

FAITH IN SUSSEX

The diocesan publication reaching church communities across Sussex

GET READY FOR
OUR **WEEKEND**
OF PRAYER / 15

RICHARD JACKSON

IS THE NEW BISHOP OF LEWES

ANNOUNCEMENT AND AREA TOUR PHOTOS

PAGES 6 - 7

PLANS TO SHARE
THE DIOCESAN
STRATEGY

UNDERWAY / 14-15

The latest on the diocesan
strategy 2015 - 2020
PLUS KEY DATES

TRIBUTES TO
THE DEAN OF
CHICHESTER

CATHEDRAL / 12-13

Nicolas Frayling retires after
42 years of full-time ministry

STRENGTHENING OUR
LINKS WITH CHURCH
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And Jesus said,
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tired from carrying heavy
loads and I will give you rest"



WELCOME

Welcome to the new look diocesan magazine, Faith in Sussex. We hope that you will enjoy its contents and it will serve the goal of bringing us together as a diocesan family around a commitment to mission and growth.

We are at an exciting time in the life of our diocese. Bishop Martin's visitations are the start of an extensive period of prayer and consultation as we seek to discern God's will for our future together. We hope that as many people as possible will participate in these consultations. You will find details in the magazine of a weekend of prayer for the process and deanery meetings to which you are all invited. These meetings are the opportunity for all of us to dream dreams together of where we could be in five years time with the help and guidance of the Holy Spirit. We want a strategy that will enable the whole diocese to work together, equipping and enabling evangelism and growth in discipleship in all of our local churches.

You'll also find details of Father Ian's work with our overseas links. I am delighted that they will be praying with us over Pentecost weekend. One of the most moving things following our days of prayer for the diocese back in 2010 was video footage of hundreds of our brothers and sisters praying for and with us in the cathedral in Cameroon.

On a personal note, you will find some pictures from my tour around the diocese the day my appointment as Bishop of Lewes was announced. I want to express my thanks for the warmth with which that was greeted and for the many kind cards and notes people have sent me. It is a privilege and a joy to be able to continue ministry here in my diocesan family in Chichester.

With every blessing

+ Richard (Lewes designate)



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RISE FROM
THE FLAMES / 18-19

ST MARY MAGDALENE WHATLINGTON
BEAUTIFULLY RESTORED AFTER 2010 FIRE

TEXTING GOD? / 22-23

SUSSEX LAD HARRY ENJOYS A WONDERFUL
VISIT WITH ARCHBISHOP JUSTIN AFTER
SENDING HIM A FASCINATING EMAIL

CHURCH AND THE
COMMUNITY / 26-27

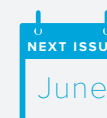
CELEBRATING THE SUCCESS OF A YEAR
SPENT FOCUSED ON COMMUNITY LIFE

THE NATURE OF
GOD'S ACRE / 31

INVESTIGATING THE LINKS BETWEEN
NATURE IN CHURCHYARDS AND THE SACRED

CONTENTS

- 6 - 7 Richard Jackson: The new Bishop of Lewes
- 8 - 11 News across the Diocese
- 12 - 13 Nicolas Frayling Retirement
- 14 - 15 Diocesan Vision and Growth
- 16 Money Matters - Making Strategy Fun
- 17 2014 Ordinands
- 18 - 19 Whatlington Church: Rising from the Flames
- 20 Obituary: Bishop Christopher Luxmoore
- 21 Celebrating St Richard of Chichester
- 22 - 23 Texting God
- 24 - 25 A lesson on our Church schools
- 26 - 27 Church at the heart of the community
- 28 - 29 Overseas Focus
- 30 Stories behind the hymns
- 31 The nature of God's acre
- 32 - 33 Church Maintenance
- 34 Walsingham Youth Pilgrimage
- 35 Chichester Cathedral News
- 36 Faith in Society
- 37 FSW News
- 38 - 39 Books and Reviews
- 40 Holy Land Pilgrimage
- 41 - 42 Classifieds



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Diocese of Chichester

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guidelines: communications@chichester.anglican.org

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DIocese OF
CHICHESTER



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NEW BISHOP OF LEWES APPOINTED

The Reverend Richard Jackson, Mission Renewal Adviser and Leader of the Church Growth Team in the Diocese of Chichester is to be the next Bishop of Lewes. Downing Street confirmed the appointment of the new bishop of Lewes, on March 17 and a formal announcement was made at a reception at Church House Hove by The Bishop of Chichester, Dr Martin Warner, who welcomed Richard. He said he was absolutely delighted that Richard agreed to take on the role and to share in the ministry of the Diocese as a bishop. He said: "I urge everyone to pray for him and his family and I look forward to working collaboratively with him."

As bishop, Mr Jackson will serve with Dr Warner (the diocesan bishop) and Bishop Mark Sowerby who is the suffragan Bishop of Horsham.

The appointment made a positive impact with many of the local media taking up the story of the biking bishop, a reference to Richard's Harley Davidson.

The decision to appoint a bishop that will ordain woman was welcomed by Canon Julia Peaty, Dean of Women's Ministry. She said: "The appointment of Richard Jackson as Bishop of Lewes is a strong sign that many groups in the diocese have been listened to. We need to encourage more women to our diocese and I hope Richard's appointment will give confidence to women from other places to apply for jobs here as well as lead to new vocation enquiries especially amongst younger women."

Richard, 53, is married to Deborah, who is a special needs teacher. They have three grown up children.

Richard has a scientific background and has specialised in working in agriculture. Before becoming a priest he worked as an agricultural consultant advising farmers across a range of issues.

Richard studied at Oxford and trained for the ministry at Trinity College, Bristol.

But when he was ready to be ordained it was to Sussex where Richard served his curacy in the Parish of Lindfield

He became Vicar of Rudgwick in 1998 and then was Rural Dean of Horsham from 2005 before taking up his current post.

"I am relieved that I am able to at least talk about something I have known for quite some time. One of my key tasks is to be a mediator and to bring people to mutual understanding. I really want to be a bishop to all people, it is as simple as that."

He adds: "Ultimately, the task of the church is about growth. If we want to contribute to the common good in society we need to grow and be growing."

Many people in the diocese are already familiar with the sight of Richard on his Harley Davidson. He acknowledges that he might become known as the "biking bishop". But he certainly intends to get around his patch on his motorbike and believes that knowing the Diocese as well as he does is going to help him in his new task.

After the announcement bishop designate took a tour of east Sussex including his new area of responsibility of Brighton and Hove. He began with a visit to Shoreham Adur Ferry Bridge to meet Gail Souppouris from the Church of the Good Shepherd on Shoreham Beach and Ann Waizeneker from St Mary's Old Church just off the High Street. Both expressed their delight in his appointment saying it was good news for the church. The tour then moved to Catsfield a church of England primary school where Richard was welcomed by head teacher Sally Clark before taking a tour of the school and an opportunity to speak to some of the children about their activities.

Next stop was meeting Fr Michael Brydon, from Crowhurst church, Fr Michael said it was a welcomed appointment. He said: "Richard knows the landscape. He is lively, supportive and enthusiastic. A very positive decision."

On to Hastings Pier to meet with Revd Mike Coe, Rural Dean of Hastings, and Simon Opie, the CEO of Hastings Pier Charity. The exciting £13 million pier renovation project has been a collective triumph with the local community playing an integral part. A tour of the pier building site gave the bishop designate an important birds-eye view of the structure. Simon Opie explained: "It's what's underneath that really counts." Richard heard first hand how the renovation will help to bring back some past glory to the town.

Revd Mike Coe said he believed Richard's appointment was an encouraging sign and very positive. He said: "Richard is a great appointment for our Deanery and Diocese. He is already well-known and will bring great enthusiasm to the vitally important work of evangelism and mission. We look forward to working with him closely in the next few years."

Richard's next stop was St Matthew's church to hear about Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Debt Counselling Centre. Nick Warren is the manager and he was on hand to explain why this service is in great need by many. CAP is a national debt counselling charity with a network of debt centres based in local churches. Nick explained: "St Matthew's Church, together with seven other local churches from different denominations, has partnered with CAP to offer debt counselling in the community. It is completely free to anyone in debt. CAP offers hope and a solution to people in debt." Richard also heard about the work of Hastings Foodbank, to which St. Matthew's contributes. It is organised by Kings Church, Hastings in conjunction with the Trussell Trust, and provides much-needed help and support to many families and individuals in the local community.

The final stop was in Brighton where Richard met with Fr Robert Fayers, vicar of St Paul's church in West Street. The church is the location for the street pastors who operate over the weekend nights as a safe-haven, offering a sanctuary, a place of safety to people who may become confused and vulnerable through excess drink. Commenting on the new bishop of Lewes Fr Robert said he thought Richard's appointment would be good for the diocese.

Richard must first be ordained as bishop which takes place in Westminster Abbey on 14 May. He will then be formally welcomed to the Diocese in Chichester Cathedral. A date to be fixed in due course.

Photos courtesy of mark dimmock: www.markdimmockpics.com



Richard Jackson with Ann Waizeneker left and Gail Souppouris on Shoreham's New Adur Ferry Bridge



Meeting Father Michael Brydon at St George's Church Crowhurst



Richard Jackson at Catsfield C of E Primary school



Richard Jackson with Simon Opie CEO of Hastings Pier Charity



Nick Warren pictured with Richard and Mike Coe



Father Robert welcomes Richard's appointment

NEWS

ACROSS OUR DIOCESE



REFLECTING ON LENT

As we come to the end of the Christian season of preparation before Easter, Father Douglas, Archdeacon of Chichester, shares his thoughts on Lent.

Lent offers an invitation to every Christian to look at three particular aspects of our daily lives as followers of Jesus: prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

These are well-known themes and characteristics of Lent but each needs to be lived out and properly experienced if we are to grow closer to Jesus and deepen our own personal holiness.

It is through prayer that we deepen our knowledge to God as well as reaching out to God. In fasting we discipline ourselves to reach beyond our immediate needs, seeking those things that we actually need and not those things that we want. In almsgiving we renew our generosity to other brothers and sisters in their need, often those on our doorstep as well as the many in need on other shores.

Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are related and are part of the Christian life but we give particular attention to these spiritual necessities during the penitential season of Lent. Jesus taught on each of these aspects of Christian life because he knew, as we need to know, that they remind us that our absolute need is for God and God alone. In Lent we should strive to live simply and make more space in our daily lives for the things of God.



20 YEARS OF WOMEN IN THE PRIESTHOOD

This year is the 20th anniversary of the ordination of women into the priesthood.

There will be a national celebration in St Paul's Cathedral on Saturday, May 3, at 5pm.

The Most Reverend Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, will be preaching.

Bishop Martin and the senior staff team are planning the Chichester celebration and this will take place in the cathedral on Saturday, May 24, at 3pm.

The celebrant will be the Bishop of Chichester and the preacher will be the Venerable Christine Wilson, the Archdeacon of Chesterfield and a former priest of this diocese.

Canon Julia Peaty, Dean of Women's Ministry, is pleased the Bishop has chosen to mark

this important occasion in our cathedral. She said: "I look forward to celebrating with all those who support women's ministry in all its forms."

Refreshments will be served after the service.

CHILDREN'S AND FAMILY WORK TRAINING AND EVENTS



Messy Church Founder Lucy Moore will be running a session on training in Messy Church for those involved in children's and family work in churches in our diocese. It takes place at St Mary's Parish Church, Willingdon, near Eastbourne, on Saturday, April 26, from 10am to 1pm.

It costs £5. To find out more or book a place, email irene.smale@chichester.anglican.org.

Other activities for the rest of the year can be found on the diocesan website www.chichester.anglican.org.



ANCIENT TRADITION OF DAILY PRAYER AVAILABLE IN NEW APP

The Church of England has released its newest app to enable people to pray with the aid of their smartphone and tablets.

DAILY PRAYER IS AVAILABLE NOW ON ITUNES AND DETAILS CAN BE FOUND AT: WWW.CHPUBLISHING.CO.UK/FEATURES/OUR-APPS

THY KINGDOM COME: CLERGY CONFERENCE

The bishops and senior staff are calling a conference of all licensed clergy in the Diocese of Chichester from September 8 to 11.

This conference will be a residential event held at the University of Kent in Canterbury and is intended to resource and encourage the clergy in their ministry as well as to draw them all together as a college of deacons and priests with their bishops.

THE DEADLINE FOR BOOKING IS FRIDAY, MAY 9. PLEASE DO SO ONLINE AT: www.clergyconference14.eventbrite.co.uk

Licensed clergy should have received an email invitation to the event. If you have not, email conference@chichester.anglican.org.

A list of keynote speakers can be found on the diocesan website.

clergy conference 2014
thy kingdom come

RADIO TIMES FAITH AWARDS

Vote in the Radio Times faith awards and show the media powers that a significant body of viewers appreciate this type of broadcasting. The full list of who to vote for can be found at www.radiotimes.com/sandford.

READING THE NEW TESTAMENT FROM MEMORY FOR CHARITY

David Bathurst, from Yapton, West Sussex, is to recite the New Testament from the King James and the New International bibles from memory at Boxgrove Priory Church. The event, from Friday, May 2, until Monday, May 5, is in aid of a charity supporting growth and education in the Gambia. Contact davidbathurst@btinternet.com for details of how to sponsor him.

THE FEUERSTEIN CONFERENCE

The diocese will be hosting the Feuerstein Conference from May 12 to 15.

The Revd Canon Rebecca Swyer, Ministry Development Officer, said the event was part of our special relationship with the churches in Germany.

She said: "Feuerstein isn't an academic conference but an opportunity for delegates to meet people from other churches and to think, pray and learn from one another.

"It began as a conference between those training for ministry in the different churches but it has developed and now includes those in the early years of ordained ministry.

"There are delegates from the Roman Catholic Arch Diocese of Bamberg, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria and the Evangelical Church in Berlin-Brandenburg.

"Our theme this year will be "What is Church?", sharing and exploring how we understand and experience church in our own traditions.

"Please pray for us as we plan and experience the conference, that it may be a time of growing fellowship and understanding."

EVENT
REPORT
IN NEXT
ISSUE

COMMEMORATING THE CENTENARY OF WORLD WAR ONE

The First World War claimed the lives of over 16 million people, involved over 100 countries and had an impact on the lives of everyone in every town and village in our country. One hundred years on, we are all connected to the First World War, either through our own family history or because of the way it changed the history of our communities. It is a fitting time not to celebrate, but to remember and reflect, to remember the lives of those who lived, fought and died in the First World War and to strengthen the lessons learned that we may make this world a better place.



There are many events and activities being planned including the Real Poppy Campaign. The campaign is being run by the Royal British Legion in conjunction with the Imperial War Museum and forms part of the First World War Centenary Partnership. All profits from the sale of seeds purchased through the campaign are going to the Royal British Legion. You can find a useful resource document on the diocesan website or contact David Farey if you prefer to receive a paper copy. david.farey@chichester.anglican.org

NEWS CONTINUED



PIZZA AT THE PALACE

Eighteen choristers from The Prebendal School in Chichester were invited to the Bishop's Palace to meet Bishop Martin.

He welcomed the boys, all aged eight to 11, along with their headmaster Tim Cannell, the school chaplain the Revd David Nason and Sarah Baldock, cathedral organist and master of the choristers, in The Tudor Room.

Bishop Martin gave a brief history of the building, particularly The Tudor Room, and tested their history knowledge, which proved to be very impressive.

The boys enjoyed pizza and doughballs, then Bishop Martin took the lead for a tour of the palace. They went up one staircase and down another and through private apartments, offices and the chapel until they reached an antique Portuguese cabinet where some time was spent trying to discover a secret drawer.

Then it was back downstairs for a frozen yogurt or chocolate cake and a general chat.

Everyone enjoyed the event which Sarah Baldock said was the first of its kind and a fantastic occasion: "The boys loved the outing and had such a good time. It certainly was a splendid way to start the term and we're all looking forward to returning!"

VOTE OF CONFIDENCE FOR HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY TEAM

The Chaplaincy Team at Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust was awarded employee of the month in February.

The team, led by Rachel Bennett, picked up the award after being nominated by Katrina Rankin, waste manager at Worthing Hospital.

Katrina, whose nomination was endorsed by head of children's nursing and services Denise Matthams, thought the team deserved recognition for the way its members handled some exceptionally difficult and upsetting

situations in recent weeks.

In her nomination Katrina wrote: "They offer comfort and support to all. They work in the background and are rarely thought about until we need them in times of the greatest distress."

Rachel Bennett, lead chaplain, said: "It is a great honour to have been given this award when, in the national arena, questions are often asked about the necessity of salaried chaplaincy services. It is also an affirmation for us of the value in which we are held and the respect that we have among the staff."

Bishop Martin expressed his congratulations to the team and said the award was "very well deserved".



SAVING HAILSHAM'S BELL TOWER

Action will shortly be taken to save the foundations of Hailsham Church's 14th century bell tower.

Wealden District Council approved a request by the Diocese of Chichester for a large cedar tree and a birch tree to be removed from the churchyard where their roots are threatening the foundations of St Mary's Church.

"The cedar began growing in the churchyard some 80 years ago and at the time must have been an attractive addition to the

churchyard," said Hailsham's vicar, the Rev David Bourne. "However, as it has grown over the year, its root structure has been begun to interfere with the tower's foundations. Preventative action is unfortunately necessary if we are to avoid damage to Hailsham's historic church tower. The tree work taking place will result in a new view of the church from the shopping precinct which has not been seen for nearly 100 years."

The Diocese of Chichester's request for the tree work was approved by Wealden District Council. It will allow the work to take place in the coming weeks.

FUNDRAISERS COMMENDED AT AWARDS EVENT

The Sussex Historic Churches Trust recently held its annual awards to present certificates and trophies to all the people involved with Ride and Stride, its biggest annual fundraising event.



Pictured are two recipients of certificates of Merit with Mrs Susan Pyper.

During the ceremony at St Andrew's and St Cuthman Church in Steyning on March 1, they were congratulated by the Queen's representative for West Sussex, The Lord Lieutenant Mrs Susan Pyper.

The charity supports historic church buildings and last year raised a record amount.

HEADTEACHERS CONFERENCE

The annual conference for headteachers takes place at Bishop Hannington Church in Hove on Friday, May 2. More than 50 church school headteachers are expected to attend. The keynote speakers are John Bell from the Iona Community and Father Stephen Ortiger from Worth Abbey. Enquiries to: schools@chichester.anglican.org.

About 350 adults and 70 under-16s from about 140 churches and chapels took part across Sussex and Bishop Martin Warner helped launch the event in Lewes.

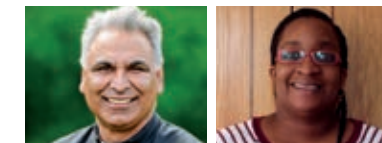
Pictured are two of those who received certificates of merit with Mrs Pyper.

The Sussex Historic Churches Trust can often be the difference between despair or repair.

St Nicolas Church in Itchingfield could not have completed its extensive restoration project without the generous support of the trust. The church recently completed its project at a total cost of £235,000.

John Gay, Rector at Itchingfield with Slinfold, said: "None of this of course would have been possible without the very generous support of the Sussex Historic Churches Trust. The building's many suspect timbers have been made good or replaced and the church has been made well and truly waterproof, thus ensuring its longevity for years to come."

To celebrate the success of the project, a thanksgiving service is to be held at the church on Friday, April 25, at 7.30pm. It will be an opportunity to gather and enjoy the ambience of the delightful restored church and its beautiful setting.



NEW FOCUS FOR ETHNIC CONCERNS IN SUSSEX

Bishop Martin recently approved the appointments of the new diocesan links for Minority Ethnic Anglican Concerns CMEAC. They are Imtiaz Trask, Curate at Frant and Eridge and Martha Weatherill of St John's Meads in Eastbourne.



GOD ON FILM

The relationship between church, faith and cinema is the subject of this year's Chancellor's lectures, which have the overall title Screen Spirituality - from cinema to smartphones: saviours, (super) heroes, sacrifice.

The lectures will explore the way faith and religion are depicted on screens of various kinds. While the main focus will be the cinema, television, computers and smartphones will also be included. 'Jesus' films, and those involving characters who are 'Christlike', will receive particular attention, but so will other theological themes such as sacrifice (particularly in relation to warfare, given the world war one centenary), forgiveness and the search for meaning.

Finally, given that going to the cinema involves sitting in the dark and 'looking', the lectures will explore what Scripture has to say about seeing, and the human and divine 'gaze'.

These illustrated lectures, given by Canon Dr Anthony Cane (Chancellor of the Cathedral) will take place on Mondays at 6.30pm in the Cathedral nave (after Evensong): 28 April and 5, 12 and 19 May 2014.

All are most welcome.



Farewell service: With Bishop Martin Warner



Accompanying the Countess of Wessex during her visit to the cathedral's annual flower festival in 2012



At ease with Archbishop Justin Welby on his prayer visit to Chichester



Farewell service: The dean and Mrs Maggie Burgess, wife of High Sheriff



With the dean of women's ministry - Canon Julia Peaty



Farewell service: The dean's brother, Sir Christopher Frayling



Farewell service: Full house in the cathedral

A COMMANDING PRESENCE, A REMARKABLE MAN

Considerable milestones were passed under the leadership of **Nicholas Frayling**, the dean of Chichester Cathedral who retired in February after 11 years at the helm.

He mentioned some of his "landmarks" in a reflection in the Chichester Cathedral newsletter. Among the most memorable were the 750th anniversary of St Richard, the 900th anniversary of the cathedral and Archbishop Rowan's visit, the opening of George Bell House and the establishment of Cathedral Enterprises and Cloisters.

He also mentioned completion of the exterior restoration of the cathedral, the interior of the Lady Chapel and the Lambert Barnard Tudor paintings, refurbishment of the Shrine of St Richard and, most recently, the prayer pilgrimage visit of Archbishop Justin Welby.

But his chief joy was "the steady faithfulness of a growing congregation now involving the young 'pebbles' and their mums and dads" and the seriousness with which the cathedral community views education – for children, young people and adults, in short, for itself.

He said: "The cathedral - and not just its inspired glass doors, embellished with the three crosses of Calvary - is a threshold, a place for people to wander in and out, to get a taste of what goes on. In this they are assisted by free admission and, at best, the discovery of a sensitive, generous and welcoming human presence within.

"As I prepare for a very different way of life, after 42 years of active full-time ministry, I want to say to everyone associated with our wonderful cathedral that I am very pleased I responded to the invitation to come to Chichester and that I am truly grateful for untold kindnesses. I should like to offer this advice, both simple and profound - whatever you are doing to serve Christ's Kingdom, keep doing it, trusting that it matters."

Another significant part of the dean's ministry was to chair the diocesan European Ecumenical Committee. The Revd Ann Waizeneker, a member of the committee, said: "The committee, inspired by Bishop George Bell, seeks to bring together lay and ordained Christians to develop and deepen friendships with and between our European brothers and sisters.

"Dean Nicholas understood the importance of this and through his leadership relationships have flourished and grown. A testimony to the significance of his work for this vital part of ministry was seen in the number of our European colleagues who came to his farewell service, where he was also made an honorary Canon of Chartres Cathedral."

In recognition of his services to the city, Chichester City Council granted the dean the Freedom of the City. He was formally presented with the honour at a service in the cathedral.

There have been many tributes paid to Nicholas for his many gifts and abilities, including one from Mark Dunn, a former chairman of West Sussex County Council.

He said: "Chichester has been fortunate in its deans and Nicholas Frayling has added even more lustre to this decisively influential position in our city.

"Sharing a public platform with his tall and commanding presence was, and is, a somewhat challenging task but his immediately felt warmth and charitable character put one quickly at ease and ensured an attentive hearing from every kind of audience.

"But it was from Nicholas in his cathedral pulpit that the true quality of this remarkable man struck so many and drew them into our Christian fellowship. His lucid and masterful sermons were truly inspiring and very many of his congregation will treasure and remember both Nicholas and his mission for years to come.

"Chichester men and women rich and poor and of every nature will miss him and send him off with prayers and gratitude. His leadership will be greatly missed."

THE DEAN'S FAREWELL SPEECH, GIVEN AT HIS LAST DIOCESAN SYNOD, CAN BE SEEN IN FULL ON THE DIOCESAN WEBSITE

DIOCESAN VISION AND GROWTH

DISCERNING THE VISION TOGETHER

Richard Jackson, Diocesan Mission Adviser and Bishop of Lewes designate, describes the rationale behind the consultation and planning for the diocesan strategy 2015 - 2020, emphasising the importance of prayer and coming together to better understand how each one of us can play our part.

"We all want growth, in depth and breadth, and it is happening in many places. It is never accidental and always through the grace of God. But we still need to think clearly about it." Archbishop Justin, commenting on the paper What Makes For A Good Diocesan Mission Strategy by The Ven Bob Jackson.

Any organisation, unless it has unlimited resources, needs a strategy to best deploy the resources it has to perform the task for which it was designed. The opposite of strategy is not 'no strategy', it is chaos.

Our diocese is at a key turning point in its life. The culture to which we minister is undergoing rapid change. The resources available to us are decreasing and we have an obvious problem with an aging Church membership. We do of course have the resources of the Holy Spirit and the good news of the Gospel but there is an urgent need to review our effectiveness in fulfilling the great commission here in Sussex.

Over the next year, we plan to draw up a strategy for the diocese to address some of these issues. This process will have three key elements and all of us are being invited to play our part.

These are:

- » **Prayerful discernment**
- » **Widespread consultation and listening**
- » **Careful planning to turn aspiration into reality**

Elsewhere in the magazine you can read about the first steps in prayerful discernment with a weekend of prayer at Pentecost 2014.

Here, we tell you about meetings happening around the diocese in the latter half of June. These will be an opportunity for us to come together to honestly face where we are and share our dreams of where we would like God to take us in the years to come.

Each meeting will be led by a facilitator. To provide a framework we will be reviewing how we are doing and how as a diocesan family we might begin to address three areas:

- » **Church growth, both numerical and spiritual**
- » **Re-imagining ministry in the light of a changing culture and falling numbers of the ordained**
- » **Contributing to the common good**

These were the goals set by Archbishop Rowan at the start of this five-year General Synod and were embraced by Archbishop Justin as he began his ministry.

It was thought they were areas in the life of our Church that we must address if we are to be more effective. We would be delighted if you would join the conversation so our strategy truly reflects the dreams and aspirations of us all.

VENUES AND DATES FOR DISCERNING THE VISION MEETINGS, ALL FROM 7.30PM TO 9.30PM, ARE:

- » **June 10**
 - Brighton - All Saints Church Patcham
 - East Grinstead - St Andrew's, Furnace Green
 - Rotherfield - St Peter and St Paul's Church, Wadhurst
- » **June 11**
 - Chichester - St Paul's Church
 - Cuckfield - All Saints Church Lindfield
 - Uckfield - Holy Cross Church
- » **June 12**
 - Midhurst - Easebourne Priory
 - Rye - St Thomas' Church Winchelsea,

» June 17

- Arundel and Bognor - St Mary's Church, Felpham
- Battle and Bexhill - St Mark's, Little Common
- Westbourne - St John the Evangelist Church, Southbourne

» June 18

- Hurst - St Andrew's, Burgess Hill
- Eastbourne - St John's Church, Polegate

» June 19

- Horsham - St Mark's Church
- Dallington - St John's Church, Hailsham

» June 24

- Worthing - St Mary's Church, Broadwater

» June 25

- Hove - Bishop Hannington church
- Lewes and Seaford - St Leonard's Church, Seaford
- Storrington - St Mary's Church, West Chiltington

» June 26

- Petworth - St John the Baptist Church, Kirdford
- Hastings - St Leonard and St Ethelburga's Church, St Leonards-on-sea

PROGRAMME TO PENTECOST 2015 KEY DATES

» Bishop's visitations	Ongoing until October 2014
» Weekend of prayer	Pentecost weekend, June 7 and 8
» Discerning the vision consultations	Mid to late June
» Collating the responses	July
» Senior staff residential	July 28 and 29
» Clergy conference	September 8 to 11
» Working groups on strategy areas	Mid September to November
» Growing in prayer programme	Lent 2015
» Further refinements of strategy	Mid April to mid May 2015
» Strategy launch	Pentecost 2015, May 24

There will be constantly updated information on the website, ebulletin and in this magazine.

WEEKEND OF PRAYER

A weekend of prayer is planned to engage the whole diocesan family as we seek to discern God's will for our life together.

Recent national consultation on formulating diocesan strategies identified prayer as a key element for a successful outcome.

The diocesan strategy for 2015-2020 will be launched on Pentecost weekend 2015 and we want to begin our time of consultation and reflection with a weekend of prayer.

June 7 will be a day of prayer at various venues around the diocese. Liturgical resources will be provided for every church to include prayer for the strategy as part of their intercessions on Pentecost Sunday, June 8. We hope many people will be able to spend some time on that day at one of the venues.

Most will be open for prayer from 9am to 6pm. The day will be divided into one-hour slots and churches will be encouraged to take responsibility for leading one of the slots.

Bishop Martin will join the people of Rotherfield Deanery for part of their day during his visitation while other members of the senior staff will be dropping into other venues.

Please join in prayer at a venue near you, either as part of a local church or on an individual visit.

They are:

- » Chichester Cathedral (1pm to 5pm)
- » St Peter's, Cowfold
- » St Paul's, Camelsdale
- » St Matthew's, Worthing
- » St Mary's, Ticehurst

- » St Nicholas, Worth
- » All Saints, Crowborough
- » Christ Church, Blacklands, Hastings
- » St Nicholas, Brighton
- » St George's Broad Oak, near Heathfield
- » St Mary's, Battle

Our overseas partner dioceses will be supporting us with their prayers. They are: Nakuru, Nyahururu and Kericho dioceses in the Anglican Church of Kenya and the five dioceses that are part of the Anglican Church of the Province of West Africa, Freetown (Sierra Leone), Bo (Sierra Leone), Guinea, and Gambia and the missionary diocese of Cameroon.

MONEY MATTERS

JOHN SHERLOCK,
LOCAL CHURCH
RESOURCES
CONSULTANT,
LOOKS AT SOME
STRATEGIC ISSUES

For more details, call him
on 01273 425686 or see
www.chichester.anglican.org/money

Making strategy is fun, especially having the vision. But we all know that, for visions of the future to become realities, resources (including money) are needed.

Now that I've met so many church people up and down Sussex with my 'money hat' on, I've developed one or two rules of thumb. Of course they don't apply in every case (rules of thumb never do):



RULE 1: IT'LL TAKE TIME

Churches (unlike many institutions) are here for the long haul – and if we have financial problems they've probably developed over many years – so don't be surprised if it takes many years for a local church that is 'out of kilter' to get back on an even financial keel.

RULE 2: SEPARATE CAPITAL PROJECTS AND RUNNING COSTS

Understand what the regular costs are (i.e. those that you incur every year). These are the costs that the regular worshippers might be expected to meet. Depending on where churches are located, there may be other sources (in addition to the regular congregation) where funds for capital projects may be accessed.

RULE 3: EXCEED THE PARISH CONTRIBUTION WITH REGULAR GIVING

This may be a case of 'easier said than done' but if a local church's regular given income takes care of the parish contribution, then a church avoids the need to draw on reserves or have ministry costs subsidised by someone else. It isn't always possible, which is why we have a parish contribution system anyway. Some dioceses call it 'the common fund'.

There's an abundance of resources and useful links on the diocesan website (www.chichester.anglican.org/money) or call John Sherlock or Tony Cox (01273 425686) if you need a visit.

PARISH GIVING SCHEME (PGS) UPDATE

At the time of writing over £120,000 monthly was being remitted to local churches in our diocese through the PGS, including well over £23,000 of Gift Aid every month! More than 1700 donors have now signed and sent in direct debit forms, and the number continues to grow.

Cumulatively, as at the beginning of March 2014, over £915,000 had been remitted to parishes since we introduced the scheme to this diocese in 2012, which includes over £176,000 of Gift Aid reclaimed. The latest monthly update is always to be found at www.chichester.anglican.org/pgs.



THIS YEAR'S ORDINATIONS

A full report and pictures will follow in the June issue of Faith in Sussex

Eighteen men and women will be ordained Deacon on Saturday June 28 in the Cathedral and will begin their public ministry in various churches in the Diocese of Chichester, across East and West Sussex and the City of Brighton and Hove.

Their ordination will place a seal on the calling they have received from God to serve the Church, helping both those ordained and the whole congregation to remember that they are called

both to care for one another and to connect with the wider community in service outside the Church.

The ordained ministry of the Church traces its origins to the commissioning of the twelve disciples by Jesus Christ – and since the first century AD, bishops have laid hands on those to be ordained, as a sign of the gift of the Holy Spirit bringing authority into the life of those who are to work in a particular ministry in the Church.

THE NAMES OF THOSE BEING ORDAINED AND THE PARISHES THEY WILL BE LICENSED TO ARE:

Jimmy Young	Horsham St Mary
Alice Whalley	Moulsecomb
Andrew Birks	Portslade
Chris Sutton	Slaugham and Staplefield Common
Christian Mitchell	Uckfield
Christine Keyte	Rustington
Irene Smale	Chichester St Pancras
Jo King	Pagham
Joy Collins	Further east area currently, Hastings area
Kate Lawson	Hove All Saints
Mark Ashworth	Crowborough
Martin Mills	Bolney and Cowfold
Pauline Ingram	Maresfield and Nutley
Philip Edell	West Worthing
Stephanie Gardner	Beeding and Bramber with Botolphs
Steve Burston	Worth
Sue Wilkinson	Lewes St Anne, St Michael and St Thomas
Tanya Hockley	Southwick

THOSE BEING ORDAINED PRIEST THIS PETERIDE, ON DATES BETWEEN 15 AND 22 JUNE ARE:

ON SUNDAY, 15TH JUNE 2014 AT 5PM

Feast: Trinity Sunday **Venue:** St Paul's Church, Chichester **Bishop:** + Lewes

Sarah Flashman	St John the Evangelist, Southbourne
Alison Green	Chichester Cathedral
Karen Young	St Paul, Chichester

ON SUNDAY, 15TH JUNE 2014 AT 5PM

Feast: Trinity Sunday **Venue:** St Martin's, Brighton **Bishop:** + Horsham

Mischa Richards St Martin, Brighton

ON MONDAY, 16TH JUNE 2014 AT 7PM

Feast: Richard of Chichester **Venue:** All Saints, Hove **Bishop:** + Lewes

Duncan Fraser	Holy Trinity, Eastbourne
Brian New	St Andrew, Nuthurst and Good Shepherd, Mannings Heath
Carl Smith	St Andrew, Burgess Hill
Jill Simpson	St Andrew, Ferring

ON THURSDAY, 19TH JUNE 2014 AT 7PM

Feast: Corpus Christi **Venue:** St Mary East Grinstead **Bishop:** + Horsham

Alex Baxter	St Andrew, Eastbourne
David Hadfield	St Mary, East Grinstead

ON THURSDAY, 19TH JUNE 2014 AT 7PM

Feast: Corpus Christi **Venue:** St Anne's Lewes **Bishop:** +Lewes

Pauline Lucas	Sutton and Seaford
Paul Mundy	St Mary, Barcombe
Imtiaz Trask	Frant and Eridge
Alex Wood	St Peter, Brighton

Please pray for them,
their families and
the parishes they will
be serving.

RISING FROM THE FLAMES

BY CHARLOTTE MOORE

CHARLOTTE MOORE

is an author and journalist. She grew up in Whatlington, where she still lives and where her family have lived for several generations. Charlotte's great grandfather was a Bishop of Chichester (Winfrid Burrows)

The c13 church of St Mary Magdalene, Whatlington, stands on a spur above an ancient trackway. The simple Early English structure, nave and chancel under one roof, replaced an earlier chapel where, it is alleged, Harold Godwinson heard Mass the night before his fateful encounter with William of Normandy. Whatlington is a small rural community, largely unremarkable since 1066. But on St Swithun's Day 2010 the church, the oldest, most significant, and arguably best-loved building in the village, looked set for destruction when an electrical fault sparked a fire.

"St Mary Magdalene will continue to be a beacon of faith on the hill for many years to come"

Churchwardens, priest and parishioners looked on in dismay. "The rose window blew out with a terrific bang and you could hear the fire roar through the rafters," recalled one life-long resident. The following Sunday, Evensong was held in the churchyard to reclaim the church for the congregation, but the stark message of the blackened roof skeleton was that there could be no imminent return.

PCC member Yvonne Underhill remembers "crunching through the wreckage, seeing fluttering leaves of poppies from the memorial wreath and bits of the chandelier mixed in with the rubble". She said: "I was thinking, I hope someone sensible sorts this out and doesn't just dump everything in a skip." Valerie Bishop, who does the church flowers, said: "The fire was likened to bereavement but when we heard we were well insured, I thought, yes, our little church will rise from the flames."

What were the priorities for the rebuild? "The old church had a real sense of peace and depth of spirituality that only comes from years of faith being expressed there," says Father Kevin Mephram, "but there was also a need to make it usable for the community other than for worship"

A group of volunteers headed by churchwardens Jeffrey Bridges and Ken Jones took on the challenge.



Architect Richard Andrews, of Carden and Godfrey, led a team of local craftsmen and women.

The church had been "restored" in 1862. The fire had destroyed the dark Victorian ceiling but, remarkably, most of the 13th century roof timbers that had lain hidden could be salvaged.

"The church appeared to shrug off its Victorian veneer," said Andrews. "It clearly wanted to be put back to its medieval appearance."

Builders Morgan and Morgan plastered the entire ceiling between rafters in the traditional method, with lime and horsehair over chestnut lathes. Stained glass specialist Mel Howse designed a replacement for the rose window inspired by a wheat sheaf - Whatlington's emblem - but also the form of a flame, incorporating the word "resurgam".



She also made a glass balustrade for the new organ gallery with 1.Kings 19:12 carved and gilded at the base - "and the Lord was not in the fire, but after a still small voice".

Claire Davies restored the war memorial, which was in pieces. Quick-thinking parishioners had stored the bits in the font.

Such work is, she says, deeply rewarding. "It's impossible to imagine the impact of the loss of these local men. The memorial was a focus for grief, especially for those who had no grave to tend."

Edward Harringman, a 20-year-old cabinet maker from the village, restored the spread-eagle lectern and the three freestanding angels, now detached from the damaged pulpit. He said: "Repairing the angels' delicate wings was the most challenging task. Working with so much history was a real treat."

The insurers, who, with the loss adjuster, were praised by the volunteers for their helpfulness, matched like for like. An appeal fund, which reached £45,000, provided the "extras" such as underfloor heating, a sound system, a toilet and kitchen and stacking pews to replace the ruined Victorian pitch pine ones.

These innovations all aim to extend the range of uses to which the church can be put.

The restored church was rededicated by the Bishop of Chichester on February 9. The fire no longer seems a tragedy. Volunteers and professionals pulled together and Whatlington has become far more aware of the value of its church.

Father Kevin sums it up: "It's a tribute to the faithful who have toiled, listened to the community, dealt with bureaucracy and constantly prayed and worshipped. St Mary Magdalene will continue to be a beacon of faith on the hill for many years to come."

BISHOP CHRISTOPHER CHARLES LUXMOORE

1926 - 2014

“Christopher Luxmoore will be remembered as a dignified figure who exacted high standards from himself and expected them from others.”

These words, from Bishop Martin, were among the many tributes paid to the Right Rev Christopher Luxmoore whose funeral requiem was held in Chichester Cathedral.

Bishop Martin added: “His pastoral experience as a bishop in Bermuda gave him insight into the working relationship between bishop and archdeacon in the Lewes area. Many will have cause to give thanks for his life and ministry within this diocese. He was also closely associated with the Woodard Foundation and made a distinctive contribution to their work of education.”

Bishop Christopher, who died peacefully on February 24 at Augusta Lodge in Chichester, was born in Yorkshire to a family that produced many clergy.

Educated in Ripon and at Sedbergh, he joined the army at the age of 18 and trained as an officer at

Sandhurst Military Academy. He was commissioned into the Green Howards Regiment in which he served from 1944 to 1947. He was in India during its partition.

In 1947 he went on to study at Trinity College, Cambridge, and then Chichester Theological College. He was deaconed in 1952, serving his title under Ian Pettit at St John's, Newcastle, and priested the following year. In 1955 married Judith and became incumbent of St Bede's, Newsham. In 1958 he went, with Judith, to serve the church in Trinidad.

On returning to Britain in 1967 he was appointed vicar of Headingly and then, in 1981, precentor and canon residentiary of Chichester Cathedral, staying until his election to the See of Bermuda in 1984.

Christopher's consecration took place in Chichester Cathedral, the first episcopal consecration there.

He returned to England in 1989 and became Archdeacon of Lewes and Hastings, a post he held until retirement in 1991. He was also made Provost of Lancing with responsibility for the spiritual health of the schools of the Southern Division of the Woodard Corporation.

He remained an assistant bishop in the diocese for the past 22 years, a holy pastor to the parishes, and whenever his name was mentioned it was with warm appreciation and respect.

Father Ian Forrester, parish priest of Boxgrove and formerly chaplain of Lancing, said it was a great privilege to preach at bishop Christopher's funeral requiem. He hoped the warmth of Christopher's humanity, the effectiveness of his ministry and his love for the Lord and for his family would be properly remembered.

Christopher's family brought him great joy and satisfaction. He and wife Judith had five children and 17 grandchildren.

Fr Ian said “All of his children had been with him in his last few days to bid him a safe journey, and Judith, faithful as ever, was with him to the end of this life. And he was undoubtedly surrounded by the prayers of Our Lady, St Richard of Chichester and the whole company of heaven.”

A SAINT FOR OUR AGE

The Rev John Brown has reminded us about the annual celebration of **St Richard of Chichester**, our patron saint, in June and how his prayer deserves wider recognition in the spirituality of the diocese.

St Richard, Bishop of Chichester for eight years in the mid-13th century, was well acquainted with both hard work and suffering. Though a gifted scholar and lawyer, he did not flinch from physical labour and as bishop, he found himself a homeless outcast in his own diocese until King Henry III finally accepted his appointment by the Pope.

His prayer reflects the commitment and “stickability” needed by anyone who seeks to be a true follower of

Jesus and indicates that devotion to Jesus Christ is at the heart of Christian unity.

Fr John, former vicar of Westhampnett with Oving, believes St Richard's example of spiritual commitment in a time of social and spiritual uncertainties can be an inspiration to all and is summed up in his simple but profound prayer:

THANKS BE TO YOU, OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,
FOR ALL THE BENEFITS WHICH YOU HAVE GIVEN US,
FOR ALL THE PAINS AND INSULTS WHICH YOU HAVE BORNE FOR US.
MOST MERCIFUL REDEEMER, FRIEND AND BROTHER,
MAY WE KNOW YOU MORE CLEARLY, LOVE YOU MORE DEARLY,
AND FOLLOW YOU MORE NEARLY, DAY BY DAY.

AMEN



THE ANNUAL CELEBRATION
OF ST RICHARD, PATRON
SAINT OF SUSSEX, IS
HELD AT HIS SHRINE IN
CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL ON
JUNE 16. SINCE 2007, THIS
DAY HAS BEEN CELEBRATED
AS SUSSEX DAY.

TEXTING GOD

A GR8T
IDEA BY
HARRY

Schoolboy Harry Gray has just enjoyed a “glorious” visit to Lambeth Palace - at the personal invitation of the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby.

The extraordinary visit came about after Harry, 12, and his family attended a service at St Peter and St Paul in West Wittering, where lay preacher Dick Howeson gave a sermon on prayer.

In the middle of it, Harry asked his father Nick whether there was a text number for God. Nick, well used to such questions from his boy, gave his stock reply for occasions when he does not have an answer - “we’ll look it up on the internet when we get home”.

Harry has Asperger’s Syndrome and, while he struggles with many differences that can make his life hard, he also has many gifts. One is his ability to maintain a seemingly naïve innocence when considering the world in which he lives.

After the service, Harry was unable to find his answer on the internet - so he decided to write to the archbishop direct.

He told him that since starting at Bishop Luffa School in Chichester, he had noticed he and his friends spent a lot of time communicating by text.

He wrote: “I know how hard you are trying to reach out to young people like myself and I think it would be really helpful if there was a text number we could use to send our prayers to God. Although we find it

hard to make time for prayers, we always seem to make time to text.”

He received an email back from Lambeth Palace within a couple of hours, swiftly followed by a special delivery letter, handwritten by the archbishop himself. He invited Harry to join him in prayer and have a chat, during which he could ask whatever he liked.



The Gray family visited Lambeth Palace on February 21 and were greeted by the Rev Canon Chris Russell, the archbishop’s adviser on evangelism and witness, and several staff.

Nick said: “They seemed genuinely excited to meet Harry. We were led to the Crypt Chapel where we were to share the Eucharist, one of three services held there each day. Archbishop Justin surprised us, calling out a greeting from the atrium walkway 5m above our heads and quelling any nerves we may have had about meeting him.”

The Grays were joined by Archbishop Justin’s wife Caroline, the Rev Dr Jo Wells, who is chaplain to the archbishop, and five visiting American bishops, among others.

Nick said: “We shared Holy Communion where Harry and his brother Ben received a blessing from Archbishop Justin. He took Harry aside to talk and pray with him alone, private moments that Harry will remember for ever.”

Afterward the archbishop led the family through the “splendid corridors” of Lambeth Palace to the State Dining Room, or Blue Room, for a private lunch.

Nick said: “The staff had very thoughtfully provided every schoolboy’s all-time favourite, sausages and mash. Harry was impressed when Archbishop Justin

served everyone with the onion gravy himself. We all enjoyed a pleasant hour of good-humoured conversation, which included an in-depth discussion of Harry’s ideas for texting prayers.

“Archbishop Justin’s passion for Christian unity came over strongly throughout the day. He has been involved a great deal in reconciliation work over the years, putting himself at great personal risk on many occasions. He radiates a steadfast faith in the power of prayer which is quite intoxicating.”

Nick said the day was “wonder-filled, glorious” and at the end of it, they all shared feelings of welcome, inclusion, warmth, passion and “an overwhelming optimism for the future of the Church in the hands of Archbishop Justin”.

He said: “We left Lambeth Palace with our heads spinning, feeling elated and with a conviction that if anyone could kick start a renewal of the Church, it was this very special man. We felt privileged and excited to have been present at the dawning of what promises to be a renaissance of the Church.

“Most importantly, Archbishop Justin proved to a young boy with big ideas that anything is possible if you believe strongly and have the courage to ask – even getting to meet, talk with, have lunch and pray with the Archbishop of Canterbury.”

“We left Lambeth Palace with our heads spinning, feeling elated and with a conviction that if anyone could kick start a renewal of the Church, it was this very special man.”

HARRY IS KEEN TO ENGAGE WITH OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE TO SEEK THEIR VIEWS ON “TEXTING GOD” AS A WAY OF ENCOURAGING THEM TO PRAY AND DEVELOP A CLOSER PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM. IF YOU HAVE ANY VIEWS OR IDEAS, HARRY WOULD BE HAPPY TO HEAR FROM YOU. EMAIL jenny@venturetc.com

LESSON ON OUR CHURCH SCHOOLS

The Diocesan schools team does much more than help appoint head teachers.

A recent Church of England report, The DBE For The Future, outlines what it believes is a top priority - training clergy for their work with schools. The purpose of the Diocesan Board of Education, recently restructured and chaired by the Bishop of Chichester, is to support the work of all those involved in education within the diocese.

By developing and strengthening the already good work of the schools team at a time of great challenge, the clergy will be better equipped to serve their communities and together strive for excellence in all things.

Here **Sarah Phillips**, interim director, gives a useful guide for parishes to help them understand the current landscape and emerging issues around church schools. It should help them to build stronger relationships with schools in their areas.



A cause for celebration

The Diocese of Chichester welcomes Graffham Infant School into its church family of 158 schools. Graffham now has the same Church of England Voluntary Controlled status as its federation partner, Duncton Church of England Junior School.

Pictured: Headteacher of both schools, Helen Martin, pictured with some of the pupils.

KEY FACTS ABOUT CHICHESTER DIOCESE CHURCH SCHOOLS:

- » The diocese has substantial and successful experience as a provider of schools for hundreds of years, since before the state provided free local education
- » Now Church of England schools are key to the national and local church mission to the community and are funded within national and local state education provision. The Diocesan Board of Education plays a role in supporting the schools uniquely as a bridge between the church and state
- » The diocesan schools team works closely with the three local authorities of East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton and Hove
- » There are 159 church schools - 58 are voluntary aided (where the church appoints the majority of governors), 98 are voluntary controlled, two are church standalone converter academies and one is a sponsored academy run by ARK. There are almost 37,000 pupils in our schools
- » Most are primary, making up a third of all primary schools across Sussex, and there are six secondary schools
- » All the school sites are held in church charitable trusts for the purposes of providing a school for local children, free and with a Christian character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England
- » Currently 82 per cent of the schools are graded good or outstanding by Ofsted. Most are improving and are very popular with parents.

THE DIOCESAN ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN CHURCH SCHOOLS:

- » Each church school governing body is a charity and the diocese approves the appointments and provides training to 750 governors* and academy directors
- » We advise governors on the appointment of all head teachers and most deputy heads and on admissions in voluntary aided schools
- » We lead training and bring in expertise to share good practice across church schools through our training programme. This includes advice on the religious education curriculum and training teachers to improve the quality of RE
- » We manage, organise and quality assure all Section 48/SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools)
- » We help schools plan for inspections by Ofsted and attend the feedback at the end of the inspections to help improvement planning and promoting effective school improvement
- » We are focusing on work to attract more leaders of church schools and promote good succession planning, especially by developing effective new models of leadership such as executive headship across several schools
- » We help schools to work together and share staff if it will benefit pupils
- » We focus specific support on those church schools in need – currently six in the diocese are in special measures. All are making good progress but one will close in August and 24 schools have been judged by Ofsted to require improvement
- » We have to be consulted and involved in school expansions, closures, capital and land issues. We also manage building projects and funding from the Department for Education and governors in voluntary aided schools – currently about £2.5million
- » We have to give consent to all church schools wishing to convert to academy status – with directors appointed by church bodies as governors were before.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING A GOVERNOR
EMAIL schools@chichester.anglican.org
AND LOOK AT OUR WEBSITE PAGE
www.chichester.anglican.org/schools

CHURCH

at the heart
of the community

Celebrating the success of a year spent focused on appreciating different aspects of life in the community.

Midhurst Parish Church held a series of services created to acknowledge local businesses and their contribution.

New vicar Dave Willis said: "The church felt that our town has a lot to offer and that we have a great deal to be thankful for."

Rev Dave Willis finalises the readings with tailor Stuart Fraser, travel agent Richard Davies and solicitor Clive Rowntree

Each "community links" service was formed around the usual Sunday morning Eucharist but the church was creative in asking those invited to take part in some way.

On March 2, more than 80 people attended the final community links service, which involved some of Midhurst's best-known and historic businesses. Readings were given by Stuart Fraser, from Frasers menswear stores, and Richard Davies, from Bath Travel. Prayers were led by solicitor Clive Rowntree, whose practice is behind the church.

The vicar spoke about the importance of an active faith in dealing with the pressures of hectic lives and said the intention of the church was to reach still further into the community life of the town. He said the church was resolved to be at the heart of the community.

The Spread Eagle Hotel served coffee and biscuits as people were encouraged to stay on, pick up business cards and view displays shops and businesses had taken into the church. Local photographer Michael Chevis took pictures.

The invitation inspired Midhurst Funeral Directors L F Lintott and Son to donate a pair of coffin trestles to mark the occasion, gratefully received by the church.

"It's been really great to welcome the community into church in a spirit of celebration and thankfulness."

A final "celebrating community in worship" service is planned for Sunday, May 11, when all those who took part in previous services will be invited back.

Rev Willis said: "As a church we've been delighted to have such a great response from the invitations to people in the town to join us for these services. It's been really great to welcome the community into church in a spirit of celebration and thankfulness.

"As a result, new relationships have been forged and old relationships strengthened between the church and the wider community. Although it would be lovely if these services encouraged people to explore their faith, that wasn't really the aim. This initiative is about the church showing that we care and that we are committed to loving and serving our neighbours."



Jacqui Ermis from L F Lintott and Son donating a pair of coffin trestles to Midhurst Parish Church

OVERSEAS FOCUS

On these pages you will read about the overseas links the Diocese of Chichester has with East and West Africa. Our links are the responsibility of the Diocesan World Mission Officer, Revd Canon Ian Hutchinson-Cervantes, and the Diocesan Overseas Council.

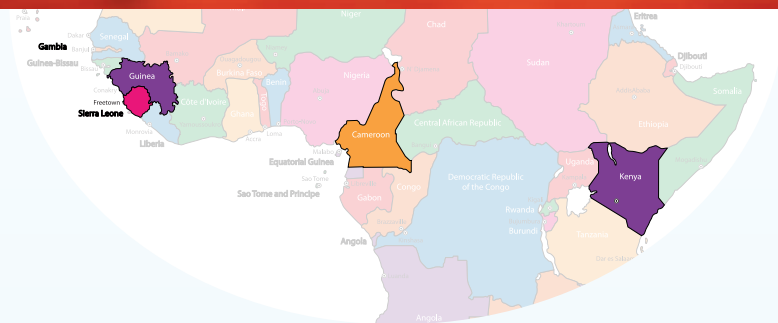
Here Father Ian, who took up the post in 2012, tells us about the work of the DOC, our diocesan Harvest Appeal and the challenges for the year ahead.



The DOC is undergoing some important changes to help us develop more practical ways of deploying the skills and experience of its members and those in our diocese who are engaging with the World Church. Our aim is to promote and co-ordinate links within the diocese and to stimulate the reflection and learning arising from the ongoing relationships with our overseas links within all structures and activities of the diocese.

I hope the map on this page will illustrate our links with East and West Africa but first, a note about the Harvest Appeal 2013. The theme was Ephesians 4: 12, Equipping the saints for ministry. We are continually striving to strengthen the links with our overseas partners. Our intention is to help equip and train members of the Church for strategic ministries. You can read about how Deacon Alfred Henry Gradon's ministry and potential could be dramatically enhanced through further investment in his training.

Others like Deacon Alfred are relying on us to meet our obligations. If your parish raised money during harvest, please prioritise these funds so that Deacon Alfred can begin his training and we can begin to encourage others. Our current appeal has brought in just £9,500 and we need



your help and your prayers to bring this total up to £16,000.

"I want also to make a special mention of the work that the Mothers' Union undertakes in the diocese. The growing partnership between the DOC and the MU is one example of the new ways of working together we hope to nurture. Members of our diocesan MU joined our recent pilgrimage to Kenya earlier in the year. Together, we enjoyed many sights and met many interesting people. One of the highlights was a meeting with the new bishop of Nyahururu, the Rt Revd Stephen Kabora. Ruth Sowerby presented him with an engraved silver pectoral cross on behalf of the Diocese of Chichester. You can read the reflections that were sent back from Kenya and these can be found on the diocesan website.

Which brings me on to a practical problem. It is recognised that the

overseas pages on the website need reviewing. This work will develop over the next few months following on from outcomes of DOC meetings but you can expect to see some simple changes very soon and we hope this will enable parishes to engage more fully with the work of its Diocesan Overseas Council.

To that end I am putting myself available for deanery or chapter meetings with a presentation on the theme of links and how these may enrich, inform and encourage us in our mission. I will be developing this over the next couple of months and hope to roll this out from June. Please register your interests with Jennie Davies, who can be contacted at Church House on 01273 421021.



Deacon Alfred Gradon, pictured on the left of Bishop Jacques Boston and Deacon Abdel Syllah, was born and raised in the Anglican Church but in his youth drifted away. His faith became somewhat dormant but never fully died. Eventually, after some years, Deacon Alfred encountered the Protestant Church of Guinea, a "free evangelical" church. This community's energy and passion for evangelism sparked something in him and he recommitted his life to Christ and His service. Deacon Alfred trained for the pastorate and rose to become the General Secretary of the PCG.

Pastor Alfred's ministry took him all over Francophone Africa leading missions aimed at reaching out to Muslims and practitioners of traditional African religions. But he also travelled to the rebel-controlled areas on the borders with Sierra Leone at the height of the civil war that ravaged that neighbouring nation. He recalls: "There I preached to the rebels and called them to repentance."

In 2009, at the invitation of Father Jacques Boston, the present bishop, Pastor Alfred visited the Anglican

MEET THE SAINTS: DEACON ALFRED HENRY GRADON

parish of The Ascension, Ratoma, to preach. He said: "The moment I set foot in the sanctuary I was overwhelmed by an almost physical sense of call to the ordained ministry in the church of my youth."

Alfred Gradon was ordained deacon in January this year by Bishop Albert Gomez and was assigned to serve as an NSM curate at the Church of The Ascension, Ratoma. He said: "I continue to work as a management accountant but hope soon to retire. My wife and I are blessed with seven children and each of them has committed their life to Our Lord. My dream, our dream, is to study evangelism and serve as a missionary in the Forrestiere region of Guinea. There, few have ever heard the gospel. My children share this dream and have decided that between them they will support me so that I may serve the Lord and His Church full time."

With your help, Deacon Alfred will be able to spend a year at St. Nicholas' Seminary in Ghana studying and preparing for his ordination as priest and his ministry as a pioneer missionary.

And finally - it's not just about funding. All our link bishops have been praying for us in the wake of the storms and will be organising events in their dioceses to coincide with our Day of Prayer in June. They really want to "be with and alongside us".



STORIES BEHIND THE HYMNS

teach me, MY GOD AND KING

BY NEVILLE MANNING

It was one of those strange little coincidences in life that I had been touching up a little paintwork at home when, having put the paint brush away, I then began to compose this article about the hymn "Teach me, my God and King, in all things thee to see" by George Herbert. A hymn about serving God in the ordinary, humdrum tasks in life was somehow appropriate at that moment!

George Herbert (1593-1632), remembered in our Church's Calendar on 27th February each year, has been described by Frank Colquhoun as "one of the most attractive figures in the story of English hymnody". * Born into a noble family, educated at Westminster and Cambridge, he was frequently seen at the court of King James 1, whose favour he enjoyed. He could almost certainly have gone on to a distinguished career in the service of the state and did in fact become Member of Parliament for Montgomery.

However, when the King died, George Herbert found himself facing a deep and personal spiritual crisis in which he sensed that God was calling him to a different direction in his life. He set out to study theology, was ordained at the age of 32 and later became Rector of the village of

Bemerton near Salisbury. Only there for three years before his death from consumption at the tender age of 39, his brief time in the parish was a very fruitful one. Morning and Evening Prayer were said by him faithfully each day in the parish church, a pattern reflected in another of his hymns "King of glory, King of peace", in the words "Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee". He ministered faithfully through

ANY GOOD ACTIVITY,
HOWEVER ORDINARY,
CAN BE TRANSFORMED
WHEN IT IS CARRIED OUT
FOR THE LOVE OF GOD

preaching and the sacraments, also writing an influential book about pastoral ministry called "The Priest to the Temple". His poetic talents led to a number of hymns in the life of the Church, including "Teach me, My God and King, in all things thee to see", normally sung to the tune Sandys.

The abiding message of this hymn is that, as the opening verse declares, any good activity, however ordinary, can be transformed when it is carried

out for the love of God. The clue is in the 3rd verse in the words For thy sake: when any task, however ordinary is done for the glory of God the doing is transformed. As the following verse rather quaintly states even sweeping a room can be for God's glory:

*A servant with this clause
makes drudgery divine:
who sweeps a room, as for thy laws,
makes that and the action fine.*

As the final verse indicates this approach to ordinary tasks is like the elixir which the old alchemists (mistakenly) believed could transform substances into gold. It is the equivalent of what St. Paul wrote to the church in Colossae: "Whatever you do, in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus". (Colossians 3 v17). I must remember that next time I take up my paint brush!

*Hymns That Live by Frank Colquhoun, Hodder and Stoughton, Page 275



THE NATURE OF GOD'S ACRE:

by **The Rev Mark Betson**
Diocesan Rural Officer and
Vicar of Lower Beeding

investigating the links between nature in churchyards and the sacred.

There is growing evidence that connection with nature and wildlife fosters mental and spiritual health among individuals and communities. Churchyards bring these two values together in one place in a way that hardly any other places achieve.

Churchyards are sacred spaces that provide a unique environment for contemplation, reflection and prayer. Churchyards are also often ancient places which have escaped the changes to the English countryside and towns during the last 100 years. Because of this history, they are common havens for wildlife and in some cases can be among the last surviving places in a parish where nature thrives.

Recognising this, a team of people with interests and backgrounds in ecology, theology and land management has come together to create The Nature Of God's Acre, a project which aims to investigate the relationship between these two aspects of churchyards: their spiritual value and their value as havens for nature.

The project team has approached 40 parishes in the diocese, reflecting a roughly even spread across the deaneries. It was greatly encouraged by the enthusiastic response from many of them, with more than 30 saying they were able to help with the project.

Each parish was asked to seek views from members of the congregation, residents, the wider community and visitors to churchyards, using a combination of paper and online questionnaires. These used simple direct questions to explore the views and feelings of the respondents about their churchyard, what they valued about it, what wildlife they saw there and the spiritual benefits they derived.

The results from these questionnaires are being collected and correlated now, with further plans to visit and talk to people to add to what they find out. All this information will be considered and the findings published both as an academic report, so that what has been learned can be communicated beyond the diocese for the benefit of the wider church, and as a small attractive and concise booklet that will be widely available. The booklet will feature the parishes that have taken part and aim to engage its audience to show the beauty and meaning within churchyards in a way that has not been achieved before.

More information on the findings of the project will be presented at the The Beautiful Burial Ground conference on June 14, advertised elsewhere in this issue, and in the next issue of Faith in Sussex.

PLANNING REPAIRS? NO PROBLEM...

The rules on how to arrange repairs and alterations to church buildings and churchyards have changed – but there's no need for alarm.

Beth Hale, Diocesan Advisory Committee secretary, said parishes should not panic as the changes were minimal and designed to make things easier.



To make repairs or alterations, parishes must make an application known as a petition for faculty. The Faculty Jurisdiction Rules governing these were revised last year and the resulting changes came into effect on January 1.

The application forms have been redesigned and the original questionnaire has been divided into two.

Form 1A, standard information for churches, is for detail that is unlikely to change, for example listing grade, presence of bats etc. Once completed, the form can be kept on file and re-used for subsequent applications, provided the information is still valid.

Form 3A is the petition for faculty and is for information relevant to the specific application, for example, financial detail, consultation with other bodies etc.

Beth said: "The package of forms, together with advice notes on their completion, can be downloaded from the diocesan website. Alternatively I can email the package or send hard copies on request.

"The certificate issued on approval of the faculty is now called the Notification of Advice and is valid for 24 months instead of 12. For certain categories of work to Grade I and Grade II* listed buildings there is now a requirement for a notice to be displayed on the diocesan website. I will organise that when the Notification of Advice is issued but if anyone has queries, please don't hesitate to contact me.

"In essence, however, the process remains the same as before."

CHANCELLOR'S GENERAL DIRECTIONS

This document has recently been revised and reissued. It is available to download from the diocesan website. A printed copy is available at a small charge on request.

Beth is always available to give advice on the faculty process or the General Directions. Contact her on 01273 425690 or at beth.hale@chichester.anglican.org.

CHURCH MAINTENANCE CALENDAR

APRIL

THINGS TO LOOK FOR:

- » Check the roofs for frost, snow and wind damage. Debris on the ground from broken slates and tiles indicates that 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.

JUNE

THINGS TO LOOK FOR:

- » Inspect all windows. Check the glazing, putty, lead comes and wire ties for signs of damage.
- » Check timberwork for signs of rot including less accessible areas such as floor and roof voids, under stairs and in cupboards.

THINGS TO DO:

- » Clear any dirt from condensation drainage channels and holes at the base of windows.
- » Remove any vermin from floor and roof voids.

THE WALSINGHAM YOUTH PILGRIMAGE



Last year hundreds of young pilgrims from all over the country travelled to Norfolk for the Walsingham Youth Pilgrimage. As excitement begins to mount in preparation for this year's visit, Jaimie Ford and Alicia Misselbrook, two of the young people that attended last year, took time out to share their experiences.

"Our own coach journey took around five hours," said Alicia, "but luckily we had some stops. When we arrived we unloaded our bags and started to walk to the campsite, passing the Big Top—a massive domed tent where the pilgrims would go for morning and evening services throughout the week. When we got to the campsite we set up our tents, and after supper we went to our first service in the Big Top. There is always a theme to the pilgrimage and this year's was '00Heaven' like James Bond '007'. The music was by the band CJM. The services are new and fresh and exciting because there is no way of knowing what is going to happen: at one service Bishop Lindsay Urwin, the Shrine Administrator, and former bishop of Horsham, drove through the tent in an Aston Martin with The Stig!"

JAMIE TAKES UP THE STORY...

"That evening we had a big BBQ and a karaoke disco. The following morning we started with a Bible study led by Bishop Lindsay and a morning service. During the day we got to know our fellow campers better, unpacked the rest of our belongings and began a football tournament. That evening we walked the Holy Mile to a little shrine church out in the county and after a short service we were given candles and set off back to Walsingham on our pilgrimage.

"This year we were really lucky because the Archbishop of Canterbury joined us and led the walk and service—he also led the Bible study on Wednesday morning. Wednesday was a day of activity, which was a lot of fun.

Then there was the all-night service and we were able to sleep in the Big Top. Different groups came in turns during the night to pray. Thursday was our village day, so after the service and Bible study our Chichester group went to complete an activity in the village and then we had some time to look around the shops. Later we headed back for the football finals—the winners were the Chichester/Leicester team. We then all started to get ready for our Prom on the Thursday night, and because there was a James Bond theme everyone got dressed up in smart clothes. The cafe was turned into a 'casino' and our leaders had a cocktail party with fruit cocktails and canapés before the Prom. It was an amazing last night! On Friday we took down our tents and went to our

last service of the week, and on the way home everyone fell asleep. We can't wait till this next one!

**JAIMIE FORD AND
ALICIA MISSELBROOK**

Experience the Walsingham Pilgrimage. If you have not been before why not think about getting a group organised? You can contact Fr John Eldridge, St. John's Vicarage Reigate Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 5NF 01903 247340 frjohn@live.co.uk

DOWNLOAD FORMS FROM:
www.sswshchichester.weebly.com

CATHEDRAL NEWS

CATHEDRAL REPAIR ANNOUNCED

The announcement of a new two-year £20 million fund for repairs to cathedrals has been welcomed in Chichester. Ruth Poyner, Cathedral spokesperson said: "Cathedrals are places of worship, community, heritage, education, music and the arts – we estimate that some 350,000 people come to this Cathedral each year for all these reasons. Any initiative that might help us to keep this unique offering in good repair is very welcome."

She added: "Here at Chichester, maintaining this 900 year-old Cathedral requires tireless fundraising. For example, over the course of the next 10 years we

estimate we will have to raise in the region of £10 million for a number of important projects. Additionally, we are wholly committed to the Cathedral being accessible to everyone – and this means not passing on these costs to our visitors. At Chichester, entry is free and many of our events are also free to attend - we ask that people simply donate what they can. Protecting this principle, wherever possible, is top of our agenda.

The full story can be read on the Church of England website: www.churchofengland.org.uk

TV'S CHARLIE IS OUR FLOWER FESTIVAL PATRON

TV gardener Charlie Dimmock is this year's patron of Chichester Cathedral's biannual flower festival.

The festival is marking its 10th anniversary and the theme, devised by the cathedral's flower designer Jose Pound, will be "the music makers". Jose said: "There will be a stunning array of creative, imaginative and beautiful flower designs, interpreting 12 centuries of music from pop to plain song, classics to jazz, sacred to secular."

The event attracts many visitors from here and abroad. They will see inspirational flower arrangements using some 50,000 blooms.

Craig Sergeant, director of the Chichester Cathedral Restoration and Development Trust which runs the festival, said: "We are particularly delighted this year to

launch our spectacular festival of flowers as the 2014 event will be our 10th anniversary. We are proud to announce Charlie Dimmock as patron and it is wonderful that she will part of our team."



To mark the 10th festival, renowned French iris grower Richard Cayeux of Gien has produced a unique new hybrid, especially for Chichester Cathedral, which has been named Cathédrale de Chichester. This yellow and white iris will be on sale during the festival.

The event takes place on May 29, 30 and 31. It will be open from 10am to 7pm on the Thursday and Friday and 10am to 6pm on the Saturday.

Advance booking is recommended as the event is so popular. Tickets are now available online from the www.chichestercathedral.org.uk or by calling 01243 813595. You can also buy them at the Cloisters Shop at the cathedral. Tickets cost £12 each or £24 for a family of two adults and two children under 14. Late entry after 4pm on Thursday and Friday is £10 and it is £8 for entry after 3pm on Saturday.

For more details, call the Cathedral Restoration and Development Trust on 01243 812480.



FAITH IN SOCIETY

You will always have them with you...

What can the Church do about poverty today? David Farey, Church in Society Adviser, considers recent headlines and suggests there is something every Christian can do.

"Every child should find itself a member of a family housed with decency and dignity, so that it may grow up as a member of that basic community in a happy fellowship unspoilt by underfeeding or overcrowding, by dirty and drab surroundings." These words could have been written today in answer to the frightening statistics that there are 3.5 million children living in poverty in the UK. That's 27 per cent of children, or more than one in four. The words were in fact written by Archbishop of Canterbury William Temple in 1941. We may always have the poor with us but it does not stop us from attempting to eradicate poverty - but how?

Recently 43 Christian leaders, including 27 Anglican bishops, signed a public letter urging David Cameron to ensure people had enough to eat. They put the blame firmly in the politicians' laps, saying that "cutbacks and failures" in the benefits system are forcing thousands of people to use food banks. Bishop Martin has said: "While fiscal prudence is important, those who have the responsibility of public funds should avoid unnecessary austerity when many of their constituents are experiencing

material need." Both our bishops have spoken out against cuts in local authority budgets, arguing that they affect the most vulnerable in our society.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, the Archbishop of Westminster, has described the coalition's welfare reforms as a "disgrace" and said they have removed even the most basic safety net for those threatened by poverty and left society's most vulnerable facing "hunger and destitution".

Church pundit Giles Fraser says of David Cameron's insistence that his plans are a moral vision: "Far from operating out of a moral instinct, the government has poisoned the wells of public sympathy by amplifying a fear that vulnerable people are actually sniggering cheats."

So apart from acting as the nation's moral conscience firing off high sounding moral truths at the government, what else can the Church do? Nationally prominent figures can do what they can to affect policies. The Bishop of Truro, the Rt Rev Tim Thornton, is heading a major parliamentary inquiry into food banks and food poverty in Britain. He said: "The stronger our understanding of the

IF YOUR CHURCH HAS A PROJECT WHICH IS ADDRESSING SOCIAL NEEDS IN YOUR COMMUNITY THEN I WOULD LOVE TO HEAR ABOUT IT. EMAIL: david.farey@chichester.anglican.org

reasons for hunger in Britain, the more effective that response can be."

There are campaigns such as the End Hunger Fast and IF, which invite all to get on board and make a statement. There are also the many and varied social action initiatives which every church can engage with.

The Church's awareness that poverty has a spiritual dimension is reflected by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster launching a joint initiative this Lent to encourage people to pray for the work churches do to support people in need in their parishes and beyond.

From supporting Church leaders in trying to steer policies through joining campaigns and making a practical difference by supporting a food bank to offering sacrificial prayers for the poor and work to eradicate poverty, there is something every Christian can do. **Go on, make a difference...**



FSW NEWS

LATCHETTS OPEN GARDEN

May 30 and May 31 2014,
1:30pm-5:00pm

This is an 8 acre NGS garden. With woodland, ponds prairie, wild flowers, scary path and new sensory garden; there is something for everyone. Teas and homemade cakes on sale – proceeds to FSW.

Venue: Latchetts, Danehill, Haywards Heath RH17 7HQ



HAMSEY MANOR OPEN GARDEN

June 21 2014, 2:00pm-5:00pm

Hamsey Manor, near Lewes East Sussex, has never opened to the public before. With beautiful view and designed by RHS Chelsea Show gardener Roger Platt, this will be a treasure trove for avid gardeners. With teas, cakes and stalls this makes for a delightful afternoon.

Venue: Hamsey, Nr. Lewes BN8 5TD



TEDDY BEARS WEEKEND

To celebrate families across Sussex FSW are encouraging parishes to host an event for Teddy Bears Weekend 18 - 20 of July.

Picnics, Parachute Jumps, Grand Dinners, Genteel Teas - anything that Sussex's intrepid Teddies can do!

Please help make this the biggest fundraising event in your calendar and raise support for the Families of Sussex. Join us and make this the biggest Bear Party of the year. For your party pack please contact:

ColonelBear@familysupportwork.org.uk

BOOK SHOP CELEBRATES FIRST YEAR



Wise Books in Seaford, FSW's first shop raising funds for its work, has just completed its first year. It has become a favourite fixture in Seaford's High Street, with a huge array of books of all shapes and sizes with prices that start at just £1. A popular addition are the regular events, including 'Little Owls', a children's book club which runs during School holidays. The shop is based on Sutton Road, Seaford.



WANTED FOR WISE BOOKS

Good quality paperback books are needed for Wise Books. Please deliver donations to Knowles Tooth. Call us on 01273 832963.

KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE LATEST NEWS FROM FSW

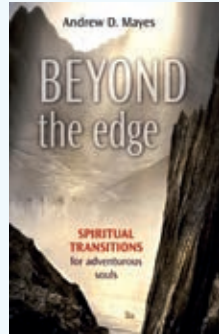
Keep your parish or school up to date with FSW's latest news - FSW are starting a monthly email update with an easy to follow signup. Please visit their website to find out how: www.familysupportwork.org/contact-us/

NEW! EVENTS BOOKLET FOR 2014

This booklet covers major FSW events as well as interesting articles which give an insight into various parts of the work across Sussex. Call (01273) 832963 to organise getting copies for your area parish, school or business.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES IS AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE: www.familysupportwork.org.uk OR THROUGH FSW CENTRAL OFFICE: KNOWLES TOOTH LANGTON LANE HURSTPIERPOINT BN6 9EZ 01273 832963 admin@familysupportwork.org.uk

BOOKS AND REVIEWS



BEYOND THE EDGE - SPIRITUAL TRANSITIONS FOR ADVENTUROUS SOULS

ANDREW D MAYES

Our Diocesan spirituality adviser Canon Mayes has produced an excellent resource serving individuals and groups who wish to see their life and faith moved forward, carried with the momentum of the Gospel and the Church's life and faith, with spiritual directors especially in mind. 'Beyond the Edge' is an easy yet challenging read that helps open a dialogue between one's inner struggles and those of Jesus. It has a clear structure - the life of Jesus and its geography - with an energetic narrative to carry us along, peppered with wisdom from the Christian tradition especially linked to spiritual transitions. The author's detailed knowledge of the Holy Land is a great enrichment coupled as it is with his grasp of scripture and the faith and prayer of the Church through the ages.

Canon John Twisleton Rector of St Giles,
Horsted Keynes, West Sussex

SPCK 2013 £10.99. ISBN 978-0-281-07114-2 145pp



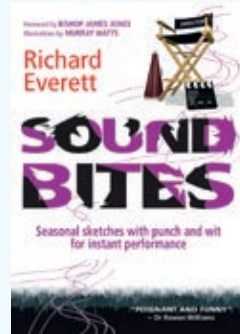
SUSSEX SAINTS AND MARTYRS

PHILIP PAVEY

In 'Sussex Saints and Martyrs' Brighton-born Philip Pavey writes engagingly of how 'Selig Sussex' came about - holy not silly - with a late start compared to the rest of England. The big figures in this very readable history are Wilfrid, Cuthman, Dunstan, Leonard and Richard before the Reformation and Philip Howard and the Lewes martyrs thereafter. Pavey weighs historical probabilities sifting fact from legend without being too academic. The chapter on Richard (1197-1253) records a saint of simplicity, humility and generosity - but not so generous to priests who spoke indistinctly or too fast whom he suspended! The author provides a careful and to my mind very fair record of the Reformation which left west Sussex more Catholic than the east to this day. This small book is an easy and interesting read and will be of interest beyond Chichester Diocese.

Canon John Twisleton Rector of St Giles,
Horsted Keynes, West

Country Books 2013 £6.99
ISBN 978-1-906789-90-9 96pp



SOUND BITES

RICHARD EVERETT

Sound Bites by Richard Everett is a delightful read, A refreshing new way of looking at biblical stories. Thought provoking and amusing. As The bishop of Liverpool James Jones explains in his foreword: 'Richard is a playwright with a calling, a wordsmith whose art explores the boundary of life and faith. The artist is like an Old Testament prophet holding a mirror to the world. In the reflection we see ourselves with all our comic and tragic potential. It's a way of confronting the truth about the human condition with all the possibilities of hope and renewal.'

Lion Hudson 2014 £10.99
ISBN 9780857213570 192pp

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EMAIL: info@booksalive.co.uk



A HISTORY OF ST PETER'S CHURCH, BRIGHTON

P D W NICHOLL

One of the iconic buildings of the city is St Peter's Church. When it was first built it stood at the entrance to the main part of Brighton, on the road that goes past the Royal pavilion to the Palace Pier. It was the first important design that Sir Charles Barry created. He later became one of the foremost architects of Victorian times being responsible for the Houses of Parliament and Highclere Castle (now known to millions of television viewers as Downton Abbey). St Peter's is a fine example of Barry's work, but this book will record how a chancel was added to the north of the building seventy-five years after the original structure had been completed. The book charts many ups and downs in its history but the church has come to be much loved in Brighton, Hove and Sussex.

Not only is this a valuable history of the church from its conception in 1818 right up to the Easter celebrations of 2013, the profits from sale are going to the St Peter's restoration fund.

Author House, 2013 £7.99
ISBN 1491887419, 9781491887417 158pp

WE ASKED AUTHOR PDW NICHOLL TO SHARE HIS REFLECTIONS ON WRITING A HISTORY OF ST PETER'S CHURCH

"It was one of the first things I wanted to do when I retired after nearly forty years as a History Teacher. What I hadn't anticipated was how much there was in the History of this famous building and the people associated with it."

"There were certainly some characters at St Peter's and J.J. Hannah, who was vicar there just over a hundred years ago is a very good example. At the time of his death, the Brighton and Hove Herald reported him as saying, "Crisis in the Church! I have never known a time when there was not a crisis in the Church. I hope never to know a time when there is no crisis. As long as the Church of England is the Church of Christ, and as long as it is in the world, there is bound to be a crisis following crisis." Just the sort of thing one would hope to expect to come from a vicar nowadays!

"There were a lot of wonderful discoveries. On one occasion I came across the prayer that was read at the laying of the foundation stone of St Peter's. It was rather long and old-fashioned, but it was worth quoting, for it is due to prayers like this that St Peter's has survived to face the challenges of the twenty-first century. Other events that are highlighted in my mind include the day of the funeral of King Edward VII, when a commemorative service was held at St Peter's, which was absolutely packed out. It was followed by a further ceremony on the lawns outside the church which was attended by 10,000 people with a full choir and both the Mayor and the Vicar speaking.

"My researches also included interviews. Archdeacon Douglas

McKittrick spoke about the night of the millennium, when, in the early hours of 1st January 2000, many hundreds of revellers, on their way home from a massive party in the Old Steine Gardens, poured into St Peter's, from midnight all the way through to four o'clock in the morning (when the church officials eventually decided that it really was time for bed!). Reflection took many forms: standing, sitting, kneeling, lighting a candle; but somehow it seemed appropriate to pause and acknowledge this most momentous occasion in such a sacred place. He recalled, "You could have heard a pin drop."

"In recent years there has been a real turnaround in the fortunes of St Peter's. The "latter glory" is now apparent, and in my concluding chapter, "Serving the People of the City," I describe some of the things since the church was reopened in 2009, including how so many people have found peace in this place during the last four years.

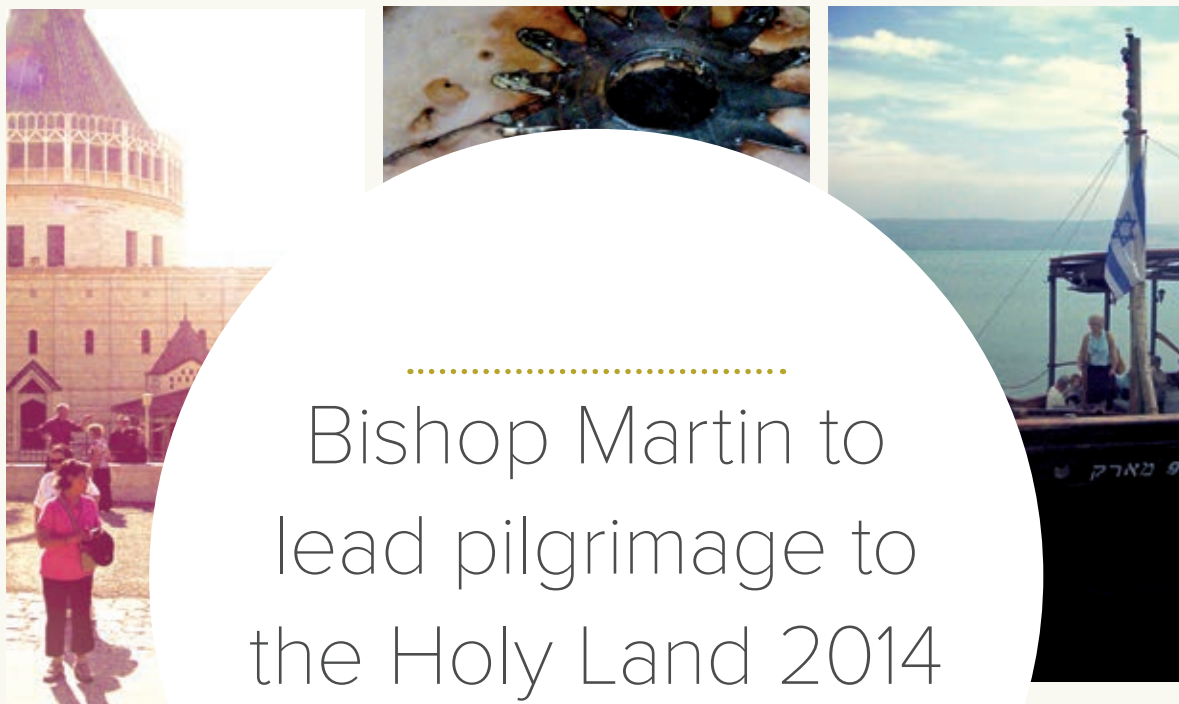
"My final reflection would be that to wonder if a suitable subtitle for the book is "God Loves Brighton." What took place at St Peter's, with the last minute intervention that led to the reopening of the church, which, in turn, gave new heart to the Christian community in the city, clearly shows that God has not turned His back on the city. He loves Brighton and has allowed this church to survive in order to help the people."

WIN

We have a copy of Sound Bites to give away!

All you have to do is write the answer to the following question on a postcard with your name and address to: BOOK GIVEAWAY, 211 New Church Road, Hove BN3 4ED

Question: Who is the publisher of Sound Bites?



Bishop Martin to lead pilgrimage to the Holy Land 2014

FOCUS ON PRAYING FOR PEACE

Demand for bookings on the diocesan pilgrimage to the Holy Land to be led by bishop Martin, has been so enthusiastic it has led to an increase in places. It departs from the UK on 20th November this year and individuals or groups from across the Diocese are welcomed.

Bishop Martin, who will lead the pilgrimage, said the aim of this journey of a life time to the Palestinian Authority area and Israel will be to pray for the peace of Jerusalem and to strengthen the faith of those who travel.

Organised by Lightline Pilgrimages www.lightline.org.uk the Pilgrimage will take in many of the sites associated with the life and ministry of Jesus from Galilee in the north to Jerusalem in the south.

Pilgrims will also make pilgrimage visits to Bethlehem and Nazareth.

A pilgrimage is unlike any other kind of organised tour. It is neither a holiday or a sightseeing tour but an opportunity to travel with, pray alongside and worship with other Christian people.

For many Christian pilgrims, however, the highlight of any pilgrimage to Jerusalem is to walk the via dolorosa – and, as we do so, we will be aware of Jesus walking with us, carry his cross, as we identify with his suffering and look to the resurrection.

To register for your place – simply ring Lightline Pilgrimages and ask for your personal brochure 0208 281 4882 or you can download it online from the website above.

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land is between 20th-28th November 2014. The inclusive tour cost is £1495 including excellent hotels, all tours and half board.

Why not
Book now?

CLASSIFIEDS

TRAINING

DEVELOPING DISCIPLESHIP

These modules are open to everyone who wants to learn more about their faith, not just those working towards the Bishop's Certificate.

Modules next month:

Hospital Chaplaincy
led by Deacon Rachel Bennett at Worthing Hospital (3 Sessions). £12 (shadowing a Chaplain/ward visitor sometime in May)
Thursday, 24 April and 19 June 2014

Screen Spirituality

The Chancellor's Lectures led by The Revd Canon Dr Anthony Cane, The Nave, Chichester Cathedral. (4 Sessions). Free of Charge.
Monday, 28 April 2014

For further information on these and future courses please contact The Discipleship and Ministry Team 01273 425693 wendy.greenan@chichester.anglican.org or go to the diocesan website.

TRAINING AND

EQUIPPING EVENT FOR

YOUTH LEADERS

HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH CONFERENCE

17th – 19th July, Sussex University. Visit the website for the latest details. You can follow on Twitter at @Household_Faith

MESSY CHURCH TRAINING

Messy Church Founder, Lucy Moore, will be running a session on Training in Messy Church for those involved in children's and family work in church in the Diocese of Chichester. It takes place at St Mary's Parish Church Willingdon nr. Eastbourne led by Saturday 26 April from 10:00am – 1:00pm.

Cost £5. To book a place and for further details please email: irene.smale@chichester.anglican.org

Other activities for the rest of the year can be found on the diocesan website.

VACANCIES

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC WANTED

St Richard, Aldwick, Bognor Regis is a seaside parish between looking for a

Director of Music to play the organ at the 10:30 Parish Eucharist and occasional special services and lead Friday evening choir practices. St Richard's has a modern Catholic tradition (Common Worship/New English Hymnal) and a strong musical history, with an

RSCM-affiliated robed choir of children and adults.

For further information please contact the vicar: The Reverend Canon Dr Lawson Nagel, Aldwick Vicarage, 25 Gossamer Lane, Bognor Regis, PO21 3AT
Tel: 01243 262049
Email: fatherlawson@gmail.com
Website: www.alldwick.org.uk

ORGANIST AND CHOIR DIRECTOR

Required for St Peter's East Blatchington. Details from Canon Dr Andrew Mayes andrew.mayes@gmail.com

ORGANIST REQUIRED

St Peter's ad Vincula, Folkington, Nr Polegate, Sussex, is looking for a new organist For more information – including remuneration and service times, Please contact Sabrina Harcourt-Smith on our Church Warden Team, 01323 482036

EVENTS

There are numerous Flower Festivals across the diocese www.achurchnearyou.com is a perfect way to find out what is happening and where.

FINDON VILLAGE CHURCH FLOWER FESTIVAL

Saturday 6th June, Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th. Admission free – donations welcome. Tel 872508 or 775959 for more details

PASSION OF CHRIST 2014

Easter Sunday 20 April. The Passion of Christ 2014 is taking place FREE in Brighton on Easter Sunday 20 April. Alongside James Burke-Dunsmore as Jesus Christ, a local volunteer cast will guide you on an unforgettable journey of the days leading up to Jesus' arrest, death and resurrection. For more information, see www.soulbythesea.org



CLASSIFIEDS

YOUTH WORK THE CONFERENCE 2014

14th – 16th November, Eastbourne
(Training and Equipping)

We will be welcoming the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby as a speaker! Check out the website and put the date in your diary (the whole weekend for just £70). Details from the diocesan youth Team 01273 421021

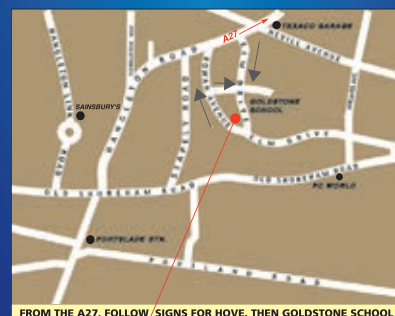
WANTED

Ten Hymn books are needed for a Waldron Youth Choir. If you any spare copies of the New English Hymnal please let them know. Email benjamin.tyler@yahoo.co.uk

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Do you need orthopaedic surgery or treatment?

Horder Healthcare, the award winning healthcare charity, now offers NHS services locally at **Pulborough Primary Care Centre** including Consultant appointments and physiotherapy. Patients can choose to be referred to the nationally recognised hospital, The Horder Centre, located in Crowborough, East Sussex for surgery.

Horder Healthcare specialises in orthopaedic surgery and musculoskeletal treatment and has been identified as consistently achieving well above the national average for hip and knee operation outcomes.



Orthopaedic surgery is available on the following areas:

- Shoulder
- Hip
- Knee
- Foot

For further information please ask your GP or call 01892 600804

Pulborough Primary Care Centre, Spiro Close, Pulborough RH20 1FG

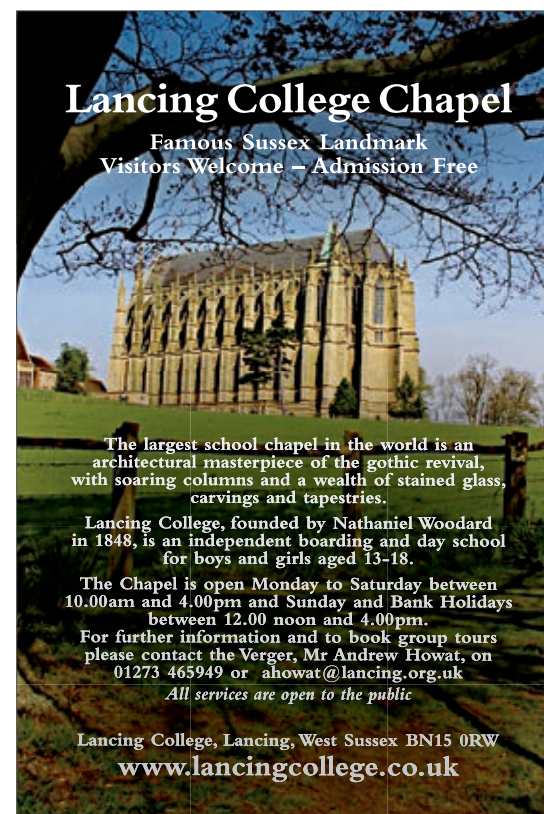
horderhealthcare.co.uk

Registered charity 1046624



Lancing College Chapel

Famous Sussex Landmark
Visitors Welcome – Admission Free



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

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

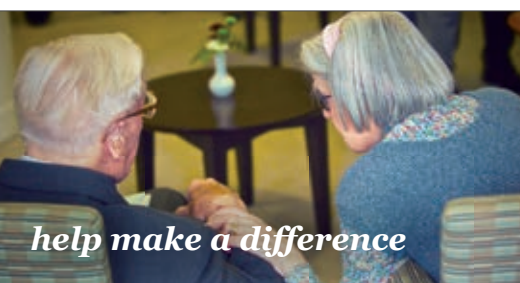
The Chapel is open Monday to Saturday between 10.00am and 4.00pm and Sunday and Bank Holidays between 12.00 noon and 4.00pm.

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

All services are open to the public

Lancing College, Lancing, West Sussex BN15 0RW
www.lancingcollege.co.uk

help make a difference



Ramsay Hall at Worthing is one of several Supported Housing retirement complexes run by the Church of England Pensions Board, offering security and peace of mind to retired clergy and their widows or widowers and licensed lay workers.

Many of our pensioners need help to pay for their care. Your donation or legacy will help us to continue this much needed work for those who have cared for others in the name of Christ. Please help us in any way you can.

thank you

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