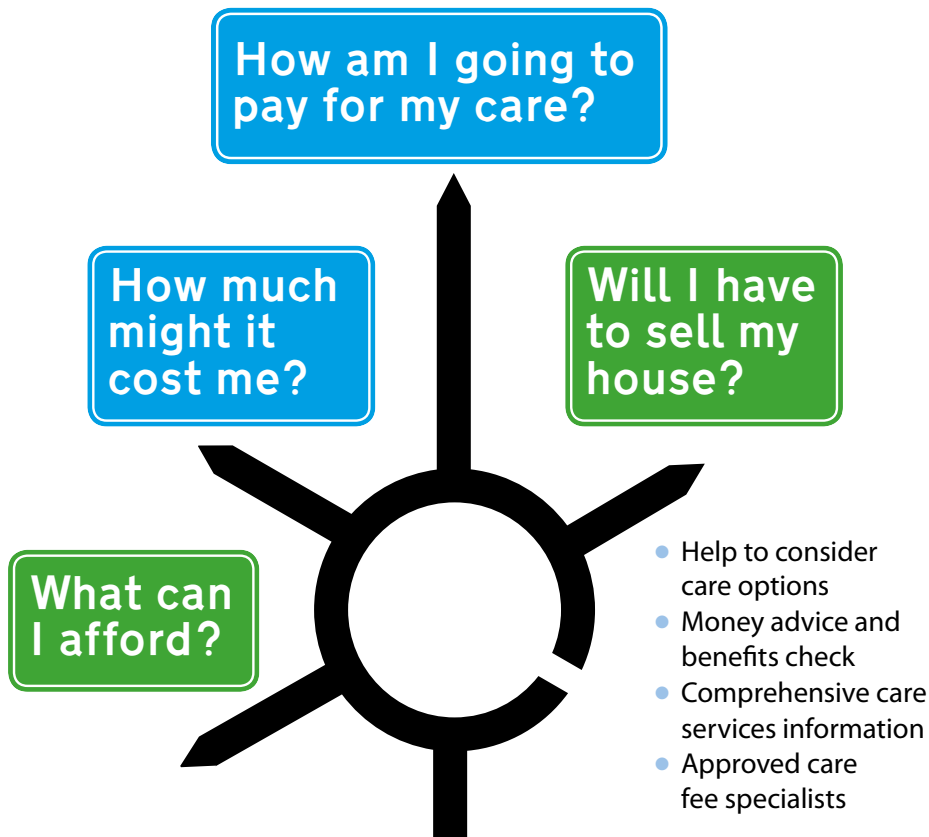
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CPO Chief Executive shares
valuable tips for effective
Church publicity

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initiative catch on?

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DEAR FRIENDS

This edition of the magazine contains many stories of the exciting, innovative and fruitful ministry going on in our parishes. Sometimes people see a conflict between a diocesan strategy and parish ministry. A strategy that doesn't fully recognise that ministry and mission is delivered by local Churches would indeed be in conflict. However, I hope that our strategy does walk that fine line between being overly prescriptive, thereby failing to recognise each parishes' unique circumstances, and indifference, which lets everyone get on with it without an acknowledgement that we are part of a wider family than just the local church.

The diocesan strategy does set some broad goals within the three areas of church growth, re-imagining ministry and contributing to the common good. It is for local congregations to work out what that looks like in their own context. To be fruitful all of these things must be rooted in a developing relationship with God, especially in our life of prayer. This is why prayer will be the theme of the next year in our life, following on from the year of the Bible.

Many people will have heard me say, "We will know our culture has changed when we stop using the word diocese to refer to a disembodied tax collecting authority based at Church House, Hove!" The central structures of the diocese are there to resource what goes on in the parishes and make it easier for them to be fruitful. We hope that our strategy will lead to a better culture of mutual support, prayer and care. Part of that will be to read some of the stories in this magazine and rejoice together that the Kingdom continues to grow in Sussex.

With best wishes.

+Richard

Bishop of Lewes



FAITHFUL

IN A CHANGING WORLD

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EASTBOURNE

4 - 7 MAY 2018

SPEAKERS
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JONTY ALLCOCK
GRAHAM BEYNON
GLYNN HARRISON

LEE MCMUNN
EMMA SCRIVENER
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Making a positive impact



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the Mothers' Union

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Chichester Diocese



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Diocese of Chichester

WALSINGHAM DAY AT CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

Saturday 14 October was a very special day when, in partnership with the Shrine, Walsingham came to Chichester Cathedral.

Chichester Diocese has always had a strong connection with Walsingham. Every year hundreds of pilgrims go from our Diocese on a Parish pilgrimage to Walsingham. In addition, Chichester Diocese makes up the largest group at the Children's and Youth Pilgrimage each year.

Canon Mark Gilbert SSC, a priest at Petworth and Egdean and Rural Dean of Petworth shares the day's highlights.

"The day was wonderful. Coaches came from across the Diocese and neighbouring Dioceses to our Cathedral Church. Our Lady of Walsingham was processed in at 12noon and welcomed by the Dean of the Cathedral, Stephen Waine.

"For many Walsingham is a long way so to be able to go to experience the ministries available at Walsingham near to home was especially appreciated.

"Bishop Martin warmly welcomed the Bishop of Burnley to celebrate the Mass and Fr Kevin Smith, the Shrine Administrator, preached an inspiring



sermon. The young adults who go to the Youth Pilgrimage in the Summer helped to lead the prayers and stewarding the service.

"In the afternoon we experienced the ministries available at Walsingham. Sprinkling from the Well (Water brought from Walsingham) Laying on of hands, anointing with Oil and Confession were freely available to those who wished them. It was wonderful seeing the sacraments broken open and available.

"The afternoon concluded with Benediction. Healed, restored and renewed the pilgrims returned home. It was a fantastic day!"

COFE REACHES A MILLION EVERY MONTH ON SOCIAL MEDIA

More than a million people are being reached every month with the Christian message on social media, a year after the Church of England adopted a new digital approach, new figures show.

Videos, podcasts, blogs and images including prayers are reaching an online audience of 1.2 million a month through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn, according to the statistics

from the Church of England digital project.

Dr Rachel Jordan, the Church of England's National Mission and Evangelism Adviser, said: "The Church of England has taken seriously the challenge of ageing congregations and is sharpening its focus and work on the opportunities of reaching new generations in different ways - church growth starts young. Our digital presence has been boosted by the work of the Renewal and Reform programme investing in an excellent team communicating effectively with millions through digital campaigns."



JOHN BARTON LECTURE: THE BIBLE TELLS US WHO WE ARE

Professor John Barton, Oriel and Laing Professor, Oxford gave the last in the series of clergy study lectures 'Biblical Criticism in a Secular Culture', which took place at St Nicholas', Arundel, in September. The lectures were part of the Diocesan Year of the Bible.

Many people found Professor John's lecture encouraging and thought provoking. This is what some of them said:

"I found John's lecture, stimulating, affirming and challenging all at the same time. He enabled me to really reflect on how I approach reading the bible, and how I could better encourage others."

Rev Moira Wickens, is the vicar at New Fishbourne and Apuldram

"I found Professor Barton's talk thought-provoking and refreshing. He drew out the pitfalls of our reading into Scripture only what we want to hear, and underlined the Bible as a living and transforming document. It was a joy to hear someone speaking so enthusiastically about Biblical criticism."

Rev Nicol Kinrade, Assistant Curate, The Beacon Parish of Ditchling, Streat & Westmeston

"It was a privilege to be in the midst of an academic, with a depth of knowledge and profound understanding of scripture, which was expounded in a comprehensible, accessible, and pertinent manner."

Rev Martin Lane Rural Dean and chair of the DAC committee

"I thoroughly enjoyed the lecture which cast a different and fascinating light on Biblical Criticism. For me, it opened up new avenues of thought and I was particularly taken with his analysis of the story of Naaman (2 Kings 5), linking it to his underlying twin propositions that the Bible 'tells us who we are' and 'tells us what we cannot tell ourselves.'"

The Venerable Philip Jones

"With wisdom, humour and humility, Professor John Barton encouraged us to read the Scriptures with an open heart, and helped us all to see how the story of the Bible can speak to us – and to our contemporaries – in new and surprising ways."

Rev Tim Watson

WOMEN CLERGY NETWORK DAY

Women clergy in Chichester Diocese met for a half-day conference on Wednesday 4th October. The event had two objectives: social - to get to know each other as we are so geographically spread out in the diocese- and also to exchange ideas and information about women's ministry in Chichester and nationally. Ann Waizeneker, Dean of Women's Ministry said: "It was a very positive meeting with lots of useful thinking and a real acknowledgement of the progress made in the Diocese to enable ordained women to flourish and enjoy their ministry alongside brothers and sisters with differing theological belief. Those who met on Wednesday recognised that there is still work to be done but there was a great sense of progress made and the determination to publicise this nationally."

CATHEDRAL FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS LAUNCH

Stephen Waime, The Dean of Chichester, welcomed 160 guests from across Sussex to a fundraising dinner in the Nave of Chichester Cathedral in October. The dinner launched sponsorship for the Cathedral's spectacular Festival of Flowers, planned for 2018.

The Festival of Flowers will be a three day spectacular: visitors will experience the beauty of Chichester Cathedral adorned with flowers and trees, a programme of live music, a Festival Fair, Plant Fair and Café des Fleurs. The Festival of Flowers will take place from 31st May – 2nd June 2018 (30th May Champagne Preview). More at: www.chichestercathedral.org.uk



HIGH TURNOUT TO WELCOME NEW READERS

Thirteen new Readers were licensed to serve in parishes across Sussex in September.

The Bishop of Lewes, Richard Jackson, and the Bishop of Horsham, Mark Sowerby welcomed the Readers to a packed service at Chichester Cathedral. More seats were needed for the high turnout from colleagues, family, friends and parishioners.

Bishop Richard said: "It was a joyful occasion. Readers play a vital role in many of our parishes as preachers and teachers of the faith. Each was presented with a Bible alongside their licence as a reminder, in the diocesan Year of The Bible, that the scriptures are at the heart of our Christian proclamation."

Getting to know our new Readers: profiles of the new Readers were published in Issue 15 of Faith in Sussex which can be read online from the Diocesan Website www.chichester.anglican.org



NEW HONORARY CANONS ANNOUNCED

The Bishop of Chichester, Dr Martin Warner, has appointed two new Honorary Canons of Chichester Cathedral.

The Dean of Westminster, The Very Revd Dr John Hall and Mansfield College Associate Professor, The Revd Dr Jennifer Strawbridge will be installed at the Cathedral in the context of Evensong on Saturday 20 January 2018 at 5.30pm.

The ancient Wiccamical Prebends, to which John Hall and Jennifer Strawbridge have been appointed, are designated as theological canonries and lectureships.

Dr Hall said today: "I am grateful to the Bishop of Chichester and delighted at the prospect of a formal association with Chichester Cathedral and Diocese, alongside my role at Westminster Abbey. Since my parents retired to Chichester in 1976 and loved the Cathedral, where their ashes are buried, I have many happy memories of the Cathedral, City and County."

Dr Strawbridge was also pleased with the news: "It is a great honour to be offered this honorary canonry at Chichester Cathedral, especially as the Diocese celebrates the Year of the Bible. I very much look forward to getting to know the Cathedral community and Diocese and to contributing to its theological reflection and growth."

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ORGANISING A PRAYER SPACE?

If you are interested in running a Prayer Space during Chichester Diocese's Year of Prayer 2018 then book on either of the two Prayer Space Training and Networking Days.

Each day will cover the basics. We will explore what a prayer space is, how to plan your prayer space and create great prayer activities.

There will be opportunities to network with prayer space people from across the Diocese to share ideas and stories.

Prayer activities will be available to experience and we will pause together at 11am for a moment of Remembrance.

This first of two training days (11 November 2017) has an Advent and Christmas theme. The second, coming up on 10 February 2018, will focus on the missional aspect of prayer spaces in preparation for Thy Kingdom Come 2018. Booking details can be found on the diocesan website events page.

GREAT VOCATIONS DAY

Fifty-six men and woman from parishes across the Diocese attended the Vocations Day in September at St Peters Brighton. Paul Redparth, Diocesan Vocations Officer said: "It really was encouraging to see so many people engaged and excited by what God is doing in their lives and in the life of the Church."



YEAR OF PRAYER 2018

DIOCESAN SYNOD

Diocesan Synod takes place on Saturday 18 November 2017 at Sussex Downs College, Mountfield Road, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 2XH. As well as a presentation of the Budget, and other synod business, members will also hear from Canon Dr Sandra Millar, Head of Life Events, Archbishop's Council; Mothers' Union President Kathryn Anderson and Rev Jayne Prestwood who will be presenting a paper: Setting God's People free. The full programme includes a preview of the Year of Prayer 2018.

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

BBC historian Dan Snow visited Holy Trinity Church in Bosham, one of the oldest churches in Sussex, which will soon feature in a new on-line history programme. He met with Revd Martin Lane to find out about the fascinating history of the church that dates back to the seventh century. HistoryHit.TV will be available soon on all of your devices and dedicated to world history.
<http://www.historyhit.com/>



HOW TO SPREAD YOUR MESSAGE

WE ALL know what a difference church communication makes. Churches have an enormous physical presence on our streets and good visual materials can help people understand more about church and about the Christian faith.

Sixty years ago, three graphic designers in Sussex decided to sell their homes and pool all their resources to help churches improve their design and communication. CPO (Christian Publishing and Outreach) was born. Today it is still helping churches with their design, communication and outreach, not only in Sussex but for thousands of churches around the country, from the base in Worthing and design hub in Brighton.

New Brighton-based chief executive Laura Treneer said: “CPO is there to help churches reach their communities as effectively as possible, whether it’s printed resources like invites, posters and banners, or the increasing need for websites, social media training and design branding.

“My husband leads a church and I know how little time there can be to put together something like Christmas publicity, or keep the website up to date, but it matters so much. As a charity we try to find ways to work in partnership to serve the church in its communications within local neighbourhoods – and it’s amazing what can happen when we work together.

“I believe CPO has a strategic role to play as a resource not just for churches, but for charities and any Christian organisation that needs support in design, digital, print and distribution. The team in Worthing and Brighton are so committed, and so talented, and they get what it means to work with the church. They understand the importance of good outreach and the difference it can make. It is a huge privilege to serve with them.

“Wouldn’t it be wonderful if every church and ministry in Sussex was fully inspired, trained and equipped with great communication resources to reach their neighbours? My hope for CPO in this next season is that we can be the support that makes that happen.”



Laura pictured third from left with some of her team



This year CPO helped support Thy Kingdom Come, the global wave of prayer between Ascension and Pentecost, by creating design, producing and sending out resources, and even drew in young people from Trinity Church in Lewes and other churches around Sussex to film a series of mini videos about prayer (www.vimeo.com/217821127).

Think about Christmas – it's not too late to have an impact:

- Charity cards with proceeds to CAP (Christians Against Poverty)
- Christmas cards with service details – it's not too late and you can upload your own words and images online at cpo.org.uk

- Publicity linked to the #GodWithUs national Church of England digital campaign – so that people recognise the logo on your banner from Facebook and find out more
- Free carol booklets from the Bible Society and HOPE and free copies of a Christmas magazine which is ideal to give to friends and neighbours, pointing to the true meaning of Christmas.

All available from cpo.org.uk, enquiries@cpo.org.uk, 01903 263354.

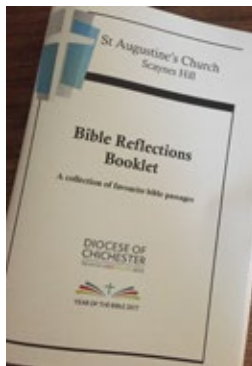
For next year you can download a free wall planner for the church office with all the key dates and checklists via cpo.org.uk/toolkit. There are new year posters at cpo.org.uk and some little booklets written for churches on websites, social media, internal and external communication, just £3.99 each at cpo.org.uk/reachout: a great gift and toolkit for the communications team in your church.

DIOCESAN STRATEGY



YEAR OF THE BIBLE 2017

A PARISH CHURCH INITIATIVE REACHES ACROSS ALL AGES



Lisa Barnett is the vicar at Scaynes Hill. Her parish, like many others across the diocese, has been very supportive of the diocesan strategy initiative for 2017 - The Year of the Bible.

Bishop Martin explained at the launch that he hoped the year would see people engaging deeper into the stories of the Bible. As we come to the closing chapters of the years' focus the parishioners of St Augustine's have gone one step further. They have come up with a delightful way to capture the Bible stories that meant the most to them by bringing together a wonderful collection of their own favourite Bible passages. Lisa explains:

"Like many parish churches, we have some people in our congregation who read the Bible regularly at home or in Home Groups, while others find the idea of personal Bible reading very daunting!

"Our hope in putting together a booklet of our favourite Bible passages was to celebrate the way that the Bible has blessed each of us on our faith journeys, as well as encouraging people to explore their Bibles at home.

"Parishioners were encouraged to choose a favourite Bible passage, and then write a few lines about why it was special to them, and how it had helped them in their faith. In the end we had 48 different contributions, with 4 year olds and 84 year olds all sharing stories of the way God had blessed them through the Bible.

"Several people commented that they found it enormously moving reading through the booklet, and it has become a very special record of our church family in 2017."

Churchwarden, Mark Brunet, said the exercise was really valuable. "Trying to choose one passage was daunting, but really valuable - how can I sum up my faith in just one Bible passage? And in a congregation which demonstrates the full breadth of Anglican (and other!) traditions - what was really interesting was how each contributor really nailed that challenge - in their own way."

Lay reader, Gaynor Deal, said: "Booklets like these are a wonderful way to bring a congregation together. People find they like the same verses, and strike up conversations about them. Then they share other passages and their reasons for liking them – sharing experiences of what the Bible has said and meant to them at different points in their lives. People become more open to one another as they realise that they have more in common than they thought they did...sometimes between the most unlikely folk!"

Steve Argent, a trainee lay reader said: "Considering a contribution to the booklet I was reminded of the precious gift of a specific Bible passage which has consistently resonated with me. It has been a comfort during some barren days in the past, a prompt to action in the present and a source of optimism for the future."

THE SHOREHAM GOSPELS

The “Shoreham Gospel’s project – inspired by the diocesan “Year of the Bible” – has brought together the whole community around a single ecumenical project: producing a copy of the Gospels which can be used in worship and displayed in our churches.

The project involved members of various churches in Shoreham, schools, businesses and other organisations who have copied verses of the Gospels which will be bound together into a single volume.

Once the copying stage of the “Shoreham Gospels” was completed the individual pages of the four Gospels were hand copied by over 200 Shoreham residents to be bound into one volume.

The volume was dedicated by The Bishop of Lewes, Richard Jackson at a special Shoreham Churches Together service on Sunday 29 October at St Mary de Haura church in the centre of town.

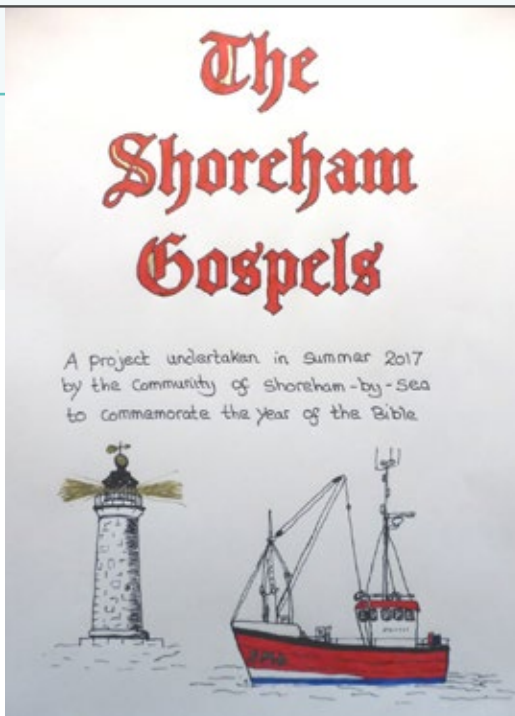
The Rev James Grant, Associate Vicar, of the Parishes of Kingston Buci & Old Shoreham said: “It has been a truly ecumenical project with members of the Baptist Church, Methodist Church, Free Church and all CofE parishes in Shoreham taking part.

“With the project we have also been able to reach out into the community: Many of our schools in Shoreham both primary and secondary have taken part as well as some of the residential care homes, the Mother’s Union and other organisations. Members of the public have also been able to drop in at writing workshops in the Shoreham Centre and Shoreham Methodist Church.”

“We’re hoping that this will have a lasting impact on both those who have copied and those who will hear the words of the Gospels read from the “Shoreham Gospels”.

Here is a short description by coordinators John and Jeanette Simpson who compiled all the pages before sending them for binding.

“The finished volume is a reflection of the people of Shoreham who contributed by copying text, illustrating chapters or assisting with the complex administration of the project. Nearly 130 of them are named in a list at the end of the volume but many others made their contribution anonymously.



There are errors and corrections, which show this is the work of human hands, not a soulless printing machine. The pages include the full range: enthusiastic writing of young children, slightly shaky but sincere script of older residents, magnificent calligraphy, simple but heartfelt illustrations, superb illumination and artistic pictures. All those who took part in the project can feel proud that they have not only added an extra dimension to the celebration of the Year of the Bible but have also helped create a work which will form part of Shoreham’s heritage and be an inspiration to future generations.”

Here are further comments from some of the contributors:

“At first it all seemed a bit pointless but once I started the writing it was really enjoyable and meaningful”

“An opportunity to be a bit artistic, rare these days”

“Like being a child again using ones best hand writing”

“I know that passage by heart now”

“This was a lovely experience to enjoy with my daughters. We had to screw up quite a few pages, but we got there in the end!”



“I WONDER....”

A SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB IN A VILLAGE CHURCH

AFTER FLYING BACK FROM THE EUROPEAN GODLY PLAY CONFERENCE IN RIGA IN 2016, A FEW SUSSEX DELEGATES WITH EXPERIENCE OF CHILDREN’S MINISTRY AND SUMMER HOLIDAY SCHEMES IMAGINED A DIFFERENT KIND OF HOLIDAY CLUB.

In their own churches, what most of them had grown used to was a hectic week of activity, one of the biggest events in the calendar, but where they were often left asking if the “fast food” style of content and delivery suited the church or the children it served.

They wondered if they could do something different to help a church to envisage a new way of inviting children into the big story of God’s amazing love for everyone? Could a group of children’s workers from across the county work together to serve a church that doesn’t have the resources to run a holiday club on its own? And might they be able to give insight and

inject some fresh inspiration and energy into children’s ministry teams using Godly Play?

In response to these questions, a proposal was put together by members of the Sussex Godly Play Network for a 3-day holiday club for 5-11yr olds.

Sussex Godly Play Network member Louise Clark, explains. She said: “Our aim was to offer a comprehensive experience of the best that Godly Play can offer; time and space set aside for us to come close to God and to wonder about who He is and what the stories of His dealings with His people might really mean in ways that are active, creative and most importantly child-led.

“Using six presentations from the Godly Play collection we devised a schedule of content with a focus on Christ’s presence from the Light in the world at Creation, moving through a sweep of Old Testament journeys of discovery. The parables of the Good Shepherd and Mustard seed, followed to help us look at what the Kingdom of God might really be like and we finished with how we carry a part of that Light ourselves when we are baptised.

“Two groups of children used the church building’s transepts as their safe, special place to experience the presentations and to wonder together about their significance.

“We used the nave for the creative response time as all the children came together to find their own choice of activity from a wide, uncluttered selection of art, craft, and construction materials and work areas. There was great pleasure expressed by the

children as they took their time working on what they wanted to do over 45 minutes, chatting with adult volunteers and continuing their own private wondering.

“Over the three days we witnessed increasing confidence in the children’s questions and responses to the presentations and some moments of revelation and sadness as children were clearly touched by the stories or made connections with their own life experiences.

“At the end of the second morning one child looked excitedly out into the group as he shared his discovery that the story of the people receiving the Ten Best Ways to Live and the parable of the Good Shepherd were both about being shown the right way to go! One child whose doll had patiently spent two days with the doorman, offered it to be used in the presentation of the Holy Baptism. Another child eagerly told of how she was waiting to be baptized, after

seeing the presentation and being shown the font.

“Connecting a holiday club to the everyday life of the church and the worship of the people there can be difficult. Having Rev Paul (Henfield) and Rev Harriet on the team, to pray for the children at the start of the day, bless them as they left and to share some of the mystery of baptism at the font helped to engender belonging, relationship and familiarity.

“The whole experience drew us all closer together as a community of fellow pilgrims.”

Sussex Godly Play Network members involved in the development of this project: Rev Paul Doike, Vicar at Henfield, Judy Yeomans, Fiona Prentice, Alison Day, Louise Clark and Chris Wheatley. For more information please contact: Judy Yeomans: judyisyeomans@gmail.com

Godly Play Resources available online at: www.godlyplayresources.com



DEVELOPING GIFTS IN MINISTRY

Earlier this year Rebecca Swyer, Director for Apostolic Life oversaw a review of lay ministry which saw the appointment of Rev Jayne Prestwood as the Diocesan Officer for Lay Vocation and Ministry.

Since her appointment Jayne has overseen new developments in re-imagining lay ministry in line with the diocesan strategy. She has developed training programmes for Authorised Lay Ministry and Reader Training.

These programmes are now available to download as a resource from the diocesan website. If you wish to order copies online for your parish you can do so here:

<https://store.chichester.anglican.org/home.aspx>

ALMs are 'authorised' by the Bishop to exercise a particular ministry within their local parish.

This ministry takes many different forms depending upon the parish base, but in general ALMs work within or establish a team of people working in an area of ministry and they also work to encourage and develop the gifts of others.

In 2018 the ALM training programme will help prepare candidates to share ministry in these areas:

- Pastoral ministry
- Prayer and Spirituality ministry
- Youth ministry
- Children's ministry

Readers are lay people in the Church of England, from all walks of life, who are called by God, theologically trained and licensed by the Church to preach, teach, lead worship and assist in pastoral, evangelistic and liturgical work.

The Reader training course lasts two years and is designed to equip you for ministry as a Reader, to deepen your theological knowledge, practical skills and spiritual maturity for the ministry to which God is calling you.

Initial Reader training is delivered by St Augustine's College of Theology - staugustinescollege.ac.uk who offer three possible modes of teaching:

- Weekly evening sessions at Southwark
- Weekly evening sessions at Malling Abbey
- Teaching days at Malling Abbey



Reader Ministry

Preach
Teach
Lead worship

Nationally accredited,
Episcopally licensed
and governed by
canon.

READERS

Lay Ministry

Serve the church and
your local parish

- Pastoral ministry
- Prayer and Spirituality ministry
- Youth ministry
- Children's ministry

DIOCESE OF CHICHESTER

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A CHURCH WITH CHILDREN AND SENIORS AT THE HEART OF MISSION



Marilyn Appleby is a Lay Reader at St Andrew's Furnace Green, Crawley and reports on her Garden Shed Advent project that is now in its fourth year.

This was based on an idea I had after hearing about Rev. Martin Poole's Advent Beach hut calendar in Hove. I was quite taken by the idea and wondered how I might adapt this idea at our church.

We wanted to have something on display to let people know that Christmas is all about Jesus and that this is why we celebrate Christmas at all. I feel it is a good witness to our neighbourhood and that we want to invite all to share in the joy we have at this Christmas season.

My idea was to create a shed which could be used in the garden at the front of our church during Advent and Christmas, and that could be easily dismantled and stored

afterwards. Fortunately, I have a son, Luke, who is a wonderful carpenter who custom built a wooden shed.

This year will be our fourth year of the Advent Shed which has proved to be very popular. Inside the shed we have a nativity scene display which may change from year to year. It is lighted with coloured lights and spotlights, and the trees in the foreground have white lights in them, which look inviting as people pass by.

The shed is erected a couple of weeks before the end of the school term and in the last week we man the shed for about two hours when the school children come to visit after school.

The shed is left open and lit up till late each night for the community to enjoy. We have sometimes witnessed parents taking Christmas photo's of their children sitting on the doorstep

of the shed to send as Christmas cards!

During the final week of term craft activities take place for children and adults who accompany the children get offered a glass of mulled wine and mince pies while the children dip into a large tin of chocolates!

On the last afternoon we invite the local churches in our TFG group (Together For God) to join us to sing carols around the Shed before we move off to sing carols in the local care home, Burley's Wood.

Some people have asked why we call it an Advent Shed, as opposed to a stable. Well, I think the answer to that is that it is just that - a Shed! Some years it tells the Christmas story with different characters in the display and last year the shed became the Lamb Inn at Bethlehem! So, it is not just a stable.

BEYOND PRODUCES UNIQUE 3D ADVENT CALENDAR

To celebrate the tenth annual Beach Hut Advent Calendar Beyond have produced a beautiful printed Advent Calendar featuring some of the best photographs from the event. They are available to buy online through the Beyond website at http://www.beyondchurch.co.uk/shop_calendar.php or you can contact Martin Poole on info@beyondchurch.co.uk if you would like to

sell calendars on a sale or return basis. They're also available at Church House - ask at reception. The money generated from sales will go to help fund the mission of Beyond to help people to understand the true meaning of Advent.

www.beyondchurch.co.uk



REAL ADVENT CALENDAR COMPETITION **ANNOUNCED**

To celebrate the launch of the 2017 Real Advent Calendar a special competition has been announced. Schools, churches and children's groups are invited to design their own Advent Calendar. There are three first prizes of £150 in each category and three runners-up prizes of £50. All winners and runners-up will also receive a box of our Host of Angels Christmas tree decorations.

Philip Haley, from the Meaningful Chocolate Company, said; "It

couldn't be easier. We would like children to design the front of an Advent Calendar by taking inspiration from the Gospel accounts of the birth of Jesus.

The Real Advent Calendar is the UK's only Fairtrade Advent calendar which comes with a free book which tells the Christmas story and which raises money for charity. We are really interested to see what young people would feature on their own Real Advent Calendar to help tell the Christmas story."

The competition is open to primary schools, secondary schools, Sunday schools /Messy Church or other youth groups such as Guides, Boys' Brigade etc.

Entries must arrive by 5pm on Monday 20th November.

You can read more about the Real Advent Calendar competition and how to enter at www.goo.gl/onx6Ao

THE TENTH ANNUAL BEACH HUT ADVENT CALENDAR

This year will be the tenth annual Beach Hut Advent Calendar, an idea that has blossomed from small beginnings in 2008 to become a Brighton and Hove tradition involving dozens of artists, community groups and schools and attended by hundreds of people eager to see the art which is revealed each night.

Every night from 1st – 24th December a different beach hut along Hove seafront will open its doors for an hour from 5.30pm-6.30pm to reveal an art installation or Advent display. It's a simple concept which is amazingly effective as the participants are given a lot of creative freedom as long as it connects to the Christmas story. So Santa Claus and Snowmen are banned but there are always lots of angels, stars, shepherds and kings. Over the years we've had real donkeys, wise men on stilts, full blown musicals performed in a howling gale and lots of cute nativity scenes with children dressed up as various characters. The attraction of twinkling lights in the darkness of the seafront speaks powerfully of the advent of the light of the world at this dark time of year and it helps that mince pies and warm drinks are served free every night!





THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT

St Mary's in Hartfield received £45,000 from the Mission Fund in 2014 to develop its ministry to children and families. Children and family worker Katrina Thomas has now been in place for 18 months, writes Rev Julie Sear.

It was such an encouragement to us at St Mary's when we heard the Mission Fund Committee had read and prayed over our application for funds and could see the potential and vision we felt God had for this parish and the church.

In 2014 the advert for a children and family worker went out far and wide but for months there were no applications. It became clear there are challenges to recruiting into roles for children's and families and youth work, especially in rural areas where housing is expensive and offering a home with the post is not possible.

However, in 2016 a phone call from Leicester changed our dreams into realities and we appointed Katrina Thomas.

Katrina said: "When I came to visit the church for the first time with my husband and children, I could sense that God was at work here at St Mary's.

"There was so much potential for growth and development and a real heart to see mission to children and their families as a focus. We arrived to stay in March 2016 and from there the work started in turning that potential into practical outworkings – opportunities

each day to share the love and hope of Jesus and the Gospel with the community."

She initially spent a lot of time simply getting to know people and building relationships and establishing what the needs were in this rural, socially complex parish before then translating this into the activities and ministries we have today.

As well as seeing Sunday children and family activities grow and change, there have been exciting developments in the holidays and midweek too.

The mums and tots group in the

The diocesan mission fund has been created to support outreach mission initiatives within the diocese.

It will support both new work and new developments of current activities that need further financial assistance. It will focus on initiatives that will deepen faith and increase commitment to worship.

You can find a copy of the guidelines and application form on the diocesan website Mission Fund pages: <http://www.chichester.anglican.org/mission-fund/>

village has been developed and relaunched as Teddytots and we now hold a termly service at festivals, which has been a great way of making the link between the church and community.

In the holidays we run Messy Mondays, which run on an adapted Messy Church pattern to meet the specific needs of the community.

Katrina is training and developing a children and family work team, enabling and equipping those who

share the passion and vision for children and families to be part of it, learning about children's spirituality and faith development as well as the more practical tasks of planning and leading events.

She has also developed Waffle, an evening event of supper and bible study for a group of ten to 14-year olds.

We are both so thankful when we look back to how God's hand has been in all that has happened over the past few

years, from the provision of Mission Fund money, the recruitment of Katrina to the post and the growth and development over the past 18 months.

This has had a wonderful faith-building effect on the church and community.

The future is bright for St Mary's Church as we continue to move forward with God's leading.



CARRY ON CHAMPING

by Paul Sawtell,
church member



Sleeping through a religious service is normally frowned upon, but a new trend is encouraging parishes to keep their churches open and allow people to sleep in them – at night. This rather unusual activity is called Champing – simply put the words Church and camping together and you get Champing - and its catching on.

There are now a number of websites dedicated to this activity and can be a cheap and interesting alternative to the traditional B&B. We hear from a church in Sussex who have been trying it out for size, with its own congregation.

St Peter's Church in West Blatchington, Hove organised its very first Champing night in August. Paul Sawtell tells us more.

"Fifteen of us gathered for the very first champing night at St Peter's, one Friday evening in August.

"After setting up our sleeping bags, blow up mattresses and prayer cushions as improvised beds in various locations of the church we headed to the rectory garden for a sumptuous BBQ with giant steak burgers, fine pork and herb sausages and an array of salads. Some had a go at tip n run cricket or bouncing on the trampoline. Others just enjoyed the company and conversation.

"As it got dark we then moved to the main church. Father Dan Smith had erected a large screen at the front for a showing of the family film "Finding Dory".

"To finish the evening we shifted to the old church where each of us lit a candle to remember someone or something we wanted to silently pray for. Father Dan then led us in night prayer.

"Then it was time for sleep. It was such a calm and serene experience with the lit candles in the old church flickering through the night.

"The next morning Fr Dan's wife Zoe treated us to a very tasty full English breakfast with all the trimmings including black pudding.

"Then it was time to pack up and be on our way. I think it's fair to say the overall feeling was that the champing experience had exceeded people's expectations. Perhaps we'll do another one next summer before the schools break up."

You can find out about historic churches dedicated to champing on The Churches Conservation Trust website: visitchurches.org.uk/visit/champing.html





ST ANDREW'S SUPERSTARS

A holiday club for senior citizens and others who are unable to take an annual holiday is now in its third year.

St Andrew's Church in Crawley believe it is important to reach out to all members in the community and especially those who may be lonely and who have little opportunity to meet up with others in the same situation as themselves.

Marilyn Appleby is a Lay Reader at St Andrew's Furnace Green, Crawley. "At St Andrew's we try to embrace all ages in sharing the Gospel message, and to look out for them and care for them. Both these events are free to everyone through which we hope to show the generosity and love of Jesus Christ.

"We hold the holiday club it for three afternoons during August, and it is widely advertised in the neighbourhood, online and via other churches in Crawley. We have a busy programme and our guests are invited to take part in various competitions and activities. This could be anything from Magnetic Darts, Flamingo Hoopla, or Giant Connect Four, to Remote Controlled car racing down the aisle of the church! There is much laughter and hilarity during this time. After a while we settle down to a craft activity where we try to always make something that will last to remind guests of their holiday club, (this year- photo frames, bird feeders and key rings), and we always have a Christian theme. This year our craft and entertainment centred on the

fact that Jesus knows us and all about us.

"After the craft time everyone enjoys tea and cake, ably served by our many (lovely) volunteers. Whilst tea is finishing we have entertainment of some kind or another. This could be a puppet sketch (Ernie and Elsie), or a topical quiz or 'Guess the tune'.

"At the end of each afternoon we have the prize - giving ceremony (This year we had star wands and wind up false teeth which proved to be real hit!), before we sent each person on their way with hugs and goodbyes, plus a small card inviting them to other activities at St Andrew's."

CHRISTIAN UNITY

Howard Schnaar is the vicar at Broadfield church near Horsham. When he arrived six years ago there was already an established working relationship with the Catholic church and the Broadfield Christian Fellowship.

Attached to the church is the much loved Broadfield Community Centre. This centre is valued by many and is the home of the Broadfield Christian Fellowship who worship in one of its four halls.

This 'Trinity' relationship is an important part of the community DNA which has developed further during Howard's time and trust has grown. Howard explains why this partnership is the foundation of the community:

"The partnership of the three congregations is not merely a formal agreement, but something deeper as we have grown to love, trust and prayer for each other over time.

"I have always been a great believer in partnerships and so I was delighted when I moved to Broadfield to find that this was also very important to both the Roman Catholic congregation and Broadfield Christian fellowship (linked to Ichthus Fellowship and the Evangelical Alliance).

"It is fair to say that the Community Centre is a real community hub for Broadfield and the partnership we have clearly serves the common good. On Sundays as the Roman Catholic congregation leave, the Anglican congregation arrive. This works well as we greet each other week by week, although it can be a little chaotic at times.

"The Community Centre which we are attached to is part of the DNA of all three congregations. The Community Centre has 42 regular hirers as well as casual hirers. Many of the events in the Community Centre are organised by the churches including lunch clubs, free Friday meal, Coffee mornings, children and youth groups and also baby & toddlers groups.

"It is stunning to think the footfall on an average week is over 2,300 through the Centre. As congregations being linked to the Community Centre gives us a great privilege and it also helps serve the community.

"Not only do we share common beliefs but also share in a very practical sense, even to the point of us using the same Advent Wreath or Pascal candle to take a very small example. We have found that relationships between congregations have been strengthened when we share church clean-up days where we can tidy, clean and do some maintenance on the church. Often it seems to be when the best cakes are served and it's a great time of sharing with each other.

"We do worship together mostly through Taize Service, Prayer and Praise evenings and we organise several joint evening Services throughout the year.

"Some may argue that it is

nothing short of a miracle that we all get on so well together. I am not sure if I would use those words, but nonetheless, God is in it and by his Holy Spirit. I believe our united commitment to God's purposes of love for all can only bring about more of God's Kingdom as we share values and virtues for the people of Broadfield and beyond in our joint prayers and Christian witness.

"Like the Trinity, we are three congregations, yet we are to be one as Jesus prayed, to be one community for the Glory of God and the united witness of Broadfield."

Archdeacon of Horsham, Fiona Windsor added:

"I have been involved in some Local Ecumenical Partnership's and many just share a building with occasional meetings for administrative purposes. What is remarkable and commendable at Broadfield Community Centre, which is in an area of deprivation, is that this LEP is far more than sharing a building. They share faith, hope, joy which brings much needed care and comfort and positive action not only to those who are committed worshipping members but to the entire community. This wouldn't be the case if it wasn't for the outstanding leadership and genuine commitment to enabling celebration of diversity"

NEW RESOURCES FROM THE SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Colin Perkins, Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, gives an update on the new Simple Quality Protects (SQP) and the new safeguarding website.

Over one hundred people from parishes all over Sussex signed up for SQP in the first five weeks from its launch at Diocesan Synod in May this year.

We've put as much information as we can into the new website, whilst keeping it as straightforward as possible to use. Feedback so far has been very good, with people particularly appreciating the 'What Do I Do If?' and 'Useful Links' sections.

At the moment, between five and ten new people a day are signing up, each from different parishes! We're really excited at such good progress; it's great to see people in parishes take hold of the opportunity that SQP provides to really put safeguarding parishes on a firm footing, and to have confidence that they're doing all they need to do to ensure this.

We have added a couple of new resources to SQP - in particular, links to a few websites that

help children, and their parents, know what they can do if they have concerns about their own safety or how they are being treated. We will be adding a few more shortly, and will email you to let you know this as soon as they are available. In particular, we will add completed examples of the key templates - risk assessment forms, forms for

recording concerns, and so on - so you can see an 'ideal version' of what you should be aiming for when you're using these forms.

SQP and safeguarding news will be updated monthly on the website. If you haven't had a chance to visit the new website, please do. As well as having the website available on desktops and tablets, we highly recommend people save the address as a 'favourite' website on smartphones if they have them, as those two sections provide a safeguarding directory in your pocket - no need to try and find numbers to call if you ever need to - the address is <https://safeguarding.chichester.anglican.org>



Online now at

safeguarding.chichester.anglican.org

CHURCHES OPEN THEIR DOORS FOR RIDE & STRIDE



Hundreds took part in Saturday's Ride and Stride which saw many of our churches across Sussex staying open all day to welcome participants.

The national event raises funds and awareness to preserve places of worship. Locally Ride & Stride is in aid of Sussex Historic Churches Trust.

Sussex organiser for Ride & Stride in Sussex is Graham Pound. He said: "The trust funds repairs and restorations to preserve Sussex places of worship. The event is an opportunity to see the best of our historic churches, have great fun and help raise money to support their restoration by taking part.

Revd Sue Wilkinson and Fr Kevin Agnew from St Mary's Willingdon, took part by cycling on a tandem around Eastbourne's churches. They cycled to 13 churches in all raising much-needed funds.

Sue said: "We considered the rural churches to keep off the main roads. We managed several hills and we never fell off once.

"It was a fantastic day. Riding a tandem is a very different experience to riding a bike. On the front you have all the responsibility and on the back you just need to pedal and have a great deal of faith!

"We visited 13 churches in the Eastbourne area and with double the pedal power we even managed to get up some steep hills. We so enjoyed our day we are planning the next event."

A team from Church House in Hove also completed a route visiting six churches in the Arlington and Alfriston area. Emma Arbuthnot, Alex Senior and Lisa Williamson all work in the Governance department. Their route covered 13 kilometres and included Berwick Church, and Lullington Church, the smallest church in the country that still holds a regular service.

It was the first Ride & Stride event for Emma, the Diocesan DAC Secretary. "It was a very rewarding day. We started out from the car park near Berwick Church. After a look around the church and chatting to fellow Ride and Striders from St Leonard's Seaford, we crossed the field and arrived on foot in Alfriston where we bought a map from the local village shop.

"We visited St Andrew's Church in Alfriston before we sought sanctuary at the Plough and Harrow. After our refreshment stop we made our way to

Littleington church and then the tiny Lullington Church which was a personal highlight for me.

"We crossed back over the river and walked all the way to Alciston Church where we were greeted by a local church member who had come to check if there was still enough biscuits and drink for the riders and striders. Our walk back to Berwick Church took an unorthodox route through a turnip field where we had to keep one eye out for the farmer.

"We managed to visit six churches and all of them were open for us to register and the hospitality at each one was very welcomed.

"Another highlight was finding a lovely honesty stall selling eggs, cooking apples and smoked garlic. It was a lovely end to a lovely day and all for a very good cause. We raised just under £300."

If anyone would like to make any further donations please contact Alex Senior 01273 421021.

The next awards ceremony is on Saturday 10 March 2018 at 2pm at Upper Beeding Church is good. The Lord Lieutenant of West Sussex Mrs Susan Pyper will present the certificates and trophies

Invitations will be sent to all under 16's who took part and to trophy winners. However if anyone would like to attend the award ceremony please contact Graham Pound gpond@bigcrouchers.co.uk

The 2018 event is on Saturday 8 September from 9 am till 5 pm. Churches can take part on static bikes as well as people and groups visiting churches - or any other way of raising funds. You can find out more information on Sussex Historic Churches website



Sheona's book **I SEE TRINITY** is Published by Blind Sight Press, 2016
 ISBN: 9780993043123
 68pp, 38 colour plates
 Signed copy £10, plus £2 P&P
 (second-class despatched within 2 working days)

1: Canopy Compass Rose, 2015

This was Commissioned as part of Sheona's residency at Trinity to provide the central visual focus for the Chapel. Digital print on acrylic, with LED lightbox mounting, exterior ceiling lighting, and painted border. 150cm x 150cm Trinity College Chapel, Bristol, BS9 1J

WELCOMING OUR BISHOP OTTER SCHOLAR

Stepping into the shoes of previous Scholar Naomi Billingsley, Sheona Beaumont is the new Bishop Otter Scholar for research into theology and the arts in our Diocese. Sheona is an artist and researcher with an interest in photography (see her website www.shospace.co.uk).

Sheona explores theology, faith, and biblical interpretation through a lens, whether that's through her own artistic practice or others' professional and amateur photography.

She says: "Photography and photographic media are the visual language of our time, yet

there is often an impoverished vocabulary for spirituality here. I hope in my work to find ways of enriching our visual habits with a deeper, divine, dimension".

Sheona is in the process of finishing a doctorate at the University of Gloucestershire on the Bible in photography, and she has also recently completed a year as artist-in-residence at Trinity College, Bristol. She lives in Lacock, Wiltshire, with her husband, Rev Adam Beaumont, and two children. She will be blogging about her plans for the Scholar position on bishoppotterscholar.wordpress.com



MAKING A POSITIVE IMPACT

OUR story in the last issue of Faith In Sussex about becoming a foundation governor sparked a great response. In this issue we hear from three people about why they took on the role and what it involves.



LINDSAY WIGGINS
foundation governor
Pioneer Federation

I was asked to become a foundation governor at East Hoathly CE School many years ago when I was leading Sunday School. Since then, the school has gone from strength to strength and has joined in partnership with Chiddingly CP School, becoming the Pioneer Federation.

East Hoathly and Chiddingly are a united benefice, so it is an ideal partnership. We are now beginning an informal partnership with St Mary the Virgin in Hartfield, an aided primary, and we hope to see this become formal in the not too distant future.

Our schools share very strong values and high aspirations. The collaboration between three different primary schools makes for interesting times, exciting opportunities and of course new challenges for our head.

Along with Phil Hodgins, the rector, I am responsible for the ethos committee which monitors and evaluates our Christian distinctiveness and advises on further developments for our church school.

We also regularly meet with the RE Council because our pupil voice plays a major part in all we do.

We were very pleased to be judged outstanding in our SIAMS inspection last year: "The Christian character of the school is outstanding because the Christian vision is deeply embedded in school life."

To me, the Church is the centre of the community and it's heartening to see our church filled during the week for school worship each day.

My favourite part of being a foundation governor is to observe the pupils maturing into young people, with the aims and ethos of the school playing a large part in their development. "Christian values are woven through the curriculum and make a considerable impact on the children's well-being and relationships" (SIAMS 2016).



LINDA CAROE
foundation governor
St John's Meads, Eastbourne



NAMDI XXSURNAME?XX
foundation governor
St Andrew's CE School, Hove

I've been a parent governor and then a community governor in a number of schools over the past 30 years. My background is in education and having left a governor role in 2015, I was approached by our vicar and asked to consider becoming a foundation governor. Our church and the school have close links and there was real sense of being called to this role to support a relatively new board of governors in developing their effectiveness.

It's a voluntary role and governors work together as a team within a statutory framework as the strategic leaders of the school; setting the vision and strategic direction, monitoring standards and finance. Induction training is important and training and support is always available.

Foundation governors have the added privilege of supporting the school in prayer and demonstrating faith in action.

It's such a varied and rewarding role – being able to make a real difference to children's education. Even though I've been a governor for a while, I still appreciate opportunities to develop new skills. I enjoy getting to know all members of the school community and it's always enjoyable and revealing talking to the children during monitoring visits. As the chair of governors, it's also rewarding to work with the headteacher, mentor new governors and help everyone to be effective in their roles. It's a privilege to be part of a team working together to raise standards and ensure that our Christian distinctiveness, as a voluntary aided CE school, remains central to everything we do.

Our family have been members of St Andrew's Church for some time. When the opportunity arose, I was attracted by the chance to contribute to the community in a way that was not related to my day job in healthcare. I had worked as a management consultant in a previous career, helping organisations improve their operational performance. I saw being a governor as a way to use those skills on behalf of the school, and ultimately the children that it serves.

The role a governor is to listen and support the school to fulfil its potential and to assist and challenge the school leadership when necessary. The role includes a series of meetings and school visits over the course of the year, in addition to training and education sessions that help governors to be more effective.

It's pretty exciting to be part of something that can have a positive impact on the future of young people in Hove. The other governors have a great range of skills and interests and I've also enjoyed getting to know and learn from them.

For further information about becoming a Governors please contact: michelle.perry@chichester.anglican.org or call 01273 4212021

AN INTERVIEW WITH ORGANIST AND DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AT ST MICHAEL'S AND ALL ANGEL'S BRIGHTON - **ADAM LE CLERCQ**

How did you start your career?

I started making music from quite an early age including being one of an excellent line up of boy trebles at St Peter's church, Brighton under the musical direction of Eric Spencer. I was a good flute and piccolo player and became first flute in the Brighton Youth Orchestra where I also won a prize to play a concerto with the orchestra. Paid work for performing, accompanying and teaching started from Michaelmas 1999.

Any other strands to your music career?

I have set people's lyrics and poems to music. I have sung in choirs with some of Britain's finest singers and have accompanied a number of musicians for performances and exams. I have also worked with Colin Tarn, once a musician for Saga Holidays and a previous teacher of mine from Lewes performing at care homes up and down the country.

What is your current role at St Michael's?

The church musician role has been melded into one position - there is no Sub-Organist - so my job is both Organist and Director of Music.

What does that involve?

Preparing monthly music lists, rehearsing the singers each week, playing for all the year's services, coordinating and booking Brighton Fringe each year and the front of house

stewarding of those concerts and much more!

What have been your highlights at St Michaels?

Performing with my flute playing wife Nicole this Brighton Fringe - the first time I have performed at the church since September 2012 - was enjoyable and well received.

The huge event from start to finish that the Brighton Palestinian Solidarity Campaign organised in 2016, which provided the church with one very well attended evening concert was a brave and important Fringe event. Over 350 people attended to see 5 young musicians from the Gaza Music School along with the Oriental Music Group. The challenges for the Brighton PSC in getting the young musicians out of Gaza was enormous. They all worked so hard and for so long. Your readers may be interested in the recording of this excellent concert at the church: www.youtube.com/watch?v=f7o8Xvs0Org

And your relationship with the Friends?

I was asked to play cocktail piano for the Friends Annual Dinner this June. It was a lovely experience and in the end I played for over two and half hours. It was a pleasure and I was happy to fill the background void with soft piano tones.

I really value the Friends and all the good work they do for

the church. We wouldn't be standing without them! For me in particular, the rose window, ever crumbling onto the gallery walls, floor and organ has been challenging and involved me in much cleaning each week. As it is the area of the church I work in I'm very grateful for the Friends contributions towards its repair.

Any disasters you're brave enough to share with us?

Yes! Falling down some slippery steps and breaking my left collar bone - badly - 5 days before Fr. Fayers' large scale leaving service in November 2014 was not good. How I managed to conduct with one arm in a sling and deal with many singers on the day I don't know. I had to find a replacement organist at short notice and could not use my left arm to play for a few weeks so we also had to have deputy organists each Sunday. But amazingly I was playing again, though not brilliantly by Christmas Eve.

You may not have a signature dish, but have you a signature tune?

Ha! Well I count myself as a Handelian so I'd have to say The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba, as arranged for the organ. I actually enjoy cooking and think I'm quite good at it, although I am a slow cook. I'd tend to do something Italian so you'd probably end up with a reasonable lasagne al forno with a green salad and a glass of Barolo. Not sure about dessert - too many to choose from.



STORIES BEHIND THE HYMNS

Make me a CHANNEL OF YOUR PEACE

BY NEVILLE MANNING

I AM this writing a day or so after the terrorist incident in Barcelona in which a driver deliberately mowed down a crowd of innocent people in a busy street.

Our hymn this issue, “Make me a channel of your peace”, is one of those that speaks to human need in the mist of such dreadful events. In a society where hymn singing is an almost unknown experience, this is one of a few hymns frequently and readily requested, on such occasions as weddings and funerals.

Its popularity may be in part due to it having been sung at the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales. It is also a hymn that can unite several of the faith communities, Christian and otherwise, in that shared desire for peace.

Its origin is twofold – a famous prayer and the work of the hymn’s author. The prayer is the one often mistakenly ascribed to St Francis of Assisi: “Lord, make me an instrument of your peace...”. So far as we know that prayer first appeared about 1912 in a French spiritual magazine published by a Roman Catholic organisation and about the same time on the back of a card for use at Mass.

The South African-born author Sebastian Temple (1928-1997) lived for a time in the UK before moving to the USA. He had been writing hymns from an early age and several albums of his hymns and songs were produced. He was moved by the aforementioned prayer and eventually the words of our hymn came to him.

“THE THINGS,
GOOD LORD,
THAT I PRAY
FOR, GIVE ME
THE GRACE TO
LABOUR FOR.”

Initially it was made known through The Franciscan Communications Center in California. Although the prayer which inspired the hymn is not by St Francis, it almost certainly expresses sentiments St Francis himself would have endorsed.

“Make me a channel of your peace” is a reflection on what it means to be a channel of Christ’s

peace amid the realities of a world with all too many incidents like that in Barcelona.

It expresses the aspiration to make a change for the better. That means replacing hatred with love, injury with pardon, doubt with faith, despair with hope, darkness with light, and sadness with joy. In the refrain “Oh, master, grant that I may never seek So much to be consoled as to console”, we have a gentle warning against becoming so obsessed with our own anxieties and problems that we forget the help and support we receive should lead us to be of help and support to others in their need.

There is a wise saying about intercessory prayer: “The things, good Lord, that I pray for, give me the grace to labour for.” Sometimes our Lord uses us to be part of the answer to our own prayer requests for others. It can be a useful spiritual exercise to think through this hymn and ask how each of us may fulfil its aspirations and be a channel of Christ’s peace and love. It can be particularly appropriate to do so as we look to celebrate the coming of the Prince of Peace at Christmas.



PLEA FOR HELP FROM **THE MOTHERS' UNION**

Scilla Page, an Action and Outreach Coordinator for Mothers' Union (MU) in the Diocese of Chichester, reports on the work they do in prisons and shares an uplifting story of how faith in action really touched the heart of a prisoner.

One of the aims of MU is to support families that have met with adversity. They visit the two prisons in Sussex, Lewes and Ford.

They spend time with the children who are visiting their fathers or grandfathers, uncles or brothers. Toys, games and simple craft activities are provided and sometimes stories are read and support is given to a child to help them to make a card for their dad.

The purpose of the MU is to build up relationships within the family, sending out games for families to play together. Monopoly is very popular and Connect Four is always in demand. When possible, the offenders have the opportunity to draw or use building bricks with their children. Everything that helps the child and their dad to get to know one another is encouraged.

Sometimes, mothers and fathers need time to talk seriously and so we will keep children happily occupied to allow this to happen. Visiting time is precious and families often travel a long way to see their loved one. It is immensely rewarding to see tough men behaving with gentleness and care towards little children and small babies. I am frequently impressed by the good manners and thoughtfulness of the children we meet. For many years I taught in primary schools and I have experienced children who are far from well behaved and I do not exaggerate when I say it's a privilege to be with these families who have to cope without their dad and with the risk of hostility from others in school. Every Christmas, Mothers Union members sign cards for every single man in each of the prisons. The chaplains distribute them and this is a letter we recently received.

Dear Chichester Diocese Mothers' Union, In 2012 I was unfortunate enough to find myself in Ford Open Prison over Christmas. I hadn't done anything dreadful - just a stupid mistake I made which resulted in me going to prison for just over a year.

On Christmas Day, I - like every other prisoner - was given a hand-written Christmas Card from your branch of the Mothers' Union. I remember feeling really touched that the members of your association had taken the time and trouble to write 500 Christmas Cards for us; we who were shut away from our families and friends and shunned as "offenders" by decent society.

It was a wonderful and heart-warming gesture; for some reason, I found myself thinking about it tonight and it occurred to me that you have probably never been thanked for the effort and expense you put in.

On behalf of all prisoners of Ford, past and present, I would like to thank your members for such a thoughtful gesture, which was very much appreciated. I was lucky enough to have a supportive family, but for many prisoners, yours was the only card they received that Christmas, so thank you, it does make a difference to know that someone is thinking of us.

I have rebuilt my life since my release in 2013 and am now happy and stable (so would prefer it if you didn't publicise my name) - and, although I am not well off, I would like to make a small donation towards the cost of this year's cards, as a token of appreciation for what you do - what's the best way of doing this?

Kind regards - and thank you Anonymous

Last year, we were exceptionally blessed by two donations of £500 worth of toys, one for Lewes and one for Ford, from the Toy Retailers Association. We were allowed to go into a toy shop and choose the items that we needed. What a dream job!

The children have really loved all the new games and activities and we have put a few aside to be brought into use later.

We always need new volunteers to join us and come into the prison once a month. If you would like to share in this rewarding work contact Sheila on sheila.blair@btinternet.com for Lewes and Scilla on scillap@uwclub.net for Ford.

We'd love to hear from you.



CHANGE IS IN THE AIR FOR BRITISH FARMING

UK agriculture has been presented with a range of challenges in the years to come with Britain preparing to leave the European Union, writes Mark Betson, South East Regional Director of The Farming Community Network (FCN).

It matters not what one's political persuasion is, it is clear that leaving the EU will present British farming with great opportunities and great risks in equal measure. At this stage, it is unclear what road lies ahead for British farming. The only thing that is certain is that farming in the UK is going change – and whenever there is change, there is anxiety.

FCN exists to support farmers and families within the farming community through difficult times. We are not a lobbying organisation and we do not

seek to propose policy options, however we are keen observers of the impact which Government policies have on British farmers. Our helpline is already receiving calls from farmers and farming families concerned about the impact of Brexit on their farm business.

Our main focus is the human impact of Brexit and the welfare of farmers and rural communities. We are in regular dialogue with industry leaders and government agencies, urging them to think, very carefully, about the potential human implications of their decisions. We are also working closely with the farmers themselves to ensure that they are well-informed and encouraging them to be resilient and embrace the changes that lie ahead.

As British farming prepares for change, so must FCN. We are preparing for what we anticipate will be a significant increase in the workload of our 400+ volunteers throughout England and Wales over the

next few years. Locally, on the 10th November volunteers from Hampshire, Kent, Surrey and Sussex will be meeting at Ardingly to discuss what that might mean for us in the South East.

As an organisation FCN relies solely on donations, grants and the dedication of our volunteers in order to continue supporting the farming community. We welcome anyone passionate about helping the farming community to join as a volunteer and there are numerous volunteering roles available, including taking helpline calls, handling casework, fundraising and publicity.

There are also many ways that you can raise money for FCN, including organising an event, running, corporate sponsorship, leaving a legacy in your will, or simply donating through our website.

More information about the work of FCN, and how you can support us, is available at www.fcn.org.uk or email me mbetson@fcn.org.uk

SOLAR CHURCH!

Thanks to a generous donation from a parishioner and The Restoration Trust St Swithun's East Grinstead, a grade II* listed building, has started to generate its own electricity!

The C of E's national resource organisation, ChurchCare, supports all parishes caring for their buildings today. It runs a strategic campaign called 'Shrinking the Footprint' which is designed to reduce the environmental impact and especially the energy use and carbon footprint of every church.

The Church of England's (C of E) national environmental campaign called 'Open & Sustainable Churches', supports the campaign as does the Diocese of Chichester through its own Environmental Policy.

In 2016 the PCC voted in favour of installing a photovoltaic array (solar panels) to the south aisle roof of the church.

As St Swithun's Church is a grade II* listed building, considerable care had to be taken to get all the correct approvals and planning consent and various conservation bodies were consulted.

However when the project started it was discovered that the lead had not been fixed according to the (current) recommended practice and as a result the lead had sustained significant damage since the early 1980s when it was last renewed.



At the July 2016 PCC meeting, the PCC re-confirmed the decision to proceed, as at that time, it was anticipated that approx ¼ of the lead roof would need repairing.

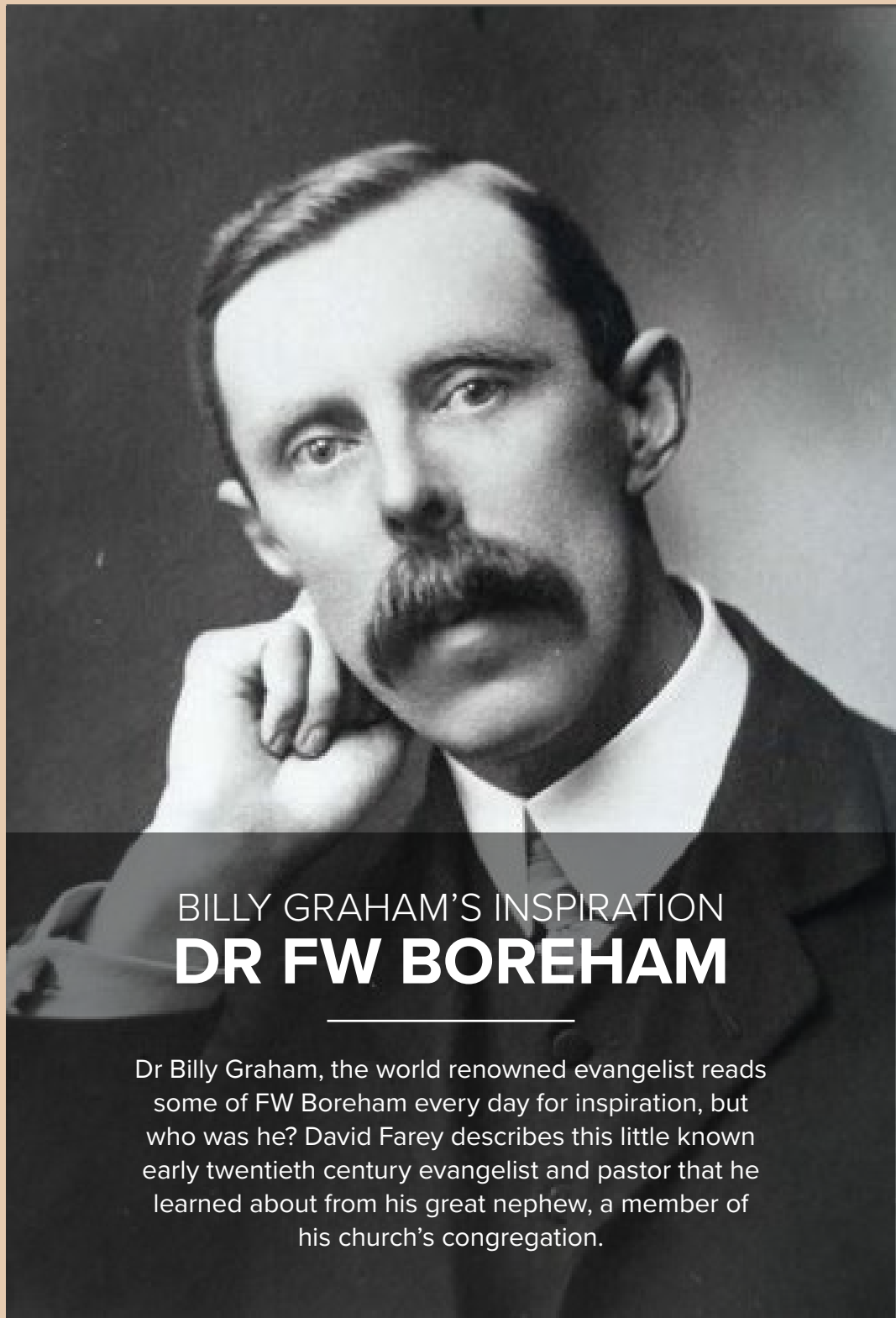
After a detailed report from the Inspecting Architect, the PCC resolved – at a special meeting in August 2016 – to proceed with the replacement of the lead to the whole of the South Aisle roof. At the end of September 2016, the Restoration Trust voted to make a major donation to this project from their funds.

In the middle of October 2016, the Architect advised that the underlying timbers on the South Aisle were deficient and needed replacing and that there were also volumes of rubble in the roof void that also needed removal.

In early January 2017, it was discovered that in cold weather (less than 3 degrees C), there was condensation appearing on the new roof timbers when the church was open and being heated. Further consultations had to take place and the solution was to install around two dozen vents on the South Aisle roof. This was agreed and the project was finally able to be completed.

Has it all been worthwhile and what difference does it make? Tony Cox, Churchwarden, thinks so. He said: "In the first week 374 Kilowatt hours (kWh) was generated. In a year the hope is to generate between 14,000 and 15,000 kWh of electricity, approx two-thirds during the summer but some during autumn and winter. This is a long term investment and it means that we can now focus on what this means for mission.





BILLY GRAHAM'S INSPIRATION **DR FW BOREHAM**

Dr Billy Graham, the world renowned evangelist reads some of FW Boreham every day for inspiration, but who was he? David Farey describes this little known early twentieth century evangelist and pastor that he learned about from his great nephew, a member of his church's congregation.



Frank William Boreham was born in Tunbridge Wells on the 3rd March 1871 and grew up to become one of the best known Christian writers and preachers of his age and yet today is hardly known.

Aged 15 he lost a part of his leg from being hit by a tram which caused him recurrent leg problems throughout his life. He was inspired by great preachers like DL Moody and was possibly one of the last students interviewed by Charles Spurgeon for entry into his Baptist Pastor's College in London.

His first posting was to the other sides of the world, to a small chapel in Mosgiel, Dunedin, New Zealand. Before leaving on a stormy day in January 1895 he met Stella Cottee and by the time he got to Capetown on 16th February he had written a letter to Stella's father explaining his feelings for her. Arriving at Mosgiel he was deeply touched by the welcome and the day after his induction he wrote to Stella to ask her to join him. On May 3rd he received a cable with the simple one word answer, "Yes." Thus began his adventure!

Affectionately known as FWB, he quickly grew as a preacher, but also realised the opportunity of the printed word. He offered to write a regular article for the local Mosgiel newspaper aware of so many people living at a distance who were unable to attend church. His preaching soon attracted crowds and his articles were eagerly consumed, but little realising just how big an impact his writings would have.

"His preaching soon attracted crowds and his articles were eagerly consumed"

In the spring of 1906 he moved to Hobart in Tasmania and there that he wrote one of his most popular books, 'The Luggage of Life'. FWB's fame and reputation grew as he wrote for more newspapers and wrote more books. His books were published in England and America as well as in Australia and he began receiving mail from all over the English speaking world. FWB was famous!

At the height of the First World War he moved to the Baptist Church in Armadale, Melbourne in Australia. His ministry and fame just grew and grew. Visiting England in 1924 for a three month visit we was inundated

with invitations to preach, making his debut at the London City Mission in Queen's Hall. The place was heaving! Packed congregations met him wherever he went and people queued for hours to get a seat.

Through the twenties and thirties after stepping down from the ministry he preached across Canada and the USA as well as two tours of England and Scotland. One evening at Bristol he preached to 4500 people! Foreshadowing the modern use of media techniques to spread the gospel in 1930 FWB became a radio broadcaster and reached thousands! Even back home he continued to write and held a weekly lunchtime meeting at the Scots Church, Melbourne, still writing and broadcasting at 80! His tally was a total of forty six books, published wide and far and reprinted many times over.

On Monday May 18th 1959 he slipped quietly away. It was in his final months that Dr Billy Graham on an evangelistic tour visited FWB as he would often quote him and held him in high regard. This all helps to underline just what an impact this amazing man has had upon the proclamation of the gospel in the twentieth century!

WELLBEING NEWSLETTER LAUNCHED



THE FIRST OF A
MONTHLY 'WELLBEING
MATTERS' NEWSLETTER
WAS LAUNCHED ON
WORLD MENTAL HEALTH
DAY 10 OCTOBER.

Rebekah Golds-Jones
MBACP, MNCS (accred), St AFT.
Psychotherapist and Officer for
Pastoral Care and Counselling

Rebekah.GoldsJones@
Chichester.Anglican.Org

Rebekah Golds-Jones is the Diocesan Psychotherapist and Officer for Pastoral Care and Counselling. She said: "The aim of these monthly articles is to educate and support anyone who accesses the Pastoral Care and Counselling pages but also to continue the journey of raising the profile of wellbeing and self-care within our Diocese.

"Each month the newsletter will have a different focus, and within the first year, I hope that we will be able to join in embracing our differences, and within this our needs."

The first of Wellbeing Matters article is on the subject of Anxiety. The aim of these monthly articles is to educate and support anyone who accesses the Pastoral Care and Counselling pages on the diocesan website, but also to continue the journey of raising the profile of Wellbeing and Self Care within our Diocese.

Faith in Sussex has reprinted it here as a helpful resource. November's focus is >>>>



wellbeing matters

ANXIETY

Anxiety – an unpleasant feeling that each of us will have experienced at some point given how our lives are frequently filled with first experiences, targets, life events and the subsequent pressures that come with both.

Whilst we all experience short bursts of anxiety in our day to day lives, the level of challenge increases when anxiety becomes a regular feature in our lives.

Anxiety is often a word which is used to describe when we are feeling uptight or irritable, nervous or tense, and can be associated with a wide variety of physical symptoms including:

- Increased heart rate
- Muscular tension
- Sweating
- Trembling
- Feelings of breathlessness

Of course, anxiety also affects us mentally and where this has become a regular feature in life the result can mean that we worry for extended periods of time, which in turn can cause us to feel that the worry is out of control. Anxiety can influence how we behave, and lead to behaviours such as avoiding doing certain things that we might want to because we are worried what the outcome might be.

It is often the case that a range of different factors and events will contribute to a person's

anxiety levels rather than one specific thing, and whilst it can be very helpful to explore the causes (including patterns of unhelpful thinking) within a safe, therapeutic space, often what can also be helpful is to appreciate what stops us from overcoming it.

For some, this is due to a style of thinking which lends itself to experiencing anxiety, such as a negative thought pattern that results in unclear thinking and a vicious cycle of, often elevating, anxiety.

For others, there is a belief that anxiety has a protective function, for example that by being 'on the look-out' this can help them to recognise and avoid danger. However, the problem here is that, quite soon, potential dangers can be envisaged within relatively safe situations and anxiety is therefore increasingly present. Often avoidant behaviours (mentioned above) will be experienced here, which leads to different outcomes never being experienced (such as a gathering being better than expected, or a sermon being praised!).

For some of us, a thinking style of 'worried about worrying' can serve to maintain anxiety within a vicious cycle. For example, somebody who thinks in this way might worry that they are doing harm to themselves by worrying so often, with a common worry being that this means they are

'going mad', or that normal physical symptoms such as a rapid pulse are indicative of serious illness. This is not the case as these are normal bodily reactions, however worrying at this level can intensify these experiences, perhaps with panic attacks, which make people feel worse and lead to a further vicious cycle of anxiety.

Often not having time to relax and benefit from doing things that we enjoy can also contribute to higher anxiety levels, however there is a warning attached as this must be balanced with having too much time - which can allow an unmanaged mind to allow extended periods of worry!

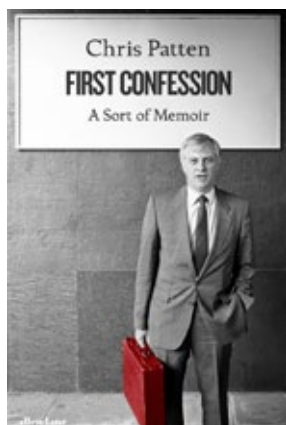
Fortunately there are several strategies that can be used to reduce anxiety, including:

- Understanding our own anxiety
- Learning how to challenge unhelpful thoughts
- Improving problem solving skills
- Reducing the amount of time spent worrying
- Learning to relax (emotionally and physically)
- Learning to stop avoiding things that may make us anxious

These strategies often form part of CBT (Cognitive Behavioural Therapy) based support, which can be accessed via a GP or, for Clergy and Families, via the Diocesan Officer for Pastoral Care and Counselling.

BOOKS AND REVIEWS

REVIEWS BY CANON JOHN TWISLETON



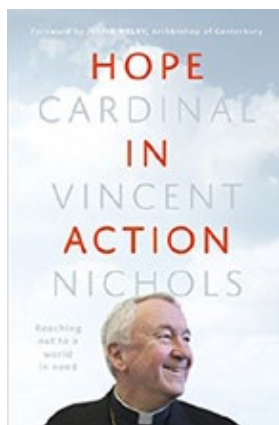
FIRST CONFESSION

A SORT OF MEMOIR

CHRIS PATTEN

I AM a Conservative who has never believed everything my party does or stands for is right. I am a Catholic who has occasional doubts and disagreements which have not persuaded me of the merits of agnosticism or atheism. I found this autobiography refreshing as a loyal member of the Church of England in doubt about aspects of an institution I love. Reading Chris Patten's appealing life story leaves you with more confidence about institutions inasmuch as they contain loyal folk like the author who breathe integrity. A political memoir with unashamed profession of faith is also special. As a Christian, I believe in an afterlife, in the Christian promise, that death is not the end of the story. It is the Christian and family parts of my identity which I hope will be with me right down to the wire.

Penguin 2017 £9.99 Kindle edition ISBN 978-0-241-27560-3 299pp



HOPE IN ACTION

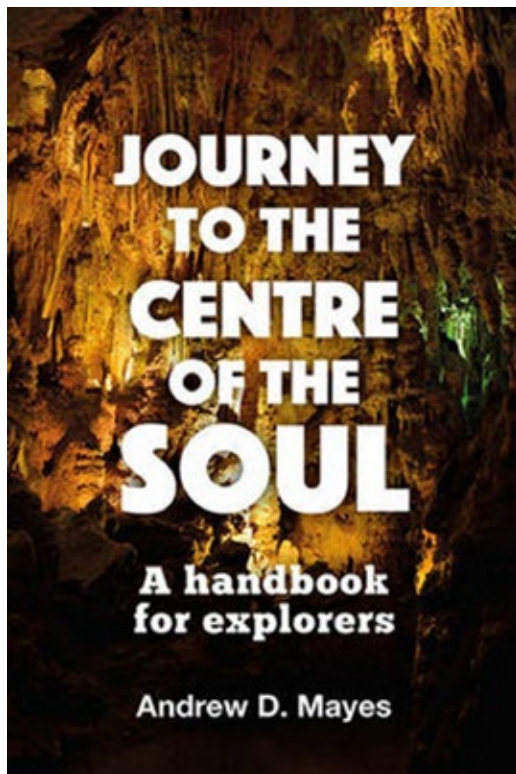
CARDINAL VINCENT NICHOLS

THE Archbishop of Westminster's new book with its foreword by the Archbishop of Canterbury examines hope in theory and practice.

It has a focus on God's mercy as the ultimate impetus for hope. Vincent Nichols examines this impetus as it manifests itself in contemporary campaigns to end sexual violence and abuse, challenge human trafficking and slavery, offer hope to prisoners and resist religious extremism.

I appreciated how each chapter ended with questions for reflection or discussion about hope in theory and practice and the overall affirmation of Jesus Christ as "the face of God's mercy" and Christians as "the hands, voices and actions of that mercy in the flesh of the world today".

SPCK 2017 £9.99 ISBN 978 0 281 07836 3 82pp



JOURNEY TO THE CENTRE OF THE SOUL

ANDREW D MAYES

A handbook for explorers BRF 2017 £8.99 ISBN 978 0 85746 582 5 176pp

I READ this on pilgrimage to Lourdes so its theme of God revealing himself in caves chimed with my experience, though the book is built around Holy Land pilgrimage. The title is not primarily an invitation to introspection. The journey is God's to the caves of Bethlehem, the Mount of Olives and Christ's empty tomb lightening our darkness. As God is all present, seeking him in things below rather than above is a refreshing "subterranean spiritual adventure, an odyssey of the soul led by the ever-creative Andrew Mayes.

Superficiality is the curse of our age, the author declaims as he opens up rich seams of Christian spirituality to assist our transformation from the inside out. An experienced spiritual director versed in Christian authors, Fr Mayes is well equipped by his knowledge of the Holy Land to bring Scripture alive in contexts which reach the unreachable parts of us. As I viewed the Lourdes Grotto where Bernadette unearthed the healing stream I found myself, in Mayes' words, "slipping into the abyss of God's love... for... Christ is abiding, residing at the centre of [my] being. He is in fact the very centre of the soul".

Each chapter ends with questions for reflection, useful for groups as well as individuals, and a prayer exercise. I liked the Eckhart quote about the Spirit of God as a great underground river and the question "What is the evidence, outer or inner, in your life that indicates the hidden, secret presence of the Spirit deep within?".

The associated prayer exercise builds expectation on Jesus as giver of the Spirit. The chapter on "Facing the dragons: the dark side" ends with a meditation on the demoniac of Mark 5:1-20 and what it is to "live among the tombs" with a reflection on a Richard Rohr quotation: "The path of descent is the path of transformation. Darkness, failure, relapse, death and woundedness are our primary teachers, rather than ideas or doctrines."

It ends with a helpful and typically provocative examination of spirituality, tackling the persistent dualism between the holy and the profane, the other worldly and the worldly. As a spiritual handbook it is imaginative, well structured and easy to read.

CATHEDRAL EVENTS: ADVENT 2017

WHAT'S ON

Troublesome Texts

Chichester Cathedral
Saturday 4th November
1.30pm – 5pm

The latest in the cathedral's acclaimed and popular study afternoons, exploring difficult parts of the Bible from Song of Songs to the Book of Revelation. Speakers include Canon Dr Anthony Cane, the cathedral's chancellor, Professor Steve Moyise, Dr Steve Smith and Professor James Dunn, Dr Janet Tollington and Rev Dr Andy Angel.

Session titles and further information on www.chichestercathedral.org.uk. Tickets £7.50 from the website, 01243 775888 or in person from The Novium Museum, Chichester.

The Gospel of Mark

Film at Chichester Cathedral nave
Saturday 25th November 7.15pm

Part of the Lumo Project, which is filming all four Gospels with authentic locations and actors using only the unabridged Biblical text as the script. Tickets £7.50 from www.chichestercathedral.org.uk, 01243 775888 or in person from The Novium Museum, Chichester.



G4 Christmas by Candlelight Tour

Concert at Chichester Cathedral
Monday 27th November 7.30pm

G4 shot to fame on the first series of ITV's X Factor in 2004, where they pioneered the world of popular opera. The multi-platinum selling vocal quartet is back with their atmospheric Christmas by Candlelight show. For ticket information see www.chichestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/evening-concerts.

handmade glass, with fine metallic copper flakes, echoing the copper within the font. Amy is seeking to create an ethereal motion, as if rising out of the font towards the heavens. She is one of London's most creative designers, combining her unparalleled understanding of fused glass with an intuitive sense of colour.

Open daily with free entry.

Enlightenment by Amy Cushing

Sculpture at Chichester Cathedral
Monday 13th November
to 1st March 2018

An extraordinary glass sculpture created especially for the cathedral by artist Amy Cushing and suspended over the font. Enlightenment is a beautiful delicate 3m column made up of 500 pieces of iridescent



SPECIAL SERVICES

Food for Thought with the Right Reverend Dr Martin Warner

Wednesday 15th November 12.30pm

Join the Cathedral Friends and the Bishop of Chichester for a talk titled "What is a cathedral for?" in the Vicars' Hall. Tickets £13 (includes a light lunch) available on 0333 666 3366 or www.chichestercathedral.org.uk.

Cathedral Christmas Lunch Party

Tuesday 12th December 12.30pm

Come along to the Dresden Room, 4 Canon Lane, for a sherry reception followed by a three-course Christmas lunch plus coffee and mince pies. A wonderful chance to meet new friends. Tickets £25 per person from 01243 782595.

The Hanover Band

Concert in Chichester Cathedral Saturday 16th December 7.30pm

One of the finest period orchestras in the world perform Messiah by Candlelight.

For ticket information see www.chichestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/evening-concerts.

Lunchtime concerts

Chichester Cathedral, spring 2018

Tuesdays from 16th January to 13th March 2018 1.10pm – 2pm

Admission is free. Bring your sandwiches and come along and enjoy the concert. Coffee provided. All are welcome.

Chichester Cathedral Friends' Epiphany Lunch with guest speaker Shelagh Legrave

Wednesday 10th January 2018 in Restaurant Sixty Four Chichester College, 12 noon for 12.30pm

Join the Friends for a festive three-course lunch with a difference – no turkey. Shelagh Legrave, chief executive officer of Chichester College, will be talking about her career in education. Tickets £20 on 0333 666 3366 or www.chichestercathedral.org.uk.

Friday, November 10

College of Canons Day

11am Sung Eucharist and lecture

5.30pm Evensong and commemoration of founders and benefactors

Saturday, December 2

5pm Evening prayer (said)

6pm Advent procession

Sunday, December 17

4pm BBC Radio Sussex carol service

Wednesday, December 20

6pm Cathedral carol service 1

Thursday, December 21

6pm Cathedral carol service 2

Friday, December 22

3pm Cathedral carol service 3

Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve

2.30pm Crib service 1

4pm Crib service 2

5.30pm Evensong

11pm Midnight Eucharist

Monday, December 25, Christmas Day

8am Holy Communion

10am Mattins

11am Sung Eucharist

Services are held daily and all are welcome – see chichestercathedral.org.uk for details.



➤ INFORMATION
AND ADVICE

➤ ASSESS
YOUR NEEDS

➤ COMMUNITY
GROUPS

➤ ONLINE MARKETPLACE
OF LOCAL SERVICES

The one-stop shop for care and support in West Sussex

Visit our website for care and support for adults in West Sussex.

www.westsussexconnecttosupport.org



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WORKING TOGETHER

If you need help using the
website, call Adults' CarePoint
on 01243 642121