

# FAITH IN SUSSEX

*The diocesan publication reaching church communities across Sussex*



## JANE AUSTEN IN SUSSEX

JULY 18 MARKS THE BICENTENARY OF THE  
DEATH OF JANE AUSTEN, ONE OF THE  
GREATEST WRITERS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

SLEEPING  
ROUGH / 9

Bishop Martin to raise  
awareness of homelessness  
with a YMCA sleepout in March

THE COOMBES  
CRUCIFIX / 34

A rare acquisition for Chichester  
Cathedral's Treasury

'HEAR THE WORD  
OF THE LORD' / 17

Diocesan Lent course – are you  
taking part?



➤ INFORMATION  
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# BISHOP MARTIN WRITES..

The Charterhouse, in the City of London, next to Smithfield, was one of the great monasteries of England, prior to the Reformation. This year it's been opened to the public.

Although centuries have passed since the Carthusian monks lived there, you can still see the pattern of the buildings that sustained their distinctive life as solitary, silent people of prayer.

Carthusians are Christians who live in an extreme way. Just as in sport you can do ordinary things like football or you can do extreme an sport like rock climbing; the important point is that you do your sport well.

Christians who live their vocation in an extreme way would, I suspect, be the first to say that they are not better Christians than those who live in an ordinary way. But they do show us something that is characteristic of the life of every Christian.

The Carthusian challenge is also what Lent is about: putting aside the defences and protectiveness that inhibits our access to God. This is the fruit of giving things up or doing lots of extra stuff.

What does this mean in practice? Time and money are good ways to measure how defensive we can be.

When I worked in a parish in Leicester, an Asian Christian, who had a full-time job and was a single-parent bringing us two children, used to spend 2 hours every day in prayer. She thought that was normal. She herself was normal and exceptional.

A retired school teacher in the church I used to go to as a teenager used to tithe twice over; once for home and once for the missions overseas. He was not indifferent to money; he was remarkably careful with it. His refrain was, "I have enough for health and comfort; the rest is bonus."

This Lent is a good time to ask how close we want God to come to us, and how much we'd prefer him to keep a respectable distance.

**+Martin**

Bishop of Chichester





Speakers  
include





Lee Gatiss  
Andrew Atherstone  
Mark Greene  
Steve Midgley  
Wallace Benn  
also Lindsay Benn & Clare Heath-Whyte



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Chichester Diocese



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Diocese of Chichester

# NEWS

## ACROSS OUR DIOCESE

### DIOCESE AWARDED £825,000 TO HELP CHURCH GROWTH

The Diocese of Chichester has been awarded a substantial sum to continue its on-going programme of church growth projects. The successful bid of £825,000 was awarded by the Archbishops' Council in its bid to renew the Church across England.

The grants are part of the strategic development funding stream that began in 2014. The funding is a core element of Renewal and Reform, the Church of England's initiative to promote growth in the church in every community in England.

The Diocese of Chichester will use the money to develop a variety of church renewal projects in different contexts in towns across Sussex in High Hurstwood, Brighton, Hove and Crawley.

The project is being led by Martin Lloyd Williams, Archdeacon of Brighton and Lewes. He said: "I am delighted at the news of our successful bid. The process has been affirming and encouraging of the missional life of the diocese. I'm very grateful to the parishes and clergy who have helped develop this application and I look forward to working with them to implement these Church growth projects."

### MOTHERING SUNDAY

As part of their Mothering Sunday resources for 2017, The Children's Society is asking your congregations and children to send messages of support to some of the 674 child refugees it supports through its services every year.

To partner with The Children's Society to care for those who have no one else this Mothering Sunday visit [childrenssociety.org.uk/mothering](http://childrenssociety.org.uk/mothering)



### THE NEW LOOK REAL EASTER EGG

Churches are being asked to encourage people to support this unique way of sharing the story of Easter.

This year a 24 page Easter story-activity book illustrated by Alida Massari is included in the Original, Egg Hunt and Dark eggs. The Special Edition has an Easter traditions booklet inside. The Sharing box, with 30 eggs, comes with 30 colour-in posters.

#### Where to buy

The whole range can be ordered online at [www.realeasteregg.co.uk](http://www.realeasteregg.co.uk) (with free delivery) or from Traidcraft, Eden.co.uk, TLM trading.com, Embrace the Middle East. Christian bookshops and some cathedrals also have stock. You can also buy the blue Original egg from Tesco, Waitrose and Morrisons.

### MOTHERS UNION FAMILY FUN DAY

Saturday 8th July – 10- 5pm

Amberley and Heritage Centre

Tickets are £7 for adults/senior (usually £10.35), £5 for children aged 4-15 (usually £6)! Carers and children under 4 are free. Details of how to order tickets available soon!



## NEW OFFICER FOR PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELLING

Rebekah Golds-Jones was appointed to the post of Officer for Pastoral Care and Counselling.

The Bishop of Chichester, Dr Martin Warner, welcomed the appointment saying, "The new post is part of our commitment to increasing support for our clergy and their families and sits alongside the Pastoral Care Policy, launched at the end of last year."

He added: "We recognise the pressures that come with ordained ministry, for both clergy and their families. Clergy households also have the same challenges and issues connected to health and well-being as any other household."

Rebekah will be the first point of call for clergy or members of their family who are seeking counselling or pastoral care. She'll be part of the Apostolic Life team but will meet people at non-church venues. Rebekah will direct people to specialist counselling or other support as appropriate. Another key part of her role will be to foster clergy well-being through workshops and other training opportunities.

You can read more about this post on the diocesan website news pages.

## LAY VOCATION AND MINISTRY OFFICER APPOINTED

The Revd Jayne Prestwood was recently appointed as the Officer for Lay Vocation and Ministry responsible for encouraging and equipping lay ministry within the diocese. This will include Jayne taking the lead in the review and re-imagining of lay ministry across the diocese, a need clearly identified in the diocesan strategy and also national strategic aims.

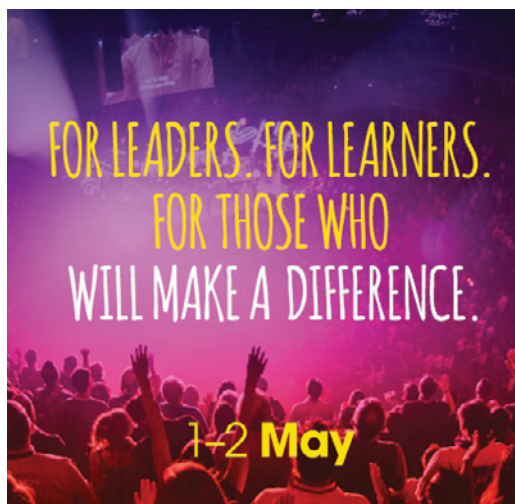
## LC-17 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Next year, St Peter's Brighton is hosting a hub for the Leadership Conference, which takes place at the Royal Albert Hall 1-2 May, run by HTB & Alpha International.

The vision is to equip Christian leaders in all spheres of life (business, church, public sector etc),

Bishop Martin will open the conference hub in Brighton, which will feature the main sessions from Albert Hall via live link, and then a localised programme of seminars

The information for the conference is at [www.alpha.org/lc17](http://www.alpha.org/lc17)





# NEWS

## CONTINUED



### INITIATIVES TO ENCOURAGE VOCATION

2017 will see a range of initiatives to encourage people across Sussex to consider more deeply how their gifts might be used to further God's mission and, in particular, opportunities for people to explore ordained ministry.

Dr Dan Inman, Director of Ordinands has fixed the first of these events for 11 March, when Bishop Martin invites people aged 18-30 in the Diocese to join him and others at the Palace in Chichester for a day of exploring ordained ministry. The day (10.30am-4pm) will include worship, consideration of what a vocation to ordained ministry looks like, hearing stories of those currently training and those recently ordained, and opportunities to explore ministry in action in the Chichester area. It's free, includes lunch.

Register your interest to attend at <http://bit.ly/2lcrVj> or on Facebook: [facebook.com/chichestervocations](https://www.facebook.com/chichestervocations). Do encourage those whom you think might be interested to sign up, or direct questions towards our Director of Ordinands, Dan Inman ([daniel.inman@chichester.anglican.org](mailto:daniel.inman@chichester.anglican.org)). For more info on vocations events for younger people in the Diocese, follow @hearthecall\_chi on Twitter.

Also for your diaries, on 30 September there will be a vocations fair at St Peter's Brighton from 10.30am-4pm which will explore a range of ministries, lay and ordained, for people of all ages exploring a vocation. More information will follow.

### NEWS FOR CHURCHWARDENS - DAC ROADSHOWS IN 2017

Archdeaconsry:	Hasting
Date:	Wednesday 6th September
Venue:	St Mary's Church, Battle
Archdeaconsry:	Brighton & Lewes
Date:	Thursday 7th September
Venue:	Church House, Hove
Archdeaconsry:	Chichester
Date:	Tuesday 10th October
Venue:	St Nicholas Church, Arundel
Archdeaconsry:	Horsham
Date:	Wednesday 18th October
Venue:	St Johns, Church Walk, Burgess Hill

More information about these dates and the content of the roadshows will be communicated in due course.

### CONFIRMATION SERVICES 2017

A list of all the confirmation services being held across the diocese in 2017 with dates and venues can be found on the diocesan website events page:

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

### THY KINGDOM COME

Over 10 days (25th May-4th June), people around the world will be coming together to discover new ways of praying that their friends, family and neighbours come to know Jesus Christ.

Churches and individuals are being invited to join in with this global wave of prayer via [www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global), and Pledge2Pray individually, as a family, as a church or to run an event. Archbishop of Canterbury has also released a video which you can view on the Diocesan Website or from the kingdom come website.

## SLEEPING ROUGH SO OTHERS DON'T HAVE TO

This year the Bishop of Chichester, the Right Reverend Dr. Martin Warner and the Archdeacon of Brighton and Lewes will join Sleep Easy 2017 the national YMCA winter sleep out that raises vital funds and awareness of youth homelessness.

There are many young people who, for a range of reasons, find they can no longer remain living at home. The YMCA works hard to help these young people rebuild their lives, but funding is a constant challenge. The Sleep Easy event raises significant funds to help.

Bishop Martin said, "The rise in numbers – especially of young people – who end up sleeping on the streets is a social scandal that demands our compassion and urgent attention. I am no hero. One night "under cardboard" in no way compares with the despair of those who see homelessness as their only option. But I hope that one night will help to raise a wider awareness of the issue and produce a wider, serious and effective response."

YMCA DownsLink Group works across Sussex and West Surrey providing safe accommodation and opportunities for young people who have been made or are at risk of becoming, homeless. Last year the group housed around 550 young people who would otherwise have been homeless.



## NEW PROVOST FOR LANCING COLLEGE

Lancing College hosted the Installation of the Rt Reverend Jonathan Meyrick as the new Provost of Ardingly, Hurstpierpoint and Lancing Colleges. The ceremony took place in Lancing Chapel in front of a packed audience of pupils, staff and Governors from all three schools on Saturday 21 January.

The service was presided over by the Bishop of Chichester, Martin Warner. Brenden Clover, Senior Provost formally installed Bishop Jonathan as the new Provost asking the congregation to support him in his work.

Bishop Jonathan attended Lancing College between 1965 and 1970. He is currently Bishop of Lynn and will take up his new position in addition to his current responsibilities in the Diocese of Norwich.

An interview with Jonathan will be published in the next issue of Faith in Sussex

## NEW CHAIR FOR DAC

The Bishop of Chichester, Dr Martin Warner has appointed The Revd Martin Lane as Chair of the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) following the interim tenure by the Ven Philip Jones, after Dr Alan Thurlow retired last year.

Martin has been a member of the DAC since 2012 and is an experienced parish priest in this diocese.

Having ministered in Littlehampton and in rural parishes in West Sussex, he understands the pressures that clergy face when dealing with ancient buildings, and modern ones.

Martin comes to the DAC with the full support of the Chancellor and at an encouraging point in the Committee's life.



# KNOW LOVE AND FOLLOW

## THE DIOCESAN STRATEGY 2 YEARS ON

**BY RICHARD JACKSON, BISHOP OF LEWES**

It is hard to believe that it is two years since the consultations that preceded the launch of the diocesan strategy. It seemed timely to have an overview of the progress we are making towards the goals we set for ourselves, and how the various activities of the past two years are helping us towards our aspirations.

Let's look at the three key areas in turn and report. There are many exciting things going on around the diocese. Space allows just a few edited highlights.



## CHURCH GROWTH NUMERICAL AND SPIRITUAL

**Every Benefice to have a plan in place for Christian growth and nurture and a credible but stretching target for numerical growth.**

*Growth in number flows from growth in depth. The Year of Mercy encouraged reflection on God's mercy to us that called us to follow him. The Year of the Bible is serving the strategy already by encouraging a fresh engagement with the scriptures across the diocese. As Jesus said, "Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." Many parishes are being inspired to integrate ideas from these themes into their common life. The Year of Prayer (2018) will help us deepen our prayer and worship.*

**A diocesan policy that facilitates and releases energy to plant churches into areas of recognized need and opportunity.**

*We have recently been awarded £825,000 for four projects of apostolic partnership. These involve a church with more resources sharing with ones less well-off for mutual benefit and blessing. We are looking to have 20 of these partnership projects up and running by 2020.*

**Every Benefice to be financially self-supporting, through a combination of encouraging generosity, grouping into financially sustainable units and, in areas of deprivation, the provision of direct grant help from historic resources.**

*A number of Deanery reviews have taken place. In Hastings for example, two parishes have just appointed interim ministers to work through their mission strategy and work out the next steps. The Deanery Grant Allocation Group is becoming more sophisticated in its capacity to match resources and need. A number of parish amalgamations have taken place. However, there is still a way to go to reach this goal. Nevertheless, the diocesan budget has improved very significantly, in part due to the excellent work of the team at Church House, managing our assets more efficiently.*

## YEAR OF THE BIBLE LECTURES 2017

**THE BIBLE AND SCIENCE: DO TWO WORLDS COLLIDE?**

**Thursday 23rd March 2017 at 10:30-12:30**

Professor David Wilkinson, Principal of St John's College, Durham  
Brighton & Lewes Archdeaconry at Woodingdean, Holy Cross

**THE BIBLE AND THE MEDIA. SECULAR TRENDS IN A DIGITAL AGE**

**Wednesday 17 May 2017 at 18.00 – 20.00**

Christine Morgan, Head of Religion: BBC Radio.  
Hastings Archdeaconry at St John's, Upper St Leonard's

**THE BIBLE AND POLITICS: WHICH, WAY WHERE?**

**WEDNESDAY 14 JUNE 2017 AT 15.00 – 17.00**

Professor James Crossley, Professor of Bible, Society and Politics at St. Mary's University, Twickenham  
Horsham Archdeaconry at St Mary's, Easebourne Professor

**BIBLICAL CRITICISM IN A SECULAR CULTURE**

**Tuesday 5 September 2017 at 15.00 – 17.00**

Professor John Barton, Oriel and Laing Professor, Oxford  
Chichester Archdeaconry at St Nicholas', Arundel

## OUR AIMS FOR RE-IMAGINING MINISTRY

**Develop a portfolio of specialist training and support for volunteers, e.g. church officers and school governors.**

*A suite of guides and resources is now available on the diocesan website. The expanded schools team are providing excellent training. They are also working on projects to encourage vocations to teaching, vital if our schools are to remain central to our mission to the nation.*

**Develop a fuller complement of lay ministries focused on equipping people to serve in both the wider community and the church.**

*The part time Vocations Officer has already trained a number of vocations guides to walk with people at the earliest stages of their sense of call. This will allow a base level of discernment support helping people into the specific avenue to which God is calling them.*

*We've completed a comprehensive review of reader ministry. This, coupled with the appointment of a new Officer for Lay Vocation and Ministry, means there will be a number of new ministries available. These will include Lay Pastoral Assistants alongside Readers. We will also be looking towards other training, including for worship leaders, administrators and evangelists, to name but a few.*

**We want to be pro-active in the promotion and discernment of vocations to ordained ministry, encouraging those with the gifts and skills we need to lead a church in mission. Alongside this we will work with the national church on creative and stimulating patterns of training.**

*We are delighted that the number of young vocations is increasing. A team of young clergy and Assistant DDOs are encouraging the next generation of clergy. We also want to see an increase in vocations from women to ordained ministry and also of men and women to self-supporting ministry. The Bishop of Chichester has designated 2019 as the Year of Vocation.*

**To allow the energy and enthusiasm of our people to be released we will ensure that skills in collaborative ministry form a central part of selection and training for clergy.**

*We want to renew our existing clergy's confidence in leadership and put in place effective patterns of development that sustain joy and effectiveness for life long ministry.*

*Nearly 150 clergy have been through the first phase of Ministerial Development Review. This has begun to identify significant training needs. Later this year we will be piloting a leadership training course for clergy to ensure our clergy have the best support possible to fulfil their demanding roles. The recent appointment of an Officer for Pastoral Care and Counselling will focus on proactive work to foster well-being of clergy and their families and make crisis help much more easily available in a safe confidential manner.*

## OUR AIMS FOR CONTRIBUTING TO THE COMMON GOOD

We want every Benefice to have conducted an audit of their community engagement.

On the basis of this we want Benefices to prayerfully engage with one new project to bless their local community. Given the scale of needs in many places this must be done with our ecumenical partners and other people of good will, irrespective of their faith.

We will provide central resources to help people put these aspirations into reality.

*The Year of Mercy (2016) provided a real stimulus to engage with the community. Many of the over 300 'one things' submitted by parishes were about being a blessing to their communities.*

*The recent appointment of a post sponsored by the Church Urban Fund will greatly enhance our ability to support projects addressing poverty.*

There are many more things that could be mentioned, but there is a sense of a diocese on the move, seeking God, and hopeful for the future. The themed years: Mercy, Bible, Prayer and Vocation will serve our strategy, mainly focussed on our personal growth. The 'one thing' initiative will continue to encourage corporate activity that moves us on together as we seek to know, love and follow Jesus.

+Richard, 2017



Revd Duncan Fraser leading a Year of the Bible deanery event at Wadhurst





# READER DAY

The readers with Bishop Mark

The Horsham Archdeaconry gathering of Licensed Readers took place last year. It was an opportunity to celebrate and affirm reader ministry and also contained a 'fun element' modelling itself on the 'Great British Bake Off'.

## The event reaffirmation

The 'Technical Challenge' took the shape of two training workshops running through the morning. The Archdeacon of Horsham Fiona Windsor covered some very practical advice and tips on dealing with conflict in the parish, while Reader Scilla le Pla presented a personal, poignant yet immensely practical session on living with dementia, of great direct relevance to many in ministry.

The 'Signature Bake' was the celebration of the Bread of Life, the Eucharist; central to reader ministry and to the day, the mark of Jesus' calling on our lives and a thankful affirmation of our response to vocation. Bishop Mark presided and the Readers were led in their reaffirmation before receiving their licences.

The 'Showstopper' concluded proceedings with a lavish tea and special cake to celebrate 150 years of Reader ministry. The cutting of the cake ceremony was conducted by Archdeacon Fiona and the oldest Reader John Stoddart who has served for over 50 years.

After all that, there was still icing on the cake: thanks and presentations were made to Fr Paul Rampton stepping down as Warden of Readers and to Ruth Sowerby for her inspirational and pastoral leadership of Reader training over the last six years, during which she amazingly made time to complete an MA with merit. Ministry in any context is always a team effort, but Fr Nick Flint's announcement of Geoff Peckham as 'Star Reader' for having worked so hard and with such attention to detail in planning the day was greeted with unanimous applause.

Similar events took place in the other archdeaconries.

## New Warden of Readers

Louis Wilson has been Rector of Denton for over 4 years. He is now also Warden of Readers for Brighton and Lewes.



Archdeacon Fiona with John Stoddart

CHICHESTER DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE

# THE HOLY LAND

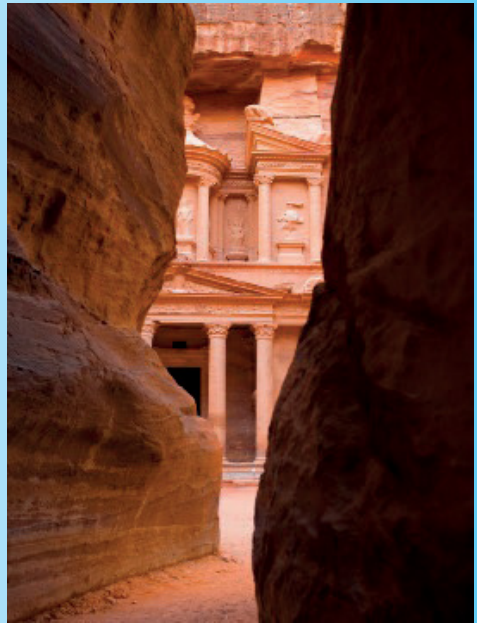
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# PARISH NEWS

## ST. LAURENCE CHURCH, FALMER CELEBRATING 200 YEARS

2017 will be a special year in the life of the Parish of Stanmer with Falmer. Although there has been a church on the same spot in Falmer since before the Norman Conquest, the current St. Laurence Church will be 200 years old.

What does this mean for our parish and the community? Tradition has it that, when asked to turn over the riches of the church to the authorities in Rome, St. Laurence presented them with the people of the parish. The wealth of the parish of Stanmer with Falmer lies with its people in whom the gifts and talents of all are valued,

a community which extends a hand of welcome to all. In planning this celebratory year the parish have put together a programme to which everyone has contributed, and which we hope will reach out to the diverse community that makes up our parish, not least the universities. We will be presenting two art exhibitions, a concert series, a lecture series given by academics from both universities within our parish, a heritage exhibition, a flower festival, a parish barbecue, and the whole festive year will be rounded up with a live action Nativity Play which will move around the village of Falmer.

Why do all this? Dr Colin Lawlor, the Priest in Charge of the parish of Stanmer with Falmer writes: 'We want to celebrate the faithfulness of Christians who

have worshipped here, not just over the last 200 years but over the centuries. Our celebration is also part of our response to the Diocesan Strategy. The people of the parish want to share the love and the joy which comes from knowing Christ. In sharing all our planned activities with the wider community in ways that do not involve traditional church-going we hope to reach out to those who are trying to find their spiritual home and to show them the love of God in action so that they may come to know, love and follow Christ.'

**Follow all events on our new website:**  
**[www.stanmerwithfalmer.com](http://www.stanmerwithfalmer.com)**



## BISHOP BLESSES REOPENING OF CHURCH COFFEE SHOP IN BEXHILL

The Bishop of Lewes, Richard Jackson officially opened the new Coffee Shop at St. Barnabas Church Bexhill-on-Sea in December.

Judith Meredith, Assistant Churchwarden from the church, said: "Everybody from the town was invited to join in with us. Also present was the Mayor of Bexhill, Simon Elford, the Mayoress, and other dignitaries of the town and church.

"Our coffee shop has been well-loved and appreciated by the

town's people, who endlessly ask when it will reopen. The coffee shop had been closed for refurbishment.

"The coffee shop provides a very strong point of outreach to those in the community, both believers and non-believers. It offers the community a gathering point."

The coffee shop, community hub and children's corner will be open for drinks and light snacks on three days a week from January.

Bishop Richard opened with a service and then blessed the project

is open to the possibilities of a working relationship with faith communities.



## HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD – DIOCESAN LENT COURSE

As we went to print over 150 churches had already signed up and registered their interest in the Diocesan Lent course.

The course is made up of six sessions and each session has a 6 page downloadable PDF. Downloadable audio tracks of the reflections for each session are also available.

### Contributors are:

Professor Jimmy Dunn; Canon Ann Holt; Revd Lisa Barnett;

Revd Alice Whalley

Revd Guy Bridgewater; Revd Mark Gilbert and Revd Rory Graham.

All the resources for the Lent course 2017 can be found on the diocesan website: [www.chichester.anglican.org/lent2017downloads/](http://www.chichester.anglican.org/lent2017downloads/)



# NEWS FROM FAMILY SUPPORT WORK

## CHRISTMAS THANKS

FSW would like to thank supporters across the Diocese for their generosity at Christmas.

The charity again received new toys, clothing and Christmas food from many churches, schools and groups; and delivered gifts and hampers to local children and families in need.

Bridgers Farm, Hurstpierpoint, kindly donated 103 free range turkeys.

A parent supported by FSW said: "Thank you all... After a horrid year this really helped me and the boys have a decent and proper Christmas."

FSW is currently supporting 320 Sussex children and their families, helping them overcome a range of difficulties. The charity operates very cost-effectively, spending on average £1,000 to support a child for a year.

Income comes from a range of sources including events that FSW holds throughout the year. 2017 events include:

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>March &amp; April</b> | <b>Lent lunches</b> – Supporters are invited to host a lunch in aid of FSW                     |
| <b>17th April</b>        | <b>Easter Walk</b> – Sponsored 8.5 mile walk in the Ashdown Forest                             |
| <b>28th April</b>        | <b>Gala Dinner, Brighton Pavilion</b> – Hosted by the Mayor of Brighton & Hove                 |
| <b>7th - 9th July</b>    | <b>Teddy Bear Weekend</b> – Teddy themed events hosted by supporters throughout Sussex         |
| <b>24th August</b>       | <b>West Sussex Walk</b> – A sponsored walk from Amberley to Arundel with various route options |

To participate, or for more information, telephone the FSW office on 01273 832963 or email [admin@familysupportwork.org.uk](mailto:admin@familysupportwork.org.uk)

## HOLD A LENT LUNCH FOR FSW

Invite friends, colleagues or neighbours to share a simple lunch for a donation to FSW.

For soup recipe ideas visit [familysupportwork.org/soup](http://familysupportwork.org/soup).

Please send donations you receive to:

Family Support Work  
Garton House  
22 Standord Avenue  
Brighton, BN1 6AA

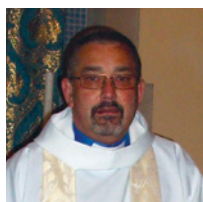
T: 01273 832963



# CLERGY APPOINTMENTS

We welcome new clergy to the diocese and Chichester Diocesan clergy appointed to new posts within the diocese. Please pray for all our clergy and the church communities they serve as they prepare for this new chapter in the life of the parish and the diocese.

A list of all the clergy moves for February can be found on the Diocesan Website: [www.chichester.anglican.org](http://www.chichester.anglican.org)



**Revd Peter Mallinson** has been appointed as Incumbent to the group of Arun Churches (Bury with Houghton, Coldwaltham and Hardham.) Peter joins us from Chelmsford Diocese and will be licensed on 9 March at 7:00pm at St John the Evangelist, Bury by the Bishop of Chichester and the Archdeacon of Horsham.



**Revd Andrew Doye** has been appointed as Incumbent St John the Baptist, Westbourne. He comes to us from the Diocese of St Albans and will be licensed on 02 May at 7:30pm by the Bishop of Chichester and the Archdeacon of Chichester.



**Revd Christopher Brading** has been appointed as Incumbent to St Richard's Haywards Heath. Christopher joins us from Sheffield Diocese and will be licensed on May 12 at 7:30pm by the Bishop of Chichester and the Archdeacon of Horsham.

## Retirements



**Revd Mark Heather** has been appointed as Incumbent to the Benefice of Steyning and Ashhurst. Mark will be joining us from the Diocese of Guildford where he serves as Chaplain to the Bishop of Guildford. He will be licensed to his new post in Steyning, St Andrew & St Cuthman on April 28 at 7:30pm by the Bishop of Chichester and the Archdeacon of Horsham.



**Revd Ryan Green** has been appointed as Incumbent for All Saints Hove. Ryan comes to us from Fremantle Australia and will be licensed on May 8 at 7:30pm by the Bishop of Chichester and the Archdeacon of Brighton and Lewes.



**Revd Canon Robin Whitehead** retired as Rector of Winchelsea and Vicar of Icklesham where he has served since the autumn of 2013. He took up the post after retiring from full-time stipendiary ministry from Boston in the Diocese of Lincoln where he was Team Rector for nine years. We thank Robin for his faithful ministry and we wish him well in his (2nd) retirement!

MAYCAMP

2017

**RUSH**

# PULLING OUT ALL THE STOPS FOR THIS YEAR'S YOUTH FESTIVAL

Dan Jenkins, the Diocesan Youth Officer, gives an update on this year's youth festival at Plumpton.

May Camp – Our diocesan flagship youth event – is a festival for young people aged 11-18 in held every year (for over 30 years!) and hosted again this year at Plumpton Racecourse from the 26th to the 29th May.





May Camp is a great opportunity for churches large and small to be intentional about discipleship with young people. It doesn't matter if you're bringing one young person or 50, May camp promises to be jam packed full of games, activities, seminars, workshops and worship, making it the best weekend of the year!

In 2017 we're calling May Camp, RUSH. We'll be looking at the passage in Hebrews 12:1-3 which in the message says that when we remind ourselves of the stories of what God has done through Jesus that will be like a RUSH of adrenaline to your soul! This Rush theme as always becomes a spark for our most imaginative ideas as we build the weekend around this theme. This year our café venue is called the pit stop and we'll be pulling out all the stops to build a racing themed café venue that will play host to bouncy castle, sumo, giant games, disco, open mic and loads more!

Last year we asked for sponsors to sponsor the place of a young person to allow us to keep the ticket cost down. We're looking for the same again this year. You can sponsor a young person for £25 or a make any other donation you'd like by going

to [www.maycamp.org/sponsor](http://www.maycamp.org/sponsor) In return you will receive a personalised postcard from one young person at the event. Here are some of last year's responses:

'I really enjoyed spending time with my friends and becoming closer to God which I wouldn't be able to do if I hadn't come to May Camp. Thank You'

'I can't wait for next year, May Camp has really changed my life'

'May Camp is the one time each year where I feel I can properly worship with people my age, come out of my comfort zone and express myself'

For more information and to book tickets head to [www.maycamp.org](http://www.maycamp.org) or contact [dan.jenkins@chichester.anglican.org](mailto:dan.jenkins@chichester.anglican.org)

We are also in need of a few strong people who might consider helping with the pack down and van loading on Monday 29th May from 12midday onwards. If this is something you feel you could offer your time to please contact [dan.jenkins@chichester.anglican.org](mailto:dan.jenkins@chichester.anglican.org)

# EDUCATION NEWS

## SCHOOL BID RESPONDS TO GROWING POPULATION

St Nicolas and St Mary CE Primary School has applied to the Department of Education to set up a new school, St Clement CE Primary Academy, in the Shoreham area.

The local population is rapidly growing and parents, the Local Authority and MP would like a new 'Free School' to create additional school places for local children.

In January, five members of the Diocesan Education Team were invited to the Department of Education to be interviewed about the proposal. The team comprised of (left to right) David Etherton (Executive Headteacher), Ann Holt (Diocesan Director of Education), Jenny Barnard (National

Leader of Governance), Hayley Edmondson (Business Manager) and Andy Lincoln (Acting Headteacher).

The DfE will announce whether this proposal and other Diocesan free school bids are successful by the beginning of April.



## EDUCATION CONFERENCE

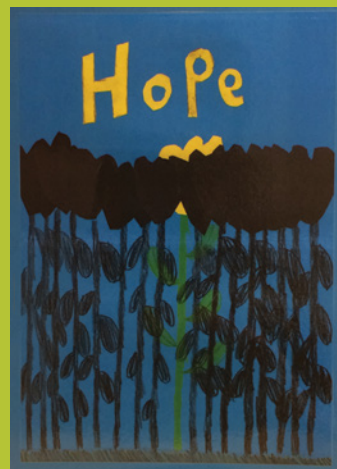
Fifteen members of the Diocese joined three hundred others in Westminster in February for the very first National Conference for the Church of England's Foundation for Educational Leadership.

Ann Holt – Director of Education for the Diocese said: "This newly formed organisation's main aim is to build a national movement of inspirational leaders equipped to transform education through world class programmes, networks and research.

"Much of the day focused around the newly articulated and published vision for education, 'Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good.'

"The General Synod and House of Bishops have given this vision their overwhelming support. The conference programme on Saturday began with a lively time of worship led partly by Archbishop Sentamu with a djembe drum. Speakers included Dame Alison Peacock and Bill Lucas, amongst others, giving much food for thought."

Canon Dr Ann Holt OBE was one of the theological group members to write the vision for education, 'Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good.'



Winning pictures from a previous art competition in 2014

## GREAT PRIZES FOR SCHOOLS IN ART COMPETITION

In November the Education Department launched the Schools' Art Competition to celebrate 'The Year of the Bible'.

The art competition is open to all our schools and to date we have had almost 80 schools register their intent to submit entries, representing half of all the schools in the Diocese.

It is an excellent cross curricular learning opportunity. The children will be able to choose from a selection of bible related topics, using a varied range of media. We have included a wide range of options to include, photography and video as well as textiles, ceramics and sculpture.

We've suggested that schools hold their own in-school art competition as a way to select their final entries for the Diocese of Chichester Schools' Art Competition.

In order to offer substantial prizes for participants, we have asked deaneries to support us with a

donation towards the prize fund. Together with money pledged by the diocese centrally, and the kind donation from local business, this will enable us to offer prizes such as artist in residence for the day, art equipment and digital prizes along with vouchers to allow winners to purchase art materials of their choice.

Our panel of judges includes professionals from the art world as well as representatives from the Diocese.

Finalists and winners will be exhibited at each end of the Diocese and there will be a prize presentation event. The exhibition in the East is being held at St John the Evangelist, Upper St Leonards and we are hoping to secure Chichester Cathedral for the exhibition in the west of the Diocese. Once the exhibitions have closed then the artwork will be moved and displayed in Church House, Hove.

All entries must be submitted by 31st March 2017.

We hope that this event, reaching across the whole of the Diocese will be a real success as part of the Year of the Bible and show that parishes, deaneries and schools are in this together.

# SEARCHING FOR KINGS AND QUEENS



**REV John Naudé is the associate vicar at The Point, the Anglican Network Church for Mid Sussex. Alongside this ministry John was invited last year to take up the post of diocesan disability adviser. He spoke to Faith in Sussex about his new role.**

I LOVE the story of Samuel following God's instructions in choosing the future king of Israel. He asks to see Jesse's sons and, to cut a long story short, he sees everyone but David and God tells Samuel there is someone else. David wasn't what Samuel or Jesse thought were future king material – but God thought he was.

As someone with a disability who uses a wheelchair, there are plenty of people who have looked at me and had a very limited perspective of what I could achieve. As someone new to Chichester Diocese, I thought I would give a brief introduction to me and my new role.

I was ordained in 1996 in Peterborough Diocese, where they saw beyond the perceived visual limitations of using a wheelchair.

I spent my curacy and first post in Northamptonshire then moved to an incumbency post in Portsmouth Diocese.

After a time, my late wife and I felt called by God to serve with a small missionary organisation called Emmanuel International in Malawi where I taught at a small Bible school. I now serve as the associate vicar at The Point church in Burgess Hill.

Prior to being ordained I trained as a psychodynamic counsellor and worked for a disability charity leading training on various disability issues. It was through this I felt God calling me to continue to advise and lead training on disability issues, especially within the Church.

Since my ordination I have attended three World Council of Churches assemblies as an adviser on disability and been the chairman of Churches for All, a Christian disability consortium aimed at educating the Church.

I am also a member of the Church of England's Committee for Ministry of and among Deaf and Disabled People. As a result of this experience, Bishop Martin kindly invited me to be the diocesan disability adviser (DDA).

I would love to hear from anyone who is interested in the work of encouraging the Church to be more inclusive towards the gifts and ministries disabled people have to offer. I would love to build up a team of people who can serve the diocese on all aspects of disability issues. So if you are interested or want some advice, please email me.

I never would have dreamt that God would call me into ministry and use me so much and then take me to different parts of the world as part of my service of Him. But somehow God saw beyond the societal expectations of someone with a disability and uses me as his servant for, hopefully, the building up of his Church.

My prayer is that we, the Church, may not miss the people God is calling to serve and look out for the "kings and queens" He has chosen rather than those we think are most suitable.





# CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY

CAP was established in 1996. It is the largest provider of face-to-face financial education in the UK. All they do and provide is absolutely FREE and they do fantastic work. It currently has over 300 debt centres helping more than 21,000 people a year out of debt and poverty. In West Sussex CAP has debt centres in Chichester, Bognor, Littlehampton, Worthing, Crawley and Shoreham-on-sea. There are also debt centres in Brighton, Bexhill and Hastings.

**Local CAP co-ordinator Peter Sutton, from Selsey explains how CAP works in practice and invites people to consider training to be a CAP Money Coach for their community.**

“The CAP Money Course is completely confidential and gives people the tools to get their finances under control at a time when many are feeling the pinch. Jesus taught so much about money because it affects every area of life and if it is out of control, it has the power to destroy lives. The CAP Money Course empowers people to give and save more as well

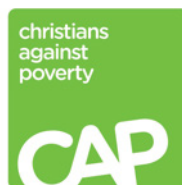
as preventing the destructive effects of unmanageable debt. The CAP Money Course also gives people who realise they are in debt access to CAP’s free Debt Help service.

“The CAP Money Course is totally free and comprises 3 sessions. It is open to anyone, irrespective of faith, income, financial circumstances or knowledge. Each session lasts 2 hours including refreshments. It’s really informal and confidential. Tailored courses for Students, Youth and Kids are available. CAP can also help people step into employment through CAP Job Clubs thereby supporting people back into work. Currently

job clubs are available in Billingshurst, Horsham and Chichester.

“We would really appreciate your church supporting the work CAP does by putting up a poster and a list of local courses.”

You can contact Peter for more information: call: 07813024585 or email: [petersutton@capmoneycourse.org](mailto:petersutton@capmoneycourse.org)



## CAN YOU HELP RUN THIS COURSE?

In addition, as we are in the Lent theme would any of your congregation be interested in doing something different and giving of their time to train to be a CAP Money Coach? As a CAP Money coach they would run courses and raise awareness of CAP in your area? Running the CAP Money Course will have a big impact for relatively small effort. CAP are running a one-day training course in Brighton on 6th May. If you are interested then please contact me, Peter Sutton, Telephone: 07813024585 or Email: [petersutton@capmoneycourse.org](mailto:petersutton@capmoneycourse.org)

# ART, PILGRIMAGE AND THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE



Berwick church's 20th Century murals were painted during the Second World War by the Bloomsbury artists, Duncan Grant, Vanessa Bell and Quentin Bell.

**Naomi Billingsly completed her two-year post as Diocesan Bishop Otter Scholar for Theology and the Arts in December 2016. Part of her legacy will be two new resources developed for people who want to use art as a focus for discussion and contemplation and for pilgrimage - with Year of the Bible in mind. Naomi, who takes up a new post at the University of Manchester, writes about the context of the two projects for our readers.**

One of the many resources available to us to enrich our engagement with the scriptures in this Year of the Bible is the art in our churches (and other locations in the Diocese and beyond). Some of our churches have very prominent works of art based on stories from the Bible, such as the Bloomsbury murals at Berwick and the mediaeval wall paintings at Hardham. But in almost any church you will find biblical motifs in stained glass windows, or motifs in liturgical silverware and fabrics.

Spending time looking at and engaging with art which depicts biblical stories or includes biblical motifs can give us fresh insights into those texts. By considering how an artist has translated a narrative into visual form, or employed a biblical motif, we might gain a new perspective on that passage of scripture. Seeing a story presented in visual form can also help us to feel involved in the narrative. For example, when we see a Nativity scene, we can imagine being at the stable ourselves, together with the shepherds, magi and angels.

As mentioned in an earlier article, I have been working on a series of guidelines for individuals and groups throughout the Diocese who want to use art as a focus for discussion and contemplation in the Year of the Bible and beyond. The resource has been written and will be circulated as part of the Year of the Bible initiative.

Another project launching soon – at the start of Lent – is a new pilgrimage trail for a mobile app called 'Alight: Art and the

Sacred', created by academics at King's College London and the app developers, Calvium. The trail will take the pilgrim on a walk through Chichester, finishing at the Cathedral with a variety of contributors offering spoken reflections on works of art inside. Just as last year, the Door of Mercy provided a focus for Diocesan pilgrimages to the Cathedral, the 'Alight' pilgrimage trail will provide a resource for individuals and groups from within and beyond the Diocese making a pilgrimage to Chichester this year and in the future.

Like the resource mentioned above, the aim of the trail is to provide and to stimulate a mode of engaging with art in a religious context that is more concerned with looking and contemplation than with information about the artist, techniques and so on. It will include some fine examples of biblical art, from the South Transept Window which depicts multiple scenes from both the Old and New Testaments, to less obviously biblical pieces such as Cecil Collins' Icon of the Divine Light altar frontal, inspired by Revelation 21:5: 'Behold, I make all things new.'

When this article goes to press I will have left my role as Bishop Otter Scholar to start a new post at the University of Manchester. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that I have worked and corresponded with me during my time in the Diocese of Chichester. Watch this space for news of Bishop Otter Scholar II.

## STORIES BEHIND THE HYMNS

# LORD, THY WORD ABIDETH

## A HYMN FOR THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE

BY NEVILLE MANNING

ONCE upon a time, in those distant days when some clergy were appointed to what might have been described as “light duty” parishes, they often found time to deepen areas of study in a way which enriched the life and witness of both the Church and the wider world.

One of these clergy was Sir Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877). The son of a vice-admiral, he was educated at Trinity College Cambridge and ordained in 1844. In 1851 he was appointed vicar of Monksland in Herefordshire, a parish in which he remained until his death, his body being laid to rest in the churchyard there. The church has a stained-glass window in his memory.

He studied hymnody and wrote 33 hymns himself. Several are now rarely used but exceptions include well-used favourites such as O Praise Ye The Lord, The King Of Love My Shepherd Is and We Love The Place, O God. Another is Lord, Thy Word Abideth.

H W Baker was largely responsible for the production of the very first Hymns Ancient and Modern, a book aimed for different shades of churchmanship and which became the staple source for hymns in a majority of parishes over many years.

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“SUCCOUR TO  
THE LIVING...  
COMFORT TO  
THE DYING”

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Lord, Thy Word Abideth probably does not rate as highly in a list of popular hymns in the way that other hymns, such as Morning Has Broken, Amazing Grace, All Things Bright And Beautiful clearly do. It is in some ways a more pedestrian yet very serviceable hymn. Some hymns are versions of passages of scripture, whereas this one is about the scriptures themselves.

It is certainly one we might choose to use in this diocese

during the Year of the Bible (2016-2017). It reminds us that in the scriptures we find guidance on life’s way: “Lord, thy word abideth, and our footsteps guideth.”

Through them we find the way to help in the darker and more difficult parts of human life, “when the storms are o’er us, and dark clouds before us”. The Scriptures are also “pleasure” and “treasure”, not some difficult object to encounter and deal with. They are there to help us in our living and in our dying, “succour to the living... comfort to the dying”.

The final verse hints at a need to attend to the scriptures deliberately: “O that we discerning its most holy learning.” All those characteristics are true, of course, of Christ who is the living word of God to us.

**We are grateful to Rev Neville Manning who has agreed to continue delight readers with his regular feature about hymns ancient and modern.**

## IN PARTNERSHIP WITH YMCA DOWNSLINK GROUP

# A HOME-COOKED 'FAMILY' MEAL **CONNECTS WITH YOUNG RESIDENTS**

**There are many young people who, for a range of reasons, find they can no longer remain living at home. The YMCA works hard to help these young people rebuild their lives, but funding is a constant challenge.**

The YMCA currently provides supported accommodation for around 550 young people aged between 16 and 25 in Sussex and Surrey.

Lucy McGrath, the Lead Chaplain for the YMCA DownsLink Group based in Hove has established a volunteer chaplaincy programme that has proved to be a welcome service for the residents in its supported housing.

The idea is simple. The volunteer chaplains, lay people and clergy from the locality, work in teams of two to plan and prepare a meal once a week for the residents. They all sit down around a table to eat together and conversation naturally flows.

"It is a time of fellowship, laughter and storytelling. says Father Rob Coupland. Fr Rob is Assistant Curate at St. Michael and All Angels and St. Paul's, Brighton. He has been a volunteer Chaplain with the

YMCA chaplaincy programme from the beginning of the local project which started in September 2016.

"The young residents have often experienced great difficulties and have lacked the security and nurture of a stable upbringing. The chaplaincy sessions are centred on the preparation and sharing of a 'family' meal – often this is a new experience for the young residents. It is a time of fellowship, laughter and storytelling. It is a ministry that I would strongly commend to all."

Feedback from the sessions, which often sees up to 10 people sitting around the table, has been very encouraging and residents have been vocal in their praise.

"The chaplaincy has been a great experience and it's wonderful that people would do this type of stuff for us."

"Every person I met at the chaplaincy was friendly and had an easy to approach attitude. Good work guys."

"It is nice to have someone to talk to just about day to day life and have a nice meal to eat."


A support worker based at one of the hostels said that from day one they found the chaplaincy a welcoming and smoothly operated service.

"All of the volunteers have been warm, engaging and funny and able to relate to the various clients that we have had and on a wide range of topics. They've also managed some harder to reach clients and some boisterous sessions. It has become an established part of our weekly routine that a lot of the residents look forward to. I hope this service continues as I can only see it getting more successful as it becomes more established."

Although the volunteers give of their time, the project does incur additional costs for training, food and kitchen equipment. A recent donation of £1,000 came from Bishop Hannington, a church in Hove to help with funding the chaplaincy costs, and now the project looks set to continue and grow.

If you think you would like to help or make a contribution please contact Lucy McGrath, Lead Chaplain for YMCA DownsLink Group on [chaplain@ymcadlg.org](mailto:chaplain@ymcadlg.org)





"I had no real idea about the work of the YMCA until I applied for this position. Since starting as a Chaplain I can do nothing but sing their praises at the top of my voice to everyone I meet. The gorgeous young people that I have met so far, have had really tough experiences to deal with, some, more than they should ever have had to go through in life and they are often completely on their own. The YMCA picks them up and supports them, giving them all that they need to turn things around when they are in the right place. A home, access to the right support services to help, care, guidance and structure, someone to talk to, understanding, a mentor, friends that they can keep coming back to even after they have left to go it alone. The YMCA aims to never let them go until they are ready. That's what I have found most moving and most amazing about this organisation. They just keep positively placing these lovely people into places of less and less support until they don't need them any more. If they take a wrong turn, there is no judgement, just the chance to try again. These young people just need a chance and the YMCA gives it to them. I have seen their success and its a humbling privilege to be even a small part of what they do."

**Sue Anson, YMCA Volunteer chaplain, Brighton**

**Lisa Williamson, another volunteer chaplain, sees her chaplaincy role as a two-way conversation.**

"Residents are encouraged to help prepare the meal and that is often where a good conversation starts. We discuss all sorts of things around enjoyment of food and likes and dislikes. You learn a thing or two from them also. Some may share a little of their own story. Gradually as the weeks went by we developed a more relaxed approach. The other week one of the residents practically cooked the entire meal and others started to get the table ready, that was lovely to be part of."

# ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

## CHURCHYARDS AS WILDLIFE HAVENS

BY HELEN PROCTOR, SUSSEX BOTANICAL RECORDING SOCIETY



Helen Proctor is co-ordinating botanical surveys of churchyards throughout East and West Sussex for the Sussex Botanical Recording Society (SBRS). Helen is keen to encourage parishes to learn more about the different forms of management which can make a huge difference to the future sustainability of the grounds for future generations to enjoy. She has visited a number of churches in the diocese and reports on what the survey has revealed so far.

BLUEBELLS, MEADOW  
BUTTERCUPS, OX-EYE  
DAISIES, KNAPWEED AND  
RED CLOVER

The charity, 'Caring for God's Acre' promotes interest in managing churchyards and burial grounds for people and for wildlife. Churchyards are places of peace and tranquillity and can be havens for wildlife. These are areas whose destiny we can control.

The Sussex Botanical Recording Society embarked upon a new project in 2016 to record wild flowers in churchyards throughout the Diocese.

St. Laurence Churchyard at Catsfield Manor was a delight to visit. Bluebells, Meadow Buttercups, Ox-eye Daisies, Knapweed and Red Clover filled the churchyard with colour. Later on, at All Saints Church, Westdean, East Sussex, Blue Butterflies and nectar-seeking insects flew above a profusion of purple flowered Knapweed. A few churchyards proved to be havens for our rarest wild flowers including native orchids. These plants flourish where they are allowed to flower and set seed in nutrient poor soil.

Completed survey forms received from members illustrate very different forms of management which affects the quality of the habitats and whether the species thrive or barely survive. In some churchyards, the grass is frequently mown, preventing plants from flowering. Where grass cuttings are left in situ, the decomposing mulch enriches the soil, encouraging vigorous grasses to stifle the more fragile plants. A few well managed Churchyards resemble nature reserves and are lovingly cared for by a Churchwarden or Parishioners.

'Caring for God's Acre' gives advice on Churchyard management for wildlife and advocates community involvement. It has several freely downloadable leaflets at [www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk)



## SECOND WAVE OF SCIENTISTS IN CONGREGATIONS GRANTS UNVEILED

Trinity Church in Lewes, is to receive a grant to develop a project to foster better understanding between science and faith.

The project is among 10 to receive funding of up to £10,000 as part of the second wave of Scientists in Congregations, a grant scheme open to all mainstream Christian churches. The projects are aimed at helping churchgoers engage confidently with science, raising the profile of Christians whose vocation is science-related and changing the debate about science and faith in churches and communities.

Scientists in Congregations is part of Equipping Christian Leadership in an Age of Science, a three-year Durham University project run in partnership with the Church of England.

Trinity Church in Lewes will draw up 'eco system' services with walks starting and finishing at each of the church's three sites examining the natural environment with explanation from an ecologist, and Christian

teaching, theological reflection and prayer by a pastor or minister.

Rt Rev Dr Richard Cheetham, Bishop of Kingston, and one of the co-leaders of Equipping Christian Leadership in an Age of Science, alongside Durham University Professors David Wilkinson and Tom McLeish, said: "I have been very excited and encouraged by the range and quality of these local projects – they bear witness to the widespread and vibrant desire to enable a fruitful and stimulating conversation between science and faith which is much needed in contemporary society."



Trinity church member Martin Pett (far right) is pictured with Rt Rev Dr Richard Cheetham, Bishop of Kingston, and Durham University Professors David Wilkinson and Tom McLeish

## CARE FOR CREATION AS A PART OF EVERYDAY PARISH LIFE

The Eco Church award scheme marked its first anniversary with environmentally themed 'Green Communion' services at churches and cathedrals across the country earlier this month (February).

TRINITY church, based in three locations across Lewes, East Sussex, was part of the launch of the scheme at St Paul's Cathedral and this year achieved a bronze award. Martin Pett, a worshipper at Trinity, and a member of the Chichester Diocesan Environmental Group, writes about the work achieved so far by the church.

"We recently carried out an energy audit of all the buildings at all three locations and this information will be used to look at ways of reducing our carbon foot print. People from the congregation have been to Rwanda where they have taken part in various environmental projects including building gardens to provide fresh vegetables. We also have a water

engineer who has been involved in rainwater harvesting projects both for domestic properties and schools in Rwanda. An ethical purchasing policy ensures that everyone considers carefully all food purchased for the church. There are regular services at the church with an environmental theme and follow ups in small groups.

"We started with a small band of people who were passionate about the environment - some might initially have seen us as a group of 'tree huggers'. As our work has reached more people in the congregation, particularly through our education projects with children, more people have become involved and understand more about environmental issues. We are now well on the way to achieving a silver award.

*Martin Pett is a horticulturalist and a former head gardener at London Zoo*



# Jane Austen In Sussex

## THE CHURCH CONNECTION

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JULY 18 marks the bicentenary of the death of Jane Austen, one of the greatest writers in the English language. In recognition of her importance, her portrait is to feature on our new £10 note, and a commemorative £2 coin is to be struck by the Royal Mint.

Increasingly, many thousands of visitors, from home and abroad, seek out locations associated with Jane Austen's life and work, including the churches where she worshipped.

In the Diocese of Chichester we are fortunate that two such churches have come to light, St Nicolas, Old Shoreham, and St Mary's, Broadwater. Their unique role in the novelist's life story makes them key destinations for today's literary pilgrims following the Jane Austen trail.

In July 2016, 25 members of the Jane Austen Society of North America visited both Sussex churches for the first time as part of their annual itinerary designed to discover Jane Austen's England.

They were most appreciative of the history of the churches, their Austen connection and, not least, the hospitality they received.

The importance of St Nicolas lies in its having been the parish church, in the early 18th century, of the Austens' cousins William and Hannah Monk, and in particular their daughter Jane Monk, the Austens' future benefactress. Jane Monk would prove crucial to Jane Austen's future security.

The Monk family home was Buckingham House in the centre of Buckingham Park, close to St Nicolas. Sadly, Jane Monk's parents and infant brother died prematurely and are buried in the church vault. Their touching marble memorial still hangs on the south wall of the nave,

bearing testimony to their good character and the high regard in which they were held.

Jane Monk, a young heiress, married wealthy Thomas Knight of Godmersham Park, Kent, and together they were able to benefit their poorer Austen cousins. The Knights' influence would have a lasting effect in shaping the whole of Jane Austen's life.

Importantly, in 1761, when Jane Austen's father, an orphan, was a young, single clergyman with no wealth of his own, his Knight cousins offered him the benefice of Steventon on their Hampshire estate.

Rev George Austen was glad to accept. Consequently, on December 16, 1775, Steventon



rectory became the birthplace of Jane Austen and her beloved home for the next 25 years.

She was the seventh of eight children and was nurtured in a secure, happy, boisterous family, grounded in the Christian faith, with love, laughter and learning at its heart.

Jane (Monk) Knight's fondness for her Austen relations continued into the next generation, when her son Thomas adopted Jane Austen's older brother, Edward, to make him heir to the Knight fortune.

Jane frequently visited Edward at Godmersham Park, where she gained first-hand experience of the upper circles of Kent society, a useful source of material for her novels.

Later Edward's inheritance also enabled him to provide Chawton Cottage, on his Chawton estate in Hampshire, as a much needed permanent home for his then widowed mother and sisters Jane and Cassandra.

There, in peace and contentment, from 1809 to 1817, Jane spent her final years and completed her six major works.

Previously, in September 1805, following the unexpected death of her father in January that year, arrangements were made for Mrs Austen and her daughters to spend the autumn months in the newly fashionable health resort of Worthing. There they became parishioners of St Mary's.

Edward Austen escorted Jane and Cassandra from Godmersham to Worthing via Brighton and Old Shoreham. The diary of Jane's niece, Fanny, informs us they departed Kent

on September 17, 1805. Perhaps by design, their route through Old Shoreham took them past Buckingham Park and St Nicolas church.

Stepping inside the historic interior of St Nicolas today, it is easy to imagine the young Monk family gathered there for worship some 300 years ago, followed perhaps by the Austen party in 1805, taking in the impressive Norman features, viewing the Monk memorial and paying their respects to their esteemed forebears.

Coincidentally, a cousin of Jane Austen's aunt, Rev Montague Cholmeley, served as Curate of St Nicolas in 1751. Today his name is listed on the south wall just inside the church entrance.

A few miles further west, the Austens passed St Mary's church in the ancient village of Broadwater which in 1805 still served as the parish church of Worthing, a former fishing hamlet to the south.

Since the advent of sea bathing in the second half of the 18th century, Worthing had been reinventing itself as an attractive health resort and bathing place, favoured by royalty.

By 1805, it was developing apace, with an ever-increasing number of visitors arriving in search of a sea cure. It would be another seven years, however, before St Paul's Chapel-of-Ease was built in the centre of the growing town. Consequently, Jane Austen made the journey of a mile or so from her residence in Worthing to attend St Mary's, Broadwater. The Worthing guide

of 1805 described this as "a pleasant walk through fields in fine weather".

It is likely that over the next few months of their stay, St Mary's played an important role in offering support and solace to the recently bereaved Austen ladies.

A record survives of Jane Austen having witnessed an affidavit on November 4, 1805, before the Rev Peter Wood, rector of St Mary's. Little did he know the young lady signing her name in front of him that day was destined to become one of the giants of English literature.

At the time of her stay in Worthing, Jane Austen was 29 and as yet unpublished, although she had already written early drafts of *Northanger Abbey*, *Sense and Sensibility* and *Pride and Prejudice*.

Her observations of Worthing's exciting transformation and rapid expansion in 1805 clearly inspired her final but unfinished novel *Sanditon*, the story of an up-and-coming seaside resort in Sussex.

Jane Austen, despite rapidly declining health, completed 11 and a half sparkling chapters before her untimely death in Winchester on July 18, 1817. She was 41.

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# THE COOMBES CRUCIFIX

A RARE ACQUISITION  
FOR CHICHESTER  
CATHEDRAL'S TREASURY



Chichester Cathedral is delighted to announce that it has acquired a rare and precious fragment of early medieval sacred metalwork, very kindly on loan from the parish of Coombes (near Lancing). Coombes Parish Church is a small church on the Sussex Downland that stands on the hillside above the Adur.

The fragment of metalwork, or the 'Coombes Crucifix' was found in the churchyard in 1877.

It was probably made as an attachment to an altar or a processional cross, and is made out of copper, which has been hammered and engraved.

It is less than 10cm in height and represents a crowned figure of Christ. It was probably made as an attachment to an altar or a processional cross, and is made out of copper, which has been hammered and engraved. The Crucifix is thought

to be of Limoges 13th century workmanship and amazingly it retains fragments of the original gilding and enamelling. Limoges was the centre of the metalworking and enamelling industry in medieval Europe. There are occasional finds of Limoges enamel fragments in England, but a piece of this quality, with a local church link, is a rarity. The damage to the figure suggests that it has suffered some violence, which may have been wilful and could be linked to the Reformation.

The Coombes Crucifix has an interesting and unusual history. After it was found in the churchyard in 1877, it was exhibited for many years in the church before being stolen in 2012. Four years later it came to the notice of West Mercia Police and thankfully was returned to the parish. They, being anxious that it should be on public display in secure conditions, kindly offered it on loan to the Cathedral. The presentation took place at a small ceremony in the Cathedral Treasury following Evensong on Thursday 26th January. The Revd Canon Stephen Ferns, Senior Chaplain to the Bishop of Chichester and Canon Treasurer of Chichester Cathedral, gave a brief word of welcome, giving those assembled some background to

the Treasury's reception of the Crucifix, to which Robin Reeve, the Church Warden of Coombes Parish Church, responded. After the piece was placed in the cabinet Canon Stephen Ferns offered a short prayer.

After it was found in the churchyard in 1877, it was exhibited for many years in the church before being stolen in 2012.

The Cathedral Treasury is a display collection mainly of historic church plate, the special vessels used in the principal service of the Christian Church – the Mass, the Eucharist, the Holy Communion and the Lord's Supper. The vessels in the collection are mostly of silver, with a few pewter, and are pieces from the Cathedral and those on long-term loan from over ninety parishes across the Diocese of Chichester. The Cathedral Treasury is located within the Cathedral which is open daily and entry is free.



# CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

## 14 – 20 MAY

Mark Rodger, from Holy Trinity Hastings and coordinator for Christian Aid in Sussex looks back on 60 years of Christian Aid Week, the difference supporters in Chichester diocese have made and shares what's in store for this year.

Together, we've been there for refugees since 1945. We won't turn our backs now. Christian Aid Week was set up 60 years ago to support the work we were doing with refugees in Europe in the aftermath of the Second World War. Now, in 2017, with more than 65 million people fleeing from conflict and crisis our work is as important as ever.

As we enter the year of the Bible I've been reflecting on what God says true religion is. Isaiah says it is "to loose the chains of injustice... to set the oppressed free... to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter – when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?" (Isaiah 58v6-7). James says it is to, "look after orphans and widows in their distress." (James 1v27)

### CHRISTIAN AID WEEK DIAMONDS

In Sussex, we want to celebrate the amazing people who are living out their faith in this way, particularly by making Christian Aid Week happen, over the years. We're calling them Christian Aid Week diamonds.

"Margaret Luetchford is a real diamond for Christian Aid," says Rev. Sue Murray at St. Richards, Three Bridges. "She has been collecting for Christian Aid for 53 years. She's done everything from door to door envelopes, soup lunches, cake bakes and Messy Church based on the CA theme. Last year she ran a Big Brekkie. In the last few years this comparatively small neighbourhood has raised around £1000 each year."

The diocese has many Christian Aid Week diamonds, following the wisdom of Proverbs to "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute." They speak up for the poor asking others in churches, schools and communities to get involved in giving and campaigning. Perhaps God is calling you to become one?

Do you know someone who is a Christian Aid Week diamond? If so, submit their name, address and their story to [mrodger@christian-aid.org](mailto:mrodger@christian-aid.org) and they'll receive an invite to a special thank you event. And if you have any photos of the last 60 years of CA Week please send them too!



## GET INVOLVED

**1** House to house: Last year, we delivered more than 7 million envelopes. Every envelope delivered is also a chance to start a conversation, to introduce the local church and encourage people to make a donation to our work ending poverty.

Neil Fisher, Christian Aid organiser for churches in Lewes shares this story, "I made the effort to get an article about Christian Aid Week into the local paper. It made a real difference: when we went out collecting people did seem more willing to give, thanking us for collecting – I even had one lady shake my hand!"

**2** The Big Brekkie combines two things there's no shortage of in the Bible: conversations over food and a passion for justice. It's simple: put on a breakfast in your home, church or in the community, invite your neighbours and show the Christian Aid Week film and ask people to respond. It could be as simple as porridge or as inviting as a full English!

Penny Croucher from St. Bartholomew's, Rogate loved the Big Brekkie, "What an enjoyable, community event, the food was excellent, as was the company, plus I learnt a lot about the hardships and trials in Bangladesh. In fact my husband, Ian said this morning 'what a shame it wasn't the Big Brekkie again.'"

We hope you'll join over 20,000 churches across the UK for Christian Aid Week. Go to [www.caweeek.org](http://www.caweeek.org) to find out more.

## EVENTS

23rd or 24th of May, location TBC. Come and celebrate 60 years of Christian Aid Week, share stories and hear the difference we've all been making. Hosted by Bishop Martin. RSVP Mark on [mrodger@christian-aid.org](mailto:mrodger@christian-aid.org) or 020 7523 2132. You can also contact Mark to request a speaker in the build up to Christian Aid Week. Visit the Diocese website for the most up to date information.

## WHY DO CHRISTIAN AID WEEK? NEJEBAR AND NOOR'S STORY

"It is better to die in a camp than to die in a war." That's what Nejebar thinks. It's better to travel for months, in rain and snow, with young children. To risk your children's lives in a plastic dinghy. And to leave everything you know behind. When the alternative is fear and terror, bombs, bullets and war, almost anything is better.

Nejebar's husband Noor worked as a teacher back in Afghanistan. Imagine the horror the family felt when the Taliban announced they would kill anyone, like Noor, who worked for the government. Imagine how they felt when the Taliban carried out that threat on another family member, taking out his eyes before killing him.

But now they've arrived in Greece, all they have is a tent. There's no school for their five children. They thought they would stay here for 10 days, but it's already been six months and there's no end in sight.

Nejebar says, 'We still have some hope that one day we will get out of here and we have hope for our children's future. We only want a peaceful life. We want our children to have an education, to go to school. The most important thing is for our children.'

Nejebar's youngest child, Sudai, is five years old but looks much younger. He hasn't been growing as he should. His tummy is swollen and they don't know what is wrong with him. And because the only on-site doctor is Greek, they haven't been able to find out. They don't have the language to explain that Sudai is much older than he looks.

But despite Nejebar's meagre circumstances, she has welcomed two brothers, Faraidoon (22) and Farzad (13), into her home. Faraidoon and Farzad don't know where their parents are, or if they're even alive.

Refugees like Nejebar deserve better than this. This Christian Aid Week, let's give and do all we can so we can build a world where everybody has a safe place to call home.



# CATHEDRAL NEWS

## CATHEDRAL EVENTS

### Free Lunchtime Concerts at Chichester Cathedral

**Tuesdays until 21st March 1.10pm – 2pm**

Come along to the Cathedral and hear beautiful music in majestic surroundings. Performers this term include the Fujita Trio and Chichester String Ensemble. Admission is free. Bring your sandwiches and coffee is provided. All are very welcome.

Booking in advance is essential. Tickets are £7 (includes coffee) for each tour and are available from the Novium TIC, online at [www.chichestercathedral.org.uk](http://www.chichestercathedral.org.uk) or call Ticketsource on 0333 666 3366

### Exhibition in the North Transept: 'The Stations of the Holocaust' by artist Jean Lamb

**Wednesday 1st March**

This thought-provoking exhibition during Lent comprises of 14 'stations' or pieces of art which have been carved out of elm wood, cast and then painted. Each one illustrates part of the story of Jesus' life from the time of his trial to the time of his burial; within each piece is also carved an image from the Holocaust showing the Jewish people as they were forced into ghettos, humiliated, tortured and executed.

Open daily with free entry.

### Chorister Experience Day at Chichester Cathedral

**Saturday 4th March 2.00pm – 4.30pm**

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.

### Easter Family Activity – 'Weird and Wonderful'

**Friday 21st 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.

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

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

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

## Illuminating Chichester Cathedral Tours 2017

**Each tour is led by Cathedral Guides and takes place on a Friday morning from 10.30am to 12pm**

### **Saturday 4th March: The Mystery of Baptism explored through Art**

Chichester Cathedral has two contrasting 20th century works of art showing the baptism of Christ that are positioned at opposite ends of the building. Come and find out more about them and references to baptism in other Cathedral art works during this tour.



The Baptism of Christ by Hans Feibusch

### **Friday 28th April: Bishop Sherburne: Chichester's Wolsey**

Come and hear about Robert Sherburne, Bishop of Chichester from 1508 - 1536. Through this guided tour discover the dilemmas he faced and the tumultuous times through which he lived



Henry VIII by Lambert Barnard

### **Friday 19th May: They all have a story - the lesser known characters of Chichester Cathedral's past**

Meet John, Joan and several more of the lesser known Cathedral characters as we learn something of their lives and the part they played in the history of Chichester Cathedral.

## Special Services:

### **Ash Wednesday**

#### **Wednesday 1st March**

5.00pm Evening Prayer (said)  
5.30pm Sung Eucharist

### **Palm Sunday**

#### **Sunday 9th April**

8.00am Holy Communion  
10.00am Mattins  
11.00am Sung Eucharist  
3.30pm Evensong

## Holy Week:

### **Monday 10th April**

6.30pm Holy Communion with hymns

### **Tuesday 11th April**

12.00pm Chrism Mass  
6.30pm Holy Communion with hymns

### **Wednesday 12th April**

6.30pm Holy Communion with hymns

### **Maundy Thursday**

#### **Thursday 13th April**

7.30am Mattins  
8.00am Holy Communion (Shrine)  
10.30am Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)  
5.30pm Evening Prayer (said)  
7.30pm Sung Eucharist and Watch of Prayer

### **Good Friday**

#### **Friday 14th April**

10.00am Mattins with address  
1.30pm Good Friday Liturgy  
5.30pm Evening Prayer (said)

### **Saturday 15th April**

7.30pm Easter Vigil

### **Easter Day**

#### **Sunday 16th April**

8.00am Holy Communion  
10.00am Mattins  
11.00am Sung Eucharist  
3.30pm Evensong

# INTER FAITH WEEK IN SUSSEX

Canon Dr Andrew Wingate, Inter Faith Adviser, Chichester Diocese shares some of his experiences around national Inter Faith Week, as celebrated in Sussex, November 2016. The full article can be viewed on the diocesan website – search: Andrew Wingate Inter Faith Week.

**I attended the Crawley Inter Faith Forum annual meeting last November, in the Town Hall, along with Doris Staniford, the Anglican veteran of Interfaith Relations in Crawley.**

The meeting was energetic and there is much happening, with an evening being held every month, and a feeding programme for the homeless. The guest speaker was Bharthi Taylor, someone known to me for many years, from Luton. She is one of the few women top Hindus, who travels very widely in the UK, and

especially in Europe. My resolve from only my second visit to Crawley, is to go more often, and to provide opportunities for other to engage there, with the special demography and religious map there. It is also noteworthy that there is a What's App organised through the Forum, and this is quite active.

I gave a keynote lecture at the annual meeting of the Hastings Inter Faith Group. This was in Anglican premises in St Leonards, and I was told there are 26 languages spoken in the

schools here. After the meeting I witnessed prayers in the local mosque. I was welcomed with great warmth by the Somali Imam there - an impressive leader, and he invited me to speak to his congregation on a future visit. There are to be meetings every month, and I have been asked to speak at one of these, on my book *Why Interfaith?*, focusing on the two essays (of the 40!) that I have written, entitled, *Why engage in this work at all?* and *Hinduism and Christianity- the meeting of opposites?* Hindus and Christians in the West.



Again, an openness beyond the Abrahamic Faiths. Quakers, Jews and a range of other groups were represented at the meeting. There was considerable energy in involving young people, and awards had been given during the previous year. Again, there was great interest in work with refugees and asylum seekers, of whom an increasing number are ending up in Hastings. I encouraged links with Voices in Exile, the Brighton based project

which the Diocese is committed to, and of which I am a Trustee.

### **Inter Faith Service, to mark Inter Faith week, in the Progressive Synagogue in Hove**

The Mayor of Brighton welcomed us to a packed venue, as did Rabbi Elli, of the synagogue. There were contributions from Christian, Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist, Unitarian traditions, after a Muslim Call to Prayer.

Several readings were led by Muslim, and Bahai children. There was a beautiful reading from Teilhard de Chardin, read by Caroline Lucas MP. If some have doubts about interfaith events, this was an evening to help to remove such concerns. It was an evening such as I have not experienced in either Birmingham or Leicester.

## **THERE HAVE BEEN OTHER HIGHLIGHTS THIS YEAR**

Especially the dialogue in the cathedral to mark the end of the year of mercy, with outstanding contributions from Imam Ibrahim Mogra, Rabbi Elli and Subhadassi, Chair of Brighton Buddhist

Centre, and Bishop Martin, and Father Kieron, from the Diocese of Arundel. And also the retreat at Worth Abbey, near Crawley, to celebrate the great Benedictine monk Bede Griffiths, whom I knew well in his ashram of Shantivanam, in Tamilnadu, South India. 40 people were there for the day. Thanks especially to David Broad, priest-in-charge

of St Michael's Lewes, who is assisting me greatly. St Michaels has become the base for a Lewis inter faith group.

At the end of a year with many dark features, perhaps these local inter faith stories can encourage us, since they represent light and hope in our confused and often divided world.

## **APPEAL FOR CASEWORKER**

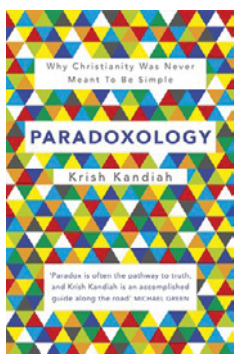
Last year the Bishop of Horsham launched an appeal to raise £30,000 to fund a caseworker for Brighton Voices in Exile. (BVIE) We are pleased to confirm that a caseworker was employed by the charity last year. The funding will employ the caseworker for one year.

We will publish more stories about how our church communities have been supporting BVIE, and the work that is still ongoing, in the next issue of Faith in Sussex. If you would like to get in contact with BVIE contact Mary-Jane Burkett Tel: 01403 741220

# BOOKS AND REVIEWS

During the Diocesan Year of the Bible we asked a number of people to share a Book of the Month. January's choice was by Revd James Russell, Vicar of NORTH MUNDHAM with MERSTON and HUNSTON and Rural Dean Chichester.

Further offerings for each month will be posted on the diocesan website: [www.chichester.anglican.org/bible/](http://www.chichester.anglican.org/bible/)



## PARADOXOLOGY

**KRISH KANDIAH**

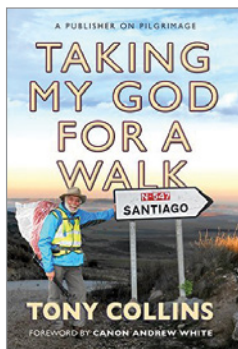
This is a brilliant book which helps us to engage with some of the paradoxes of life, faith and scripture that confront us as Christians. As a Christian convinced that God speaks to us through his Word I was keen to engage with some of the conundrums, indeed paradoxes, that I find within it!

In his introduction Kandiah says this, "Paradoxology" makes a bold claim: that the paradoxes that seem to undermine belief are actually the heart of our vibrant faith, and that it is only by continually wrestling with them – rather than trying to pin them down or push them away – that we can really worship God, individually and together'.

Two chapters I found particularly helpful, one of which deals specifically with some difficult Old Testament narrative, were The Joshua Paradox: The God who is terribly compassionate and the The Job Paradox: The God who is actively inactive. These were helpful for me because they gave me a much deeper insight into two questions of faith that I can struggle to reconcile in myself, and which I know my non-Christian friends would see as grounds to reject faith altogether!

First of all (Joshua Paradox), 'If God is loving and compassionate, telling us to 'love our neighbour' and to be peace-makers why should he then demand the wholesale destruction of other nations as the Israelites enter the promised land?' Secondly (Job Paradox), 'If God is loving and compassionate, why do some people suffer so terribly and why can it all seem so arbitrary?' I won't tell you what conclusions Kandiah draws, as you'll have to read the book yourself, but suffice to say, I came away still convinced of the good and loving character of God, and more equipped to engage helpfully with my friends whose searching questions have sometimes demanded an answer from me which, I fear, has too often fallen short of the mark.

Kandiah is humble, honest and winsome. You know that this book is born out of the author's own faith struggles and questions. As Andy Croft says in his review of the book 'It is both intellectually and emotionally satisfying'. I fully agree and, in this Year of the Bible, I would urge you to read it!



## TAKING MY GOD FOR A WALK

### TONY COLLINS

In September 2013 Tony Collins took advantage of a long-overdue sabbatical to walk the 490 miles of the Camino, from the French border to Santiago de Compostela in northern Spain. For decades he had helped to provide the evangelical churches of the world with reading material. Now he was deliberately stepping out of his comfort zone: a pilgrimage, carrying his pack, through a land whose language he did not speak, into a religious culture far removed from his own, in search of sources of reverence. This book contains a foreword by Canon Andrew White.

Tony Collins is a Churchwarden and Reader at St John the Evangelist, Upper St Leonard's. He is founder of the Monarch imprint and part of the editorial team at Lion Hudson plc. Tony is happy to travel within the diocese to lead a service on the theme of pilgrimage, or speak at a men's breakfast, or speak in the context of a showing of the film *The Way*.



## FISHBOURNE LOVES BOOKS!

Fishbourne Loves Books is the title of Fishbourne Church's second book event to be held this year on Saturday, 25th March. (10.30am – 5.30pm)

Four authors will be speaking this year and to accommodate this an extra venue has been added in the form of a marquee - to be added to the new hall – St. Peter's Place.

### The authors are:

**Simon Brett**, author of many well-loved mystery series' and Radio, TV producer and writer of such works as 'After Henry.'

**Lord (Max) Egremont**, novelist, travel and history writer as well as biographer, specialising in the first World War, and best known for his book on 'Siegfried Sassoon'.

**Jane Rusbridge**, whose very well received 2nd book 'Rook' features past and present Bosham and was one of the BBC's 'Books that Made Britain'.

**Caroline Lawrence**, best-selling children's author who enjoys talking to schools, and whose most recent book for children age 8+ in her Roman Quests series features Fishbourne Roman Palace.

A walk featuring the places mentioned in *The Taxidermist's Daughter* by Kate Mosse is on offer, as well as ten minute book talks, quizzes and coffees, teas and lunches. Naturally, there will be vast quantities of books at bargain prices, ending with a Book Grab at 4.45 pm. when a carrier bag can be filled for £1.

Speakers' tickets are priced at £5 a session or £15 for all 4 sessions otherwise entrance is free. Further information can be found on [www.fishbournelovesbooks.com](http://www.fishbournelovesbooks.com).

Photo Caption: St. Peter's Place, Fishbourne Church's new hall, completed in February, 2015, and now in constant use.

# Retreat to Iona

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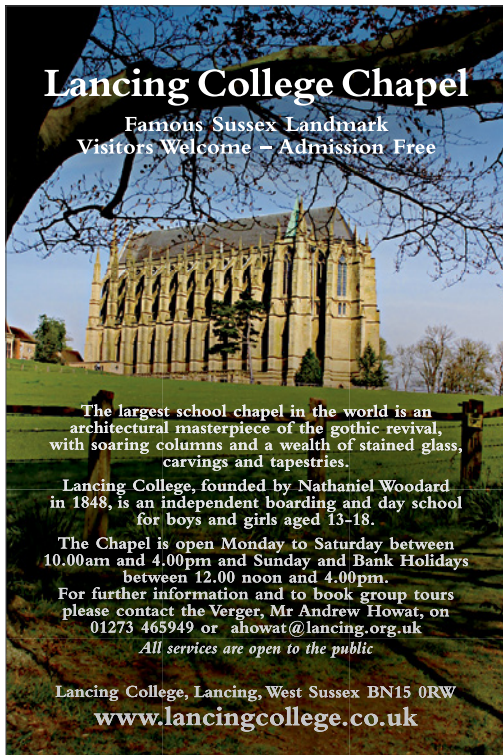


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The Chapel is open Monday to Saturday between 10.00am and 4.00pm and Sunday and Bank Holidays between 12.00 noon and 4.00pm.

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

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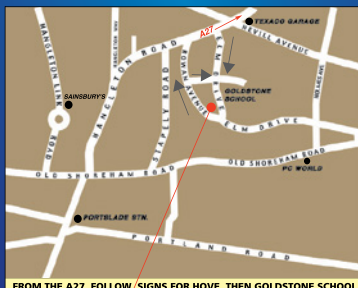
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