

FAITH IN SUSSEX

The diocesan publication reaching church communities across Sussex



THY KINGDOM COME

MANY VOICES ONE SPIRIT

FIND OUT ABOUT THE PENTECOST CELEBRATION ON PAGE 19

FOCUS ON
MENTAL HEALTH
AND WELLBEING

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Churches, chaplaincy
and communities

MEET THE
ORDINANDS

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Introducing our fourteen
candidates to be ordained
this summer

WILDFIRE FESTIVAL
AT MAY CAMP

/ 25

Hundreds expected for
May bank holiday spectacular

MINDING OUR MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health is an underlying theme in this issue of Faith in Sussex.

There has been remarkable progress made in recognising the inter-related issues that affect our mental health at every stage of life. We know what can be done to support those who struggle with this aspect of health: tragically we too often lack the resources to meet their needs.

Fr Simon Hobbs, a chaplain working in this specific area writes: "The churches and clergy in particular are at the forefront of care for people with mental health issues. That non-judgemental acceptance of each other, opportunities for conversations about our struggles, space for peaceful reflection – all these aspects of the Christian life are part of what keeps us well." [page 10]

The Year of Vocation reminds us of the call of Jesus to find in him a profound experience of healing, release from our fears, and rest for our souls. He confronts the demons in our individual experience and in the fabric of our society.

The range of responses to this call has been the central feature in this year's Lent course. If you have not watched the videos that introduce how Christians across Sussex are living out that call, do find them on our website. They would be worth watching as part of your celebration of Easter.

This edition also brings you an introduction to our candidates for ordination as deacon this year. As they prepare to embark on a ministry of service, as living signs and agents of the saving work of Jesus Christ, please pray for them. We welcome them with great joy to their new ministry, giving thanks for all who have prepared them, and who support them in this new and demanding life.

Enjoy this edition of Faith in Sussex, as it encourages us to know, love, follow Jesus.

Dr Martin Warner

Bishop of Chichester.



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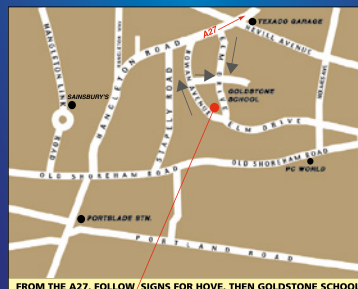
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For more information please contact
Dani Taylor at Church House:
dani.taylor@chichester.anglican.org

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Schools jumping for joy

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Great engagement continues across the Diocese

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

Cover image credit: BN5 Magazine (Henfield)

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Design: kaufcreative.com
Pictures: Luke Marshall and Sarah Sutherland Rowe

Print and Distribution: CPO

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NEWS

ACROSS OUR DIOCESE

BISHOPS VISIT MOSQUES TO SHOW SOLIDARITY

The bishops of Chichester, Horsham and Lewes visited mosques in Crawley to express the Christian Church's solidarity with Muslim worshippers following events in New Zealand and, closer to home, the Midlands.

Bishop of Chichester Dr Martin Warner said: "Hatred of this kind affects all of us, regardless of what our faith might be. As Muslim and Christian, we must find a way to break the destructive cycle of fear and hatred. Let us, as people of faith, be known as those who are the foundation of a society in which kindness and respect shape the quality of our life."

Arif Syed, chairman of Broadfield mosque, said: "It was a great honour to have Bishop Dr Martin Warner visiting our mosque and showing passion, kindness and solidarity among people of faith. I am sure it will send the positive message to the wider community."



BISHOP MARTIN WITH LEADERS AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM BROADFIELD MOSQUE.
PHOTO: JIM HOLDEN

NEW APPOINTMENT



The Rev Dr Earl Collins has been appointed the new continuing ministerial development officer and priest in charge of St John's, Palmeira Square, Hove.

Canon Rebecca Swyer, director

of Apostolic Life, said: "He will offer support, advice and training to clergy and licensed lay ministers."

Dr Earl is a theology lecturer and acting vice principal at Westcott House theological college, where he has enjoyed preparing female and male ordinands for ordained ministry.

RIDE AND STRIDE STARS SHINE

Awards were given to those who took part in last year's Ride and Stride at a ceremony in St Andrew's Church, Bishopstone. The annual event is a sponsored course around churches to raise funds for Sussex Historic Churches Trust. This year's will be on September 14. Find more at www.sussexhistoricchurchestrust.org.uk.



LORD LIEUTENANT OF EAST SUSSEX
PETER FIELD GIVES OUT THE AWARDS

NEW OVERSEAS DIOCESAN LINKS OFFICER

The Bishop of Chichester Dr Martin Warner has announced the appointment of Rev Christine Keyte as the new overseas diocesan links officer.

Christine will take up the additional responsibilities while continuing in her role as vicar of Crawley Down, working with the Diocesan Overseas Council and the Bishop of Lewes, Richard Jackson, who oversees this area of work.

NEW DEPUTY DIOCESAN REGISTRAR

The Diocese of Chichester announced the appointment of the new deputy diocesan registrar Darren Oliver.

Mr Oliver said: "I feel very honoured that Bishop Martin has appointed me. I look forward to representing the diocese and getting to know everyone."

MESSY CHURCH

New research from the Church Army confirms the effectiveness of Messy Church. Playfully Serious: How Messy Churches Create New Space For Faith proves it is not "just a bit of fun" as some say. It is reaching people who weren't attending church, increasing the number of disciples and modelling new patterns of leadership.

Founded in 2004 by Lucy Moore, Messy Church now has some 2,800 groups in England and 3,500 worldwide. Lucy said: "I'm thrilled the report recognises what we've been hearing from churches for the last 14 years: Messy Church is working. There are so many findings to celebrate. Every page of this report is so full of delights it's impossible to list them all."



DARREN OLIVER

NEWS

CONTINUED



SERVE UP A BIG BREKKIE AND HELP TO IMPROVE BIRTHS

Christian Aid Week is May 12 to 18 and many churches across Sussex will host a Big Brekkie. It is an opportunity for people to come together to tuck into a fundraising breakfast and serve up better healthcare for mothers in poor countries such as Sierra Leone, the world's most dangerous place to give birth.

Find out more at <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/christian-aid-week>.

FOND FAREWELL

Christ Church, St Leonards, said farewell to Father Luke Irvine-Capel and his family during Mothering Sunday Mass. Fr Luke is now preparing for his new role as Archdeacon of Chichester. He will be licensed on May 9 in Chichester Cathedral.

LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE?

A new initiative by the diocesan youth team has embraced the Year of Vocation vision for young people.

Dani Taylor, youth leadership officer, is leading the project called Pursuit. She said: "Pursuit will give young people the opportunity to give a year to God to work with a local church focused on an area of ministry that inspires them. Many churches have indicated their interest in investing in young people in this way."

For more, email dani.taylor@chichester.anglican.org or go www.pursuitchichester.org.

DEANERY VISITS

Bishop of Horsham Mark Sowerby was given an unusual mode of transport to get around the parishes on his recent visit to Petworth Deanery. Bishop Martin Warner and the bishops of Lewes and Horsham will between them visit all 21 deaneries in the diocese during 2019.

During each visit, the bishops meet representatives of all the parishes at a meeting of the deanery synod attended by the clergy and laity of each deanery. They also visit schools and community projects and meet clergy who serve in the parishes of the deaneries and the retired clergy who live and minister there.



HEADTEACHERS' CONFERENCE

Headteachers from across the dioceses came together at Ashdown Park Hotel, Forest Row. The education department's focus this year is on mental health and the wellbeing of school communities and talks focused on the Government Green Paper for mental health and practical ideas for challenging behaviour.

BISHOP'S PA TO RETIRE

Margaret Gibson, personal assistant to the Bishop of Chichester, will be retiring at the end of May after nearly five years.

She said: "It has been a great pleasure to work with Bishop Martin, the staff at the palace and getting to know the diocesan clergy and those who work for the diocese in so many different ways. The role has been challenging and demanding but very fulfilling."

CELEBRATIONS MARK 25 YEARS OF WOMEN'S ORDINATION

Events took place to mark a quarter of a century of women's ordination to the priesthood.

The first group were ordained on March 12 1994 in Bristol Cathedral.

Meanwhile the number of women entering training for ministry continues to grow. On page 29 you can read about the experiences of Rev Erika Howard, one of the first woman ordained in 1994 who came and served in the Diocese of Chichester.

SAFEGUARDING

There have been more than 5,000 safeguarding training attendances in the diocese over the last two years. Much credit must go to the volunteer safeguarding trainers, who work to provide this training across Sussex. In recognition, the training team joined the Bishop of Horsham and the Diocesan Safeguarding Team at Chichester Cathedral.

PRIESTINGS

Parishes are expected to turn out in great numbers to join family and friends supporting the 11 deacons to be ordained priest in the Diocese of Chichester on June 15.

All candidates have already been ordained deacon. As priests, they will be able to celebrate the Eucharist and offer God's blessing as their vocation to the priesthood comes to fruition.

Please pray for the candidates and the parishes they will continue to serve:

Ian Edgar (West Tarring and Worthing)

Jon Haines (All Saints, Eastbourne)

Tim Hiorns (All Saints, Crowborough)

Jez Lowries (St Leonard's, Denton, with South Heighton and Tarring Neville)

Danny Pegg (Stone Cross with North Langney)

Angus Reid (All Saints, Hove)

Simon Shorey (The Point Church, Burgess Hill)

Ben Sleep (St John's Meads, Eastbourne)

Lucy Sullivan (Rottingdean)

Rebecca Tuck (St Mary the Virgin, in the Horsham Team Ministry)

Martin Walker (St John the Baptist, Crawley)

INSPIRING, EXHAUSTING & REWARDING

...life as a mental health chaplain

By Fr Simon Hobbs

ONE thing you can say about being a mental health chaplain is that it is not dull.

Challenging, rewarding, heartbreaking, inspiring, exhausting and energising – all these things certainly. I have been the lead chaplain for the Sussex Partnership Trust, the mental health NHS Trust for Sussex, for five years now and work with two other colleagues in the spirituality team, one a Baptist minister and one, like me, an Anglican priest. We also work with Buddhist, Muslim and Jewish colleagues who are on our bank team.

We work of course for a secular organisation and therefore abide by equality and diversity legislation – one of the advantages is that religion and belief are a

protected characteristic which means practising a faith is an acknowledged human right.

One of the things we do as chaplains is seek to ensure patients in our care are able to practise their faith. Indeed research and evidence show practising a faith and being part of a faith community are beneficial to our mental wellbeing. Being part of a supportive, non-judgemental community, having a faith to believe which gives meaning and purpose to our lives, which helps us practise compassion, and the rhythms and routine of a life of prayer and worship all help us through the good and bad times of life with greater mental ease.

Even though the majority of people now have no religious

affiliation as such, when crisis hits, those spiritual questions arise – where is God, why am I ill, how can I make sense of my life, what purpose can this suffering have?

My colleagues and I spend most of our time helping people think through these questions. We do this non-judgementally and in a person-centred way. We are not there to proselytise for our own faith but we seek to help all people, whether Christian, Muslim or atheist, discover their own answers and way forward.

Our most important task is to offer what the psychologist Carl Rogers called “unconditional regard”. I know that for all three of us, our own faith is the foundation of our work – we are privileged to sit

alongside some of the most vulnerable and marginalised people in society, often misunderstood and often traumatised by life events. To offer a kind of sacramental presence is simply to treat each person as if they were Christ and I can think of nothing more fundamental to our faith than that.

As well as helping people with spiritual questions and resources we also seek to look after people's more specific religious needs. This may mean taking people communion or the sacraments, praying with them, reading the Bible conducting services and for people of other faiths, calling in one of our other faith

chaplains. We also try to put people in touch with their own faith community or introduce them to one if they ask. Mental illness is often very isolating for people and becoming part of a community can literally be a life saver.

It is important for us to work with partners in the community, especially the Church and other faith groups, and it is wonderful to see the enormous good the churches do in their communities to support people. My colleague is, for example, a trustee of Peace In Mind which runs courses in Brighton and Hove to equip congregations to understand and support mental health issues.

The churches and clergy in particular are at the forefront of care for people with mental health issues. That non-judgemental acceptance of each other, opportunities for conversations about our struggles, space for peaceful reflection – all these aspects of the Christian life are part of what keeps us well. The church in its spiritual and communal life in fact has a healing potential for wellbeing for us – that wholeness and healing of life which Jesus constantly spoke about and lived out himself.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Could you be a mental health and wellbeing contact?

VOLUNTEERS are needed to become mental health and wellbeing contacts for their churches.

Elle Weaver is Chichester Diocese's mental health and wellbeing facilitator and is focused on the Church's understanding and support for those with concerns about mental health and wellbeing.

She said: “In our churches we can play a vital role in challenging the stigma,

fear and misunderstanding surrounding mental health.

“Volunteers are needed to be a contact for their church – this is the first step to increasing awareness and responding well to anyone who has a mental health and wellbeing concern.”

The initiative is supported by the diocese through Together In Sussex.

The contact is not expected to address mental health issues themselves but to offer a listening ear, support the person and signpost them to other sources of help.

To ensure their effectiveness, the contact will have the backing of their incumbent and PCC. They will receive mental health first aid awareness training and will be supported in the role. It would be helpful to have personal and/or professional experience of mental health and wellbeing issues.

To find out more, email Elle at Elle.weaver@chichester.anglican.org or call 07751873735.

A TRAGIC LESSON

By Father Kevin O'Brien



LAST summer was a testing time for St John's Burgess Hill as we faced a whirlwind of sad, unforeseen and unforeseeable events for which we could not have been prepared.

One morning I was working on my MA dissertation. By the afternoon all books were set aside and as it turned out I didn't look at them again for nearly two months.

Police cars drew up outside our church and a corner of the churchyard was cordoned off.

A local teenage boy, missing for a couple of days, had come into the churchyard in the early hours and hanged himself from a tree.

By the afternoon social media had spread the word and teenagers congregated around the park after school. I don't usually walk up to anonymous youngsters in the street, but they looked confused and lost so I went to one group after another and said the church was open and they were welcome to come in and light a candle. They didn't need asking twice.

Over the next few weeks we kept the church open until the last person wanted to leave, sometimes until past eight at night. More than 1,500 candles were lit and 450 bouquets of flowers were brought to church. We bought and borrowed flower buckets and lined the church path with a wall of flowers.

On the day of the tragedy, we put up a poster announcing midday prayers for anyone who would like to come. That Friday the family and 250 people came, on the Saturday another 250 came for prayers and to light candles. Every day people came in to pray and to sign the memory book we put on a desk next to a photograph of the young lad. People placed sweets for him, his favourite snacks, teddy bears, painted stones, cards and short messages and while the normal services of the church continued, including a wedding, everything else was given over to a sin-gle-minded concentration on the "now".

The family had a private funeral away from the glare of publicity and to meet the needs of the community there was a public memorial service at the church days later.

During the sermon I said the following:

His death is a shocking reminder to us all that something is very wrong with the kind of society that we are creating for ourselves and most certainly for our young people.

"...his death is a shocking reminder to us all that something is very wrong with the kind of so-ciety that we are creating for ourselves and most certainly for our young people.

"They may have little influence about the kind of world in which they are growing up, but they effectively serve as the canaries in the mine telling us that something is poisonous and harmful.

"We seem to have created a society where our young people are pressured into more and more exams, and more and more stress, where successive governments judge our schools by aca-demic scores rather than wellbeing and self-worth, where social media hold up impossible standards and where as adults we are regarded as economic units or raw materials to be mould-ed, broken down, used up. And our children are paying the price, as self-harming, mental health and death rates continue to climb."

I later went on holiday thinking some terrible events were behind us only to be told on the last day that another young man, only 21, had taken his life not far from the church. I would be re-turning to yet more tragedy and a funeral so full that people flowed outside.

We learned some lessons last summer. Firstly about the modern delusion of planning, the idea a flowchart, some predetermined actions, a well-planned diary, will allow us to control events.

Real life happens so often beyond our expectations, control and plans. I am not decrying con-tingency planning but we need to accept that just as there are events in our own lives we could never have foreseen, there are events in the life of the church we must simply adapt to as they unfold.

We were also challenged to think deeply about the mental health of our society in general and our own community in particular.

Elle Weaver has recently joined the team at Together In Sussex to help churches reflect how they might become more alert to mental health in our congregation and to promote mental health in our wider communities. At St John's we are supporting the charity YoungMinds and are to be a pilot study on becoming a mental health friendly town. We are discussing a Samaritans drop-in and a mental health friendly cafe - with Elle's help.

I commend Elle to your own church and community. We may not be able to prevent all the pain that leads to such tragedies as last summer - but shoudn't we try?

MEET THE ORDINANDS



THOMAS CROWLEY

To serve at St Saviour's, Eastbourne

I STARTED life at almost the other end of the country to Sussex, growing up in a tiny village in the North East. I moved to Oxford for my undergraduate degree in Arabic and Islamic Studies, which allowed me to spend time in the Middle East and the Balkans which is where my faith journey properly began. On my return to Oxford, I was confirmed at 21.

After my degree I moved to London for work and further study where, despite my best efforts, the call from God to ordained priesthood became too hard to ignore. With no little encouragement, I finally decided to start exploring this vocation and spent two years working as a pastoral assistant in a couple of London churches.

With a growing conviction that this was indeed my calling, I went to a BAP to see if the church felt the same, and on receiving a positive recommendation I have spent the last three years being formed at St Stephen's House.

I'm now very much looking forward to moving to the South Coast, along with my partner Will, to begin my ministry at St Saviour's and become part of the wider diocesan family



DOMINIK CHMIELEWSKI

To serve at St Nicholas, Arundel

I AM originally from Nowy Sacz in Poland. Barbara and I have been married for 18 years and we are blessed with three wonderful children, two daughters and a son.

Before moving to the UK in August 2017 for my ordination training at Ripon College, Cuddesdon, I was a stained glass artist and an iconographer. For 15 years I ran my own art studio, designing and producing stained glass windows, icons and vestments for churches across the country. I read theology at the EWST Ecumenical Academy in Wroclaw and at the Jan Laski Methodist College in Warsaw.

A strong desire to share God's love with others has always been in my heart. About six years ago, I planted from scratch a small but vibrant Anglican congregation in Krakow and was privileged to lead and care for this community as a lay minister until my move to UK.

This was also a time of discernment when, in the context of everyday ministry, I was trying to understand God's vision for my life. In the end this calling, which I have felt since I was a little boy, unexpectedly brought me here to the Chichester Diocese.



MIKE MILMINE

To serve at St Pancras, Chichester

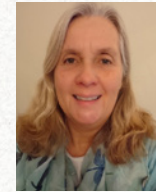
I AM married to Lucy and we are parents to three lovely children. All of us were either born or raised in Eastbourne, so we're very excited to return to Chichester Diocese and sample life on the other side of Sussex.

My first sense of God's call to ordained ministry was as early as age four. Wearing my Sunday best, I'd regularly gather the congregation of the Milmine household and deliver the long sermon I'd prepared.

It wasn't until my teenage years, though, that I learned the joy of forgiveness and purpose that comes through my Christian faith and I've been learning the same glorious lessons repeatedly since.

More recently I have been a children and families worker, sharing the gospel of God's grace with the wonderful people of All Saints, Eastbourne.

Ministerial training has been an enriching time and I'm certain that the moment has arrived to answer that call I felt as a four year-old. Hopefully for the people of St Pancras the sermons won't be quite so long.



SALLY MITCHELL

To serve in the parish of West Grinstead

I AM a member of the Church of the Holy Innocents, Southwater, which I have attended since moving there 15 years ago. Prior to this I was part of the Parish of Ifield based at St Alban's church from my childhood.

I attended church from an early age and had a secure belief in God. I am not sure where this came (from other than God of course) as no one else in the family was of faith. It was fortunate that my faith was strong as life was a considerable challenge for me growing up.

I have been happily married to Iain for almost 37 years. We have three adult children. My calling to ordained ministry was a shock to me. No one else, friends or family, seemed in the least bit surprised, which was a surprise to me.

I have been wholeheartedly supported by my family and the congregation at Southwater but am indebted to The Rev Leonard Doolan who I believe opened the door for me.

I enjoy swimming, singing, photographing the natural world and gardening. I have been a member of Girlguiding UK since I was six and am currently a member of the Southwater Trefoil Guild.



EMMA HAM-RICHE

To serve in the parish of East Preston

THERE is no road to Damascus on my journey to ordination, no light from heaven. Instead, it's been a road to Emmaus, a gradual recognition that God had been walking by my side for my whole life and that He had a plan for me, an acknowledgment that the places I've been and the people I've met have all been part of God's plan. And just like the disciples on the Road to Emmaus, it took someone far wiser than me to open my eyes to this.

It's a journey that began just over 45 year ago when I was baptised. So I'd describe my journey to ordination as catching up with what God was already doing and his plan for me, which took me another 42 years.

It's been a journey that brought me to West Sussex in 2003, via Essex, Aberystwyth, Germany and Malaysia, and to the Church of England in 2004. Along the way, I've been joined by my husband Roland and children, Toby, 14, and Daisy, 12. We're all looking forward to taking the next step to the parish of St Mary's, East Preston with Kingston, together.



ALEX WHEELER

To serve in the parish of St John the Divine, Cophthorne

I HAVE lived in Sussex for much of my life and have been a member of my current church St Mary's Southgate in Crawley for more than 30 years. During that time I worked with children with hearing impairment both in special education and for the last 23 years in the NHS, specialising in cochlear implantation. More recently I trained part time as a counsellor before commencing theological study and training at St Augustine's College for ordained ministry.

The counselling course was a huge journey in which I consciously engaged with the issue of where to go in the future alongside understanding myself more clearly as well as developing my counselling skills. It was during this time that my calling to ordained ministry crystallised.

I am now preparing to go into self-supporting ministry in a semi-rural church local to me in West Sussex and I am looking forward to learning more about my calling in this new phase of my life.

Our Fourteen candidates will be ordained Deacon in Chichester Cathedral on Saturday 29 June at 3pm



THOMAS FINK JENSEN

To serve in the parish of St Michael's and All Angels, Lancing

THIS summer I am starting my curacy at St Michael and All Angels in South Lancing. Lancing will be a new part of the world for me. I was born in Copenhagen to a Danish father and Dutch mother. When I was four we moved to the Netherlands, near Utrecht, where I grew up. I was a primary school teacher in the Netherlands for a number of years before moving to Oxford in 2014 as I began to think in earnest about my vocation to the priesthood.

In Oxford I worked for Pusey House for a year and for St Barnabas Church for another before doing three years of theological study and training at Wycliffe Hall toward ordination. Happily, my wife Sarah and one-year old daughter Lilian will join me as well. Sarah is from Colorado in the USA and is finishing her masters in theology this summer. She is an excellent writer with Book Girl and Girl's Club being her most recent titles. We really look forward to moving to Lancing, getting to know the area and most especially the people we will be living and worshipping with.



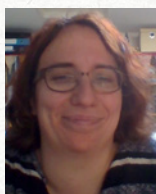
NEILL STANNARD

To serve at St Matthew's, Worthing

I AM married to Kirsty and we have three children. I came to personal faith while at St John's Church, Epping, studying for my theology degree. I became a theology and philosophy teacher in 1999, and taught in Essex. I was then a housemaster at a Christian independent school in Oxfordshire before taking up a post at Bede's School in Hailsham.

I'm passionate about bringing people to faith. I've been a member of Trinity Church, Lewes, preaching and leading worship there for the last five years, and I've been loved, grown, nurtured and supported there. Having felt called to ordination I began a two-year MA at Ridley Hall, Cambridge in 2017. I've enjoyed the immersive, formational experience of residential training and the privilege of two years of spiritual and theological development.

LIZZIE GREEN



To serve in the parish of St Albans, Gossops Green & Bewbush

I am married to Sam and we have two young children.

I've been training at Westcott House, in Cambridge, having worked in the charity sector. I'm originally from London but came



ALI MARSHALL

MY WIFE Sophie and I moved to Brighton in September 2016 to work at St Peter's Church with university students and as a lay chaplain at Sussex University. Alongside this I have been studying at St Mellitus college in London.

I started my discernment process while working as a youth worker at St Stephen's church, Twickenham, and I felt a strong sense of calling after hearing the Archbishop of Canterbury being interviewed at a Christian conference about his vision for the church.

We have a one-year old daughter and another on the way in October. We love living in Brighton and it really feels like home after being here for nearly three years.

I was at school at Christ's Hospital and my grandad lived in Hove. We are looking forward to serving God in "Sussex by the sea".

to Sussex when we married, so I'm incredibly excited about coming back to the Diocese of Chichester

Training for ordination has been part of a long process of discernment which started at the age of 5, when I first realised that I wanted to be a priest.

It's not always been easy, and training with a baby who was 5 months old when we started has definitely been an adventure, but I'm so grateful for God's faithfulness, and looking forward very much to the future.



TORHILD FIKSEAUNET

To serve in the parish of Heathfield

I AM 37, married to Runar, a mother of three and a former teacher and I am looking forward to moving from Stjórdal, Norway, to the diocese in June. I will be arriving with my family at Heathfield Benefice just a few days before my ordination.

My vocational journey took off after a conversation with the chaplain in my home church five years ago, when I had just started articulating a feeling of being drawn towards ministry.

By the grace of God, I am now in the final year of my theological training with the Eastern Region Ministry Course.

I am fond of music and have served for several years as a chorister in the Anglican Chaplaincy of Norway, as well as occasionally playing the organ.

ELIZABETH JINKS



To serve at St Mark's, Holbrook

I HAVE worshipped at St Mary's Horsham since 2005. My spiritual journey has been a very long one. In my journey I have felt called to follow Jesus and this calling has been the lifeline that directs my path and my commitment.



SANDI WICKENS

To serve in the parish of Rotherfield

I AM married to Dave and we have one son. Having lived in Burgess Hill for most of our lives we are looking forward to country life at Rotherfield and Mark Cross. I was a dispensing optician, most recently working for an independent family-owned practice. I love people, gardening, being creative, drinking tea and listening to stories. Dave and I enjoy exploring new places and occasionally will let Dave persuade me to travel pillion on his motorbike.

I committed my life to Jesus aged 16 and has been part of the church family at St Andrew's, Burgess Hill. It was here I met Dave and we have been involved in church life, serving there to make Jesus known. During mid-week communion in 2016 I heard God's call to ordination and after a period of prayer and discernment, began training at St Mellitus.

I was eventually led to ministry in the Church of England where I have taken up training at St Augustine's College of Theology.

I will serve at St Mark's, Holbrook, where I look forward to journeying together with the people of the parish in love and unity. I hope to help create a trusting and supportive community as we encourage one another. Articulating the inspiring vision of reaching out to the unchurched in the community with God's love will be a priority of course.



SHIRLEY TUPPER

To serve in the parish of Beeding and Bramber with Botolphs

I AM married to Steve and we have a lovely family of boys. I grew up in a Christian family and decided to follow Jesus for myself when I was 17. Prior to training, I spent 16 years at Hosanna Church, Broadwater, and it was here, during a home group, that I heard God calling me into ministry.

I ignored this calling for a few years but God is patient and faithful and put people in my path who confirmed his call on my life. During this time I served on the Hosanna Leadership Team where I learnt much about church life and grew deeply in my personal relationship with God.

Having worked as a mental health nurse and psychotherapist for 25 years, I resigned to take up full-time training at St Augustine's College of Theology. Steve and I love being outdoors and feel very blessed to be called to a rural parish and still within easy reach of the sea. We are looking forward to serving and getting to know the communities of Beeding, Bramber and Botolphs.

CELEBRATING THE YEAR OF VOCATION ACROSS THE DIOCESE

Church groups and individuals across Sussex have connected with the Year of Vocations and we are so excited about what the rest of the year will bring.

From hosting seminars, group discussions and diocesan led events, the year continues to engage people.

Many of our parishes got involved with the Diocesan Lent course Living Christ. An estimated 200 groups of all sizes met throughout the Diocese to watch the Lent videos which focused on Christians across Sussex exploring what it means to live out their vocation to know, love and follow Jesus, and invite participants in the course to ponder how they are living out their own baptism.

Many took to Twitter to share their experiences and we had some very positive feedback.

Rev Nicole Kinrade from the Beacon parishes (Ditchling) wrote on Lent day 30: "A beautiful moment at Session 5 of the diocesan Lent course, as we stood around the font of at St Margaret's and placed our hands into the cool, clear water, remembering our baptism, the moment when

we were washed by the Holy Spirit and made clean. Thanks be to God.

Reader Elly McKay said: "A brilliant end to our Lent course at East Hoathly. Great laughter and discussion led by our Rector Phil Hodges. Feel very moved and impressed and in awe of Bishop Martin's video. End of Life was so uplifting, thoughtful and full of HOPE."

Don't forget that all the Lent videos featured in the course

are on our diocesan YouTube channel and can be viewed any time for any occasion. They are great videos so please do share them.

Beyond also featured a video a day throughout Lent with reflections from a range of Christians connected to church leadership or worship or just being a Christian! They too can be found on Beyond's YouTube channel.

LENT LUNCHES

Many parishes ran Lent lunches to raise funds for Chestnut Tree House and Turning Tides, the Bishop of Chichester's Lent Appeal charity this year.



CHURCH MEMBERS IN STEYNING ENJOYING THEIR LENT SOUP LUNCH AFTER THEIR LENT COURSE SESSION.

LENT CHALLENGE

Church House in Hove also ran the 10p in a jar Lent Challenge, a social media campaign for Lent and it created lots of engagement.



LISA BARNETT WITH THE 10P JAR!

MANY VOICES, ONE SPIRIT

at The Dome Brighton

Registration is now open for this year's Thy Kingdom Come celebration at the Dome in Brighton on Sunday, June 9.

We will be building on last year's great gathering at the Cathedral with keynote speaker Roy Crowne from Hope Together. Roy became HOPE Together Executive Director in March 2010 and was previously the National Director of Youth for Christ in Britain for 12 years.

Stuart Barbour, acclaimed singer and songwriter from Sussex, will be providing first class worship music and Revd Martin Poole will be applying his usual Beyond style creativity using both traditional and contemporary ways to provide a stunning visual effect in a way that helps everyone to worship God and be inspired by the Spirit.

There will be a family prayer space, a healing space and a contemplative prayer space. Prayer spaces will be open from 2.00pm-6.00pm for people to drop in any time they like, and a programme of workshops on these themes will be available soon. This ecumenical event will be followed by an evening of worship, teaching and

prayer with contributions from Churches across the city from 7.00pm.

This event will be free and registering details can be found on the diocesan website www.chichester.anglican.org

News from Thy Kingdom Come Team

TKC has launched its new website and it is a great engagement tool. Have a look here at: www.thykingdomcome.global. The new website contains some new and updated features including a clearer layout so it is easier to source resources and also a great new feature which allows an individual who signs up to take part, to show their light /star on the map and also share it on social media.

'Light up the world in prayer' campaign

A mini campaign to encourage churches, families, small groups and individuals to play their part and light up the world in prayer has been launched. The campaign replaces the #pledge2pray - giving churches a fresh new way of engaging the public. Light up the world encourages people to sign up to the website and share their star

on social media to encourage others to take part

Customisable videos for your churches

Also new are free customisable video templates for local churches to promote their involvement in Thy Kingdom Come and light up the world in prayer. The template videos will allow churches to enter details of an event for example which will turn in a personal customised video for them to share on their social media platforms. Several templates are available.



You can find the latest information and updates on TKC on their website <https://www.thykingdomcome.global> lightuptheworld and for all the other TKC resources go to: www.cpo.org.uk/thykingdomcome



NEARLY 80 adults and children from the Diocese of Chichester attended the Children's Pilgrimage to Walsingham. This is what Morwenna, Millie, Owen, Joseph and Tianna from St Andrews, West Tarring, thought of the experience:

THE children's weekend pilgrimage to Walsingham was really good. There was lots to do and time to be with friends and make new ones.

After finding our rooms, we went to the Shrine church to look at the Holy House. I hadn't been before and it felt very special. We lit blue or red candles and prayed for our families.

After supper we had a big service in the Shrine church for everyone and we realised how many children were there from lots of different places. We went down some steps to a well

and had a sip of holy water. A priest made the sign of the cross on our foreheads and poured holy water on our hands, reminding us of God's love.

Saturday was great. We walked the Holy Mile along the road to the Slipper Chapel and had the Ministry of the Word there.

A group from St Leonards acted out the gospel story of Jesus turning water into wine. We walked back a different way and some of us did it in bare feet. It made me think of Jesus and other people walking the way of the cross, but we did it to be like the pilgrims visiting the shrine.

When we got back to the shrine we continued the Mass in the Church. I liked the singing and the guitars. We sang songs like My Lighthouse, Shine Jesus Shine and Here We Are To Worship.

I enjoyed the activities on Saturday afternoon. There was a bouncy castle and other inflatables. We did face painting and decorated stones and candle holders. I made friends with lots of other children and it made me feel happy. We had some free time to go to the shops.

In the evening we went to the disco which was fun.

Sunday we had to pack our bags which was sad. I had enjoyed sharing a room with my friends. We went to the playground when we had some free time before the morning Eucharist in the Shrine church. After lunch we had Benediction and Last Visit before starting on the long journey home.

We can't wait to go again next year. Thank you to everyone who organised the weekend.

Spa day

SUPPORT FOR CLERGY SPOUSES AND PARTNERS

CONNECT is the Diocese of Chichester's fellowship programme for clergy spouses and partners. This offers opportunities for mutual support through gathering for spiritual refreshment, friendship and fun.

This year Connect has held two spa days with an emphasis on wellbeing. The first was at Fontwell Park hotel and the most recent at the Grand Hotel in Eastbourne. The group of nearly 40 were encouraged to consider how best to take care of their own wellbeing through a talks, workshops and discussion.

Deborah Jackson, who co-ordinated the days with Ruth Sowerby, said: "Living in a vicarage can bring a unique set of stresses, so this was a welcome opportunity to think about how to look after ourselves and connect with others in similar situations.

"We welcomed two speakers who both reflected on their own experiences of the strange stereotypes that are imposed on clergy spouses. Kate Webb, a curate's wife and consultant psychiatrist, and Kate Patterson, author, clergy

daughter, wife and now sadly, widow, led our morning activities.

"The talks were based around the Number 6:24-26 Aaronic blessing. We were encouraged to consider issues that can steal our peace and ways we can cultivate more peace in our lives. In group discussion and through times of quiet meditation, we thought about our relationships within our families, our marriage, our wider community and God. There was a helpful and thought-provoking discussion around boundaries. The issue of whether we had enough rest, joy and life-giving activities in our lives, was also raised. Finally, we were left with the thought that we are blessed, as the blessing given by God in Numbers implies, to be a blessing to others.

"We were certainly blessed by the lunch that followed, the talks and an afternoon of rest and relaxation. The day provided far more than just a little luxury and relaxation. Many helpful connections and contacts were made among the members of Connect, who value these opportunities for such times of sharing and mutual support."



Zoe Smith, from St Peter's West Blatchington, was one of those who attended. She said: "Having the chance to get away from it all for the day was fantastic. I really valued the chance to meet other clergy spouses and share experiences and support. The talks were powerful and gave me lots to think and reflect on. But I have to admit my favourite part of the day was having a swim under blue skies in the heated open-air pool."

Have you heard about CONNECT? You can find out more about future events on the diocesan website or email deborah.jackson@chichester.anglican.org

Going green with St Mary's

By Anne Stone, a member of the Diocesan Environmental Action Group

ST MARY'S in East Grinstead is an urban church and the land surrounding it is mainly tarmac, used for parking for the church and the junior school on the same site.

Fortunately we have a large oak tree which supports a great deal of wildlife. We decided to make the rough area of grass around this into a garden and organised a joint project with the school for the initial digging. Each pupil planted a crocus or daffodil.

We planted a framework of shrubs and then perennials, either left over from our annual plant sale or from people's gardens. The cost was minimal but it was quite a lot of effort initially and obviously there is maintenance, but it has visually transformed that area. It really emphasises the coming of spring, being essentially an early season garden.

Our second - more controversial - decision was to make the small area of grass between the hall and church into a wild flower meadow.

We did not have the resources to strip the grass and replant so we allowed the grass to grow and at the same time planted yellow rattle plugs to reduce its vigour. As expected this caused some comment among the congregation as many felt it looked "untidy". We are now introducing "prettier" wild flowers such as primroses, field poppy and oxeye daisy but are pleased to note the diversity of species is increasing naturally each year. In this area our Kidz club also planted a Lenten cross of daffodils which has reappeared magically each year in February (so far).

We have erected bird feeders, nest boxes and bug houses (made for us by our Beavers group) and also made a log pile, a bug hotel and a hedgehog house. All these features are annotated with signs explaining their purpose. We also have compost bins.

The last three years we have entered our churchyard in the South and South East in Bloom competition and obtained a

silver award, and two golds, mainly we think for our environmental efforts.

For many years now we have held a very successful plant sale which attracts large numbers of people. We have always had a grow-your-own section but this year we introduced a stall showing the best ways to help wildlife in your garden and selling bee-attracting plants. We also organise a seed swap coffee morning in October and this year we are inviting some of our town councillors and asking the public to come along with their ideas on how to make East Grinstead a "kinder, greener and more environmentally aware" town.

For more ideas on how to encourage wildlife in your churchyard, explore the Caring For God's Acre website (www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk) or contact diocesan environment officer Rev Debbie Beer on 07530 039299.

STRENGTHENING OUR OVERSEAS LINKS

EARLIER this year the Rev Christine Keyte was appointed to the role of overseas diocesan links officer and will take up the additional responsibilities while continuing in her role as vicar of Crawley Down.

Christine will be working with the Diocesan Overseas Council and the Bishop of Lewes, Richard Jackson, who oversees this area of work.

The Bishop of Chichester said: "I am delighted that Christine has accepted this post in addition to her work as a parish priest in the diocese. This is an important time as we approach the Lambeth Conference in 2020 and welcome member churches from the Anglican Communion to Canterbury."

Christine, who is from South Africa, brings a wealth of experience and insight which will help develop these relationships. She said: "The Diocese of Chichester companion links have a long history, going back to the first links with West African Diocese that were formed 1965

and with Kenya since 1967. In the intervening 50 years or more there has been much communication, learning and fellowship built in partnership with our companion dioceses in times long before the development of the internet and social media. That is an inspiring achievement.

"As we head further into the 21st century, the work of the DOC continues to look to the future at how we can nurture effective links and build on solid past foundations into the future with new initiatives and ideas.

"As the newly elected DOC begins its work, we will be looking for ways to take the wonderful heritage of over 50 years of companion links and build for the future. We will be looking at innovations in communication and setting up effective and efficient ways of working while also valuing our heritage of real links forged in fellowship and faith."

The Diocese of Chichester has been linked with dioceses in East and West Africa strengthening partnerships

with Liberia, Guinea, Cameroon, The Gambia, Sierra Leone and four dioceses in Kenya.

KENYAN TEACHER AWARD

Peter Tabichi is a science teacher in a secondary school in Pwani village in Nakuru. He beat 10,000 nominations from 179 countries to win a global prize.

The award, in a competition run by the Varkey Foundation, is intended to raise the status of the teaching profession.

Brother Peter, a member of the Franciscan religious order, says part of the challenge has been to persuade the community to recognise the value of education, visiting families whose children are at risk of dropping out of school.

He tries to change the minds of families who expect their daughters to get married at an early age, encouraging them to keep their girls in school.

Brother Peter said he wants pupils to see "science is the way to go" for their futures.



WORKING ON WELLBEING

By Nikki Kerr



AT FAMILY Support Work (FSW) we support many families across the diocese, the majority of who are affected by mental health conditions in some form or another.

Many parents are struggling with anxiety, depression and stress-related conditions, which can have a huge impact on the entire family.

Increasingly we are receiving referrals from schools and health professionals because children are also struggling with these conditions. Children find it much harder to self-regulate and therefore they can be prone to aggressive outbursts when they become overwhelmed. Parenting children with these conditions can become a battlefield, increasing the stress and anxiety of all the family.

Much of the work we do is to support parents to promote their own self-care and in turn help their children feel safe and secure, giving them space to let off steam safely.

Our practitioners use many methods to support families where mental health issues are causing concerns.

We regularly receive training in these areas to update our skills and learn new techniques. Recently we have been using the connective parenting technique, which is a hands-on approach to tackling destructive behaviour based on the principles of non-violent resistance. It is based on the notion of parental presence being the cornerstone to building good relationships with children.

PAULA'S STORY

Paula had fled domestic abuse and arrived in our area with a nine-year-old child. She was scared, sad, depressed and alone when she was referred to us. We were able to engage with her by taking food parcels, games and books for the child and so the relationship started to grow.

Paula was on high levels of antidepressants and barely able to function - just enough to get her child to school, crawl back to her dismal flat and climb into bed where she would stay all day. Her self-esteem and confidence were

at rock bottom, but slowly our practitioner encouraged her to come out and they would meet each week and go somewhere for coffee and a chat.

Paula shared her worries and began to accept advice and support. Gradually she was able to reduce her medication but with several episodes of deep depression and suicidal thoughts, which at times engulfed her, it took a long time.

Our practitioner and Paula worked through these difficult times together and her confidence began to grow to the point where she said: "I am beginning to see a light ahead of me." We helped her to produce a CV and she was able to get a job. She has now been working for over nine months, passed two diplomas and her driving test, is off benefits and has been on holiday.

Her mental health is still fragile but she is more able to cope. As Paula said: "I'm getting there - it's tough but I will do it." She still has our practitioner in the background to support her and the future for her and her child is looking positive.

[@FswSussex](http://www.familysupportwork.org)



JOIN US FOR THE MOST EXCITING WEEKEND OF THE YEAR

May Camp 2019 is going to be our biggest and best yet! This year we've got a programme packed full of seminars, workshops, activities and venues that are going to be bigger and better than ever.

We've got archery, graffiti, axe throwing and a whole range of other exciting workshops as well as seminars exploring everything from 'is there a God?' to 'how can we reduce single use plastic in our daily lives?'

As well as creating as many opportunities as we can to make May Camp the most exciting weekend of your year we're carving out as much time as we can to create a space to worship, pray, learn and meet with God.

We're running our leadership development programme again with opportunities for young people to shadow key roles on site. Also, as part of the diocesan Year of Vocation 2019, we have vocation guides on site all weekend and we'll be introducing Pursuit, our new Diocesan gap year.

This year the theme is Wildfire and we're looking at the formation of the early church and how the exciting message of Jesus spread like Wildfire! We'll be working through the beginning of Acts and looking at how early Christians did life together.

We want young people to know that God is desperate to be in relationship with us and the lengths that he will go to meet with us.

There is still time to book on for May Camp 2019 to come for the weekend. You can book through www.maycamp.org or by contacting youth@chichester.anglican.org. If you're not ready to bring a group for the whole weekend then you can come and visit for a day with a group of young people or if you're a leader get in touch and we'll arrange for you to visit and see what goes on.

If you'd like to get involved in another way, volunteering for one of many roles or donating financially then please also do get in touch with Dan at youth@chichester.anglican.org.

May Camp's Wildfire Weekender is held at Plumpton racecourse over the Spring bank holiday weekend 24 - 27 May 2019.

HYMNS UNPACKED

BY REV NEVILLE MANNING

LORD, FOR THE YEARS

your love has kept and guided us

FOR some of us, hymns are associated with particular occasions in our lives. For me that is the case with Bishop Timothy Smith's "Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided us". Several years ago it was my last Sunday in a parish where I had been vicar for 16 years and I remember the hymn being sung very meaningfully as the final one at the morning service.

This is not the first time we have looked at one of this writer's hymns. In 2013 we thought about "Tell out my soul", inspired by the translation of Mary's Magnificat in The New English Bible.

Timothy Dudley Smith is a retired bishop of the Church of England. Born in 1926, he was educated at Tonbridge School, where Scripture Union notes first helped him to read the Bible. After time at Pembroke College Oxford and then Ridley Hall Theological College Cambridge he was ordained.

Among many appointments that followed were as Archdeacon of Norwich and later Bishop of Thetford. For a time he was also president of

LORD OF THE YEARS, WE BRING OUR THANKS TODAY

The Evangelical Alliance, as well as being honorary vice-president of the Hymn Society of Great Britain and Ireland. In 2003 he was awarded an OBE for services to hymnody. He has also had his reflections on being a hymn writer published in "A Functional Art" (Oxford University Press).

He acquired a love of poetry from his family and after becoming a Christian, that turned into a desire to write hymns and he has produced many. However, he sees himself as a wordsmith and not a musician so is dependent on others for the music to accompany his hymns. "Lord, for the years", for instance, is usually sung to music by Michael Baughen.

It was written to mark to centenary of the Scripture Union. It begins as a thanksgiving for the past:

"Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided us... Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today". It continues as a hymn for the present, as we give thanks for "God's word which speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze, Teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us". It moves on to pray for our land, in this our generation... for young and old, for commonwealth and nation. It then widens out further to embrace the whole world with the prayer that Christ may reign. The hymn ends as a prayer of dedication for ourselves and for the future: Past put behind us, for the future take us: Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

There is a healthy comprehensiveness about this hymn which encourages us to be thankful for the past, but not ending there as an exercise in nostalgia, and which moves on to face the harsh realities of the present and concludes on a note of positive embracing of the future. As the poet Robert Browning once put it (at least with Jesus Christ) the best is always yet to be.



PASSION PLAY PREPARATIONS

'It's quite interesting doing a risk assessment for a crucifixion'

LEWES Passion Play 2020 has been awarded £1,000 from the Dioceses' Mission Fund's small grants scheme towards the cost of putting on the town's fourth Passion play in 20 years.

As a large-scale arts project the Lewes Passion Play draws in the whole community in drama, music and other arts activities.

Amber Jackson met with the organisers to find out more, and this is what she learned.

It is built on camaraderie among more than 100 people from a multitude of backgrounds, faiths and denominations, a community of on and off-stage volunteers.

Such an operation includes teams for hospitality, costume making, safeguarding, stewardship, stage directors, finance, set and prop building, all outwardly proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ through their daily rehearsals.

Serena Smith, chairwoman of trustees and artistic director of the charity, said for her "the prose is more important than product" because of the family-like support network and

seeing the work of Jesus in the hearts of those volunteering during the lead up to the main event.

A large street production such as this requires funding upwards of £12,000, although the ideal target is £20,000, enabling luxuries they wouldn't else be able to afford such as a donkey. Currently funds stand at about £15,000 and £1,000 of that was given by the Diocese of Chichester through the Mission Fund.

Sound and insurance take an overwhelming proportion of the expenses, along with paying for road closures, publicity, printing scripts and materials for props and set design that hasn't been donated. There is also the important reimbursement to the hospitality team for the copious amounts of tea bought and brewed and plentiful cakes made.

Trustee secretary and production manager Eleanor Austin is responsible for health and safety among other things. She said: "It's quite interesting doing a risk assessment for a crucifixion, but when you start to put donkeys on the road in among traffic and children then that's another element of insurance."

Serena and Eleanor said they were grateful for the diocesan money but also for its support. They said: "Having it in the town is needed so much and to know the diocese is behind us is essential. We pray the money will be used in a way the diocese sees is worthwhile."

CAN YOU HELP?

Those involved in the Passion Play production make connections and develop relationships, fostering a cohesive community. It also encourages churches of different denominations to focus together on the importance of the Gospel and the certainty of Jesus Christ.

People from within the churches are drawn together to share the 'greatest story ever told', bringing the story of Jesus out of the churches and onto the streets. Lewes Council have also commented on the good effect they have on the heart of the community and its value to culture, theatre, education and entertainment.

For more information about how to help visit: www.lewespassionplay.org

For details about the Mission Fund see www.chichester.anglican.org/mission-fund/



Mothers' Union welcomes new Trustees

Mothers' Union welcomes three new trustees. Shirley Squires, Speakers' Coordinator from Ringmer Branch in Lewes District; Michele White, Vice President and Chair of Brighton District from Saltdean Branch and Hayley Cole, General Trustee from Denton Branch in Lewes District.

This is what they had to say:

MICHELE WHITE:

'I joined MU in 2000 responding to a friendly invitation to become part of something as I was someone new to the area.

"I valued the meetings I could attend and welcomed updates from others. In 2008 I got more involved and joined the committee, going along to the Council Meetings and meeting others from across the Diocese.

"For me MU had been a journey of relationship – getting to know Branch Members first and subsequently members from further afield and of course partnering with all those involved in MU Projects.

HAYLEY COLE:

"I still think of myself as a new member of Mothers' Union. I enrolled as a member in November 2013, though I had been attending meetings for a few years prior to this.

"I think it is a really exciting time to be part of Mothers' Union and I feel especially privileged to be a trustee. I am looking forward to working with and helping my fellow members achieve our aims and objectives."

SHIRLEY SQUIRES:

'I was admitted into the Ringmer branch in 1978 after being introduced to the organisation by a very staunch member of our parish church who lived just up the road from my family.

"Over the years, I have been Branch Leader, Deanery Chairman and District Chairman. I am at present the Lewes District Treasurer. I am looking forward to learning more about the wider MU and supporting those moving the Diocesan MU forward."

NEW COORDINATOR FOR FAMILY CENTRE

Roz McCabe-Daly is the new co-ordinator for the Eastbourne Family Contact Centre. (EFCC)

She said: "We are working on being a place of comfort and safety for all. A place that families want to come to see their children. The emphasis is on the needs of the children.

"Looking ahead we want to raise the profile of what we offer within the East Sussex community. We are exploring ideas to deliver an even better service to more families. The team and I are optimistic that with time and application we will achieve this."

Date for the Diary: Mothers' Union Eastbourne Family Contact Centre 'Celebration' and Tea on Friday June 14th at 2pm at The Gateway Centre, Lottbridge Drive, Hampden Park, Eastbourne. BN22 9PB. For more info tel: 07922631901.

Called to be me

BY REV ERIKA HOWARD, ONE OF THE FIRST WOMEN TO BE ORDAINED A PRIEST TO SERVE IN THE DIOCESE OF CHICHESTER.



IT ALL began when I was 15, in a dream where I was looking after sheep. I didn't understand what this meant. In those days women's ministry was overseas in the missionary field. When I went into training in 1988, I had no concept of a woman in a dog collar, the vicar had always been male.

It was to be more than 30 years later that the meaning of that dream was revealed as I was ordained priest in St Swithun's church, East Grinstead, on Sunday, May 15, 1994. There were 12 of us and all had been on a difficult journey up to that moment.

As we spilled out into the church grounds after the service there was an explosion of great joy. For me a feeling of great responsibility, this unique historic moment would never come again.

I began my full-time ministry at St Giles, Kingston Buci in Shoreham. Slowly I was accepted and gender was forgotten. Things in society were very different 25 years ago and we have seen a dramatic change in attitudes. I am grateful to so many people,

clergy and lay, men and women, for their support over the years as the church became used to the idea of women priests.

One of the most important parts of my ministry has been to offer support to women in difficult circumstances, for example victims of domestic violence, those sexually abused as children and other areas of distress. Some of course are able to talk to either men or women but others find that difficult, and it has brought home to me how helpful it is to have both male and female priests.

In 2003 I was appointed the first female vicar in the Diocese of Chichester, at Sompting. I served Sompting for 15 years and became involved in the community and was made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts for that work, followed by being the chaplain at Glaxo Smith Kline and the chaplain to the women's section of the Royal British Legion.

Highlights in my ministry include marrying both my daughters in the parish church and my husband and I celebrated our ruby wedding in Sompting.

I look back in awe over the last 25 years, it has been remarkable.

On August 2, 2014, I led a community service to commemorate the beginning of the First World War. According to Chichester archives the church was to be blown up by the Suffragettes the very same day 100 years previously.

I look back in awe over the last 25 years, it has been remarkable. I was called into ministry from where I was, a wife, mother, nurse and then midwife and with all my life's experiences, I was called to be me. I am so grateful for the opportunities God has given me to make Jesus accessible to those I have lived among and worked with. And it is so encouraging to see so many more women coming forward to discern their calling to the priesthood and to realise how far we have come.

A LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE

TRUDI Nicholas is the new East Sussex chaplain for YMCA DownsLink Group, based in Eastbourne. Here, she describes her own experiences with homelessness and addiction and finding the kind of life-changing support that she now wants to share with others.

MY role as a chaplain to young people feels personally very special. It's a real privilege to be in this position as my own experience is I had to leave my family home at 16 years old.

My life went on a downward spiral, I started drinking and taking drugs and at the age of 26 I was homeless in Brighton with a heroin habit. Life was dark and I had reached rock bottom.

I was offered a place in detox and rehab and through attending 12 step meetings (Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous) and seeing how powerless I had been over drugs and my lifestyle, I realised I needed a power greater than myself.

Through a few "coincidences" - a few amazing Christian women being placed in my path - I found myself on an Alpha course and, one Easter, I went to church.

With no great fanfare I knew the message I was hearing that Jesus died and rose again was the truth and I wanted to follow Him. I have been a Christian for 15 years now and it's been the most exciting and life-changing experience.

God has been so gracious and loving, helping me heal some of the wounds of my past and live a life full of life and hope.

I hope I can bring some of His love and kindness into my new role as chaplain.

I'm loving my new role and enjoy seeing the young people I meet find some stability and support during their stay at the YMCA as many of them have had rocky starts in life. YMCA DownsLink Group houses over 700 young people who would otherwise be homeless or unable to live at home for some reason, including around 200 in East Sussex.

When I started I remembered the verse from Romans 12:13 - "Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality". Part of my role

is to build a team of volunteer chaplains to offer a weekly home-cooked meal, time to chat and a listening ear to the young people who live at one of our housing projects Eastbourne Foyer which houses 33 young people.

We are looking for people who are kind, non-judgmental, good listeners with a strong faith and a love of young people. The YMCA offers a great training programme, support and supervision to all volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteering, contact Trudi on 0788 454 9308 or email Trudi.nicholas@ymcadlg.org or take a look at our website www.ymcadlg.org.

YMCA are grateful for the generosity of the Christian Trust GEM for helping to finance Trudi's role.



A lasting legacy

LEGACIES ACCOUNT FOR A QUARTER OF THE TOTAL AMOUNT GIVEN TO CHARITIES EACH YEAR, AND NOW TOP AN ANNUAL £2.24 BILLION.

However, while 35 per cent of people say they would leave a legacy to charity in their will, only seven per cent actually do so, according to a recent report entitled Facts And Figures: Legacies For Charities.

This suggests charities have an opportunity to increase their income if they can solve this challenge.

Of those who have made a will, younger age groups were more likely to have left a gift to charity - such 50 per cent of 16 to 24-year olds compared with 21 per cent of those aged 65 or older.

This is mirrored among those who have not yet made a will. Of this group, 50 per cent of 16 to 24-year olds said they would consider leaving a gift compared with 17 per cent of those aged 65 or over. Sixty

one per cent of this age group said they would not.

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution reports that more than 60 per cent of its income is derived from legacies while for the Church of England it is only five per cent. Clearly, we have some way to go to convince our parishioners to give towards preserving parish ministry in our towns and villages.

Where do we start? The Church is perceived to be wealthy and not in need of legacies. But our diocese does not receive income grants for parish ministry from the Church of England.

If your church has plenty, that's a reason to rejoice, but many churches are far from wealthy and levels of regular giving sometimes do not support a full-time priest.

A gift of a legacy can be an expression of your gratitude and thanksgiving towards God, can help keep your local church alive today and help transform its future.

Eleanor Stead of the Church's stewardship team, with specific focus on legacies, believes each PCC ought to publish a simple legacy policy that assures parishioners any legacy received will be spent wisely to transform local church ministry.

So, when considering stewardship in your church, why not also encourage your parishioners to write their wills to include a lasting gift to your church? Contact John Kemp on 01273 421021 for a template of a simple legacy policy if you don't have one already.



PARISH NEWS

A TIMELY INTERVENTION

By Mick Jackson

WHEN I noticed the clock at St Luke's Church in Brighton had stopped I asked the vicar, Martin Poole, if it was broken.

No, he said, it just needs someone to wind it up. And that was when the role of Official Clock Winder-Upper was bestowed upon me. I'll be honest, it's quite a responsibility.

Such a huge responsibility, in fact, I've had to draft in a fellow winder. Once a week we climb the tower, fit the crank handle into the middle of all those cogs and levers and give it a good 20 or 30 turns. It's pretty tiring and we take it in turns while the other one offers verbal support.

The winding has its own unique hazards. One over-enthusiastic turn and you could go flying through the trap door. Your fellow winder wouldn't be able to stop you, but they'd at least be on hand to call the ambulance.

A church has a spire which accommodates the great length of steel cable. As we wind the handle we can hear the weight at the end of the cable rattling in the woodwork as it's slowly lifted up the spire - ultimately it's gravity acting on that weight that makes the mechanism turn over. The only thing we're doing every Sunday is yanking it back up.

Conversation between us clock-winders can take a philosophical turn. By chance, we've both read some of the work of theoretical physicist Carlo Rovelli. On page 1 of his book *The Order Of Time* he explains how time passes faster at the top of a mountain than at sea level. I've turned this idea over in my mind many times since I first encountered it. When I finally feel I've got a handle on it I'll be ready to progress to page 2.

Whether or not the clock at St Luke's is working is largely symbolic. These days few of us need to look at a church clock

to know where we are in the day. But a stopped clock is an unnerving proposition. It tells us something's wrong, or has been neglected. A working clock reassures us things are progressing in what one might hope is an orderly fashion.

Ironically, the clock at St Luke's is only visible to a fairly limited area, around the brow of the hill on Old Shoreham Road and the bottom end of Stanford Road. Since the clock gains a couple of minutes over the week the hands have to be adjusted so one winder stands in the street with his phone out and tells the other how far to shift the hands until the clock is back in synch. It's quite a pleasant way to spend half an hour but, thanks to Rovelli, we're both now keenly aware that for the winder up in the tower time is passing that little bit faster than it is for the one in the street.

Mick is a member of St Luke's Church Prestonville, Brighton.

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF ST LEONARDS

By Father Luke Irvin Capel

ONE of the joys of parish ministry is that you never quite know what each day is going to hold, or what is going to be needed when the phone rings.

One morning last year it rang and it was the council explaining that we were expecting temperatures well below freezing, along with snow and ice - The Beast from the East.

In East Sussex we don't often welcome beasts, but we do try to welcome all who come our way.

As a parish we have been consciously reflecting upon our ministry of hospitality, in particular how that might be informed by the work we did with parishes across Chichester Diocese and the wider Church during the Year of Mercy in 2016.

The Year of Mercy was the catalyst for much prayer that challenged and provoked us in equal measure. Here, we serve a community which is seeing increasing levels of homelessness and other social deprivation. The food bank in Hastings has had an 80

per cent increase in demand during the last year alone and our parish school now has a 50 per cent cohort entitled to free school meals.

Back to that phone call. The council wanted to ensure no one would be on the streets during the freezing weather, but its provision in local B&Bs, hotels and hostels was nearly at capacity. Could we help?

This was a moment of grace. We have been blessed with a beautiful church and a full liturgical life. Through our life of worship our eyes are fixed on the living and crucified Lord who comes to us in word and sacrament. He also comes to us in the poor, the lonely, the broken, the lost and the homeless.

During the Year of Mercy we had been reading Pope Benedict's encyclical on charity in which he reminds us the Christian liturgy is made up of three parts: word, sacrament and the ongoing Christian life of works of mercy. Christianity, Pope Benedict states, can no more give up works of mercy than it can give up the sacraments or the Scriptures.

As we opened our doors in love and service to any and all we began what has been a fruitful and easy partnership with the council, police, local charity Dom's Food Mission and

many in the church and wider community who have provided blankets, sleeping bags and food.

Chapter 53 of the Rule of St Benedict sets the tone from our perspective: all guests who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ, for he himself will say: I was a stranger and you welcomed me (Matt 25:35).

This opportunity has forged community links and partnerships that can be developed in all sorts of different directions throughout the year, but fundamentally this outreach of mercy is deepening our life of faith in new ways, and teaching us to love even as we have been loved.

Fr Luke Irvine-Capel is vicar of Christ Church, St Leonards, and archdeacon-designate of Chichester.

(First published by Anglicans Together)





LAUNCHING THE (SHE) PROJECT

St Elisabeth's in Eastbourne was recently granted \$20,000 as part of a new ebay initiative called the Community Global Give.

The Global Give "competition" was open to community groups across the world. The brief was to come up with enterprising projects that would benefit the local community.

Project manager, Mandy Mulford is also the PCC secretary and administrator for St Elisabeth. She said: We recognised there was a need for mums, whose kids are about to start school to get back to work. And, aware that those mums could only work "school hours" we came up with The SHE Project.

"The project is rooted in realising the opportunities

provided by the Second Hand Economy (SHE) specifically through upcycling and reselling. The grants range between \$5,000 and \$10,000 and there was one grand prize, one big pot of \$20,000. Out of all the grant applications submitted from across the globe St Elisabeth's won the big pot.

"The money is being spent on improving the aesthetics of the building to include a new community cafe, on exterior signage and on better IT and communications plus all the tools needed to get the project started.

"This project, the building and more importantly the people of St Elisabeth's are committed to providing "radical hospitality" where everyone is welcome, all the time.

"The launch of The SHE Project was a huge success. It was opened by the Mayor of Eastbourne and we were joined by course partners People Matter, Compass Community Arts and EDEAL, the enterprise agency for Eastbourne.

"We had 9 participants on the first and a further 9 on the second course which started in April.

"The course covers creative ideas and practice, advice on business start-ups, job and career advice. We will encourage the participants to continue networking after the course finishes.

Contact Mandy Mulford at mandy.mulford@sainte.co.uk

LAUDATE OMNES GENTES

- from target practice to the sound of music

By Sharon Francis

"SING Praises, all you peoples" is the parish vision behind the inscription on our new pipe organ at St Thomas the Apostle, Groombridge, which was dedicated by Bishop Martin on March 17.

For 120 years a chamber organ had served to augment the worship in our church, but it needed much restoration and the sound had never filled the church. We considered an electronic alternative, but also began to look for a redundant pipe organ in need of some TLC.

We found one which had been built in 1896 by the Plymouth and Exeter firm of George Hele and Co for the chapel of what had once been the Stotfold Three Counties Asylum in Bedfordshire.

Long abandoned, it was in a sorry state, and Alistair Curtis, our organ builder, and my husband, John Francis (project manager and organ builder's mate), spent three days dismantling it and boxing it up ready for transporting to Groombridge on the back of a flat-bed trailer.

I joined them for one day Hoovering the pipes before they went in the pallet trays. Some of the pipes had been used by local youths for air rifle target practice.

We paid £900 for the organ, and it has cost us nearly 100 times that to adapt the church and restore the instrument, retaining tracker action for the two keyboards. The names of many generous sponsors are on the back of some of the 917 pipes. These stand on a mezzanine beneath which is an enlarged vestry, which is much needed as our traditional robed choir is growing.

Alistair's design for the organ case seen in the picture used elements of the architect Norman Shaw's designs for our 1886 church, and the modern colour scheme respects the spirit of Shaw. At ground level, the original console in a spectacular "burr pine" has been conserved. The organ as designed in 1896 survives, with the addition of 15th and 12th stops on the "great", a few more "pedal" stops and a full set of pistons.

John wrote some words to tell the story of our new pipe organ. It goes to Brother James' Air; the last verse brings us back to our vision for the project, to praise our God in the best way that we can:

Now choir and organ join as one to lead us all in praise.

With fine old hymns, some new ones too, we bless His name always.



PICTURED FROM LEFT, REV SHARON FRANCIS, BISHOP MARTIN, CHRIS HARTLAND (DIRECTOR OF MUSIC), COLLEEN THIRKELL (ENGRAVER AND SACRISTAN), AND ALISTAIR CURTIS (ORGAN BUILDER AND ORGANIST)

In fellowship, in fellowship, our hearts and voices raise.

At a time when many churches are ripping out their church pipe organs, we are very proud of the blend of old and new we have produced in this organ. We would also like to thank the DAC for their help and advice throughout the process. The organ is making an amazing sound and we hope it will serve the people of St Thomas' Groombridge for many years to come.

SWEET BENEFITS OF THE SUGAR TAX

CHILDREN across the diocese are running, jumping and swimming thanks to the “sugar tax”.



ST MARKS HPCF ENRICHMENT GRANT

Every year the Diocesan Education Department gives out some £2 million from the Department for Education for the maintenance and improvement of our 50 voluntary aided schools.

Most of it goes on vital projects such as fixing leaking roofs, replacing inefficient old boilers and rotten windows and remodelling outdated classrooms.

This year we have had a bonus through the Government's Soft Drinks Industry Levy, otherwise known as the sugar tax. Some of the money raised is available for schools through the Healthy Pupils Capital Fund and means we had a rare opportunity to do something a bit different.

The aim of the fund is to provide better access to facilities for physical activity in schools to boost pupils' mental and physical wellbeing. The benefits of exercise for all ages are many and varied. Research shows regular physical activity can boost self-esteem, mood and sleep quality, it provides good opportunities to socialise, increases concentration and can improve academic results. Research also indicates that inactive children are more likely to become inactive adults.

The diocese asked its 50 VA schools to submit bids for projects in line with a focus on mental and physical wellbeing for the whole school community. We also asked them to seek match funding to increase the number of projects we could support and also their impact.

We received 35 bids and have been able to fund 23 projects. They ranged from sports equipment, outdoor sensory areas, vegetable gardens to swimming pool renovations and daily mile tracks. Schools are already reporting on the success of various exciting projects and many children have increased everyday exercise.

Olympic gold medal winner Sally Gunnell opened one of the running tracks - at St Peter's CE Primary in Henfield.

The schools are delighted with the cash. St Margaret's CE Primary, Rottingdean, said: "The new playground surface and line markings are wonderful and have made such a huge difference to both playtime and PE for the children and the staff."

St John the Baptist CE Primary, Findon, said: "This all-weather track offers improved opportunities for the children to play games and spend time together."

And Arundel CE Primary said: "We believe that children's work, behaviour - and even

their health - can be improved by getting them involved in physical activities, such as playing on our brand new table tennis tables supplied through the grant."

The DfE funding of £211,000 was matched with an extra £109,000 from the schools. Some of this was raised by PTA committees, charitable grants or school PE grants.

With all capital funding for VA schools, the school governors are responsible for providing a contribution of ten per cent of the project costs. This is no small task and we really appreciate the work governing bodies, PTA committees, parents and carers undertake to make schools better, more vibrant and welcoming places.



ST GILES HORSTED KEYNES



ST MARGARETS
ROTTINGDEAN
KS2 ACTIVITY TRAIL

EVERY DAY DISCIPLES JUST WANT TO GET ON WITH IT

DELEGATES STOOD FOR A MINUTES
SILENCE TO REMEMBER THOSE KILLED
IN THE MOSQUES IN NEW ZEALAND

FULL of variety and life - that was the verdict on the Lay Conference at Sussex University in March.

It was a big hit with delegates this year with many positive comments.

Every Day Disciple was the theme and keynote speaker Nick Shepherd, national director for the Church's Setting God's People Free initiative delighted the audience with his engaging style, telling stories and anecdotes about sharing personal faith stories.

Marisa Hayes, a reader from Ringmer said: "I was thrilled to see Nick Shepherd's presentation - how simple and sensible the SGPF scheme seems. I just want to get on and live it.

"The opportunities to discuss with our neighbours was an extremely valuable part of the morning too. There was a great buzz about the place, particularly after the morning session. Overall it was an excellent day, full of variety and life."

There were workshops on talking about God at work and helping young people to speak about their faith. There were also workshops on spirituality and also everyday discipleship in the parish, which was led by Rev Rob Dillingham.

Archdeacon of Horsham Fiona Windsor said: "The feedback from the day was very positive with many saying it was the best conference ever.

"Delegates loved the way it was a mixture of presentations and individual experiences of faith.

I was thrilled to see Nick Shepherd's presentation - how simple and sensible the SGPF scheme seems. I just want to get on and live it.

The workshops were very well received. There was a good mixture of presentation and group work and people felt very cared for and valued."

If you want to find out more about Setting God's People Free initiative for your church email Jayne Prestwood - Jayne.prestwood@chichester.anglican.org - or call her on 01273 421021.

CHURCH BUILDINGS NEWS

NEW FUNDRAISING OFFICER

Introducing Katherine Prior, a historian with a background in the heritage industry and museum curation. She joined the Church Buildings Team in January as the new fundraising adviser. She tells Faith In Sussex how she hopes to assist parishes who are contemplating church building and reordering projects.

AT HEART, my role is to direct parishes to possible funding sources for their building projects and advise them on application processes and meeting funders' objectives.

But that perhaps makes it sound simpler than it is. Having spent the last six years raising funds for the original fabric repair at my own church in Brighton, I have learnt a lot by trial and error - and I really hope to help others avoid some of my mistakes.

I have also served on the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) for the last two years, which has given me a good sense of the challenges facing our churches, and I chair the fundraising group at Chichester Cathedral, which is helping me learn more about personal giving, legacies and major donors.

One of the big issues for PCCs is working out the order in which they do things. Yes, parishes need to consult with an architect to do any building or reordering work and, yes, they will need a faculty and possibly also planning consent and approval from amenity societies. But we don't want parishes spending a lot of money on architects' fees or getting to the consents stage without having first really understood and quantified their needs and fundraising approach.

For big projects, it is often possible to include architects' fees and other ancillary costs in the grant applications, so it pays to

plan ahead before leaping into the actual design work. One of the things I can help with is the timetabling of fundraising, building design, consultation and consents so parishes don't miss out on possible funding or overspend on projects that don't stand a realistic chance of success.

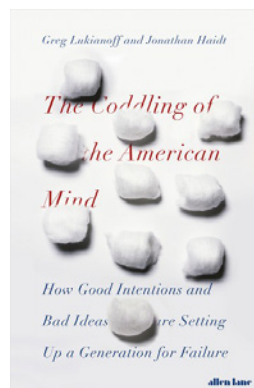
I also encourage parishes to look at the big picture and ensure any building work they do fits into their masterplan for the next decade. Having a pot of unrestricted reserves won't make parishes ineligible for grant funding, if they can demonstrate how those reserves serve their vision for the future.

Some of this information I am working up into advice sheets which will gradually be uploaded on the diocesan website, but I can also answer individual queries and make church visits. So, if you're thinking about making changes to your church, please get in touch with me at Church House. My normal working days are Wednesdays to Fridays, and I can be reached on 01273 425690 or katherine.prior@chichester.anglican.org.



BOOKS AND REVIEWS

REVIEWS BY CANON JOHN TWISLETON

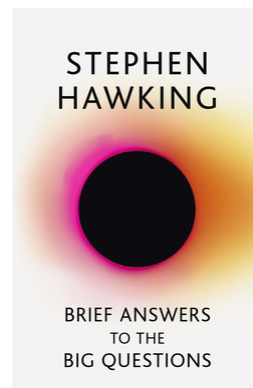


THE CODDLING OF THE AMERICAN MIND

GREG LUKIANOFF & JONATHAN HAIDT

ARE good intentions and bad ideas setting up a generation for failure? So reads the subtitle of this critique of the big divide in US society now creeping into the UK. A free speech campaigner joins a psychologist in examining social polarisation alongside increased depression, overprotective regimes in families and universities and obsessive use of phones and tablets. They reflect on use of social media by the passionate to rubbish people and not just ideas going counter to the time tested wisdom of giving people the benefit of the doubt. In presenting ways forward the authors honour religion for transformative vision quoting Martin Luther-King: Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend. This is an inspiring and timely book.

Penguin 2018 £9.99 (Kindle) ASIN B07B3LLRSH 352pp

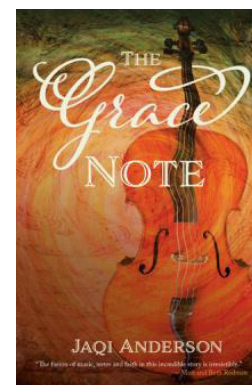


BRIEF ANSWERS TO THE BIG QUESTIONS

STEPHEN HAWKING

THE final work of cosmologist and disability campaigner Stephen Hawking addresses questions including Is there a God? Can we predict the future? Should we colonise space? The author speaks with academic authority heightened by the moral authority he's carried living with motor neurone disease. "We could have a base on the Moon within 30 years, reach Mars in 50 years and explore the moons of the outer planets in 200 years" he writes. As discoverer of the Big Bang he sees God disproved on grounds that since time has a beginning no one can exist before that which many would challenge. Unlike Einstein whose comment "God doesn't play dice" hints at purposive wisdom underlying creation, Hawking says if there's a God he's got to be a gambler. This is a bold and provocative thesis from a great mind.

John Murray 2018 Kindle edition £7.99 ASIN: B07D2ZKPL2 256pp



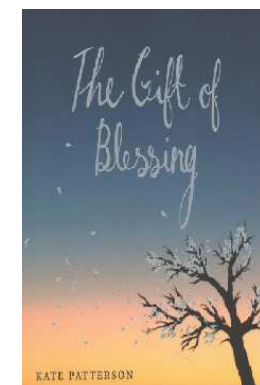
THE GRACE NOTE

JAQI ANDERSON

HOLDING readers isn't as easy as it used to be with our eroded attention spans but Jaqi Anderson achieves this brilliantly in her first novel which is intriguing, entertaining and warming. There's a captivating story line punctuated by short chapters that end high or low like a roller coaster carrying you forward. The main plot is linked to discovering siblings you never thought you had. A second theme is the power of music and how it builds healing and friendship across cultures and age groups.

There is a side plot in which a difficult teenager engages serendipitously with a musician family friend and lightens up as his piano playing advances. We follow a reminiscence of the musician's own expertise being forged through a challenging childhood. Another gently stated theme is how putting things in God's hands leads to extraordinary coincidences. There are instances of people dropping into churches to pray, most significantly in Albania where a priest normally in hiding from the Communist authorities is at hand to help a fugitive child hiding in his vandalised church. The hub of the story is a family of five in Southern England, with routines brilliantly captured by the author, and how their mundane existence gets shaken up by music, faith and serendipity. Jaqi Anderson is a great writer, her characters and storyline plausible and her book has a warmth radiating through its captivating twists and turns.

Westbow Press 2019 £8.95 ISBN 978-1-9736-3055-5 286pp



THE GIFT OF BLESSING

KATE PATTERSON

WE WERE made to experience God's blessing. From God's first blessing on Adam and Eve to "be fruitful and increase in number" to Jesus's last blessing on his followers as he ascended into Heaven, blessing is central to how God relates to those he loves. And yet many of us think God's blessing is not for us. Maybe we've read the stories of blessing in the Bible, or seen it in the lives of others, but catch ourselves thinking "that's nice for them, but God hasn't got that for me". Or worse, we picture God as a grumpy old man who measures out blessing in measly thimblefuls.

Following on from her first book exploring the Aaronic blessing from the Book of Numbers, this encouraging devotional offers the opportunity to see God afresh through that shining blessing - a God who loves us and whose heart is to bless his people, through his people. Beautifully designed and illustrated, and with scripture, quotations, and questions to reflect on, The Gift Of Blessing is an ideal gift for those who long to be blessed that they might be a blessing to others.

Muddy Pearl ISBN: 978-1-910012-49-9 £9.99

CATHEDRAL EVENTS: PENTECOST



BISHOP'S CHAPEL - BEHIND THE SCENES CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL
PHOTO BY JIM HOLDEN

COME AND SEE THE FAMOUS CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL PEREGRINES

Saturdays and Sundays as follows: April 27/28, May 4/5, May 18/19, June 8/9, June 15/16: 10am - 4pm

It is hoped this will be another exciting year for the famous Chichester Cathedral peregrines. From March until July, visitors can look forward to catching sight of the birds from the cathedral grounds and will be able to watch a live webcam view of the nesting site on the cathedral website. On the dates above volunteers will be on site to help visitors spot the birds. Entry is free.

OPEN AIR PERFORMANCE OF SHAKESPEARE'S A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

Friday, June 14, 7.30pm

This magical and enchanting comedy will be performed by the Lord Chamberlain's Men on the cathedral's south west lawn. Bring a rug and a picnic and enjoy the show. Tickets £16 (adult), £10 (child) available from www.chichestercathedral.org.uk.

A WOMAN'S PLACE... IS IN THE CATHEDRAL

Festival of Chichester Guided Tour:

Wednesday, June 26, or
Wednesday, July 10, 11am - noon

In the cathedral women are sometimes commemorated as "relics" of their pre-deceased husbands, however, this tour explores the exceptional works by women including tapestry, stained glass, sculpture and embroidery. Tickets £7 from www.chichestercathedral.org.uk.



FAMILY ACTIVITY: UP, UP AND AWAY

Friday, July 26, 10am - 3pm

Come along to the cathedral for some holiday fun. Families can design and make creative crafts and follow a trail. £2.50 per child. Suitable for children aged three to 11. No need to book, just drop in. For further details see www.chichestercathedral.org.uk.

SEE BEHIND THE SCENES AT CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

Saturday, June 22, 11am - 2pm

As part of the Festival of Chichester, areas of the cathedral normally closed



THE LORD CHAMBERLAINS MEN

to the public will be open to visitors. This includes the song school, high in the cathedral's triforium and reached only by a winding spiral staircase - come and discover its secret chamber. The tour also takes in the cathedral library and the private chapel of the Bishop of Chichester. Please be aware there are 40 spiral stairs up to the song school and library. Free entry. All are welcome.

LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

Tuesdays from April 30 to June 25, 1.10pm - 2pm

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

ART VIEWS

Thursday, June 13, 1.30pm - 3.30pm

An opportunity to look at and discuss a selected work of art in Chichester Cathedral. Share your thoughts and

enjoy hearing other people's responses, with a facilitator from Pallant House Gallery. This session is dementia friendly. Tickets £3.50 from www.chichestercathedral.org.uk.

SOUTHERN CATHEDRALS FESTIVAL

July 18 and 21

The Southern Cathedrals Festival offers sacred choral and organ music performed to the highest standard by the renowned choirs of Chichester, Salisbury and Winchester cathedrals. The 2019 festival will take place in Chichester Cathedral. For more information see www.southernncathedralsfestival.org.uk.

SPECIAL SERVICES

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

Thursday, May 30
5pm: Evening Prayer (said)
5.30pm: Ascension Day Eucharist

ST RICHARD

Monday, June 17
11am: Roman Catholic Mass for St Richard
5pm: Evening Prayer (said)
5.30pm: Eucharist for St Richard

Services are held daily and all are welcome. See www.chichestercathedral.org.uk for details.

Welcome to the tallest school chapel in the world

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- **the moving story of the fallen 1911 pupils**

OPENING TIMES

10am–4pm Monday to Saturday

12 noon–4pm Sundays and Bank Holidays

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Tel 01273 465 949 for further information and to book group tours

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