

# FAITH IN SUSSEX

*The diocesan publication reaching church communities across Sussex*



## PETERTIDE ORDINATIONS 2015

PHOTOS OF DEACONS AND PRIESTS  
ORDAINED ACROSS THE DIOCESE

WEEKEND OF WORSHIP  
AND CELEBRATION / 10

Diocese marks strategy launch with  
"energy, commitment and enthusiasm"

REASONS TO  
REJOICE / 24

Church schools celebrate  
achievements and  
developments

BLOOMING  
LOVELY / 20

How Flower festivals celebrate  
God's colourful creation

WORSHIP

TEACHING

JESUS

FRIENDS

SPORTS

MAYCAMP

# THRIVE

MAYCAMP 16 /// 27 > 30 MAY  
PLUMPTON RACECOURSE SUSSEX

# EXUBERANT, ABUNDANT, FRAGRANT...

Gardening absolutely is not my thing. But welcoming other people into my back garden in Chichester recently provided them with an opportunity to help me understand it a bit better.

The horticultural star of the show was a rose called, Rambling Rector. It was exuberant, abundant and fragrant. Comparisons with persons or parsons should be resisted!

Summer profusion reminds us not simply of the beauty of creation as a reflection of the glory of God; it is also an expression of the nature of God's mercy.

Luke demonstrates this very eloquently. He is the writer who speaks most often about poverty. He also records with sharper detail than Matthew or Mark the sense of God's extravagance, especially in the outpouring of mercy that is reckless. "Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be poured into your lap" (Luke 6.37-38).

This edition of Faith in Sussex celebrates so much of the profusion of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit through the lives of the parishes and individuals who form the household of faith which is our diocese.

In the community events that launched the strategy for growth, just as in the apostolic testimony of those committing their lives to serving Jesus in ordained ministry, we see abundance and exuberance – a fragrant offering of love.

And what's it for? This edition also reminds us of the huge thirst for mercy that places limits on evil and promotes the freedom and dignity of gospel life.

The fruits of our Harvest Appeal, the work of Christian Aid, the urgency of need in the home and family – these are the lap of human desperation into which we are asked to pour out the reckless abundance of the divine mercy.

Let the fragrance of this offering fill the whole earth. Amen.

**+Martin**

Bishop of Chichester



CHICHESTER DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE

# "One in Christ":

Recovering a Shared Inheritance of Faith

## A Pilgrimage to Rome & Assisi

under the leadership of  
**The Rt Rev'd Martin Warner**  
*- The Bishop of Chichester -*

**9th - 16th April, 2016**



For further information call



**01992 576 065**

***Lightline Pilgrimages***

Coopersale Hall Farm,  
Epping, Essex, CM16 7PE

**[www.lightline.org.uk](http://www.lightline.org.uk)**



## COMMUNITY HERITAGE AND ARTS PROJECT / 23

Unveiled in Brighton



## WHAT DO YOU DO? / 30

Being a church administrator



## THEOLOGICAL TRAINING INSTITUTIONS / 26

New series starts with SEITE



## BLOOMING LOVELY / 20

How Flower festivals celebrate  
God's colourful creation

# CONTENTS

6-9	News across the Diocese
10-15	Diocesan Strategy Launch
14-15	A Modern Crusader
16-19	Petertide Ordinations
20-21	Flower Power
22-23	Diocesan Mission Fund
24	Reasons to Rejoice
25	Woodland Adventure
26-27	Spotlight on SEITE
28	Mothers Union
29	Stories Behind The Hymns
30	Life as a Church Administrator
31	Family Support Work
32-33	Overseas Mission
34-35	Environmental News
36-37	Diocesan Advisory Committee News
38-39	Books and Reviews
40-41	Cathedral News
42	Christian Aid
43	Church Maintenance Calendar

**To subscribe** to Faith in Sussex magazine, please contact the communications department: [communications@chichester.anglican.org](mailto:communications@chichester.anglican.org)

If you would like to discuss an article for a future issue of Faith in Sussex please contact the editor: [lisa.williamson@chichester.anglican.org](mailto:lisa.williamson@chichester.anglican.org)

Faith in Sussex magazine is published in conjunction with the fortnightly e-bulletin.

**Editor:** Lisa Williamson  
[lisa.williamson@chichester.anglican.org](mailto:lisa.williamson@chichester.anglican.org)

**Editorial Support:** Kate Parkin

**Creative:** Sublime I wearesublime.com **Photography:** Jim Holden

**Print and Distribution:** CPO

### Contact us

Diocesan Church House  
211 New Church Road  
Hove, BN3 4ED

**Switchboard:** 01273 421021  
**Fax:** 01273 421041



[www.chichester.anglican.org](http://www.chichester.anglican.org)



Chichester Diocese



@Chichesterdio



Diocese of Chichester

---

# GENERAL NOTICE

## CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

### REVISION TO THE

### CONSTITUTION AND

### STATUTES

The Chichester Cathedral Council wishes to exercise the authority invested in it by the Cathedrals Measure of 1999 and revise the Constitution and Statutes of Chichester Cathedral. The revision consists of minor amendments to reflect changes since the last revision in 2004 and more major changes to:

- a. The section concerning the legal status and governance of the Prebendal School
- b. Reflect the collation of the new Archdeacon of Brighton & Lewes
- c. The tenure of Commissioners' and Other Residentiary Canons

All the changes proposed accord with the provisions laid down in the Cathedrals Measure of 1999. The Cathedrals Measure dictates that this notice of revision of the Cathedral Constitution and Statutes must be circulated for comment

throughout the Diocese and within the Cathedral. Copies of the Instrument containing the proposed changes have therefore been sent, for anyone to inspect, to the Archdeacons of Chichester, Horsham, Hastings and Brighton & Lewes; copies are also held in the Cathedral Office and at Church House in Hove. Details may also be viewed on the Cathedral website

[www.chichestercathedral.org.uk](http://www.chichestercathedral.org.uk). Alternatively, copies may be applied for by writing, with an A4 size stamped addressed envelope, to: The Communar, The Royal Chantry, Cathedral Cloisters, Chichester, PO19 1PX. Any comments should be addressed to the Communar and arrive on or before Friday 28th August 2015.



---

## READERS LICENSING

The readers' licensing service takes place at 2pm on September 19 at Chichester Cathedral. Six readers who have completed three years of training in Chichester Diocese will be admitted and licensed by the Bishop of Lewes, Richard Jackson.

## ANNIVERSARY BREAKFAST

The Bishop of Chichester, the Rt Rev Martin Warner, joined regulars for a fry-up as St Michael and All Angels Church in Brighton marked 25 years of serving hot breakfasts to the community.

The service began with volunteers cooking for the community and visitors during the 1990 Brighton Festival and what was meant to last four weeks has lasted ever since, going from strength to strength.

In acknowledging the faithful service to the community, Bishop Martin said Jesus had enjoyed eating breakfast with his friends and added: "I hope that for everyone round here breakfast can have that quality. It's a new day, a new start and God wants you to make the most of it."

"Community Cooked Breakfast is engaging with local people in a way that the church should and in reaching out like this for 25 years it has established some strong and meaningful relationships across the community."

Also at the celebration was 96-year-old Enid Gray, who cooked the breakfasts for about 20 years and gave up only four years ago. This time she enjoyed being cooked for, while her daughter Jane Gray, who has also been serving the breakfasts for 20 years, was at work in the kitchen.



Churchwarden Andrew Peel described the breakfasts as "truly one of Brighton's best-kept secrets". They are available on Saturdays from 9am to 10.30am and prices start at £1.50.

A community café is now open on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9am to 1pm, serving cakes and snacks. The church is keen to hear from charities or community groups who would like to use the hall during the afternoons for activities such as dementia support groups. Any group interested should email [parishoffice@stmichaelsbrighton.org](mailto:parishoffice@stmichaelsbrighton.org).

## WARM WELCOME IN WIVELSFIELD

Members and friends of Wivelsfield Church, in the deanery of Cuckfield, welcomed the Bishop of Horsham, the Rt Rev Mark Sowerby, to take morning service and rededicate the church hall.

The original hall dates to 1916 and was built in keeping with the old village school and other dwellings in Church Lane. As its condition deteriorated, the church realised action was needed. The trustees and Parochial Church Council wanted to renovate and modernise the building with a good kitchen and disabled access, providing a hall that could be used extensively by the community for years to come.

Plans were drawn up which allowed for conversion of the roof space into a two-bedroom flat and letting this will provide regular income for the upkeep of the whole building. The project cost £250,000 and friends of the church have been fundraising for almost two years. With donations and pledges, they have so far raised £208,000. The trustees thanked the Henry Smith Charity and Garfield Weston Foundation for their generous support.

## GENERAL SYNOD ELECTIONS

General Synod dissolved in accordance with Royal Writ on July 13. The election process begins and the inauguration of the new General Synod takes place in November. It is important for church members of all ages, experience and backgrounds to consider standing for election for the 2015-2020 term. A guidance sheet and provisional timetable for elections has been produced and is available from [www.chichester.anglican.org](http://www.chichester.anglican.org).



## A FREEMAN FIRST

The Reverend Canon Clive Everett Allen, who retired earlier this month, has been made the first freeman of East Grinstead Parish following a unanimous vote by the town council.

Clive said: "This is an overwhelming honour. Being the first freeman is a great privilege and one I shall treasure." He has served as vicar of the St Swithun's parish, including St Barnabas and St Luke's, for 17 years. He has officiated at many civic and town events and the council wanted to recognise his support to the town.



### Diocesan appointments and leavers:

- Rev Canon Clive Everett-Allen, incumbent of East Grinstead St Swithun's, prebendary of Bury and examining chaplain, has retired.
- Rev Emma Jane Stonham, curate of East Grinstead St Swithun's, is now licensed as assistant curate of Fishbourne, St Peter and St Mary.
- Rev David Nicholas Andrew Broad, Lewes St Anne's and St Michael and St Thomas at Cliffe with All Saints, is now licensed as house for duty priest for St Michael's in Lewes within the Benefice of St Anne's with St Michael and St Thomas.
- Rev Steven Collier is now licensed as associate vicar, Broadwater (Hosanna)
- Rev Thomas Holbird is now licensed as assistant minister, Brighton, St Peter
- Rev Frank Fox-Wilson is now licensed as curate in charge, Arlington, Berwick, Selmeaton with Alciston and Wilmington
- Rev Elizabeth Woodgate is now licensed as incumbent, Ringmer, St Mary the Virgin
- Rev Charles Hadley is now licensed as assistant curate, Storrington, St Mary
- Rev Derek Spencer, priest in charge, Sullington and Thakeham with Warminghurst, is now licensed as incumbent of the parish.
- The Very Revd Canon John Edmondson, rural dean of Battle and Bexhill, ceased as rural dean but continues to be incumbent of Battle.
- Rev Neil Coleman, curate, North Mundham and Hunston, has left for Rochester Diocese.
- Rev Peter Shaw, curate, Bexhill St Peter, has left the diocese.
- Rev Trevor Marshall, curate, Bognor Regis, title post has now finished.

The following were ordained deacon by the Bishop of Chichester at Chichester Cathedral on June 27. You can read more about the day on page 16:

- Hugh Bourne, Lindfield, All Saints
- David Crook, Easebourne, St Mary
- Jamie Gater, Ifield, St Margaret
- Sean Gilbert, St Leonards, Christ Church
- James Isaacs, Hailsham, St Mary
- Nicol Kinrade, Ditchling, St Margaret
- Adam Ransom, Eastbourne, Christ Church
- Ben Sear, Patcham, All Saints
- Christine Spencer, Storrington, St Mary
- Sara-Jane Stevens, Worthing, St Matthew (non-stipendiary ministry)
- Jill Alderton, Crawley Down, All Saints
- Sandra Bale, Forest Row, Holy Trinity
- Debbie Beer, Hurstpierpoint, Holy Trinity
- Gerry Burgess, Gossops Green, St Alban
- David Howland, Horsted Keynes
- Sarah Manouch, West Wittering, St Peter and St Paul.

### TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF CHURCH HOUSE, HOVE

The Diocesan Office at Church House, Hove will be closed for minor building works and reorganisation from 3 -14 August. All Staff will be able to respond to calls and emails in the usual way. Any enquiries about the closure arrangements can be directed to the Governance and Administration Manager - [David.Mason@chichester.anglican.org](mailto:David.Mason@chichester.anglican.org)

## CHALLENGE FOR CHARITY

Next year's Brighton Marathon will be on Sunday, April 17, and The Children's Society is looking for people to put on their trainers and raise essential funds to continue its work with vulnerable children and young people.

The marathon is now entering its sixth year and more than three quarters of the field take up the challenge for a charity. This could be you in 2016. There is a £50 registration to join The Children's Society Team and you are asked to raise at least £500 sponsorship.

If you have already booked your place, you can still fundraise for this cause. For more information, visit [www.childrenssociety.org.uk/brighton](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/brighton) or call regional fundraising manager Jessica Meale on 0208 3909730.



The  
Children's  
Society

## SUPPORTING THE ARTS

The Diocese of Chichester supports the arts in Sussex in all its forms and will encourage young people in our schools and churches to engage with the arts at whatever level they are able. Glyndebourne's family performances offer the chance to experience world-class opera and tickets for children are just £10. Also look out for the many events, activities and competitions for children and young people.

Glyndebourne is renowned for nurturing emerging talent and launching the careers of young artists and has been taking its annual tour on the road since 1968. Tour 2015 starts with performances at home before transferring to theatres in Canterbury, Milton Keynes, Norwich, Plymouth and Woking. There will be three diverse operas – two new productions transferring directly from Festival 2015 and an acclaimed revival of a Donizetti favourite.

On October 26 and 28 there will be family performances of Don Pasquale at Glyndebourne. Child tickets are available at £10 each when one or more full-price ticket is bought at £39 or above. Bookings are now open at [www.glyndebourne.com/tour15](http://www.glyndebourne.com/tour15). Families who book children's tickets are invited to a pre-performance workshop at 2.30pm on Monday, October 26, and 5.30pm Wednesday, October 28. These are ideal for eight to 12-year-olds. The hour-long workshops are free but ticketed.



## MEMORIAL

The life of Father Martin Onions, Rector of Uckfield, was celebrated at a memorial eucharist at Holy Cross Church. Family, friends and members of his congregation were joined by clergy and laity from across the diocese to mark Fr Martin's life and ministry. The Bishop of Chichester, Rt Rev Martin Warner, was celebrant and

Bishop Nicholas Reade delivered a homily in which he described Fr Martin as "a hardworking and amazingly gifted priest". The church was packed and many people had to sit outside. They heard colleagues and members of Fr Martin's family give accounts of his life and ministry. There were prayers for his wife Gill and the rest of his large family and for the parish and deanery who had lost their much-loved parish priest.

# DIOCESAN VISION FOR GROWTH

TO KNOW, LOVE, FOLLOW JESUS

Many of our deaneries celebrated the Pentecost strategy launch weekend of worship, festivity and reflection. The Bishop of Chichester, the Rt Rev Martin Warner, was delighted by the “energy, commitment and enthusiasm” of so many priests and people in the parishes.

## BUILDING MOMENTUM BY BISHOP RICHARD

Following an exciting series of launch events and a sense of momentum, the real work of developing the strategy begins. We realise evangelism is delivered by the local church so it is especially important that every parish is making plans for the audit of their community and church. We hope many parishes will be organising days away or special events over the next few months to engage as many of their congregation as possible in the process. By the end of the year, every parish needs to have let their local archdeacon know the one

thing they will be focusing on in 2016 to move them forward in one of the strands of the strategy: church growth, numerical and spiritual, re-imagining ministry or contributing to the common good.

The four archdeaconry charge events will provide further impetus for clergy to engage with diocesan priorities following Bishop Martin's visitations. The dates of these - venues still to be confirmed – are Horsham, September 28; Brighton and Lewes, September 30; Hastings, October 15; Chichester, October 20.





Under the banner heading “know, love, follow Jesus”, which reflects an ancient prayer of St Richard of Chichester, communities in the diocese were asked to reflect the reality of the Christian life in towns and villages across Sussex in new and exciting ways.

All the bishops and archdeacons joined in many of the parish events, leading worship, visiting churches and taking part in celebrations from barbecues to beacon lighting. There were hog roasts, garden parties, silent vigils and parades.

Many of you shared images of the celebrations with hundreds of tweets and retweets as pictures and experiences were shared on diocesan and parish social media sites.

Here are some of the highlights:

## **WESTBOURNE BY RURAL DEAN MARTIN LANE**

In Westbourne Deanery we released three doves as a symbol of the working of the Holy Spirit among us and our shared calling to love, know and follow Jesus. We had a fantastic barbecue together with Archdeacon Douglas. We are currently exploring natural and ordinary ways in which we live out our common life together.

## **PETWORTH BY REV TRISH BANCROFT, RECTOR OF LINCH WITH IPING MARSH AND MILLAND AND RAKE**

The evening started in the pub, opposite the beacon, where 40 parishioners met for supper, joined later by friends from the community and deanery for drinks. Gathered around the beacon were more than 120 people, prayers were said and Amazing Grace was sung, led by a music group from the deanery. The beacon was lit at 10pm by archdeacon Fiona. It was a wonderful community occasion with lots of support from the pub and Milland residents who spent time getting the beacon ready for the lighting.



## BURGESS HILL BY KEVIN O'BRIEN, VICAR, ST JOHN'S AND RURAL DEAN OF HURST

Events took place around the Deanery of Hurst to mark Pentecost and the launch of the diocesan strategy, from picnics to barbecues to Pentecost praise services in the evening.

By coincidence, our Deanery Synod took place the week before and we devoted the whole synod to a presentation of the three strands of the strategy with time for discussion and feedback.

At St John's Burgess Hill we are testing out the course Leading Your Church Into Growth (local) with a view to subsequently rolling it out across the deanery. The deanery is convening a working party to look into how lay ministry may be developed and encouraged, not just in the conventional licensed forms but also in new and focused ways. Parishes are also working to identify those social needs in their areas that might be addressed, perhaps by the church alone but also with the possibility of collaborating with local groups and charities.

## CUCKFIELD BY GARY SIMMONS, VICAR AND RURAL DEAN

Cuckfield Deanery went for a number of different events in the parishes as part of the launch. These included musical concerts, prayer breakfast, an art trail and participation in the Staplefield Fun Day. This event included a special diocesan Pentecost cake made by ITV's Great British Bake Off quarter finalist Cat Dresser, who lives locally, and the opportunity to give out copies of Luke's Gospel.

As a deanery we hope the Diocesan Vision for Growth 2015-2020 will inspire every parish to

- » Be intentional in making and growing disciples
- » Take imaginative risks in how we do church
- » Bless our local communities in love and service



## DALLINGTON BY REVD DAVID GUEST, VICAR, HEATHFIELD

Our first major response to the diocesan strategy in vision and mission was to hold a large summer festival for the community using Broad Oak Village Hall and St George's church. The event was run by All Saints, Old Heathfield; St George's, Broad Oak, and St Richard's, Heathfield.

It was extraordinary celebration of our communities. Everyone was saying how brilliant it was and asking if there will be another next year. At the church stall we gave away 200 church bags as well as other goodies and this means more than 200 people had information about our churches and a copy of St Luke's gospel, kindly provided by the diocese.

We worked closely with local organisations and businesses, all of whom had a great day. They said it was the first time our communities had been properly brought together so wonderfully for many years.

There were so many highlights, from our own Saints Alive puppets to Jimmy the Juggler, the dance school, the drummers and the group Lipstick and Beatniks. Our school bursar Penny Lane underwent a charity haircut on behalf of the Royal Marsden Hospital and we were treated to 150 painted gnomes from Broad Oak School. Then there was all that went on at the church, from a popular dog show to a fascinating local history exhibition.

The event went on all afternoon and people did not want to leave – many stayed through the early evening when we laid on a barbecue with live music by "buskers." I hate to say it but we now need to think about how best to top that next year.



## ROTHERFIELD BY JAMES PACKMAN, VICAR, ROTHERFIELD DEANERY AND RURAL DEAN

There were fires ablaze across Rotherfield Deanery this Pentecost. There were beacons from the east to the west of our deanery, reminding us that God's presence is often symbolised by fire in scripture. Our prayer is that through the outworking of the diocesan vision, more people will come to know of God's presence and choose to walk with him as part of his eternal family. The beacons may have gone out but Jesus, the light of the world, leads us on.

## HORSHAM BY GUY BRIDGEWATER, RURAL DEAN HORSHAM

Horsham Deanery held a bonfire and barbecue at Warnham that was well attended by our parishes, centring around worship, prayers and an address by Bishop Mark. A large number of St Luke's Gospels were taken away by visitors to St Mary's Horsham, whose popular flower festival on the theme of "Jesus Joy of Man's Desiring" included a range of prayer stations and reflections exploring Luke's account of the life of Christ.



## HOVE BY RURAL DEAN TERRY STRATFORD

Historic Shoreham Fort was the setting for Hove Deanery's strategy launch on Pentecost eve. Our beacon was set high on the walls of the fort, blazing out to sea as well as inland across the harbour. Archdeacon Martin joined many representatives of the parishes in a simple act of worship and many thanks are due to the Friends of Shoreham Fort who not only dealt with the practicalities of beacon lighting but also laid on refreshments.



# PETER TIDE ORDINATIONS



## BISHOP ORDAINS DEACONS

Bishop Martin ordained sixteen women and men as deacon to serve in parishes across Sussex at a special service in Chichester Cathedral on Saturday 27 June.

Deacons assist priests in parishes, usually for a year, before going on to be ordained as priest. They assist in leading worship, offering pastoral care and gain valuable experience of preaching.

They were supported on the day by family, friends and parishioners from the parishes in which they will serve.

"We are praying for each of them and I know that each of the communities in which they will serve will warmly welcome them and their families at the start of their public ministries," said Bishop Martin.



In Holy Cross Uckfield: Mark Ashworth - Crowborough, All Saints; Joy Collins - St John the Baptist, Westfield; Pauline Ingram - Nutley and Maresfield; Christian Mitchell - Holy Cross Uckfield



In St. Mary's Horsham: Chris Sutton - Slaugham; Martin Mills - Cowfold; Steve Burston - Worth; Howard Schnaar - Southgate and Jimmy Young - Horsham



In All Saints, Hove: Tanya Hockley - Stone Cross; Beverley Miles - Findon Valley and Kate Lawson - All Saints Hove pictured with Bishop Richard



In Pagham, St Thomas a Becket: Jo King - Pagham and Christine Keyte - Rustington pictured with Bishop Richard

## A TOTAL OF 14 CANDIDATES WERE ORDAINED PRIEST IN FOUR VENUES ACROSS SUSSEX.

Family friends and colleagues gathered to witness the special services which took place during Petertide marking the culmination of three years of initial training.

Each candidate took a special oath before being ordained Priest by the Bishop of Lewes, Richard Jackson. The priests will now return to the parishes to which they will continue to serve throughout their curacy.

For a copy of Bishop Martin's sermon please contact: [communications@chichester.anglican.org](mailto:communications@chichester.anglican.org)

More photos can be viewed from the diocesan facebook page or from the link in the news story on the diocesan website: <http://www.chichester.anglican.org/news/2015/06/29/bishop-welcomes-new-clergy/>

All photos: Jim Holden



### Three generations

Sean Gilbert (centre) is the third generation to be ordained into the Church of England. Pictured here with his grandfather (Fred) and father (Mark) after his ordination in Chichester Cathedral



## BISHOP HOSTS GARDEN PARTIES

Guest after guest thanked the Bishop of Chichester for his wonderful hospitality after a series of welcome events held in the Bishop's Palace Gardens in June.

"Isn't it wonderful to see so many people from all over the Diocese meeting one another?" One Churchwarden said to another.

Members of the armed forces chatted to senior police officers as a town mayor explained to an archdeacon how to cope with a packed diary! Teachers, churchwardens and local politicians had a chance to meet representatives of the world of arts, sport and community groups. The aim was to offer a warm welcome on behalf of the Church.

There was music, laughter and a chance to put the strategy aim - to know, love, follow Jesus- into practise by making sure that people feel that the church takes its role at the heart of many communities extremely seriously.

"The number of people who turned up was extremely encouraging. And people really seemed to enjoy themselves and to forge new links which was a bonus," Bishop Martin told Faith in Sussex.

Pictures by Lisa Williamson and Graham Franks.



# Flower POWER



Across the Diocese of Chichester, volunteer groups and individuals from our parishes come together every year to create spectacular floral decorations which fill our churches with magnificent displays of colour.

These flower festivals are not just good fundraisers but mission opportunities, a chance to bring the community together and for new people to join us.

A flower festival can be a very big event for a church and can bring enjoyment and pleasure to lots of people who would rarely walk through a church door. It relies on an enormous amount of planning and work and can be a very sociable and exciting project for those involved.

As well as the displays of flowers, many parishes combine the event with a summer fair with stalls and refreshments.

Our pictures from recent flower festivals in Horsham and Chichester Deaneries show how imaginative they can be.

Chidham's Flower Festival in June was themed on the 800th anniversary of the signing of the Magna Carta. It was called 800 Years Of Magna Carta - The Flowering Of Democracy and brought together the people of Chidham, Hambrook and Nutbourne and others from much further afield.

It was held in the church of St Peter and St Paul and included a quiz for children which signposted them around the church, finding out about the charter's key principles and at the same time teaching them about different aspects of the church interior and functions.

Chidham's priest Fr Paul Matthews also wanted to provide a platform for the diocesan strategy. He said: "This event was a great celebration of a God's colourful creation. It also gave a wonderful opportunity to gently but overtly give special profile to our mission to Know, Love, Follow Jesus."

St Mary's Horsham also held its flower festival "Jesu Joy" in June. The theme was "celebrating the life of Christ according to St Luke" and the event

raised more than £3,500 towards maintaining the church for future generations.

Vicar Guy Bridgewater praised the flower arrangers, sponsors, visitors and organisers and said: "We have had such wonderful comments such as 'a very emotional and spiritual visit', 'purely inspirational' and lots of 'best ever' from people as they left."

He also thanked children from St Mary's school who provided a dance spectacular in The Causeway to close the festival.

There are still many flower festivals coming up – check out the diocesan website events page or visit [www.achurchnearyou.co.uk](http://www.achurchnearyou.co.uk). Read about Chichester Cathedral Flower Festival 2016 in Cathedral Events on page 40.



Fr Paul and Zina Matthews

## 29, 30 AND 31 AUGUST FLOWER FESTIVAL "GREAT EVENTS IN HISTORY"

During the August Bank holiday weekend at St. George's Church, Brede near Rye flower displays will highlight the major events in history and include the Battle of Hastings, the Conquest of Everest, Women's Suffrage Movement, Drake, the signing of the Magna Carta and the History of Flight amongst many others.

The Norman Conquest/Battle of Hastings display is particularly relevant, not only because of St. George's location some six miles from where the battle place, but also because William the Conqueror gave the land on which the church stands to his Aunt, Queen Emma wife of King Canute.

Last year some of the 1,500 visitors came from as far afield as Australia, New Zealand, the USA, France, Germany and the Netherlands as well as Coventry, Oxfordshire, London, Essex and Hertfordshire.

Open on Saturday from 10:00am to 5:30pm, on Sunday from 10:30am to 5:30pm and on Monday from 10:00am to 5:00pm refreshments, lunches and teas will be available and there will be various stalls each day as well as a grand raffle.

Weather permitting, trips up the Tower will allow the more energetic to enjoy the amazing views over the Brede Valley.

**For more information visit  
[www.stgeorgesbrede.uk](http://www.stgeorgesbrede.uk)**

A celebration of Petworth. St. Mary's church Petworth are having their annual Flower Festival from the 13 to the 16 August.

# DIOCESAN MISSION FUND NEWS

The Chichester Diocesan Mission Fund was created to support mission initiatives in our area, focusing on those that deepen faith and increase commitment to worship.

## MARTIN ONIONS - INTERIM CHAIR 2013 - 2015

At the last grant allocation meeting earlier this year Rev Canon Martin Onions, interim fund chairman from 2013 – 2015, handed over the role of chairperson to Archdeacon of Horsham Fiona Windsor. At the news of Martin's untimely death Archdeacon Fiona paid tribute to the leadership and commitment Martin undertook in his Mission Fund role.

"The Diocesan Mission Fund" is totally indebted to the Rev Canon Martin Onions for his outstanding leadership, his ability to get right to the heart of understanding the parishes concepts for mission in their context. His attention to detail was second to none and often enabled Parishes to have a clearer understanding of what they were trying to achieve. He was reliable, contentious, a clear thinker, with a great sense of humour. He was therefore a natural choice to be the Chairman of the Mission Fund between the interregnum between Archdeacons. We will very much miss his significant contribution to the important mission within the Diocese."

The mission fund committee receive updates and reports on how the fund is being put to use and sharing these stories are helpful for other parishes at the planning stage of mission projects. On the opposite page we hear from Deacon Julia Newson about a wonderful mission project, bringing art and heritage together on the streets of Brighton's city centre - with the help of the mission fund.



## CHURCH WITH A CREATIVE APPROACH

An inspiring community arts and heritage project is underway embracing everything from poetry to the history of the local hospital.

It is being run by St Luke's in Queen's Park, Brighton, and supported by a £3,000 grant from the Chichester Diocese Mission Fund.

Already it has linked diverse community groups and people of all ages and is also a way of marking the church's 130th anniversary.

St Luke's poet-in-residence Evlynn Sharp has led creative writing workshops for parishioners, children at St Luke's Community School, students at St John's College and people in community settings.

St Luke's Sunday school youngsters have also taken part reflecting on footsteps and thinking about those who have walked here in the past, those who are here now, and who might walk here in the future.

During a prayer and poem event by a nearby bus stop, St Luke's Deacon Julie Newson encouraged passersby and local teenagers to write poems for the project – one is reproduced below – and has put pen to paper herself, along with many other members of the church.

The creative writing that has been produced will be published in a book to be stocked by Waterstones. There will be a formal launch event at the North Street branch in Brighton on November 4. More of the work will be exhibited in St Luke's Church, where there will be a preview of the book and live performances on October 16.

Historian Louise Peskett who works with Brighton and Hove Museums, researched the history of the parish using material from the church and The Keep at Sussex University, a world-class archive centre. Material will be used in the book as well as writing by children of St Luke's School who will visit The Keep to uncover more heritage stories. Writing and artworks by pupils of St John's College will also be used in the new book.

Louise is also creating a guided walk, which will become a heritage trail around the area centring around St Luke's. Deacon Julie comments: 'The Diocese's 'Vision for Growth' inspires us to reach farther into the community. This project is formed in the spirit of inclusivity so that everyone in the community can reflect on their faith and the pertinence of the church to their lives.'



### ON THE BENCH WITH FRIENDS

*by Ben, from Queen's Park*

I have great memories of this spot  
As I have used the bus stop for 16 years.

It's wonderful to think  
Of all the fantastic moments  
Spent here  
Awaiting transport  
To many exciting places;

Both fond memories  
And sad ones.

It has been a key part  
Of my entire life.

### PRECIOUS TO ME, A PRAYER

*by church warden Peter Burrows (written on the way home from his allotment)*

Precious to me is the environment,  
It is God's creation,  
So precious;

And we should be looking after  
The environment, God's creation,  
So precious, for the next generation;

Precious to me is God's creation,  
Precious to me is the environment,  
Precious to me is the next generation.

And today my prayer is for peace,  
My prayer is for the needy,  
My prayer is for social services,

Today, so precious: the prayer  
The environment,  
The next generation:

God's creation,  
God's precious creation,  
Precious to me.



# REASONS TO REJOICE

The Diocesan Synod has voted unanimously to give a grant of almost £1 million to the Diocesan Education Team to reshape the education service.

The team, which is committed to supporting church schools in their teaching, learning and Christian distinctiveness, is expanding. Its members will work with all our schools, including those in the newly formed Multi-Academy Trust.

We want to celebrate examples of educational excellence, achievements by schools and pupils and other developments. Here are two stories from our schools – please send us yours.

## SPORTING CHANCE

Children from St Leonards CE Primary Academy took part in the annual Hastings schools' sports athletics competition – and put in an outstanding display.

More than 40 youngsters from Years 5 and 6 were joined by three girls from Year 4 who had shown promise in PE and after-school athletics clubs.

The children were a credit to the academy, themselves and their parents, showing a

superb attitude and giving every ounce of energy.

There were some stand-out performances and the school took home a pile of trophies and medals, including a clean sweep of cups for medium-sized schools – for the girls' event, boys' event and overall team event. St Leonards also won the discus competition and broke the town sports boy's record with a mammoth throw of 30.90m.

# WOODLAND ADVENTURE

A village school near Rye is now offering Forest School activities on its own site.

Andy McConnell, glass expert on BBC's Antiques Roadshow and owner of the Glass Etc shop in Rye, performed the opening ceremony at Peasmarsh CE Primary, watched by guests including parents, Bexhill and Battle MP Huw Merriman and Rye Mayor Bernardine Fiddimore

The school now offers Forest School activities on site and every pupil benefits from weekly sessions in the outdoor classroom environment. Forest School takes place in an established woodland area which is now part of the school grounds thanks to the Chichester Diocese, which

donated part of its glebe land. It aims to encourage and inspire youngsters of all ages through positive outdoor experiences.

Engaging, motivating and achievable tasks and activities help the children develop self-esteem and confidence. They take part in den building, tree climbing, sawing and whittling wood, woodland management, exploring and adventure games and fire lighting.

Acting head Luke Atkinson said: "As a school we are always trying to develop and improve the children's educational experience. Following the school's rapid improvement in English and maths results, we are very fortunate now to be able to offer wonderful and exciting opportunities which will enable all the children to have the best possible holistic

education and engage with the curriculum in a very hands-on approach. We would like to thank the Diocese of Chichester for making the woodland available for us."

Paul Stout, chairman of governors, said: "This is a wonderful facility for all our children and they love it. We hope to share it with many others over the coming years. We have highly skilled and enthusiastic staff running the sessions and it really allows us to take the learning experiences into an entirely new and exciting environment."

Peasmarsh School has invited other local schools and groups to experience Forest School sessions and hopes to offer this service to the wider community on a regular basis.






---

**THERE ARE 24 INSTITUTIONS RECOGNISED FOR THE TRAINING OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND ORDINANDS. IN THIS ISSUE WE PUT THE SPOTLIGHT ON THE SOUTH EAST INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION (SEITE).**

---

Have you ever wondered how people are trained to become your local minister?

Gone are the days when ordinands were simply packed off to a far-flung corner of the country, waved off with a few quid and a cheery “see you in a few years”.

These days, ordinands have far more choice where they study and, where moving away was a barrier for some, now every diocese offers a regional training variation. Not only does this

allow ordinands to stay in their own homes and parishes but it keeps theological study firmly in the context of the “real world”.

There seems to be a continuing debate around ministerial education within the Church of England but regional training is becoming more and more popular, allowing as it does a diversity and variation in training options.

For Chichester Diocese, our regional training centre is the South East Institute of

Theological Education (SEITE). Regional training centres may not be not well known but they are training increasing numbers of ministers. We currently have 40 students from this diocese training with SEITE, either as readers or ordinands or for phase two post-ordination training.

Several ex-SEITE students are now ministering in this diocese – and SEITE has the “claim to fame” for training Canon Sarah Mullaly, recently appointed Bishop of Crediton.



The SEITE group from Chichester are: Jeff Tutton, Colin Cox, Alexandra Wheeler, Herbert Bennett, Kate Bailey, Lucy Hollingsworth, Jeremy Brown, Jill Alderton, Gerry Burgess, Karen Higgs and Ian Howard

SEITE has two centres, at Southwark and Canterbury, and serves not just Chichester but Rochester, Canterbury and Southwark dioceses as well as training Methodist, Lutheran and independent students alongside Anglicans.

Students are part-time or full-time, stipendiary or non-stipendiary and new students often remark on the “melting pot” atmosphere of the college, recognising the beauty of studying with so many people from different walks of life.

Current ordinand Herbert Bennett said: “Ordinands are generally mature students so this brings a rich tapestry of character as everyone feels able to share and support one another in concerns and difficulties.”

The training is not just about theology – it is about preparing and forming our ministers for a life of service in the church and the SEITE course includes various elements to give

students a full formation. These include residential teaching events, evening classes or teaching days, placements, projects, essays and tasks and leading worship in two cathedrals (Southwark and Canterbury).

The standard of teaching at SEITE is high with published academics among the tutors and some fantastic and diverse visiting speakers. These have recently included Rev Dr Sam Wells, Michael Ipgrave, Bishop of Woolwich, and last year’s president of the Methodist Conference Rev Ruth Gee.

Not to be outdone by their Methodist counterparts, the final-year students this year had the opportunity to spend time with the Archbishop of Canterbury on the Easter Monday pilgrimage - you can’t get much better than that.

Every student has a different highlight from their time at SEITE and for second-year ordinand Jules Middleton it was her

pastoral placement in several Sussex hospitals.

It opened her eyes to the importance of coming alongside people in times of difficulty and suffering. She said:

“I met people who were isolated, lonely, far from home in many cases and for whom just a short chat or the bringing of bedside communion made all the difference to their stay in hospital.”

Students not only complete pastoral placements but also a team mission project in a local church and a church placement, enabling them to put into practice some of the skills they have learned.



# SUPPORTING FAMILIES IN NEED

The Mothers' Union in Eastbourne continues to help children have contact with estranged parents in a safe and welcoming environment.

The MU took over the running of the Eastbourne Family Contact Centre from the WRVS in 2004 as one of its diocesan projects.

It offers supported contact sessions at St Luke's Parish Centre in Stone Cross on the first and third Saturdays of the month, led by a team of volunteers and co-ordinator Kathryn Anderson. These are a chance for children to meet their non-resident parents – and other family members such as grandparents – in a safe and neutral place.

The service is free and up to 14 families can be in the family room with games, toys and books suitable for all ages. Tea, coffee and other refreshments are provided throughout the sessions. The resident parents

are able to stay in a separate meeting room and arrival and departure times are staggered as most parents would rather not meet.

When a referral is received, Kathryn arranges a pre-visit with each parent at the centre to discuss any concerns and the frequency required for contact. Initially three sessions are offered with another review after 12. Hopefully, during this time the family is being supported to continue contact outside the centre.

Eastbourne Family Contact Centre has just held its annual celebration meeting at the Old Parsonage, St Mary's Church. Guests included MU members, family support workers, solicitors and local supporters. Father Tom Mendel SSC, Vicar of St Mary's, opened the afternoon with prayer.

The contact centre volunteers were thanked for their support and commitment and six were presented with service certificates from the National Association of Child Contact

Centres (NACCC). Daphne Burton, outgoing chairwoman of the management committee, and outgoing treasurer Rodney Browne were also thanked, along with the rest of the committee members.

Guest speaker was Lorraine Hudson, a support worker from NACCC, who talked about her work with parents.

If you want to find out more about the Eastbourne Family Contact Centre or would like to consider becoming a volunteer (men and women), call Kathryn on 07922 631901, email [kathryn@eastbournefamilycontactcentre.org](mailto:kathryn@eastbournefamilycontactcentre.org) or visit [www.eastbournefamilycontactcentre.org.uk](http://www.eastbournefamilycontactcentre.org.uk)

The MU, a worldwide Christian organisation with four million members in more than 80 countries, aims to share Christ's love through the encouragement, strengthening and support of marriage and family life.

## STORIES BEHIND THE HYMNS BY NEVILLE MANNING

# ALL THINGS BRIGHT & BEAUTIFUL

I wonder how many people realise the title of the TV series *All Creatures Great And Small* was taken from a hymn written by a Sunday school teacher to help children understand some key doctrines of the Christian faith.

That teacher was Cecil Frances Alexander, the daughter of a former army officer, who was born in Dublin in 1818. She developed a love of poetry and as a practising Christian was much influenced by the Oxford Movement.

A key figure in the movement, John Keble, himself a writer of many hymns we still sing, wrote the preface for the hymn book in which *All Things Bright And Beautiful* was first published.

Cecil married the Rev William Alexander, who became Bishop of Derry and Raphoe and later Archbishop of Armagh. She sensed that hymns could be an effective way of teaching her Sunday school children some of the key doctrines of the Christian creeds.

She wrote *Once In Royal David's City*, which focuses on Christmas and the Incarnation, and *There*

*Is A Green Hill Far Away*, which focuses on Good Friday and the Cross.

Her third hymn, *All Things Bright And Beautiful*, focuses on God's creation of all things. It is not certain exactly where her inspiration came from, though

---

“GOD MADE  
THEM, HIGH AND  
LOWLY, AND  
ORDERED THEIR  
ESTATE”.

---

one suggestion is the words of poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge in *The Rime Of The Ancient Mariner* – “He prayeth best, who loveth best: all things great and small. For the dear God who loveth us, He made and loveth all”.

The hymn celebrates God's creation of flowers and birds, the sun, winter and summer, the fruits of the Earth, the trees and meadows. One verse referring to “the rich man in his castle, the poor man in his gate” is now usually omitted – a few years ago it was even banned

by the Inner London Education Authority. The writer's intention was to teach that all people are equal before God, although the words “God made them, high or lowly, and ordered their estate” could appear to endorse the world of *Upstairs, Downstairs*.

The last verse, “He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God almighty, who has made all things well”, expresses the profound insight we need to learn to see everything as part of God's creation. Some would find it chiming in with the Ignatian and Jesuit understanding of God in all things, without which we miss so much in the world around us.

Although *All Things Bright And Beautiful* was not written specifically as a harvest hymn, it goes to the heart of what that occasion is about, especially as some of you may be celebrating harvest thanksgiving around this time.

There are two tunes often used for the hymn. One, by W H Monk is probably the most widely used, though *Royal Oak*, a traditional tune adapted by Martin Shaw, is a very “singable” one.

# LIFE AS A CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR



by Ginny Nicholls

When asked what I do and I reply “church administrator”, I get one of two reactions.

One is “oh, right” and then you see the tumbleweed roll past. The other “oh, what does that involve?” and many people in churches may wonder the same thing – what does a church administrator do?

I have been the administrator at St Andrew’s in Burgess Hill for nearly three years and one of my main priorities is that the clergy/wardens/music teams have everything they need for Sunday services.

I see my role a bit like a driving trip. The vicar is driving the car, the curate is working out the directions on the map and I’m the one responsible for ensuring there is enough petrol, the car has been valeted, has an up-to-date MOT, insurance and some sweets in the glove compartment.

Each day in the church office is completely different. One day I could be dealing with a family who want their child baptised or a couple who want to get married. Another day, I will be putting on rubber gloves and unblocking a toilet or ordering

Holy Communion wine and candles.

Early on in my role, I wondered if other administrators wanted to meet and be a support group for each other. My vicar encouraged me so I contacted churches in Burgess Hill and two years on we have eight administrators who meet every quarter to discuss a variety of matters.

We all come from different churches and have a vast array of experience along with different work commitments to our churches.

My vicar also introduced me to a wider church administrator network called UCAN (UK Church Administrators Network), which was founded by John Truscott. Church administrators can register free and his website has a large database of articles and training materials ([www.church-administrator.net](http://www.church-administrator.net)).

My vicar also introduced me to a training course called “The work of a church administrator”, a ten-unit module prepared by UCAN and St John’s College. I have found the distance-learning course very useful and it has enabled me to improve my skills as an administrator. I highly

recommend it.

Being a church administrator is a great privilege and I love that every day is different. I hope this article is an encouragement to others and, if you are interested in building a wider diocesan church administrators’ network, please drop me a line.

My top five suggestions to help your church administrator are:

1. Pray for them
2. Honour them by keeping Sunday for God
3. Volunteer for rotas
4. Remember Friday will be busy for them
5. When items are running low, don’t wait till they have run out

St Andrew’s Church in Burgess Hill is currently interregnum - without a vicar. Please pray for the parish community that its mission continues to be fulfilled while it seek a suitable candidate.

# HOPE AND EXCITEMENT

## AT NEW APPOINTMENT

Alyson Heath is to chair the Chichester Diocesan Association for Family Support Work. Bishop Martin announced her appointment, saying it was with “great confidence, hope and excitement”.

Alyson, head of St Mary's CE Primary School in Pulborough, succeeds Rodney Pratt, who has given faithful and committed service, enabling FSW to tackle issues of finance and governance that will shape a sustainable future, building on 125 years of service to families in Sussex.

Bishop Martin cited Alyson's distinguished career in teaching, saying she will retire at the end of this school year. He said: “Her

commitment to children and the recognition of the importance of the home and family as crucial to their wellbeing gives her a wealth of experience in the areas of engagement that FSW seeks to address.

“In addition, she is used to working to high standards of public accountability and we all know that ‘outstanding’ is the way we would want people to describe the work of FSW.

“We assure Alyson of our prayers and support as she embarks upon this important work. She joins a good team and draws on loyalty from across the diocese. Supporters of FSW recognise that together we are an apostolic Church, sent out to carry into the life of every home the good news of how to know, love, follow Jesus and so to discover a quality of life here on Earth that will lead to perfection in Heaven.”



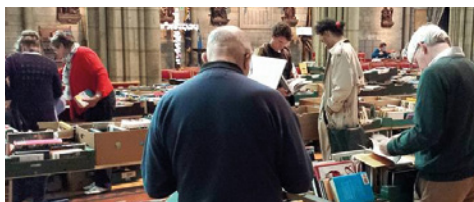
## BOOK SALE RAISES FUNDS AND AWARENESS

A two-day book sale at All Saints Church in Hove raised about £3,000 for Family Support Work. Thousands of books donated by people across the county were collected, sorted and sifted through before going on sale.

Charity director Martin Auton Lloyd said: “We have run a book sale for many years to raise funds and awareness for the work Family Support Work does in Sussex.

“It's been a fantastic event and we are all staggered by the amazing generosity from the people of Sussex, not only in donating books but also for donating their time to volunteer and for coming along to support us and purchase so many books.”

Family Support Work has been working in Sussex with vulnerable children since 1890. Martin said: “Money raised from events like this allow the organisation to help families facing crisis with practical assistance, which instantly boosts them to cope with today's issues and supports them into tomorrow.”



# FOCUS ON AFRICA

Our harvest appeal this year targets the food shortages in East and West Africa, raising funds to enable our sisters and brothers there to continue their relief efforts.

**In a message to the diocese, Rt Rev Mark Sowerby, Bishop of Horsham, said it would particularly focus on programmes which aim to empower women.**

He said: "Their witness reminds us that when human need and Christ-like compassion come together, Jesus becomes present and our misery and pain are transformed into joy."



## Issues facing African communities include:

- » Maize Lethal Necrosis (MLN): Maize is the primary staple crop in Kenya and in 2011 a new disease, MLN, severely damaged crops in some areas of Nakuru and Kericho dioceses. It has since spread to other areas and in Nyahururu there has been a severe outbreak. We will be helping subsistence farmers with new seeds.
- » Ebola and hunger: Ebola is still a threat in West Africa and a major consequence of the outbreak last year has been food shortages because people could not grow enough. We will support our partners with seeds and feeding programmes.
- » Women's action: Women are more economically active in Africa than anywhere else in the world. They play key roles in providing for their families and developing their communities but they need help to break down barriers. Education is key and there are programmes in our partner diocese we can support.
- » Lack of money: Often it only takes a few pounds to set up a market stall and start a small business. Micro-financing initiatives are a great way to help. The Mothers' Union is also active in such projects. We have experience and churches in East and West Africa have ways we can help their initiatives.
- » Drought and floods: In Kenya especially the weather can be unpredictable. There has been a drought in northern parts of Nakuru and Nyahururu dioceses while in Kericho, severe floods have washed away homes and crops. Through our partner churches we can give vital aid to rebuild homes and farms.

# MEET THE NEW VOLUNTEERS

The Diocesan Overseas Council, the body tasked with nurturing and developing Chichester's longstanding relationships with Anglican churches in East and West Africa, is expanding.

Father Ian Hutchinson Cervantes, our World Mission Officer, said: "The DOC has been undergoing a process of restructuring. Our aim is to make it fit for purpose by focusing its engagement along four principal axes: incorporating a world church aspect for those being prepared for ministry; expanding parish and deanery links; supporting existing and establishing new school links; raising resources for work in our partner dioceses and creating partnerships with other agencies working in Africa."

The DOC has recruited two new volunteer co-ordinators to work with Father Ian and a team of DOC members in developing particular areas of engagement:

**Lionel Whatley**, vicar, West Hoathly, has recently been appointed Volunteer Co-ordinator for Mission Training and brings to the role a wide and varied experience of working in partnership with the church in different parts of Africa.



Lionel's passion is to encourage those in training to experience short-term mission opportunities and life in another part of the world within the wider Anglican Communion at a formative stage of their lives and ministries. He believes this will not only enrich their lives but the parishes they serve and deepen their understanding of what it means to be "World Christians".

**Bruce Holben** is a newly retired priest in West Wittering where he served as an NSM curate for 12 years after careers in aviation and finance. Bruce and his wife Gerry helped found and run a link in Bo, Sierra Leone which funded the building of a secondary school now supporting 200 children with a full education.



Bruce's mission is involving people at the grass roots level so that mutually beneficial relationships are built and the survival of the link and the growth in God's kingdom are ensured over the long-term.

## MOTHERS' UNION ACTIVITIES IN THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF BO

The DOC has received heartfelt thanks from the Anglican Diocese of Bo following a £7,000 donation from Chichester. Bo Diocese covers five districts - Bo, Kenema, Kailahun, Moyamba, and Pujehun - in the southern

and eastern part of Sierra Leone, all areas affected by Ebola. Its letter detailed how the money will be spent. Women's groups said they were thankful for the funds, which will help empower

them to fight post-Ebola hazards. See the full report on our website [www.dioceseofchichester.org](http://www.dioceseofchichester.org) - key in MU or BO in the search button.

# ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

## SHOW SEASON

June marks one of the busiest weeks in the year for many when the South of England Show at Ardingly comes around again. Mark Betson's role it is to coordinate the church mission presence during the show, which includes organising the ecumenical contribution to the show, helping out with the food and farming education area and blessing the work of our food producers and young craftsmen. As the Diocesan Rural Officer Mark is at home with this environment but this year it held more trepidation for him than in previous years.

This year the whole showground had been moved around from its traditional format and the Churches contribution had a completely new and expanded area called The Sanctuary which we were piloting. The idea of the area was to provide a quiet and restful area where everyone could come and relax from the hectic outside. We also were to look after any lost people and provide mother and baby changing/feeding facilities.

On the Wednesday before the show opened looking at our new area I was very worried that no one would visit us –

we had moved from being up near the centre of things to a wooded spot set apart from the main show. It was beautiful and tranquil, but would anyone find us?

In the end people did find us. We had more people come and visit us than we have ever had before – a steady stream of people looking for a place to rest. The weather helped as for two days it was hot and sunny and we had the coolest place on the show ground. Our baby changing areas seemed to be constantly in use with a steady stream of buggies coming and going. Of all the things my enduring memory is of the sofa kindly donated to us being outside under the trees in the dappled sunlight with an elderly couple fast asleep on it. Then later with a dad and twin babies doing likewise.

'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.' Matthew 11:28-30

### Bring home the Harvest - British Food Fortnight

19th September -  
4th October 2015

Hundreds of activities take place across the UK during British Food Fortnight. If you parish is organising a special service or event to celebrate British Food Fortnight why not list the event on their website: [www.lovebritishfood.co.uk](http://www.lovebritishfood.co.uk)

Remember to add your church celebration; your Harvest service, your harvest supper and any other events, to the calendar on [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com), remembering to include the word 'harvest'. The rest will happen automatically!

"This is a perfect opportunity for our churches to involve the wider community and to be part of a very special national project." Mark Betson, Diocesan Rural Officer





Rev Mark Betson (left) welcomes Vice Chairman of the Fur & Feather Committee, Max Sanderson – with Rev Sue Wilkinson



Archdeacon of Horsham Fiona Windsor takes a turn on the bells



Scores of schools and family groups enjoyed their picnics at The Sanctuary



Our merry team of volunteers from our local churches kept the tea and coffee flowing each day

## ECO-CONGREGATION STARTER EVENT

**Friday 24 September 2014, 10am – 1pm, Church House, Hove**

The diocesan environmental policy encourages parishes to look at how our churches celebrate and safeguard creation. A simple step by step guide for doing this is provided by Eco-congregation (ew.ecocongregation.org) through their audit. A training session on how to get started with this is being offered to help parishes get going. You will hear stories from churches in the diocese that have already been successful in winning an Eco-congregation award, plus participants will get a glimpse of the new Eco-congregation tool-kit. Register your place via Eventbrite:

[www.eventbrite.com/e/eco-congregation-workshop-and-seminar-tickets-16785359462](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/eco-congregation-workshop-and-seminar-tickets-16785359462)

# DIOCESAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE NEWS



Anna-Marie Pagano



Giles Standing



Beth Hale



Steven Sleight

---

## WELCOME TO THE TEAM

**Two new faces are taking up posts in our diocese.**

Anna-Marie Pagano has been appointed to the post of Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches (DAC) and Mission and Pastoral secretary. Giles Standing is to be her assistant.

Anna-Marie has gained considerable knowledge and experience in historic buildings and conservation work over a 25-year career. This will help her to build on the valuable work carried out daily for the DAC and to develop key relationships within our parishes and partner organisations. She is due to join the diocese on August 17.

Giles is currently a transforming archives trainee at Gloucestershire County Council and has connections in this diocese. He joins us in July.

Former DAC secretary Beth Hale retires at the end of July after 17 years of service. She was appointed in February 2012 after having worked as DAC administration secretary since 1998.

Archdeacon Philip Jones said: "Throughout her time with the diocese, Beth has been a much-valued source of advice and encouragement to Church House staff, the archdeacons and churchwardens. Kindness, courtesy and meticulous attention to detail have been the hallmarks of her tenure, coupled with an enviable ability to recall details of parishes, people and schemes many of us had long forgotten. Her professionalism and ready wit will be much missed."

---

We also said goodbye to Steven Sleight, who has left to work in the Diocese of Lincoln where he has family. Steven was appointed to the DAC and Mission and Pastoral Committee in 2000 before becoming human resources adviser at Church House. Steven was a valued member of staff and his vast knowledge of all things ecclesiastical was well known, along with his attention to detail. We give thanks for his years of commitment and diligence to the diocese and wish him well in his new role.

## BEWARE OF THIEVES

A warning has gone out to all churches in the diocese to be on alert for thieves targeting ancient artefacts.

The message from the Cathedral and Church Buildings Division of the Archbishops' Council follows an incident in York.

An important Anglo-Saxon stone, believed to be a cross shaft, was stolen from a church near Malton some time between May 23 and June 6.

There have been similar incidents, including the theft of an ancient Norse stone from a church last year, and it is clear someone is specialising in theft and disposal of these treasures.

If your church houses any such items, you may want to make them harder to steal by securing them with fixings or putting them in display case - or removing them from display for the time being. These artefacts are irreplaceable and it is vital we preserve them.

The Hovingham stone stolen from York diocese is 51cm high, about 20cm wide and 10cm deep and has ornate carving. Art historian Dr Jane Hawkes believes it dates to the 9th century and said it was "extremely rare in its layout and decoration, so very precious".



# CHURCH MAINTENANCE CALENDAR

## July

### THINGS TO LOOK FOR:

- » Look at timber windows, doors, fascias and bargeboards. Check for cracked and rotten wood

### THINGS TO DO:

- » Clear away any plant growth from around the base of the walls and in particular from the drainage channel
- » Have the lightning system serviced once every five years
- » If your building has a steeple, consider having it inspected by a steeplejack once every five years

## August

### THINGS TO DO:

- » Arrange the annual inspection and service of the boiler and radiators, if not already done – to allow time for any repairs to be undertaken before the cold weather

## September

### THINGS TO LOOK FOR:

- » If your roof space has safe access and is boarded, check whether there is evidence of leaks or damage to the roof covering during heavy rain, especially below gutters

### THINGS TO DO:

- » Clear away any plant growth from around the base of the walls and in particular from the drainage channel
- » Make sure that water tanks and exposed water and heating pipes are protected from frost. Any leaks should be repaired
- » Make sure that any airbricks or under floor ventilators are free from obstruction and clean if necessary

## October

### THINGS TO LOOK FOR:

- » Check masonry for signs of damage. Report any deeply eroded mortar joints or cracks or signs of movement
- » Check that snowboards and access walkways are in a good state of repair

### THINGS TO DO:

- » Clear leaves and debris from gutters and rainwater pipes regularly and check for storm damage. Frequent attention may be needed if the building is surrounded by trees or perched on by pigeons

# ON READING BOOKS

by Rev Canon J John



As we are at that time of year when we buy books to read on holiday, I thought it might be useful to share some reflections on holiday reading or, indeed, reading at any other time.

Although we seem to be moving into an age that is increasingly visual and focused on images, the Christian faith is about words, not just pictures. That might seem odd - after all, isn't a picture "worth a thousand words"?

For some things this may be true but not, I think, for communicating truths about how we are to live. For transmitting truth, words are less ambiguous and easier to pass on. It's difficult to see how we could express John 3:16's "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" as an image without it losing clarity. "In the beginning was the Word", not the image.

We must make reading the Bible a priority, not just uplifting verses from favourite books but the whole thing. Only that way do we get a full picture of what God has done for us in Christ.

Read wisely. Don't go for books you think you ought to read because they will make you appear clever. Don't go for books you will never finish - taking War And Peace on a family holiday is probably not a good idea. Don't go for books that will make your life worse.

Read widely. Some people only read in one particular area - romantic comedies, science fiction or detective stories. One of the great things

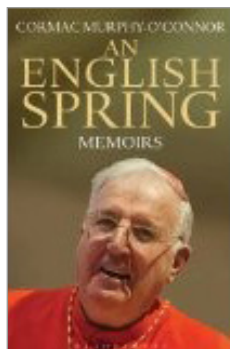
about reading is it broadens our minds. It opens up the possibilities of experiencing other places, times and challenges. Books allow us the privilege of pausing en route, to reflect on what we are experiencing. We have an opportunity to put a bookmark in, sit back and think about the issues that have been raised. Books give us the freedom and space to ponder and wonder.

Read warily. The power of words means they can be used for good or evil. Christians, of all people, know books can be astonishingly powerful for good. Sadly, they can also have a similar power to corrupt. We must not fall into the trap of assuming the only thing to be wary of is sex and how it is depicted. Yes, it's a problem and we need to guard our minds in this area but there are other issues. For example, does a book represent violence as the only sensible response to a difficult situation? Books can plant seeds in our minds: greed, lust, anger, prejudice and many more. Those seeds need neutralising before they sprout and flower. Stop reading a book and discard it if it is unhelpful and unhealthy.

Read worthily. We need to be thoughtful both about our books and how, as Christians, we approach our reading. Try to read good books and give them the attention they deserve. We also need to read in a way that reflects our Christian faith. In everything we do, even reading books on holiday, we should never forget that as God's children in Christ we are called to live worthy lives.

## MY SUMMER READING LIST:

- » All the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John) in the Bible
- » Through The Year With William Booth, ed. Stephen J Poxon (Monarch, 2015)
- » Switch On Your Brain, Dr Caroline Leaf (Baker Books, 2013)
- » Miracles, Eric Metaxas (Dutton, 2014)
- » Thrive, Arianna Huffington (W H Allen, 2015)



## AN ENGLISH SPRING

**CORMAC MURPHY-O'CONNOR**

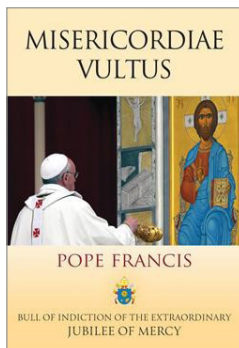
Like an English spring, Cardinal Cormac's days have contained sunshine and storms. In this autobiography he charts the sunshine of a Catholic family upbringing, Vatican II and the arrival of Pope Francis and the storms of the falling away of vocations and sexual abuse crisis which is most shameful to him.

I was struck by his ecumenical vision and passion to promote small groups as instruments of renewal. I found the book entertaining through its anecdotes of clerics and others who have formed the church and world as we know it over the last half century.

There is deep love for the church alongside a critique that makes good sense of the way things are changing. As he says, "after a period of the finger perhaps hovering over the 'pause' button, Pope Francis is pressing 'play'. So be it!".

(Published by Bloomsbury ISBN 978-1-4729-1314-2 232pp)

Canon John Twisleton



## MISERICORDIAE VULTUS (FACE OF MERCY)

**POPE FRANCIS**

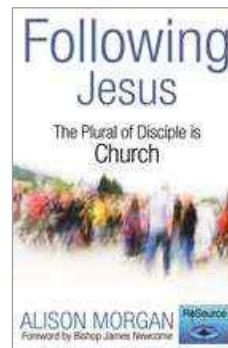
Jesus Christ is "the face of the Father's mercy" or *Misericordiae Vultus* and we need to contemplate that face, most especially in 2016, a year of jubilee. So writes Pope Francis in a short booklet called a "bull" but with far from bullish tone.

It thrills with the perception that the Church's greatest strengths are both her sense of need for divine mercy and her reflection of that mercy pastorally. Francis reflects on the profundity of the divine love and extends his thinking to praise Islam and Judaism for believing "no one can place a limit on divine mercy because its doors are always open", continuing with an aspiration that "religions eliminate every form of closed-mindedness and disrespect and drive out every form of violence and discrimination".

In the new humanity of Christendom, service of God's mercy in deed and word is one of our most intriguing and attractive features and this booklet is aid and inspiration for that enterprise.

(Published by Catholic Truth Society ISBN 978 1 78469 065 6 44pp)

Canon John Twisleton



## FOLLOWING JESUS: THE PLURAL OF DISCIPLE IS CHURCH

**ALISON MORGAN**

Please, please don't read this book if you want reassurance that the answer to the Church's problems is just to do what we are doing but a little bit better. Please avoid it if you don't want to discover that a lot of what we do and describe as Church isn't really church at all as the New Testament understands it.

Similarly, if you would simply like to be a passive consumer of religious services delivered by trained professionals I suggest you read something else.

However, if you would like to get an inspiring glimpse into what we could be if we re-discovered what discipleship really looked like, if you would like to hear stories of God transforming lives today, if you would like your hope and passion re-ignited and see what could be possible if we allowed the Holy Spirit to truly take hold of us ... if you would like that, get a copy, read, mark and inwardly digest it and share it with everyone in your church. Maybe it could start a revolution.

(Published by Resource ISBN 978-1-906363-40-6)

Rt. Rev. Richard Jackson

# CATHEDRAL NEWS

## CATHEDRAL EVENTS

### Festival of Flowers 2016

**1-4 June 2016**

Preparations for Chichester Cathedral's Festival of Flowers 2016 have begun.

Festival designer Christine Evans has revealed the theme will be The Artist's Palette to reflect artists represented in the cathedral as well as those in Sussex and elsewhere.

Colourful TV presenter Tim Wonnacott, host of Bargain Hunt and a regular on Antiques Roadshow, is to be patron of the event. Fine arts expert Tim, who appeared on last year's Strictly Come Dancing, is delighted to be taking up the role. He said: "I am very excited about the theme for the Festival of Flowers and look forward with interest to seeing the designs."

Tickets go on sale this autumn.

### Exhibition in the North Transept

The cathedral is hosting a major touring exhibition of paintings by Chris Gollon until August 16.

Incarnation, Mary And Women For The Bible is a striking and powerful collection which explores the experiences of women in the Bible. The 17 artworks include some of the largest Gollon has produced. The exhibition is touring UK cathedrals and is an exclusive opportunity to see a new painting Gollon created especially for the Chichester event. It is called Judas's Wife and is believed to be the first image of her in art history. The exhibition is open daily, entry is free and all are welcome.

### Crazy colours

**Tuesday 28 July 10am-3pm**

Experience the "crazy colours" around the cathedral by following a short trail then collect your prize from the Cloisters shop. You can design and make a pair of magnificent crazy glasses, a colourful spinner or a delicate sun catcher for your window. Last entry is at 2.30pm. There is no need to book, just drop in. It is suitable for children aged three to 12, who must be accompanied by an adult.

### Wonderful Water

**Friday 28 August 10am-3pm**

Have fun completing the "wonderful water" trail inside the cathedral and create your own flying fish, jellyfish or shark. Youngsters can also try decorating or weaving a beautiful rainbow fish or make their own collage seaside scene or underwater world. Last entry at 2.30pm. It is suitable for children aged three to 12, who must be accompanied by an adult.



## See behind the scenes

### Saturday 12 September 1-4pm

As part of Heritage Open Day on Saturday, September 12, areas normally closed to the public will be open to visitors. They include the Song School, high up in the cathedral's triforium and reached only by a winding spiral staircase. Also look out for the Cathedral Library, where a fascinating collection of rare books is stored, and the Bishop's Chapel, the private chapel of the Bishop of Chichester. Entry is free and all are welcome but be aware there are 40 spiral stairs up to the Song School and Library.

## See behind the scenes

There will be autumn concerts on Tuesdays from September 15 to November 17, from 1.10pm to 2pm. Admission is free. Bring your sandwiches and come along and enjoy the concert. Coffee is provided.

## Fellowship talk

### Monday 7 September 2.30pm

In the year that marks the 70th anniversary of VE Day, Rev David Nason will look back at "songs that won the war". The Fellowship meets monthly (not in July and August) to hear a talk followed by refreshments. Everyone is welcome and a donation of £1 is suggested.

## Textile encounters

Join creative and practical day-long textile workshops led by LouLou Morris, a tapestry weaver and textile artist, where you will draw inspiration from the art and architecture of the cathedral. They will be held on Saturday, September 12, and Saturday, November 28, from 10am to 4pm, and cost £35 per person per workshop.

## Chichester Cathedral Friends' food for thought

### Wednesday 16 September 12.30pm

Tim Cannell, headmaster of Prebendal School and chairman of the Choir School Association, will lead a talk entitled Education, Choir Schools And Their Future on Wednesday, September 16, at 12.30pm in Vicars' Hall. Tickets are £12, including lunch.

## FORMER CATHEDRAL CHORISTER SIGNED UP BY SIMON COWELL

Former Chichester Cathedral Chorister Isaac Waddington has been signed up to a recording contract by Simon Cowell after achieving fifth place in the final of 'Britain's Got Talent.' The fifteen year-old who performed his version of Billy Joel's She's Always a Woman was given a glowing review by the judges on the ITV show. Judge David Walliams described his performance as "hauntingly beautiful" and the remaining three judges agreed that it "was an incredible performance" and the teenager was a "young star".

Record bosses have told Isaac that he needs to enjoy just being a teenager for now - a move his mother welcomed. No doubt we will hear more about Isaac's singing and song writing career in the near future.

Isaac was formerly Head Chorister at Chichester Cathedral and was educated at The Prebendal School which is situated next to the Cathedral (all the Cathedral Choristers are educated at the Prebendal). Isaac also won BBC Young Chorister of the Year in 2012, the year he left the school. Among Isaac's biggest fans is his 94 year old great-grandmother Brenda Lepora, who watched him in the final at her care home in Fareham.



# PLEASED TO MEET YOU...



by Mark Rodger, Sussex co-ordinator for Christian Aid

I live in Hastings with my wife Laura and our beautiful baby called Grace and we are part of Holy Trinity, right in the heart of the town.

I have many passions, from climbing mountains to serving the local church and from performing close-up magic to speaking out against poverty. Wonderfully, working for Christian Aid means I get to do at least two of these.

My role as Sussex co-ordinator is to connect with churches in Sussex and support them in fulfilling their mission to love their global neighbour. Down the centuries, the church has expressed God's relentless love for His world in numerous ways and has been at the forefront of transforming society into the world God has always wanted – one free from poverty and full of justice.

I don't know about you but this vision, a world free from poverty, excites me. Many things get me out of bed in the morning – my lovely daughter cooing or crying would be one example – but knowing that I can make a significant difference to the most vulnerable in our world is one

thing that gets me going and it has done long before I started working at Christian Aid.

Sometimes, watching the news and seeing what is happening across our broken world can seem overwhelming.

We want to respond, do something, make a difference, but we don't know where to start – and that's where Christian Aid can partner with you and your church in making a difference to the most vulnerable people in the world.

You and your church can do more than you realise to create a world free from poverty and I would love to tell you more about this and support you in doing it. For instance, I would be happy to preach and also speak about Christian Aid at your church or Christian Aid Group.

Perhaps you already are a long-standing supporter of Christian Aid – if so, thank you – but I would still love to hear from you and see how I can support you. If you have not been in contact for a while or never been involved in Christian Aid, please get in touch. Together we can make a difference.

You can contact Mark on 020 7523 21328 or at [mrodger@christian-aid.org](mailto:mrodger@christian-aid.org). Find out more at [www.christianaid.org.uk/southeast](http://www.christianaid.org.uk/southeast)

**christian  
aid**

# SMALL CHANGE MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE



**JOHN SHERLOCK,**  
IS THE DIOCESE'S  
STRATEGY AND  
RESOURCES ADVISER

## THE PARISH GIVING SCHEME THROUGH THE LENS OF THE DIOCESAN STRATEGY

Many readers of this publication will know I have been closely involved in the roll-out of the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) in our diocese.

In June, it processed some £200,000 of Sussex donations. When you add in the Gift Aid, that makes a monthly total of about a quarter of a million pounds for Sussex churches.

I would label a result like that as “strategic” but some people wonder if such a focus on money is appropriate for a Christian church.

Jesus did not seem to mind money talk – a lot of parables involve money in one form or another. Billy Graham is quoted as saying “your cheque book is a theological document” and Rowan Williams, when Archbishop of Canterbury, wrote “what we do with our money proclaims who we think we are – whether we know it or not, whether we like it or not”.

Money is a great enabler of mission. Many Christian communities are founded on a vision but close or relocate because the money runs out. Could this happen on your watch?

Because I value the presence of the church so much, I make no apology for seeking to help local churches maximise their income and be financially viable. One of the aims declared in our strategy is that “every Benefice is to be financially self-supporting”. Of course, this is simply impossible for a few places and the Grant Allocation Group is there to help with appropriate subsidies from historic resources to deserving communities.

But most of us must pay our way. Absorbing the full whack of ministry cost may seem like a tough nut to crack for Anglicans, although it's something our friends in other denominations have always done.

Fortunately, there are already numerous examples in our diocese, including some rural communities, where parishes are seeing a monthly credit from the PGS that exceeds the monthly “parish contribution” direct debit that pays for ministry costs.

Average weekly gifts through the scheme are about £16, which grosses up to £20 when you include the Gift Aid reclaim. The biggest PGS parish in the country, not in our diocese, is seeing well over £25,000 in donations through the PGS each month.

Of course the income cannot be guaranteed but people respond generously when you make it easy for them to do so. The PGS does exactly that. Another key advantage is that it collects “odd amounts” – sums no one would think of putting in the offertory or setting up a standing order for.

During 2015 we'll be testing a “friends and fringe” version of the PGS to enable those who support the church's efforts but are not necessarily part of the weekly worshipping community to contribute. If successful, we will roll this out in 2016. It's one more thing we can do as a regional family of churches to support one another.

Most of our diocese's PGS donors have opted in to the automatic inflationary increase so local church income for PGS-registered churches across Sussex is set to increase – automatically – by more than £35,000.

**You can see the latest data about take-up of the PGS, including information about how your church can join, at [www.chichester.anglican.org/pgs](http://www.chichester.anglican.org/pgs)**



# Iona Retreat

**Pilgrimage, Reflection & Prayer**

**16 - 20 May 2016**

**Led by**

**The Ven Douglas McKittrick**

*- Archdeacon of Chichester -*

*A chance to experience a special break on the beautiful island of St Columba where Christianity took root*

- 3 nights stay in a retreat house on Iona
- 1 nights stay in hotel in Glasgow
- Breakfast throughout
- Travel by coach, train & ferry between Glasgow & Iona
- All lectures and visits

**Tel: 01992 579 697**

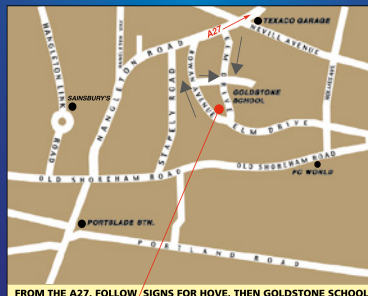
**Download brochure**

**[www.livingthegospel.co.uk](http://www.livingthegospel.co.uk)**

**For bibles, books,  
cards, gifts, music, movies  
and more, visit...**

## Books Alive

Your independent Christian bookshop



Books Alive, 86, Elm Drive, Hove BN3 7JL  
Tel: 01273 738818 E-mail: [info@booksalive.co.uk](mailto:info@booksalive.co.uk)  
Web: [www.booksalive.co.uk](http://www.booksalive.co.uk)

Open Monday to Saturday 9.30 to 5.30  
FREE PARKING all day



**THE ST OLAV TRUST**  
CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOP

FOR A WIDE  
SELECTION OF  
BOOKS, MUSIC  
AND GIFTS

St. Olave's Church, North Street  
Chichester PO19 1LQ  
01243 782 790

[www.stolavchristianbookshop.org](http://www.stolavchristianbookshop.org)

Monday - Saturday

9:30am - 5:00pm

## Lancing College Chapel

Famous Sussex Landmark  
Visitors Welcome - Admission Free

The largest school chapel in the world is an architectural masterpiece of the gothic revival, with soaring columns and a wealth of stained glass, carvings and tapestries.

Lancing College, founded by Nathaniel Woodard in 1848, is an independent boarding and day school for boys and girls aged 13-18.

The Chapel is open Monday to Saturday between 10.00am and 4.00pm and Sunday and Bank Holidays between 12.00 noon and 4.00pm.

For further information and to book group tours please contact the Verger, Mr Andrew Howat, on 01273 465949 or [ahowat@lancing.org.uk](mailto:ahowat@lancing.org.uk)

*All services are open to the public*

Lancing College, Lancing, West Sussex BN15 0RW  
**[www.lancingcollege.co.uk](http://www.lancingcollege.co.uk)**

## Terry's Cross House, Woodmancote, Henfield. BN5 9SX

**Accommodation for  
Retired Clergy, Church workers and volunteers.**

Full Board rooms or self-catering flats

And one of the best views in Sussex!

Contact The Manager: Sally Loveday 01273 492821