

# FAITH IN SUSSEX

*The diocesan publication reaching church communities across Sussex*



## OPENING DOORS IN LENT

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**TEACHING**

**JESUS**

**FRIENDS**

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# PRAYER MOVES THE HAND THAT MOVES THE WORLD...

Welcome to this issue of the diocesan magazine, Faith in Sussex. There is plenty inside to encourage us about the unfolding diocesan strategy. This year marks the year of mercy, an emphasis we are sharing with our Roman Catholic friends. Various aspects of God's mercy are highlighted in the diocesan Lent Course which at the time of writing had been downloaded by 100 parishes, as well as some as far away as Johannesburg! The course is designed not just to be an academic exercise but to encourage us to live God's mercy in our relationships inside and outside the Church. Part of the course encourages us to make a pilgrimage to places outside our comfort zone, as well as a sacred place. The Cathedral door of mercy is one such that I know many parishes are already planning to visit.

Pilgrimages of another sort are also featured in the article about the recent visit to Paris for the climate change talks, the outcome of which in no small part flowed from the prayers of many asking God to help us to be better stewards of the earth. Prayer is at the heart of our strategy. As someone once said, "Prayer moves the hand that moves the world." I hope you will find the report of Ringmer's day of prayer on January 28th an encouragement to try something similar in your own parish.

A focus on prayer is one of the themes emerging from 'the one thing' that all parishes have been submitting to their Archdeacon. This is an important aspect of our strategy. Although we aren't specifying exactly what parishes should do, none the less we want everyone to participate. The key thing is that what is submitted is SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, resourced and timed). It's still not too late to share what you are planning to do for 2016. There will be more stories of parish projects over the rest of the year.

Finally, there are details about a service to celebrate Philip Jones' ministry as he moves back into parish ministry after a number of years as Archdeacon of Hastings. Philip's contribution to the life of the diocese has been immense and he will be a hard act to follow. We are all delighted that he will remain part of the diocesan family as he moves into the next phase of life.

With best wishes,

**+Richard**





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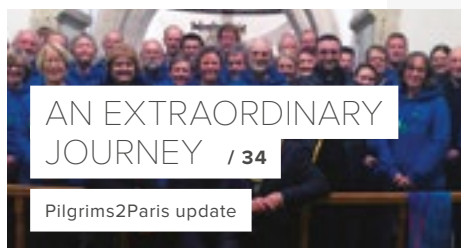
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Chichester Diocese



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Diocese of Chichester

## EUROPEAN ECUMENICAL LINKS STRENGTHENED WITH VISIT

Bishop Martin was invited to visit the Lutheran Church in Bayreuth, Germany during which he spent time with the Regional Bishop of the European Lutheran Church of Bavaria, Bishop Dorothea Greiner, as well as visiting churches, local communities and meeting with local church and town representatives.

Bishop Dorothea said: "Gladly I think back to the cordial meeting with Bishop Martin in Chichester last May. We celebrated an International Worship Service especially for refugees. It was an honour and a sign of ecumenical relationship between the Christian denominations, that Bishop Martin was able to preach to the refugees and also to us in his own language. The theme of the service, Christ Bridges Worlds, became evident by his visit and his ministry."

"Ecumenical links are wonderful ways of understanding what it means to share in mission as it evolves in many different contexts," said Bishop Martin

The Diocesan European Ecumenical Committee (DEEC) promotes strong links with the Lutheran church in Germany. More information about parish European links can be found on the diocesan website: [www.chichester.anglican.org/european-ecumenical-committee](http://www.chichester.anglican.org/european-ecumenical-committee)



Bishop Dorothea and Bishop Martin

## FSW ENTERS NEW PHASE

The Chichester Diocesan Association for Family Support Work (FSW) is moving into a new phase of its 125-year history. The charity's office has relocated to Brighton and looks forward to establishing a new project in the city within the next 18 months.

Alongside the office move, FSW has recruited new staff:

- Gail Jay joins as a Family Support Worker in Eastbourne, working 3 days per week to provide emotional and practical help to a caseload of up to 20 vulnerable families.
- Jazz Boustany will set up and manage a new FSW charity shop in Eastbourne. The shop opens in early spring and will shortly begin recruiting volunteers.
- Maria Antoniou is the new Fundraising & Communications Manager, working on bids to charitable trusts and foundations to help diversify and sustain income.

FSW continues to help all kinds of families throughout Sussex who are in difficulty including recent support for Syrian refugees in West Sussex and linking with various refugee support groups.

To donate or volunteer, please contact Martin Auton-Lloyd, Director, Family Support Work, Garton House, 22 Stanford Avenue, Brighton BN1 6AA. Telephone: 01273 832963  
Email: [admin@familysupportwork.org.uk](mailto:admin@familysupportwork.org.uk)



FSW run after school clubs in some areas to engage families and provide information and support.

## SUSSEX SPITFIRE PILOT LAID TO REST AFTER 75 YEARS

The last remains of a young pilot from Hove, who perished after his plane, a Spitfire, crashed into the Fens in 1940, were finally laid to rest.

Pilot Officer Penketh, of the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, was only 20 years old when he was killed on 22 November 1940. At the time, in accordance with his parents' wishes, his remains were cremated and scattered at a churchyard in Hove. However, 75 years on further remains were found during the filming of the popular BBC programme *Countryfile* when an archaeology team worked to recover Pilot Officer Harold Penketh's plane.

A service was conducted by RAF Chaplain, The Revd Stuart Shaw at Brighton Woodvale Crematorium and was attended by representatives of the armed services and those that helped in the dig. The interring of the ashes took place later in the day at St Peter's Church, West Blatchington, Hove. Revd Daniel Smith, Priest at St Peter's said the parish was deeply touched by the story of Pilot Officer Penketh as it unfolded during the week before Remembrance Day. He added: "A tragedy which took place decades ago still has the power to stir emotions, and we are pleased and privileged to be able to help bring a sense of closure to these events."

## STUDENTS ON A MISSION GIVE A HELPING HAND

International students staying at a Discipleship Training School in Sussex paid a visit to the Diocesan headquarters in Hove and immediately got to work by painting two of its meeting rooms. Phil, Sarah and Rachel (centre) are pictured giving the Otter meeting room a coat of paint. They and other students are staying at the YWAM Holsted Manor Centre in Cuckfield on a discipleship programme and meet every morning in St Patrick's Hove, where the Hove Chemin Neuf community are based. The students have also taken the opportunity to visit other churches including St John the Baptist church at Palmeira Square in Hove. You can find out more about YWAM from their website: [www.ywamholmsted.org](http://www.ywamholmsted.org)



## TONGUE-TIED?

"Tongue-Tied? – Having confidence to speak for Jesus" is the title of the Chichester Diocesan Evangelical Fellowship's Spring Conference.

Speaker, Revd Glen Scrivener, suggests two issues which will be addressed at the conference on 12th March: we fail to appreciate the goodness of the good news; and we fail to know the power of the good news. Yes, we believe in these realities, of course we do, we're Christians! But on another level our hearts need convincing over and over again that Jesus is indeed good and that His gospel

really is powerful to save.

Join us on the 12th of March to consider again the gospel we believe and the ways we can speak it to a world that desperately needs Jesus.

Richard Jackson, Bishop of Lewes, adds: "This is a wonderful opportunity to hear a lively, creative and contemporary evangelist show us how to explain the grounds of what Christians believe, and so be better equipped to give a good account of our faith to others."

St Andrew's Church, Cant's Lane, Burgess Hill RH15 0LG

Further information can be found at: [www.chichesterdef.org.uk](http://www.chichesterdef.org.uk). The cost is £5 which can be paid on arrival. There is no need to book in advance.



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## CATHEDRAL VISITATION TEAM ANNOUNCED

In December last year the Bishop of Chichester announced a Visitation of Chichester Cathedral to allow him to establish an overview of its worship and mission. The team who will undertake the Visitation with Bishop Martin has been announced. They are Pim Baxter OBE, The Revd Canon Dr Simon Jones and Dr Richard Mantle OBE DL.

Bishop Martin said: 'I am delighted that Pim, Simon and Richard have accepted my invitation to be part of the team which will conduct the Visitation of Chichester Cathedral. We are enormously fortunate in having a team of such quality and calibre which will make for a creative and fruitful review of the life and the work of our Cathedral Church'.

The Visitation will take place after Easter.

– you can read more about the appointments on the Diocesan Website news: [www.chichester.anglican.org/news](http://www.chichester.anglican.org/news)



Pim Baxter, Richard Mantle and Simon Jones

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## THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The Children's Society are asking people to hold a pancake party or Lent lunch in their parish in aid of The Children's Society. It's a great way to bring the community together whilst raising money for a great cause! They have lots of resources on their website to help you plan your event and can also organise for a speaker to attend the event to give a talk about their work. Please visit [www.childrenssociety.org.uk](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk) for more information or contact the Regional Fundraising Manager, Jessica Meale, for more information on 0208 3909730 or email [Jessica.meale@childrenssociety.org.uk](mailto:Jessica.meale@childrenssociety.org.uk)



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## VISIT OF WEST AFRICAN BISHOPS 8TH – 23RD FEBRUARY 2016

The Diocesan Overseas Council (DCO) is to welcome three bishops from our overseas West African linked dioceses. The Rt. Rev. Jacques Boston, Bishop of Guinea; The Rt. Rev. Thomas Wilson, Bishop of Freetown and The Rt. Rev. Emmanuel Tucker, Bishop of Bo. The Bishops have a packed programme of visits and meetings arranged by the DOC visiting parishes and affiliated organisations across Sussex.

The bishops will also meet the new President of the Chichester Mothers' Union, Kathryn Anderson, and a visit to Church House Hove will coincide with the Diocesan Overseas Council which meets on 18 February and members of the council will welcome the Bishops.

Fr Ian Hutchinson-Cervantes said: "We have this unique opportunity to listen and hear what contributions the Bishops will make at our DOC meeting. This is also a special time for our linked parishes to forge stronger links and for others to begin a relationship. We have much to share and learn."



## NEW RESOURCE FOR CHURCH MINISTRY

Creative ideas were explored in a workshop held at Church House Hove to help people reinvigorate children's work in church.

'Church in a box' is a set of resources that help to build stories. One participant at the workshop commented it was wonderful seeing people's own imaginations revitalised as they engaged with the resource 'church in a box' to help strengthen their own children's work."

For more information about future training events contact: Fiona Windsor, Archdeacon of Horsham.



People from across the diocese attended the workshop at Church House in Hove.

## TWO NEW APPOINTMENTS AT THE CATHEDRAL

Bishop Martin's Chaplain, Stephen Ferns, is to be installed as Canon Treasurer of Chichester Cathedral in February along with and Simon Jones who's to be installed as Canon of Chichester Cathedral – both installations will take place on Saturday 13 February 2016. All welcome

The licensing of The former Archdeacon of Hastings, Ven Philip Jones.

The Ven Philip Jones will be licensed to The Benefice of Slindon, Eartham and Madehurst. He will be installed by Bishop Martin and Archdeacon Douglas on February 22nd.

\*\* During the interim period there will be two acting Archdeacons for the Hastings Archdeaconry. They are Nick Cornell, Priest in Maresfield and Nutley and The Revd Canon Edward Bryant.

## PARISHES ENCOURAGED TO THINK ABOUT WHAT THEY CAN DO, NOT WHAT THEY CAN'T DO

In a video broadcast by the diocese, James Russell, Rural Dean of Chichester, encourages parishes to engage with the diocesan strategy. James explains that part of the job of a rural dean is to support parishes to understand what goes on at a parish level ties in with what goes on at a diocesan level, making sure parishes are aware of what that means.

Commenting on the Diocesan Strategy James urges parishes to think about the 'one thing' they can do to engage with the diocesan strategy. He urged; "Think about what we can do, not what we can't do." He said that some parishes struggle and wonder where to start. "There is something that everyone can do to bless their local community. It's manageable. It is 'one thing' to focus on for the whole year and it's exciting to see how that is worked out - what different ways we can do that and share the good news of Jesus."

To watch the full video follow the link here: <https://youtu.be/Po5dcvtSTWo>


## DID YOU KNOW?

The custom of giving eggs at Easter celebrates new life. Christians remember that Jesus, after dying on the cross, rose from the dead. This miracle showed that life could win over death. The egg is a symbol of Jesus' resurrection, as when they are cracked open they stand for the empty tomb.

Traidcraft sell a range of delicious fair trade Easter eggs including the first and only Fairtrade chocolate Easter egg to explain the Christian understanding of Easter and a great range of Divine Chocolate milk, dark and white chocolate eggs. To order visit: [www.traidcraftshop.co.uk](http://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk)



# *Introducing* OPENING DOORS



Rebecca Swyer, Director for Apostolic Life, introduces the Diocesan Lent Course this year.

She writes: “We heartily commend this Lent Course for use in local churches throughout the Diocese of Chichester. At the time we went to print over 100 parishes had already registered for the course, a very encouraging take up.

“The course has been written by clergy from across Sussex, including Anthony Cane, Jonny Gumbel, Andrew Mayes, Paul Redparth and Tim Watson. By the end, you may feel you’ve grasped a little more of what is meant by the ‘mercy’ of God. That’s the hope of the authors.”



### WHY 'OPENING DOORS'?

Anthony Cane, Chancellor, Chichester Cathedral is the author of Session 1 of the course - Opening doors of mercy and he explains the context of the course material:

"This Lent course has been specifically designed to encourage prayerful discernment and action relating to the Chichester Diocesan 'Vision for Growth' strategy. It is now widely accepted that a co-ordinated diocesan approach is much more likely to be effective in enabling parishes to flourish than a 'non-strategic' approach, of which the Church of England has much experience! The aim of the strategy is to assist our parish churches to renew their witness to meet the demands of our wider culture, and the Gospel itself.

"We need to prayerfully reflect on where we are, and where we need to be. We need to review what we doing, finding ways of building on strengths and addressing weaknesses,

that we may better proclaim the Gospel afresh in the present generation. In particular, the strategy suggests we should be focussing on spiritual and numerical growth, re-imagining ministry, and contributing to the common good.

"No strategy, however, can ever by itself be a formula for, or guarantee of, effective ministry and mission. Without prayerful discernment and action appropriate to the local parish context, it will fail. This Course is intended as a way placing our diocesan strategy within the wider context of God's love and mercy as seen in Jesus Christ.

"We start from God and the community of those who, in the power of the Holy Spirit, seek to 'know, love and follow' Jesus. The events of Pentecost (Acts 2) and the image of the vine and the branches (John 15.1-11) show that fruitful human action depends on the grace of God and the power of the Holy Spirit. Spiritual growth is a necessary condition for numerical growth.

"All of us involved in creating this Lent Course hope and pray that you will find it helpful."

The themes of each session are:

- **Session 1: Opening Doors of Mercy (Anthony Cane)**
- **Session 2: Opening Doors of Prayer (Tim Watson)**
- **Session 3: Opening Doors of Witness (Jonny Gumbel)**
- **Session 4: Opening Doors of Service (Paul Redparth)**
- **Session 5: Opening Doors To The Future (Andrew Mayes)**

All the materials you need can be accessed from the Diocesan website and there are also Audio tracks to accompany the 'Reflections' part of the sessions.

Download material note: it will be helpful if you register when downloading the material, which can be found at [www.chichester.anglican.org/lent2016](http://www.chichester.anglican.org/lent2016)

# YEAR OF MERCY NEWS UPDATE

In the previous issue of Faith in Sussex, Bishop Martin said that the start of 2016 was to be marked as the Year of Mercy.

At the start of Advent, a Holy Door in Chichester Cathedral was opened in an ecumenical initiative with Bishop Richard Moth, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Arundel and Brighton.

The Dean of Chichester, Stephen Waine and other members of the cathedral and senior staff team took part in the special ceremony which was followed by Evensong inaugurating the Diocesan Year of Mercy 2016.

St Richard's door was the Holy Door designated and the event was attended by many members of our churches from across the diocese.



Bishop Martin and the Dean of Chichester Stephen Waine, pictured with Bishop Richard when he invited them to the opening of the Holy Door at Arundel Cathedral.



Bishop Martin (centre) pictured with the Dean of Chichester, Stephen Waine and Bishop Richard Moth (left)

## OPENING DOORS OF MERCY AT RINGMER

Bishop Martin recently said: "In a society and culture where people often feel alone, bereft, anxious and confused - the sense of a merciful God who knows you and loves you is a powerful statement for all our parishes across Sussex."

At St Mary's Parish Church in Ringmer, the parish decided to meet the challenge set by the Bishop of Chichester and organised a special day where their doors were open all day and they welcomed people in.

The Vicar of Ringmer, Revd Beth Woodgate said, "My six months in Ringmer has shown me that the church is at the heart of the community and although not everyone is able to come and worship regularly, I hope they may value the opportunity to spend time in the tranquillity of our church by declaring our doors open on a particular day. We can hope to welcome many people from the village.

Visitors were invited to move around the church to see reminders of all the different aspects of the church's life from work with families and children to flowers and bells.

## HOLY WEEK

Other Mercy events will be happening across the diocese – during Holy Week plans are coming together for people to choose a daily reflection based on a Hymn with the theme Mercy at its heart.

These reflections will be published on the diocesan social media platforms, Facebook and Twitter, as well as a daily posting on the website. These postings can be shared across any other platforms that your church uses, including your parish notice boards, website and social media accounts.

## PARISH MERCY PROJECTS

As well as the Diocesan Lent Course adopting the 'Mercy' theme within the Lent course sessions, (available for download from the diocesan website) parishes are already planning to engage with the Year of Mercy in fruitful ways.

Parishes have begun to filter through a wonderful array of projects that they are engaged in such as St Giles, Horsted Keynes. Through a sizeable team of volunteer chefs they run a monthly village lunch on third Fridays in the month. This is the instrument in providing a good quality home-cooked two-course lunch for £4 per head which attracts up to 50 villagers and provides a place of belonging right across the village.

An initiative of Bishop Martin's is to visit 'Mercy' projects throughout the Year starting this Lent. Please email your parish 'Mercy' projects to [Stephen.Ferns@chichester.anglican.org](mailto:Stephen.Ferns@chichester.anglican.org)

## RESTORATION MAN'S FUNDING PLEA AHEAD OF CHURCH'S 800TH ANNIVERSARY

George Stephens, a church member of St. Nicolas Church, Pevensey has spearheaded a campaign to restore the large C13 Church in East Sussex and his hard work is starting to pay off.

The Heritage Lottery Fund has awarded a substantial grant of £17,300 for the development phase of work to replace and restore two roofs, windows, ironwork and to update the electrical system in the church.

St Nicolas, The Parish church of Pevensey, in East Sussex is making plans to celebrate its 800th anniversary in 2016. It is the oldest building in the village, where William the Conqueror landed 950 years ago, still used for its original purpose.

With only a small local community, plans have been ongoing for a significant fund raising appeal to redecorate the internal walls, repair the traditional Sussex flint and stone boundary walls, and to enlarge the burial ground, which being adjacent to Pevensey Castle requires an archaeological examination before being able to be used. If successful and funds permit a commemorative new stained glass rose window could be installed above the west door.

George Stephens, a deputy churchwarden, who is leading the project, says "We successfully completed a major restoration project in 2007 of the external fabric, after years of coastal weather erosion had taken their toll, particularly on the weatherproofing of the building.

Having been used as a place of worship since the time of the Magna Carta being signed by King John, we owe it to all those people centuries ago who gave their money, their time, their skills and in some cases even their lives to build this house of God, in which it is a privilege for us and visitors to worship.

Plans to preserve the church are being put into place and they are looking for donors and considering several fund raising options, including an international dimension, the use of social media opportunities as well as engaging local individuals and national institutions to help celebrate the octo-centenary of this example of Early English medieval church building"

The total Heritage Lottery Fund grant application for which funds have been earmarked is almost £90,000. Further grants will be sought for completing the restoration project to include complete the redecoration of the church fabric internally.

The church has raised over £40,000 through its own fundraising activities towards the whole project cost of £212,000 in the past two years. Events at the church will continue next year and have attracted sponsorship support from Gaby Hardwicke, solicitors, Visick Motors, Carr-Taylor, Starshine music, '1066 Country', BPE Business Communications, Priory Court Hotel.

Further details from George Stephens 0744 322 7572 and [g.stephens45@btinternet.com](mailto:g.stephens45@btinternet.com)



# WELCOME ANDREW WINGATE

A renowned theologian specialising in interfaith and multi faith issues has been appointed as the Diocesan Adviser for Interfaith matters.



Dr Andrew Wingate, who spent 33 years of his ministry in Birmingham and Leicester was appointed late last year and was licensed to St Anne's Church in Lewes where he has already been busy meeting with local churches and setting up ecumenical initiatives with interfaith and refugee groups.

Bishop Richard Jackson welcomed the appointment of Dr Wingate saying: "I am very pleased to welcome Rev. Dr. Andrew Wingate to his new role in the diocese.

"Andrew joins us at a time when the current political and cultural agenda will see interfaith work rise up our agenda. He will be working with our partner organisations in the statutory, private and voluntary sectors,

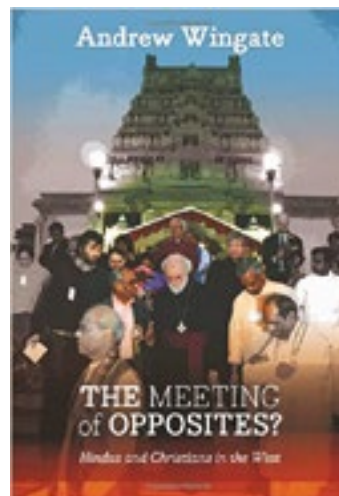
and will be able to identify and advise the diocese locally on all aspects of interfaith issues."

Dr Wingate has spent 33 years of his ministry in Birmingham and Leicester, after 7 years on the staff of the Tamilnadu Theological Seminary, South India. He was Principal of the West Midlands Course, Queen's College, and of the USPG College of the Ascension, at Selly Oak. In Leicester, he has been Canon Theologian, and the founding Director of the St Philip's Centre for study and Engagement in a Multi Faith Society, a leading such centre in the country, and internationally. He believes that the challenge of living in a multi faith world applies in different ways not only to Birmingham and Leicester, but also to Brighton and Crawley and the towns and villages of Sussex. In recent years, he has become a close partner to the Church of Sweden, in helping it respond to Muslims, and the recent vast surge of refugees.

Andrew has moved recently to Lewes, where his daughter and family live. This is the first time he has lived in the south, and he and his wife Angela are looking forward to getting to know Sussex. He is a long time theological teacher and writer. His publications include

*Celebrating Difference, Staying Faithful*, how to live in a multi faith world (DLT, 2005 now in its fourth printing), *The Meeting of Opposites, Hindu-Christian Encounter in the West*, (SPCK, 2014), *Encounter in the Spirit-Muslim-Christian meeting in Birmingham* (WCC, 1989, 1991). He is at present coediting for DLT, a book celebrating the Porvoo Communion and its involvement in inter faith relations.

Contact Andrew via  
07808 786259 or  
andrewwingate@gmail.com



In this book, The historical background as well as the story of migration are explored, so that the reader can understand why Hindus relate quite differently in Britain, in Scandinavia and in the US. It offers a guided tour of Hindu life and relations to Christians in many parts of the world.

## STORIES BEHIND THE HYMNS BY NEVILLE MANNING

# FOR ALL THE SAINTS

Certain things tend to be etched in our memories from the past. In my case one of these is the hymn “For all the saints, who from their labours rest”. From the school which I attended for part of my education we went every year to the local parish church for a Founder’s Day Service and every year we sang this hymn, so that its words were engrained in us.

Who wrote it? The author was William Walsham How. Born as the son of a Shrewsbury solicitor, he was ordained in 1846, serving first of all as curate of St. George’s Church, Kidderminster and later of Holy Cross, Shrewsbury. After a spell as Rector of a church in Shropshire, he moved to be Rector of St. Andrew’s, Undershaft, in London. In due course he became a Suffragan Bishop in East London, before moving on in 1888 to be Bishop of Wakefield.

As a Bishop William Walsham How had two nicknames. One was “The children’s bishop”, probably because he produced a book of hymns specifically for children. One of these hymns which became well-known and loved is “It is a thing most wonderful”. The other nickname was “The omnibus bishop” which reflected his very simple

life-style. In the poverty-stricken dockland area of the East End of London where he first became Bishop he could have lived in a fine-house and travelled in style. Instead he chose to live in a simple dwelling and to travel by

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## O BLEST COMMUNION, FELLOWSHIP DIVINE!

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bus. Ian Bradley has referred to him as “one of the most conscientious and well-loved of all Victorian clergymen” \*.

How, who started writing hymns as a young boy under the influence of the Tractarian Movement, wrote “For all the saints” in 1864 as a hymn for use in processions, suited to its large number of verses.

“For all the saints” is nowadays usually sung to Ralph Vaughan Williams’ tune *Sine Nomine*. The title means “without name”, pointing to the fact that All Sainttide we remember the great multitude of saints which no one can number (Revelation 7 v9), many of whose names are unknown to us but who, in the

words of an ancient prayer, have been “chosen vessels of God’s grace and lights of the world in their several generations”.

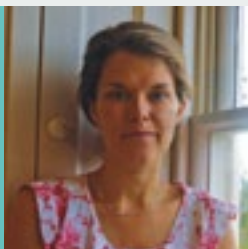
The original version of the hymn had eleven verses, but in most hymnals this is reduced to eight. While each verse is worthy of reflection, probably the key one is v4: “O blest communion, fellowship divine! We feebly struggle, they in glory shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.” The late Frank Colquhoun has referred to this verse as “the heart of the entire hymn” \*\*. It brings home the wonderful realisation that followers of Jesus are never alone, as we are part of a great community and, whether in heaven or on earth, we are knit together in the love of Christ. As present-day soldiers of Christ that realisation should give great encouragement to us!

Although usually sung at All Sainttide the hymn is never inappropriate at other times for when we worship we never do so just as solitary individuals but always with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven.

\* *The Penguin Book of Hymns* 1990 p 119

\*\* *A Hymn Companion* Hodder and Stoughton 1985

# INSPIRED BY ART



It is sometimes said art galleries have become the new churches, places where people go for spiritual experiences.

Chichester Diocese is engaging with that idea by appointing its first Bishop Otter scholar for theology and arts, Naomi Billingsley.

Naomi is from Canterbury. She is interested in the relationships between Christianity and the visual arts, especially in Britain.

She read theology and religious studies at the University of Cambridge, followed by an MA in Christianity and the arts at King's College London and before coming to Chichester she carried out doctoral research at the University of Manchester on William Blake's depictions of Christ.

During her PhD she collaborated with the university's cultural institutions on public and online projects linked to her research.

Now she is keen to build on these experiences in her role as Bishop Otter scholar by working with groups across the Diocese.

Her appointment is for two years on a part-time basis, funded by the Bishop Otter Trust.

The Bishop Otter scholarship is intended to engage communities across the diocese with the artistic heritage we have inherited from previous generations.

We have a wealth of art which can inspire and enrich, from medieval murals in parish churches to the 20th century works in Chichester Cathedral.

Naomi will be carrying out research about key works of art in churches throughout the diocese and will make this freely available through a dedicated set of web pages.

She will also work with individuals and groups to develop reflections upon and responses to the artworks. A web page for each artwork will include historical information, reflections upon it by parishioners and even creative responses.

It is hoped these resources will inspire others to reflect upon other works of art – in parish churches or elsewhere.

Later in the year she will expand her focus to art in churches across the diocese and organise associated discussion groups.

There are lots of ways you can get involved:

- Join one or more of the discussion sessions at the Bishop's Palace or look out for local sessions later in the year
- Nominate artworks for inclusion in the new web pages. Naomi is keen to have your suggestions and input from parishes
- Volunteer to help with local research and discussion groups
- Sponsor the project - costs include new photography and copyright permissions for modern works
- Follow Naomi's blog and twitter feed for updates on her work and details of events relating to faith and the arts in Sussex. You can also send details of any such events and encourage others to do so through parish communications etc.

Naomi can be contacted at the Bishop's Palace or by email at [naomi.billingsley@chichester.anglican.org](mailto:naomi.billingsley@chichester.anglican.org). Her twitter feed is @BpOtterSch and her blog, including details of the discussion group, is [bishopotterscholar.wordpress.com](http://bishopotterscholar.wordpress.com).



A set of four 14th century Italian paintings depicting the Passion of Christ were bequeathed to St Michael and All Angels' Church, Withyham, East Sussex. They had been part of the collection of William Young Ottley, R.A. (1771-1836), collector, artist and art scholar.

Their importance and value were not recognised until cleaning of the paintings was carried out at the Courtauld Institute 1990-1995. They were initially thought to be the work of Italian artist Gerini but later thought to be the work of one of his pupils. It was decided that they were too valuable to be returned to the church where inadequate security and unsuitable environmental conditions were a threat to their safety and conservation. They were transferred on loan to Leeds Castle (Maidstone) in 1997.

The four panels were sold at auction by Sotheby's, London, on 5th December 2012 for £950,000. The church now displays copies of the original panels.



## A DEVELOPING ROLE

Tim Watson joined the diocese in 2015. He is licensed as the Anglican priest to the Chemin Neuf community's new mission, based at St Patrick's, Hove. He has a half-time post as diocesan Continuing Ministerial Development (CMD) Officer, offering support and advice to clergy in their on-going training. He told us about his work.

My job is all about enabling and co-ordinating ministry development. I've got a background in education myself and bring certain skills to the role, but almost all the clergy I speak to will have skills and talents I don't have, and many will have the capacity to offer training themselves.

So a lot of my role is listening to and identifying what people have in their hearts, not just what they might want to learn or develop, but also what they can offer.

I'm often asked why, after seven years of formal learning, would a fully-fledged ordained minister need any further training.

So then I ask: "Have you learnt everything you need to know for the whole of your ministry?"

**"Have you learnt everything you need to know for the whole of your ministry?"**

New skills will be required for new challenges, either because the context of your ministry changes, or because the church is requiring new things of you and you need to be equipped to

do them. Where do you go to be resourced?

We are moving away from the old days when there was more a sense of "you're a vicar, you sit in your vicarage and you do your thing". Now there's a desire for joined-up thinking to support and encourage people, to share good practice, and ensure that clergy keep developing in a fresh way.

Also, people sometimes need a bit of help addressing specific issues in their ministry.

At the simplest level, there's a budget available for grants so if individual clergy come up with



an idea of something they want to do they can apply to me.

For some that might involve specific pieces of learning which fit their context. For example, a priest recently had a good reason to learn a language so we've been helping with language lessons. That's obviously not something we've done for everybody but it's a response to a specific need that this priest identified.

I also play a part in the new Ministerial Development Review programme. Every two years, starting this month, all clergy will have a formal review meeting with a bishop or archdeacon.

As part of that conversation, clergy will identify their learning objectives for the coming year. These will then come to me and I will help find ways they can put these objectives into practice. I will also be in a position to start to identify patterns. Let's imagine we find ten priests in the diocese share a particular interest: anything from youth work to patristic theology! We may be able to respond directly to this need by setting up a training event or, perhaps more interestingly, a small group Action Learning Set, where priests of different backgrounds or from different places come together for group learning.

My role isn't to be working with the parishes themselves so much as the individual clergy. My colleague Rob Dillingham, Parish Development Officer, is going to be working more with parishes, PCCs and the like. But of course many of the ministers' learning objectives will be parish focused, so obviously Rob and

I and work closely with each other, and with our colleagues in the Department of Apostolic Life.

We've recently set up a Ministry Development Support and Oversight Group, which will meet three times a year for prayer and discussion, and it's one of those sounding boards where we're going to be able to review what's coming out of the Ministerial Development Review process and see whether there are things we want to be more strategic about offering and developing.

## People sometimes need a bit of help addressing specific issues in their ministry.

It is basic stuff but it's very easy to forget that the first thing is about building a relationship and clergy can, in the worst cases, end up feeling isolated. It's partly the nature of the role as a minister of the church: you carry certain responsibilities which can be a bit of a burden. Having spaces where you can share your joys and sorrows with brothers and sisters in Christ who are carrying similar kinds of questions can be a tremendous release because you realise you're not on your own.

External input can of course be really useful, not least in helping people have a different perspective. But it's important to realise that the expertise needed to develop the church is often within the church. There

are a number of priests and deacons around who, in addition to their parish responsibilities, have specific areas of expertise: people like Lawrence MacLean, who has a Diocesan brief for fundraising and sustainability. We have a great talent pool out there which we need to make the most of.

There is some training that clergy and church officers are required to do, such as safeguarding, because it's absolutely essential. Everyone appointed to the diocese from now will have that as part of their contractual arrangements so we need to have matters formally in place. But I'd also like to see us running events which meet the requirements of clergy training, but are also open to other people.

Imagine you're running a training day on family ministry, for example. It might be of direct relevance to a number of incumbents because they have specific issues in the parish but also to lots of other people, lay and ordained, and not just Anglicans either. Often some of the most creative work is the result of partnerships with other churches, and getting people in the same room to share experiences.

It would be a great achievement if, in a year's time, there's a group of clergy in the diocese raving about having done some really interesting development work. Then others may think, hey, I want a piece of that.

We will be hearing from Parish Development Officer Rob Dillingham in the next issue of Faith in Sussex.



# ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO BE A SCHOOL GOVERNOR?

Are you interested in working with our Church schools? Have you considered becoming a governor? We are looking for new governors to join the governing bodies across the Diocese, supporting our schools and helping to uphold and develop the Christian ethos.

There are 158 Church of England Schools in the Diocese of Chichester providing 35,000 children with a Christian led education and school governors are needed in most schools across Sussex at any one time as the role is usually for a four year period.

The role of the school governor is demanding but very rewarding and is a good way to give back to your local community. Governors set the vision, ethos and strategic plan for the school. They hold the headteacher to account for the educational

performance of the school and they oversee the finances, ensuring money is well spent.

Foundation governors are appointed by the Diocese to take particular responsibility for Christian distinctiveness ensuring, along with all other governors, that the school provides the best possible education, based on Christian values, for the children and young people in their care.

We welcome people with an interest in education who are able to work with others as a team, and who are willing to undertake training to build their skills as effective governors. The diocese offers free training to all new governors in church schools and further training covering aspects of church school governance in detail. We also hold an annual conference for governors.

Being a governor does take up some time but certainly brings rewards too! Governors are normally expected to attend two governing body meetings a term, and usually one or two committee or working group meetings termly. The times of meetings vary from school to school, most being held in the early evening.

This work is an essential contribution to the Churches' mission, would you like to join us? If you would like to find out more, or talk to a current governor, please get in touch with us on 01273 425687 or [schools@chichester.anglican.org](mailto:schools@chichester.anglican.org)

Further information about the role of a school governor can be found on the BBC website:

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/school\\_governor/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/school_governor/)

# OUT WITH THE OLD AS NEW SCHOOL BUILDING BLESSED

A join effort to raise funds for a new school building has given children at St Mark's School, Hadlow Down a new learning and play area. Bishop Martin blessed the new building at the Voluntary Aided Primary school in the village of Hadlow Down on a lovely sunny day during autumn term last year.

The school community were pleased to receive funding to support the removal of an old mobile classroom that was in poor condition and in great need of replacement.

Hadlow Down, also a Teaching School supporting other schools in the local area to develop strong curriculum and leadership, approached the Diocese to fund the replacement with a brand new modern building that would be fit for purpose.

The new wooden clad building has a classroom with sink area for wet play and easily accessible toilets on the ground floor.

The new building is being used for Reception class children aged 4 to 5 years, and they are able to easily access outdoor play areas which link into the whole school environment.

The building has access to roof space which provides more than adequate storage. It is a delightful and attractive building for the pupils to learn and play – a rural church school with the original Victorian building at its heart.

As Hadlow Down is a Voluntary Aided school, the Education Department of the Diocese was able to secure funds for this project from government grant funding.

Funding is only given on the basis that the governors contribute 10% towards the cost of the capital works. Schools can achieve this by governors and parents raising funds as well as parish contributions and any additional School Trust Funds.



The old school building



Bishop Martin, pictured with pupils and staff of the School, blesses the new building



The new school building



## TWO NEW MEMBERS OF STAFF HAVE JOINED THE DIOCESE OF CHICHESTER ACADEMY TRUST THIS YEAR.

David Etherton was appointed as Group Executive Principal - he will also continue as Headteacher of St Nicolas and St Mary CE Primary School, Shoreham. Gayle Austin-Hogg was appointed as Business Support Officer. David and Gayle will be working alongside Martin Lloyd, Interim CEO of the Diocese of Chichester Academy Trust and Gill Scarfield, Head of Finance and Operations of the Academy Trust.

# SAFEGUARDING OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY

By Colin Perkins, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser

We are talking more and more about 'safeguarding' presently; so much, in fact, that we might assume that everyone agrees what the word means. However, this may not be the case. For some, 'safeguarding' means compliance with rules and regulations, a bit like health and safety legislation.

For others, safeguarding could mean investigating allegations of abuse - certainly an aspect of safeguarding that receives a lot of attention presently. The word could mean trying to create a safe environment for people to come into, or working with external partners such as the police to refer concerns we have.

Safeguarding does involve these things, but in this article I suggest that we take a deeper view of what it might mean. In particular, I would like to suggest how as Christians we can consider what safeguarding means in our churches, and in our ministry and mission in the wider world.

Last year, the Methodist Church

produced a report, 'Courage, Cost and Hope', arising from their Past Cases Review, which reviewed safeguarding casework throughout the Methodist Church nationwide. This report made the following observation:

'The core of safeguarding relies on an understanding and awareness of the dynamics between power and vulnerability in relationships'

This is a broader and deeper view of safeguarding than some of the individual tasks listed above. Whilst those tasks describe some of the work of safeguarding, the core focus of that work is the use and misuse of power, both in relationships and institutions, and whether the vulnerable are protected or harmed, empowered or exploited.

A narrow view of safeguarding, focusing just on specific tasks, can imply that it is something only specialists do. Of course there are examples where this is the case. It would be inappropriate for those who are

not trained to take on certain tasks - such as investigating an allegation of abuse - for themselves. One vital aspect of safeguarding practice is information-sharing; rather than keeping concerns to ourselves, we must report them to the appropriate authorities so they can be investigated.

However, the description of the core of safeguarding in *Courage, Cost and Hope* reminds us that it is everyone's business, because we are all concerned with how power is used or misused in our relationships and churches, and with how the vulnerable are protected. Even more importantly, this definition reminds us that safeguarding is Gospel business.

Throughout Scripture, it is clear that God is deeply concerned about the vulnerable, and in particular with how His people reflect that concern. The Psalmists and Prophets repeatedly refer to this, and in His earthly ministry Jesus demonstrated God's care for the vulnerable and His compassion



for the outcast. Jesus regularly challenged the abuse of power, particularly when it was masked by religious observance.

When considered in this light, safeguarding is Gospel work and is at the heart of our faith. There are, of course, many things for churches to learn from professionals who spend their lives working in the various safeguarding fields, but if safeguarding is about the use and misuse of power, then a safeguarding concern is a Gospel concern.

Furthermore, as Courage, Cost and Hope observes, 'Good safeguarding practice, when it is mainstreamed, is an indicator of good practice in other areas'. Because safeguarding is about how power and influence are used in relationships, a church that has healthy safeguarding practice is likely to be healthy in many other areas, too.

As we look ahead to 2016 and beyond we should be aware of the opportunities to express this understanding of Gospel-

focused safeguarding in our churches and our mission. In November, the Safeguarding Team delivered the first training day for Parish Safeguarding Officers, and part of the focus was domestic abuse.

'The core of safeguarding relies on an understanding and awareness of the dynamics between power and vulnerability in relationships'

Domestic abuse is one of the most pervasive and damaging abuses of power in any relationship, and we will continue to focus on helping churches learn how to minister, both to victims and to

perpetrators, throughout 2016.

I have written previously about the importance of thinking about 'mission-focused safeguarding', arising from the fact that in our churches we are reaching hurting people who need the message of acceptance and redemption that is at the heart of the Gospel.

Of course, in 2016 and beyond we will continue to be confronted by the fact that there are some for whom the hurt has occurred within our churches, and it is imperative that we respond to this tragedy with compassion and openness, perhaps most especially if we are tempted to respond defensively.

By keeping our focus on the 'core' of safeguarding though, as Courage, Cost and Hope reminds us, we are not simply complying with regulations, but are building healthier churches that can be places of healing for those whom we encounter through our mission.





# HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MOTHER'S UNION

2016 is a special year for Mothers' Union. Not only are we celebrating 140 years of Faith in Action, but it also marks the beginning of a new triennial, the three year period that office holders can serve for.

For Mothers' Union Diocese of Chichester, this means a new Diocesan President, Kathryn Anderson, two new unit coordinators, Scilla Page for Action & Outreach and Emma Ham-Riche for Fundraising and Communication, as well as a new board of Trustees.

There will be changes at Branch level too, with new Branch Leaders, Secretaries and Treasurers taking up their roles.

To mark the beginning of the new Triennial, there will be a Commissioning Service at Chichester Cathedral on Saturday 2nd April. All are welcome and tickets will be available from your local branch.

Mothers' Union will be celebrating its 140th anniversary later in the year in Winchester, the home of our founder, Mary Sumner, with a special service at Winchester Cathedral on Thursday 22nd September.

The following day, Friday 23rd September, the Annual Meeting will be held at the Hampshire Court Hotel, Basingstoke.

Events will also be taking place around the Diocese, and details will be published in future editions of Faith in Sussex, as well as in the Chichester Diocese e-newsletter.

In the meantime, keep in contact with your local branch or visit the Mothers' Union Diocese of Chichester website ([www.chichestermu.org/welcome.htm](http://www.chichestermu.org/welcome.htm)) or Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/chichestermu/](http://www.facebook.com/chichestermu/))



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.



# MARRIAGE COURSE FOR CLERGY

The Revd David Farey, Vicar of Hellingly and Upper Dicker describes a new resource to support clergy and their families, and recommends how churches can better support marriage.

## WISTON HOUSE IN SUSSEX FAMOUS FOR

The Big Church Day Out recently hosted a clergy marriage retreat. My wife and I joined just over thirty other clergy couples to learn, talk and reflect on the particular pressures that we experience in marriage. Church ministry is an odd way of life lived very much in the public eye which can expose a couple to all kinds of tensions, and having to live on a timetable that is alien to most families. For example at Christmas and Easter when families can go away on holiday clergy families are at their busiest, and often with a key member absent doing church and parish stuff.

It was run by Nicky and Sila Lee, who are well known by some for their very successful Marriage Course from Holy Trinity Brompton, the same stable that has produced the Alpha Course. It was only the third time they had run one for clergy and they hope to run more. This one attracted couples not just from across Chichester diocese but from as far afield as Aberdeen!

It dealt with how each can bring to the relationship different expectations and how easy it is to make assumptions about what your marriage partner wants or needs. We discussed the danger of allowing a congregation's expectations of you to shape your behaviour in an unhelpful way and how the church's problems can invade the family space. Something common to all marriages is the need for couples to listen to what their partner is saying. Clergy who are meant to be infinitely

compassionate with their congregation may have little left when it comes to their families! After our twenty nine years of marriage it did not throw up much that was new, but we did feel that it would have helped us if we had had it twenty years previously! But it was good to meet with other couples and talk about the pressures of parish life and give each other mutual support.

The weekend also addressed the bigger picture that generally speaking marriage is not regarded in the same way as it has been in the past. The Christian view of a lifelong commitment made between a man and a woman before God can often be seen at odds with society's view. It can often be seen as something more disposable with options being kept to trade in for newer models. That is always assuming that marriage has been the chosen means of cementing the relationship.

The weekend strongly recommended marriage preparation courses, and also marriage courses to help couples already married to be better at it. Many a marriage would be better, and fragile marriages saved if couples could go on such a course. A number of churches across Sussex run marriage courses, but the health of marriage in society could be better helped if more churches ran them. A simple place to start would be for more churches to be involved in the many weddings fairs held across Sussex. Its booming business and the Church has so much to offer.

# ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS



## GUIDE TO WILDLIFE OF BURIAL GROUNDS - A NEW FOLD-OUT CHART

Mark Betson, Diocesan Rural officer commends new resources from Caring for God's Acre saying: "Last year we completed a major project on churchyards in Sussex called the Nature of God's Acre, which showed how much we value our churchyards and the nature they contain. And not just those who are there regularly on a Sunday morning but those on the fringe of our churches who come to visit loved ones buried or just for the peace and chance to contemplate the big questions on life. Caring for God's Acre have been working to highlight the nature within our churchyards and these new resources and ideas highlighted on these pages give us extra tools to do so with those in our churches and with those on the fringe.

To help people realise the wonder of burial sites for their unique combination of wildlife and history, CfGA together with the Field Studies Council (FSC) has produced a glossy, colourful fold-out chart 'Guide to Wildlife of Burial Grounds'.

Through detailed pictures the guide reveals the plants and animals commonly associated with burial sites, which include

church and chapel yards, cemeteries and burial grounds of all kinds.

The charity Caring for God's Acre promotes the conservation of burial sites of all kinds and this special fold-out chart has been produced in support of its work.

The Guide to Wildlife of Burial Grounds is available from Caring for God's Acre for £3.00 inc + 80p p&p. Ten copies or more can be purchased for £2 each (please contact for p&p costs if ordering more than 1 copy).

You can order and pay via BACS please e-mail [info@cfga.org.uk](mailto:info@cfga.org.uk)

To pay by cheque please make it payable to Caring for God's Acre and send to 11 Drovers House, The Auction Yard, Craven Arms, Shropshire, SY7 9BZ

The chart was funded by the Jean Jackson Charitable Trust and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Copies of the book The Nature of God's Acre are still available online through the Natural History Book Store ([www.nhbs.com](http://www.nhbs.com)) or directly from Mark Betson ([m.betson@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:m.betson@hotmail.co.uk)). Cost £5 plus P&P.

## CONSERVATION CHARITY LAUNCHES NEW DVD: THE BEAUTIFUL BURIAL GROUND

A new 30-minute documentary style film made by the charity Caring for God's Acre (CfGA) is set to take viewers on a journey from the remote country churchyards of the Welsh borderlands to the large urban cemeteries of the north-west.

Supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Allchurches Trust, 'The Beautiful Burial Ground' film highlights many of the remarkable features found in our churchyards and burial grounds.

As well as churchgoers, cemetery managers, teachers and specialist interest groups, the general public also hold the key to the long-term future of these fascinating sites.

Burial grounds, say CfGA, are places for quiet contemplation; however, they are also places where nature and local history can be discovered, and where people can meet as volunteers to carry out practical conservation tasks; learning new skills and helping their local environment. Watch the film to be inspired!

**For further details visit**  
**[caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://caringforgodsacre.org.uk)**



## CHERISHING CHURCHYARDS WEEK COINCIDES WITH THE QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY - LET'S CELEBRATE 4TH JUNE - 12TH JUNE

Why not celebrate Queen Elizabeth's 90th birthday by running an event with the local community during National Cherishing Churchyard Week, 4th June to 12th June? Every parish church is being encouraged by the Church of England to organise an activity to mark the Queen's official birthday on the weekend on 10th -12th June.

Caring for God's Acre, the charity for the conservation of burial sites promotes National Cherishing Churchyards Week by helping people to organise special activities. This year it coincides with the Queen's official birthday presenting an opportunity to celebrate both together in one event.

A rich diversity of plant and animal life can be discovered in burial sites and they often contain ancient meadowland and distinctive and veteran trees such as Yew trees, the oldest living things in Britain. The stonework of the memorials and boundary walls provides a home for a mosaic of mosses, ferns and lichens. Burial sites

are also important places for archaeology and history, providing an accessible resource for community learning. Most important of all - they provide a tranquil place for remembrance and quiet reflection.

Events offered during Cherishing Churchyards Week could include activities for families such as a quiz, a mini beast safari, tree bingo, letter or leaf rubbing, making gargoyles out of clay. Open days with guided tours are popular. Volunteer activity days such as making compost areas, scything or raking grass, memorial recording, bramble clearing, nest box making could be organised. Special workshops in dry stone walling, memorial recording, plant identification, geology, tree care or creative writing and art are also ideas for activities.

Caring for God's Acre's website at [www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk) has a wealth of information to support Cherishing Churchyards Week. Visit the website for information on activities for young people, how to attract volunteers, health and safety

and the special Cherishing Churchyards Logo. Register your event with us and we can promote it through our website. You could also register it by emailing [queensbirthday@churchofengland.org](mailto:queensbirthday@churchofengland.org).

'We would love people to celebrate the Queen's birthday with activities during Cherishing Churchyards Week' said Andrea Gilpin, Cherishing Churchyards Week Coordinator.

'There's no better way of involving people, young and old, than through events with a difference', added Andrea.

Cherishing Churchyards Week is supported by CfGA's Heritage Lottery (HLF) funded National Project, which is working across England and Wales running conferences and training events in fifteen different regions.

For further information on Cherishing Churchyards Week or the work of the charity, Caring for God's Acre, take a look at [www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk) or phone 01588 673041 for information via the post





Andrew Wingate centre with Aidan Cantrell and Mary-Jane Burkett from BVIE

# MAKE HUMANITY YOUR JOURNEY AND YOU WILL ARRIVE AT GOD - ST AUGUSTINE

Back in October last year, a joint ecumenical initiative saw the Bishop of Chichester, Dr Martin Warner and the Catholic Bishop of Arundel and Brighton Diocese, Bishop Moth, issue a pledge in response to the Syrian refugee crisis.

Today, all three bishops in the diocese of Chichester reaffirm that pledge to respond to the needs of refugees. They said: "We invite our church communities to consider the ways in which offers of help can be made and to make contact with the appropriate agencies."

Parishes across the diocese have taken up the challenge and have been busy collecting donations for refugee charities in the UK and overseas. Clothes and other goods have been flooding into church collection centres and parishes have put on events to raise much needed funds to help those in greatest need. The funds have been going to Charities such as

Brighton Voices in Exile, Open doors and Embrace as well as many other organisations.

During the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, a meeting was held in St Anne's Church in Lewes to discuss what churches should be doing to help. The ecumenical event was hosted by the Diocesan Interfaith Adviser, Revd Andrew Wingate, and introduced by the Director of the Cuthman's Centre, Mary-Jane Burkett who is also the lead for Brighton Voices in Exile (BVIE).

Aidan Cantrell, Adviser for social action, peace and Justice at BVIE spoke about the settling and housing of families that had come through the government programme. He said: "Jesus was a refugee, we are all refugees. Jesus welcomed us in and we were granted asylum and welcomed home. As Christians what can we do?"

Aidan spoke about adopting

a long term approach to the issues and praised ecumenical partnerships. He said there were many things that parishes or individuals could do and prayer was central to it all.

The audience heard directly from Syrian refugees, a brother and sister. They fled Syria in 2014 and have been given asylum in the UK. The brother talked about the help and support the BVIE project gave them and how they helped him settle and apply for asylum. We've had very good help with food and shelter and other supplies. Social free space was very good with hot food offered. The big issue we now face is post status. We want to help other Syrians."

His sister spoke about the help her son had received for his continuing education. "He is 17 and he is very bright" she said. "he has been given some good opportunities here."

We heard from church members



from local churches, SouthOver, St Michael's and St Anne's and people from local refugee groups who listened and made suggestions about the action they wanted to see and how parishes could be better informed to help. A poster in churches and other public places with listed ways to help was suggested as a good start.

The bishop's in the diocese have suggested five things you can do to respond:

**1. Pray** – for the people of Syria and Iraq and for all refugees and for all who are responding to their needs.

**2. Offer accommodation** – in property you can let without substantial deposit.

**3. Offer & register skills** - ability to speak relevant languages; TEFL ability, ability to offer legal assistance. Contact BVIE.

**4. Make a financial contribution:**  
Locally to:

- BVIE: [www.brightonvoicesinexile.co.uk](http://www.brightonvoicesinexile.co.uk)
- FSW: [www.brightonvoicesinexile.co.uk](http://www.brightonvoicesinexile.co.uk)

Or Nationally to:

- Red Cross: [www.redcross.org.uk/donate](http://www.redcross.org.uk/donate)
- Oxfam: [www.redcross.org.uk/donate](http://www.redcross.org.uk/donate)

Lewes Group in Support of Refugees and Asylum Seekers (LGSRAS) To promote awareness of issues relating to refugees and asylum seekers.

Membership is open to all. Responding to local issues and campaigning on behalf of refugees and asylum seekers. Regular meetings, workshops, visiting speakers and a bi-monthly newsletter. Further information from the Coordinator at [lgsraslewes@gmail.com](mailto:lgsraslewes@gmail.com)

Embrace the Middle East ([www.embraceme.org](http://www.embraceme.org)) is a Christian charity working exclusively in the Middle East (through Christian partners in the region but with people of all faiths and none) There is a specific appeal for Syrian refugees at present - providing bedding for refugees in Lebanon (<http://www.embraceme.org/christmas-appeal>).

## THE PARISHIONERS OF WISBOROUGH GREEN RAISED MORE THAN £750 TO HELP SYRIAN REFUGEES AFTER HEARING OF THEIR PLIGHT FROM A VOLUNTEER WHO HAS BEEN WORKING WITH THEM.

Joel Gage has spent much of his life on the Greek Islands and in September, he planned to holiday on Leros. But he was so touched by the plight of the hundreds of refugees arriving there every day that he stayed to help.

He described what he had seen to parishioners of St Peter Ad Vincula during a fundraising open house day at one of the homes in Wisborough Green village. Joel told how, until the last two months when some sheets of cardboard arrived, people slept on the bare earth.

They had to share a trough to wash in and one portable toilet for the whole compound. Milk for babies and bread and cheese for everyone else was provided by volunteers and then, after two days, people had to make their own way by ship to the mainland while Leros prepared for the next boatload.

Medicins Sans Frontieres has now placed two people on the island who are helping with first aid and long term illnesses. There are also two international helpers from the United Nations refugee agency and warm clothes for the onward journey are being sent from Sweden.

Joel said that, in his experience, most of the people fleeing Syria would want to return to their home country when it would be "safe" to do so. He has arranged for the money from the open house day to reach volunteer friends on Leros directly.

Find out more on the Leros Solidarity Network Team UK Facebook page.

# TO INFINITY AND BEYOND

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EXPLORING THE MYSTERY OF A THEOLOGY OF CHILDHOOD  
BY IRENE SMALE, DIOCESAN CHILDREN'S AND FAMILIES WORK ADVISER

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I have to confess I am drawn towards the compelling universe of digital animation, droids, drones and virtualisation.

I spent a rainy Saturday afternoon watching *Toy Story* with my three-year-old grandson, who takes great delight in waving his Buzz Lightyear figure around and declaring "to infinity and beyond".

Buzz is the protagonist character in the film and those words are his catchphrase.

What possible correlation could exist between children's movies such as *Toy Story* and *Frozen* and highly respected, universally renowned theologians such as the Roman Catholic scholar Karl Rahner, post-humanist theorists and professors of digital media?

The answer lies in a Theology of Childhood and there exists a multiplicity of research theories

concerning childhood and theology.

The Child Theology Movement is an umbrella organisation whose rationale is "In obedience to Jesus's revolutionary action of placing a child in the midst of a key theological discussion (Matthew 18)".

CTM is committed to reform all theological reflection and enquiry "with a child in the midst" and to ensure that theology of this kind informs every aspect of the church's life and mission, including that which relates to children.

Put succinctly, CTM researches and learns from children "doing" theology. A prime example of its theological underpinning and practice can be found in the method of Godly play.

Play, as theologian Jürgen Moltmann tell us, is an integral

part of our spiritual DNA. He states God is playful: "The creation is God's play, a play of his groundless and inscrutable wisdom. It is the realm in which God displays his glory."

But the most profound theological association I want to highlight is Karl Rahner's seminal paper published in *Theological Investigations Volume 8*, titled *Ideas for a Theology of Childhood*.

Through his particular theological anthropology, Rahner explored the ways human beings, especially children, are fundamentally orientated towards God.

He asked: "In the intention of the Creator and Redeemer of children, what meaning does childhood have and what task does it lay upon us for the perfecting and saving of humanity?"

It is exactly this mystery of the fundamental orientation of human beings to the Creator that Rahner explored in his hypothesis of childhood which he described as “infinite openness to the infinite”.

Rahner also believed there is a unique and unrepeatable value of childhood. It should not be viewed simply as a phase of life that one completes, leaves behind in any definitive sense and moves on to adulthood.

Childhood always remains with us, “We only become the children we were because we gather up time. Childhood is not only of eternal significance for man’s destiny to the extent that in childhood the foundations are laid for decisions which have an eternal significance. But childhood is a stage of man’s personal history in which that which takes place can only take place in childhood itself”.

The fruits of childhood are borne and continue throughout a person’s life as can be clearly evidenced by way of example in the psychoanalytical methods of regression.

But to return to filmic theorists on childhood, I believe there is much we can learn.

For example films highlight the social and cultural influences on our children today.

## Films highlight the social and cultural influences on our children today.

They provoke us into thinking about the moral and ethical questions that challenge them daily. There are of course always choices we have to make in life whether to do good or bad and Toy Story is a prime example of basic ethics.

Andy the good kid who takes care of his toys versus Sid the evil kid next door, who dismembers toys and creates monstrous hybrids from their fragmented bodies, reveals the dark side of play and provides

proof for post-humanist theorists of our post condition.

Or Elsa in Frozen, whose self-revelation causes her to follow a post-modern Disneyesque doctrine ie to be true to herself in her voyage of self-discovery, but finds that to “let it go” (the hit song that millions of children are singing) has dire consequences for others.

Perhaps the theological lesson we can all learn from her is that self-sacrifice is the way to redemption and that life is not all about me.

Star Wars is of course a pastiche of differing religions and philosophies although in the dualism of The Force, good always triumphs over evil. Its total franchise revenue is currently in excess of \$28 billion which includes not only box office revenue but, digital media, games, toys and clothing. So whether we like it or not film culture is mysteriously and infinitely influencing our children’s theology.



# DOUBLE DELIGHT

The Benefice of Slindon, Eartham and Madehurst has two reasons to celebrate this month

A long planned and wished-for project has been completed and, after a short interregnum, a new priest has been appointed.

The project, "building on the present for the future", was to build a washroom, toilet and kitchen in St Mary's, Slindon, so the ancient and historic building could have a wide use while increasing the pleasure of villagers and visitors. At the same time, critical repairs to the roof were required.

A building committee led by John Barrett worked hard with diocesan architect Richard Meynell to design and plan an addition to the church that would be in keeping with its historic heritage and provide amenities suitable for the 21st century.

There have, of course, been some problems, notably the need for bat surveys.

Even though the work didn't qualify for Lottery funding and was unsuccessful in round one



Ven Philip Jones

of the Government Roof Repair Scheme, the money needed was raised over an 18-month period with guidance from Slindon resident Simon Patterson. There were generous donations, grants and various fundraising concerts, talks and exhibitions organised by the events committee.

People - whether worshippers or not - contributed because of their love for the building and its place at the centre of the community.

Contractors T Couzens and Sons



have done a brilliant job. The WC has been built into the north west corner of the church and the stonework round the arch of the entrance door looks as if it has been there for 900 years as does the door itself.

It is, of course, a disabled facility as is required now. All the church roof tiles were removed and remedial work undertaken, including relining and replacing the battens before returning the tiles with new nails alongside those specified for bats. The building committee was able to reduce the cost of some other tasks identified in the recent quinquennial inspection by carrying them out while the scaffolding was in place.

The kitchen is concealed by beautiful sapele doors at the back of the south aisle and has all that is necessary to make hot drinks and heat up refreshments. Again it looks as if it has been part of the church for years.

The churchwardens and PCC held a celebratory party on January 23 to which all were invited. The opening was performed by the Revd Marian Curtis, the recently retired priest-in-charge, who had been very involved with the project.

The new priest for the Benefice is the Ven Philip Jones, formally Archdeacon of Hastings, who is well known in the diocese. He has decided to return to parish ministry and the Benefice feels lucky to have a man of such experience and wisdom. He will be installed by Bishop Martin and Archdeacon Douglas on February 22.

Philip, who was Bishop Martin's personal recommendation, spent a whole morning with representatives of the three parishes and visited again with his wife Anne. We were unanimous in supporting his appointment and excited by his enthusiasm and the experience and skills he will bring both to our worship and the broader pastoral care of our benefice.

Philip's career as Archdeacon of Hastings has been via a curacy at St Mary's Horsham, as incumbent of Southwater and Rural Dean of Horsham. He has a particular interest in, and concern for Church schools. He served as a

governor in both Church and community schools and, as a member of the Diocesan Board of Education, acquired wider experience of Church school needs and opportunities for mission. Before ordination he was a solicitor in private practice for 17 years, specialising in family and criminal law.

Anne, a former primary teacher, has worked for the Stroke Association for the past eight years and recently retired. The couple have four grown-up children and have just become grandparents for the first time.





# PILGRIMAGE TO PARIS

UPDATE ON AN EXTRAORDINARY JOURNEY



Bishop Martin is pictured with the pilgrim's, the Diocesan Senior staff team, church members and the Mayor of Newhaven Steve Saunders.

In 2015, the Church of England, Christian Aid, CAFOD and Tearfund came together to organise a Pilgrimage2Paris ahead of COP21 – the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris.

Negotiators from more than 190 nations gathered to discuss a new global agreement on climate change aimed at limiting greenhouse gas emissions from 2020 when current commitments run out.

Inspired by their faith, pilgrims from across the UK walked from London to Paris over two weeks, calling on world leaders to agree a fair, ambitious and binding climate change deal. It started with a service at St Martin-in-the-Fields on Friday 13 November, travelled across Sussex to the port of Newhaven to pick up the Ferry for France. On Friday 27 November, they arrived in Paris just ahead of COP21

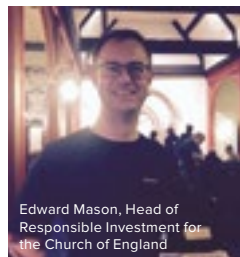
Edward Mason, Head of Responsible Investment for the Church of England, who joined the pilgrims

from Brighton to Newhaven, said: "COP21 matters to investors. In advance of the conference we have national pledges from governments which should, if implemented in full, limit warming to 2.7 degrees. This is real progress, but we are looking to governments in Paris to decide how these pledges can be ratcheted up to keep the 2 degrees goal in sight. The transition to a low carbon economy, however, is not just about governments. Investors like the Church Commissioners are already making it a reality. The momentum is unstoppable."

James Buchanan, coordinator of the Pilgrimage2Paris: "Although the pilgrimage has come to an end, the COP21 talks are yet to begin. Throughout our journey we've been praying for and discussing our hopes for the event - a fair, ambitious and binding climate change deal that puts us on the right track to a lower carbon future."

The pilgrim party enjoyed overnight hospitality with supper and lunch stops at churches in the dioceses of Chichester from St Barnabas, Pound Hill Crawley, St Peter's Ardingly, St John's Burgess Hill and St Margaret's Ditchling before making their way to Brighton, Rottingdean and St Michael's Newhaven.

At St Michael's the group were greeted by the Bishop of Chichester and other members of the senior staff, as well as the Mayor for Newhaven, Steve Saunders.



Edward Mason, Head of Responsible Investment for the Church of England

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)**



## CHURCH MAINTENANCE CALENDAR

As a churchwarden you will be undertaking maintenance checks of your building. Some of the works should only be carried out by a qualified person and this checklist below should help you to identify what might need attention

### January - May 2016

#### THINGS TO DO:

- » Parapets and valley gutters need to be cleared of snow to prevent melt water raising above them and causing damp internally. Extra caution is needed in icy conditions.
- » Make sure that the tower, roofs and windows are bird-proof before nesting starts.
- » Do not disturb bats.
- » Check the condition of any ladders in the tower and ask the tower captain to ensure that the bells and bellframe are in good order.

### March

#### THINGS TO LOOK FOR:

- » Check that eaves gutters and downpipes have not been damaged by frost. Look for cracks and leaks in rainwater goods and note damaged sections.

#### THINGS TO DO:

- » Parapets and valley gutters need to be cleared of snow to prevent melt water raising above them and causing damp internally. Extra caution is needed in icy conditions.

### April

#### THINGS TO LOOK FOR:

- » Check the roofs for frost, snow and wind damage. Debris from broken slates and tiles indicates there may be a problem.
- » Check for splits and cracks in areas of flat or sloping sheet roofing.
- » Inspect lead flashings and mortar fillets at chimneys for signs of decay. Problems will include holes or splits in leadwork and erosion of mortar fillets.

#### THINGS TO DO:

- » Clear leaves and debris from gutters and rainwater pipes regularly. Frequent attention may be needed if the building is surrounded by trees, or perched on by pigeons. Cast iron gutters may also require repainting.

### May

#### THINGS TO DO:

- » Gulleys beneath rainwater pipes should be cleaned out regularly and drains should be rodded out if they overflow during wet weather. Remove silt and debris and ensure water discharges freely.
- » Make sure that windows and ventilators are operable so that the building can be ventilated on dry days during the summer months. Lubricate door and window ironmongery and check security of locks.
- » Shut down the heating system and have the boiler serviced. Bleed radiators if you have them and ensure that the frost thermostat is operational.
- » Clear away any plant growth from around the base of the walls and in particular from the drainage channel.
- » Inspect lead flashings and mortar fillets at chimneys for signs of decay. Problems will include holes or splits in leadwork and erosion of mortar fillets.

# EMPOWERED TO HEAL

By Revd Chris Lawrence

THE dynamic Revd Eric Delve will be giving the keynote address at this year's ministry of healing event.

The evangelist and author will be the latest in a long line of eminent speakers at the annual event – in the past we have had Bishop Richard Jackson, Revd Russ Parker the author and director of Acorn Christian Healing Foundation, Revd Peter McIntosh the former director of Crowhurst Healing Centre and Revd Dr Alison Morgan, author of the Wild Gospel.

The Archdeacon of Lewes, who was charged by the bishops to develop the healing ministry in the diocese, usually takes an active part in the day's proceedings.

The diocese has resourced a day devoted to the ministry of healing every year since 2000. By 2005, attendance had grown to some 500 and it was decided to split the diocese into 4 areas.

In East Sussex, a planning group of eight people, both clergy and laity, came together to plan the days to take place around the end of February each year under the title "Resourcing the healing ministry in East Sussex".

## "Resourcing the healing ministry in East Sussex."

Since 2005, we have made the Victoria Baptist Church in Eldon Road, Eastbourne, our regular venue because it offers a wonderful welcome with good access, facilities and parking. About 200 people attend each year, making the event a regular date in the diary.

This year's event will be on February 20. After the main speaker's address there will be a variety of teaching seminars in the morning and afternoon.

The day concludes with a time of worship and a reflection and an opportunity for anointing with oil, confession and extended prayer ministry.

The day costs £10, which includes tea and coffee but not lunch. Those who attend consider it good value.

Details of the seminars and speakers can be found in the 2016 brochure, which has been sent to each deanery across East Sussex.

Brochures can also be downloaded from the diocesan website via the event tab. Bookings can be made on-line via <http://bit.ly/1K0Pfri>

If you have never attended this event, please be encouraged to do so. Whether you wish to expand your own personal knowledge on the ministry of healing or you are in need of healing yourself, God is there in His power to bless and restore.





POSTCARDS FROM HEAVEN:

WORDS AND PICTURES TO

HELP YOU HEAR FROM GOD

ELLIE HART

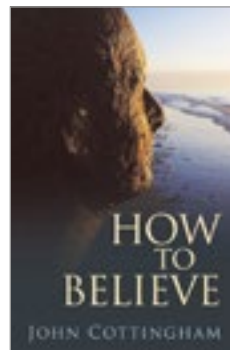
Stemming from a ministry combining art and prayer comes a delightful collection of illustrations, reflections and thoughts written by Ellie Hart. Each one brings refreshment as we hear God's voice and receive his love into our own lives.

Ellie Hart is an artist and writer offering ministry through these media. Using her own paintings, she has written a series of short reflections that tap into the seasons of life to bring refreshment and moments of calm or insight.

Each delightful image is accompanied by a reflection to ponder, a short prayer and a suggestion to pursue in your own journal. Ellie believes strongly in the power of word and picture to hear the voice of God bringing life into all of our circumstances.

Each reflection and image takes on a 'postcard' feel, suggesting messages from God to us, arriving at just the right time! Ellie helps us to hear from God through the seasons of life, in the everyday and in times of change.

Postcards from Heaven was published on 22 January 2016, priced £7.99, ISBN 978 0 85746 427 9



HOW TO BELIEVE

JOHN COTTINGHAM

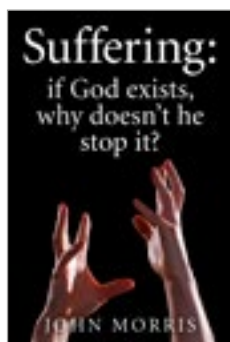
How to believe is written by an academic philosopher versed in religion and psychology and it helped me understand my believing and better understand unbelievers. One of many helpful analogies is that of the difficulty psychotherapists have with intellectuals whose command of information balks at painful self-scrutiny. If we are to believe, there must be a certain relinquishing of control, though without loss of intellectual integrity. Belief is left brain and right brain. Another image the author uses is of spiritual progress being helical with faith and action moving us forward together in two dimensions. You have to commit to move on in life, even if life without a faith commitment remains valuable. John Cottingham writes well and works both to affirm life as gift and taster of the Giver and to expose and challenge the materialist and Buddhist presuppositions of many in our age.

Canon John Twisleton, Rector of St Giles, Horsted Keynes 6th August 2015

Bloomsbury 2015 ISBN 978-1-4729-0744-8 £16.99 155pp



# BOOKS AND REVIEWS



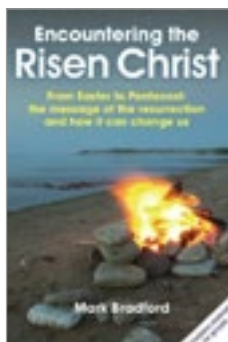
## SUFFERING: IF GOD EXISTS, WHY DOESN'T HE STOP IT?

**JOHN MORRIS**

John Morris puts mind and heart into what's described as a 100-minute read on the big issue re God namely suffering. Rooted both in his experience as carer of his handicapped grandson and as a Christian apologist, author of the popular book *Contemporary Creed*, Morris appeals to both logic and life experience as he sets forth the paradox. That paradox of God's goodness needing to be held in reality alongside unavoidable suffering experienced in God's world is seen as a contradiction by many. The book's attraction is its short, succinct challenge for readers to accept the paradox and reject the contradiction. John Morris centres on Christ's cross and resurrection as making sense of suffering in the face of the God and Father of Jesus.

Canon John Twisleton, Rector of St Giles, Horsted Keynes 6th August 2015

Circle-books.com 2016 £5.99 ISBN: 978-1-78535-011-5 88pp.



## ENCOUNTERING THE RISEN CHRIST

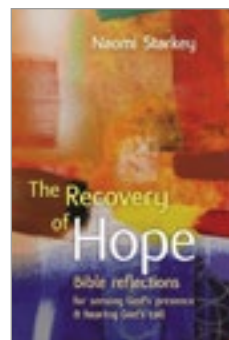
**MARK BRADFORD**

If Easter is the highlight of the Christian year, what comes next? Unless the resurrection carries the hope, if not the expectation, that believers will be transformed, what do we think it is for?

Mark Bradford's aim is to help the ordinary Christian to think seriously about the importance of the resurrection. By encountering the risen Christ we would expect to be transformed—as were people who met Jesus in post-resurrection encounters. In his new book, Bradford unpacks how we can experience transformation today. Through a better understanding of the resurrection, our lives can be affected and these encounters shed light into our own circumstances.

Seven chapters plus discussion material can be used across the seven weeks from Easter to Pentecost, in individual reflection or group study.

*Encountering the Risen Christ* is published on 22 January 2016, priced £7.99, ISBN 978 0 85746 428 6, pb, 160 pages.



## THE RECOVERY OF HOPE

**NAOMI STARKEY**

Sometimes all we need is a well-chosen Bible passage, some thoughts around it, and a prayer or reflection to regain a sense of stability and hope. In her new book *The Recovery of Hope*, Naomi Starkey has provided a selection of Bible reflections pointing to a consoling God, a God who loves us exactly as we are, a God who gives hope in our lives and world.

The reflections pick up the themes of Coping with darkness, Challenged to journey and In resurrection light, with several Bible passages unfolded. The yearning of the psalmist, the story of the Good Shepherd, Jonah's experiences and the events of Holy Week are among the passages that she has chosen to enable each of us to rediscover a hope that speaks truth into our lives.

Poems written by Naomi bring a further dimension to enrich our reflection. Naomi is also a regular book reviewer for the *Church Times*.

*The Recovery of Hope* is published on 22 January 2016, priced £8.99, ISBN 978 0 85746 417 0

# CATHEDRAL NEWS

## CATHEDRAL EVENTS: SPRING 2016

### Lunchtime Concerts at Chichester Cathedral – Spring 2016

**Tuesdays until 8th March 1.10pm – 2pm**

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

### Chorister Open Day at Chichester Cathedral

**Saturday 6th February 2.00pm – 3.30pm**

Join the junior choristers for the afternoon. An informal event suitable for boys in Years 2 and 3 and for parents of younger children who would like to hear more about life as a chorister at Chichester Cathedral.

To book or for more information contact Lesa Burchell at the Prebendal School on 01243 520970.

### Family Activity: 'Pop Up and Play – Step Back to the Victorians!'

**Friday 15th February 10.00am – 3.00pm  
(Last entry 2.30pm)**

Follow a trail around the Cathedral to find out about the Victorians and the collapse of the Cathedral spire in 1861 before collecting a prize from the shop. Then go along to the Vicars' Hall and join in the creative activities - have a go at creating a Victorian toy to play with such as a Jack in the Box, or fantastic pop up people or a

wooden spoon character.

There will be a charge of £2.50 per child. No need to book, just come along to the Eastern Arm of the Cloisters.

Suitable for children aged 3-12, who must be accompanied by an adult. F

or further details call 01243 812497 or email: [education@chichestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:education@chichestercathedral.org.uk)

### Prebendal School Choral Day

**Saturday 27th February at 7.00pm!**

A performance of highlights from the Messiah and Albinoni Oboe Concerto in D Minor, at 7.00pm in Chichester Cathedral. The performers are all connected with Prebendal School – the Chorus and the orchestra will comprise of pupils, some of their parents, teachers and Prebendalian Associates.

Admission is free and all are welcome to attend.

### Cathedral Fellowship talk

**Monday 7th March: 2.30pm**

'A Lenten Theme': A talk by Revd Canon Russell Bowman-Edie. In Vicars' Hall, Chichester Cathedral.

The Fellowship meets monthly (not July and August) to hear a talk, followed by refreshments. Anyone is welcome. A donation of £1 is suggested. For more information please contact the Cathedral office on 01243 782595 or [reception@chichestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:reception@chichestercathedral.org.uk)

## Chrism Eucharist 2016

**The Chrism Eucharist will take place this year in Chichester Cathedral on Tuesday 22 March at 12.00 noon.**

The Chrism Eucharist is an occasion for the blessing of the oils of baptism, of the sick, and of chrism but it is also an opportunity for clergy to renew their ordination promises before Easter and to commit ourselves afresh to our ministries. I hope as many of you as possible will join me for this important occasion.

Please note the new slightly later start time which should allow a little more time for those travelling from a distance. Clergy are invited to robe as usual in the old Bishop's kitchen where coffee will be served from 10.30am.

## Easter Family Activity – 'Funny Faces'

**Tuesday 5th April 10.00am – 3.00pm  
(Last entry 2.30pm)**

Come along to the Cathedral and follow a mysterious trail before collecting a prize from the shop. Then take part in the fun and creative activities in Vicars' Hall.

There will be a charge of £2.50 per child. No need to book, just come along to the Eastern Arm of the Cloisters.

Suitable for children aged 3-12, who must be accompanied by an adult.

For further details call 01243 812497 or email: [education@chichestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:education@chichestercathedral.org.uk)

## Special Services

**Wednesday 10th February – Ash Wednesday**

5.00pm Evening Prayer (said)

5.30pm Sung Eucharist

**Sunday 20th March – Palm Sunday**

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Mattins

11.00am Sung Eucharist

3.30pm Evensong



## Holy Week

**Monday 21st March**

6.30pm Holy Communion with hymns

**Tuesday 22nd March**

11.00am Chrism Mass

6.30pm Holy Communion with hymns

**Wednesday 23rd March**

6.30pm Holy Communion with hymns

**Thursday 24th March – Maundy Thursday**

7.30am Mattins

8.00am Holy Communion (Shrine)

10.30am Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)

5.30pm Evening Prayer (said)

7.30pm Sung Eucharist & Watch of Prayer

**Friday 25th March – Good Friday**

10.00am Mattins with address

1.30pm Good Friday Liturgy

5.30pm Evensong

**Saturday 26th March**

7.30pm Easter Vigil

**Sunday 27th March – Easter Day**

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Mattins

11.00am Sung Eucharist

3.30pm Evensong

# FOCUS ON AFRICA

The Diocesan Overseas Council is pioneering a new programme for those in the early years of ministry offering an opportunity to reflect on Mission in a world Church context.

The first group, composed of readers and curates, visited Kenya from 1 to 17 November 2015, lead by Fr Ian Hutchinson-Cervantes, the Diocesan World Mission Officer and assisted by Fr. Lionel Whatley.

Here, one of the group gives an account of why the mission initiatives are centred at the heart of Kibera, the largest urban slum in Africa, situated on the edge of Kenya's capital Nairobi, a couple of kilometres only from the city centre.

Kibera's population is estimated at 500,000 in an area of 1.5 square miles (a population density 40 times that of Worthing). The settlements are populated by those who have come to the capital from across the nation seeking work and prosperity. Kibera, and other places like it, provide a supply of cheap accommodation, and each morning there is a mass exodus on foot as the entire population walks into the city centre in search of the day's work and the daily wage of 300 Kenyan shillings (£2).

Many of them, of course, return home at night without having found any work. Some, over time, find jobs that allow them to move into more permanent housing. A great many choose to remain in the settlements, and raise families there.

There is a combination of factors that perpetuate the existence of slums in Nairobi. The politics of the settlements are complex. The Kenyan government has begun a process of slum-clearance that involves moving a population from one part of the settlement into temporary accommodation, whilst building five-storey apartment blocks for the displaced to occupy. It is not obvious that the population who have been displaced are actually the ones who will end up occupying the new housing, or that they would want to, as dwelling in flats immediately

extinguishes the community spirit that permeates the settlements.

In and amongst these extraordinary places the Church Army in Africa has initiated a fantastic programme of outreach. The Centre for Urban Mission partner with ACK churches in the slums to fund and enable an array of very clever mission programmes. The concept that undergirds each project is to provide holistic mission that attends to every part of the community's needs. One example is the Christian Economic Empowerment Programme, that identifies and enables young members of church congregations to begin paid apprenticeships that equip them with skills that they can use to secure ongoing financial support as tailors, mechanics, or hairdressers.

The Centre for Urban Mission is run by the energetic and visionary Nancy Njagi, who will be visiting our Diocese next June. Working alongside her is the Revd Barak who was himself brought up in the slum. He now works as an NSM whilst running the outreach projects. Despite the opportunity to move out he follows his vocation to remain living in the slum with his wife and children, so he can better serve his fellow residents.

The Diocese of Chichester has been linked to dioceses in Kenya for 50 years. Watch this space for the launch of our World Mission website that will provide details of how you and your church can become involved.





# CURATE'S CORNER

I am the assistant curate at St Andrews Church in Eastbourne and am in my third year. I am lucky in that there is a lot going on in Eastbourne and in our parish so am very much in the thick of things down here on the Sunshine Coast! We say morning and evening prayer publicly in church as all good Priests should and we have a daily eucharist.

This year has been a bit more of a mission led year for us at St Andrews, partly out of response to the launch of the Diocesan Strategy and partly from myself

## BY REVD ALEX BAXTER

CURATE AT  
CHRIST CHURCH  
EASTBOURNE

and my training incumbent Fr David King being very present in the local community and seeing a real need for community led mission ideas.

We have launched a new school run café for people after they have dropped off their children or grandchildren as is often the case now! as so many parents have to work so much. Our youth club for the young people of our parish and the youth club for the more mature which we call Cameo are both well attended and important cross over points between the church community and the wider parish. The theology of Hospitality is important to us here as we try to identify Christ's

mission in our small patch and in the greater scheme of things. A curate can get very excited about all sorts of ideas but we must never forget that our purpose in post as assistant curates is to learn.

We are here to learn and gain experience, to assist in administering the sacraments, to visit the sick and the dying, to love our people and to pray for them. To equip ourselves for future ministry and to be Gods humble servants.

My experience here has been spirit filled, fun, challenging and inspiring, every day is different and God keeps you on your toes. Please pray for all the diocesan curates as we endeavor with your help to become all that God has called us to be. Amen.

### SPEAKERS INCLUDE

David **Cook**  
Tim **Lane**  
Jonathan **Lamb**  
Paul **Mallard**  
Chris **Sinkinson**



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