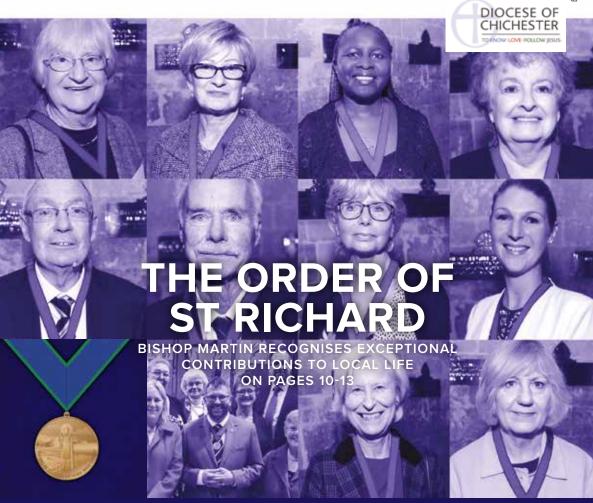
FAITH IN SUSSEX

— The diocesan publication reaching church communities across Sussex



NEW READERS WELCOMED

/ 24-26

Celebrating an important ministry in our churches

SPOTLIGHT ON CHILDREN'S AND FAMILY MINISTRY

/ 16-17

Reporting on The Journey conference

A PERFECT PARTNERSHIP

/ 20-21

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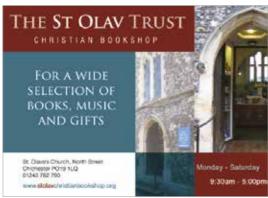
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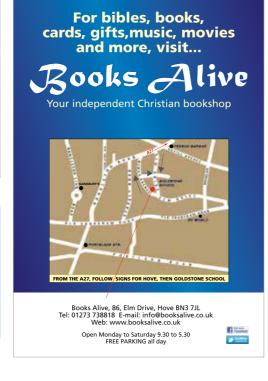
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RICHNESS AND DIVERSITY

This edition of Faith in Sussex has details of two important events in the life of the diocese: the licensing of Readers, and the awarding of the Order of St Richard.

Both events say something significant about our apostolic life, its richness and diversity.

The call to Reader ministry is an essentially lay vocation. It is a demanding call that involves significant levels of study and training. In this ministry the Church is seeking to form lay theologians who will teach, defend, and nurture the Christian faith in others, drawing on own experience of life, prayer and Christian witness. This is a very public expression of lay vocation, carrying the Church's authority, which is the reason why the training is so demanding.

The Order of St Richard is awarded for "exceptional service to Church and community" and it has a rather different focus. It is a way of celebrating the vocation of those we sometimes overlook, because their contribution is invariably not public and authorised.

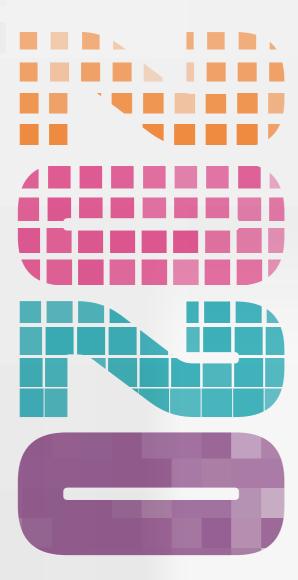
These are people who use their skills and commitment to the glory of God by doing things unobtrusively and faithfully, worked examples of loving God and neighbour. These are the sort of people Jesus noticed and spoke about in his teaching in the gospels.

As this Year of Vocation draws to a close, it is fitting that we celebrate the different ways of being a Christian and taking an active part in the Church's life.

My prayer is that we will become more attentive to how we recognise and celebrate the many different ways in which people live the Christian life, aware that God receives with joy each and every response of our love and the use of his gifts.

+Martin
Bishop of Chichester.







2020

22nd-25th May www.maycamp.org

INTRODUCING THE **NEW DIOCESAN** STRATEGY / 14 Bishop Richard explaining the Four Mores.







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f Chichester Diocese



in Diocese of Chichester

EAITH IN CHECKY

ISSUE 24

ACROSS OUR DIOCESE

SIX NEW HONORARY CANONS APPOINTED

Bishop Martin has appointed six new Canons in recognition of the contribution that they make to the apostolic life of the diocese.

REV. JUDITH EGAR

Assistant Curate at Lewes
St Anne and St Michael and
St Thomas at Cliffe with All
Saints (Benefice) and Rural
Dean for Lewes and Seaford,
will take the Stall of the
Prebendary of Eartham, as
affirmation of her ministry
as Rural Dean, extending
the supportive role she has
exercised for many years in
Lewes. It also enables us to
recognise her legal work for
the church, both nationally
and locally.

REV. DAVID GILLARD

Vicar of St Elisabeth's
Eastbourne and Rural Dean of
Eastbourne, will take the Stall
of the Prebendary of Mardon
as affirmation of the patience
and imagination with which
he has sustained the mission
of St Elizabeth's bearing with
uncertainty and delay. It is
also recognition of the skill
which he has exercised as
Rural Dean.

REV. NIGEL MASON

Vicar of Rotherfield with Mark Cross in East Sussex will take the Stall of the Prebendary of Thorney, as affirmation of years of faithful parochial ministry in Rotherfield. This is recognition that the parishes that are some distance from the Cathedral in Chichester are no less part of the life of this Diocese and household of faith.

REV. MARK STANDEN

Vicar of St Margaret's
Angmering and Rural Dean of
Arundel and Bognor, will take
the Stall of the Prebendary of
Fittleworth, as affirmation of
many years of fruitful ministry
in Angmering, his diligent
ministry as Rural Dean and
the generosity with which he
served during the vacancy in
the Chichester Archdeaconry.

REV. DAVID TWINLEY

Vicar of St Nicholas Arundel St Leonard's South Stoke, and Rural Dean of Petworth until 2016, will take the Stall of the Prebendary of Ipthorne, as affirmation of his faithful and fruitful ministry as a parish priest and his contribution to the wider life of the Diocese both as a Rural Dean and during the vacancy in the Archdeaconry.

REV. KATHRYN WINDSLOW

Vicar of St Mary, Storrington and Rural Dean of Storrington, will take the Stall of the Prebendary of Seaford, as affirmation of her contribution to the wider life of the Diocese, especially as Rural Dean. It is also a way of affirming the importance and the quality of her ministry in Storrington.

The installations will take place at the Cathedral in the context of Evensong.

On Sunday 17 November 2019 at 3.30pm, Judith Egar, David Gillard and David Twinley will be installed.

On Sunday 1 December 2019 at 3.30pm, Nigel Mason, Mark Standen and Kathryn Windslow will be installed



ADVENT REFLECTIONS

A reflection for each day of Advent will be featured on the diocesan website and social media channels throughout Advent. Please do use and share these with your parishes and wider church communities.

DIOCESAN SYNOD

East Sussex College Lewes, 16 November

Laity and clergy, elected as synod members from across the Diocese, will meet to discuss mission and ministry as well as issues affecting the wider community at the next Diocesan Synod in Lewes on 16 November.

Bishop Martin will open proceedings with a special service at which he will give what is known as his "Presidential address" to Synod members.

Gabrielle Higgins, Diocesan Secretary, said: "Synod provides members with updates in

respect of many areas of our work as a Diocese. The Synod will hear about further plans for the future of the Diocese in terms of mission from the Bishop of Lewes, Richard Jackson, as well as a report of proceedings at the most recent meeting of the General Synod of the Church of England.

"It is also an opportunity to say an important goodbye. It will be the last synod for Bishop Richard."

The agenda has now been finalised and can be found on the diocesan website.

OPEN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

As deanery confirmations continue across the diocese it is lovely to see your photos. Confirmation is about encountering the Grace of God through the Holy Spirit and we hope these young candidates will be open to the Holy Spirit working within them.



EAITH IN CHECKY

ISSUE 24

REACHING OUT IN SONG

The cathedral choir visits a small number of parishes throughout the year. The purpose of these visits is to help the cathedral reach out to the diocese and share its music with those who might not otherwise have many opportunities to experience it.

Organist and Master of the Choristers, Charles Harrison, said: "I would be delighted to hear from churches who would be interested in having us."

If your parish is interested in welcoming the Cathedral Choir please contact Charles at info@chichestercathedral.org.uk

The choir will be visiting the parish church in Pevensey on 20th October 2019. Dates for 2020 are as follows:

Forest Row	20th February 2020
Alfriston	10th May 2020
St Leonard's-on-Sea	18th October 2020

FIVE STAND UP TO CANCER

Five of our clergy recently helped out on a joint fundraising campaign with Cancer Research UK and Channel 4 to help rais funds for Cancer Research.

The five were: Helen Rose, vicar of Church of the Holy Cross, Woodingdean, Brighton, Angela Martin, vicar of Holy Trinity, Forest Row, Lisa Barnett, vicar at St Augustine's, Scaynes Hill, Emma Ham-Riche, assistant curate of St Mary the Virgin in East Preston with Kingston, and Ann Waizeneker, vicar of St Mary de Haura and the Church of the Good Shepherd, Shoreham Beach. They all dressed up in bright orange tutus and stripy socks and caused a stir in support of anyone dealing with cancer, including their colleague Rev. Pauline Ingram, 63, associate vicar of Maresfield and Nutley.

Pauline was diagnosed with chronic lymphocytic leukaemia, a blood and bone marrow cancer in 2015. Initially she was told it was a slow-growing cancer best left untreated, and she should concentrate on living her life.

Rev. Waizeneker said: "We had a lot of fun doing the challenge, but behind it is a serious message – funding for more research is vital and needed right now to help those facing cancer.

Stand Up To Cancer unites scientists, celebrities and communities across the UK, raising money to take developments from the lab and transform them, quickly, into brand new tests

Since it was launched in the UK in 2012, Stand Up To Cancer has raised over £62 million to fund 52 pioneering clinical trials and research projects.

Cancer Research UK spends more than £1m per year on research in Brighton alone. You can read the full story on the diocesan website.



RIDE AND STRIDE

Hundreds of people across the diocese took part in this years' Ride and Stride event. Groups from the Cathedral and from Church House Hove joined groups and individuals from our parish churches to raise vital funds for our buildings. The amount raised will be calculated and revealed at the annual award ceremony in the new year. The venue will be confirmed in due course.

BISHOP ANGAELOS INSTALLED AS CANON OF HONOUR

His Eminence Archbishop Angaelos was welcomed into Chichester Cathedral and made Canon of Honour by The Bishop of Chichester, Dr Martin Warner during Evensong on Tuesday, September 24 at 5.30 pm.





IT STARTS WITH A WELCOME

With more than 10 million page views a year and 85 per cent of visitors going to the site for the first time, A Church Near You (ACNY) offers a unique evangelism opportunity for Church of England churches, and sits at the heart of our national campaigns.

So how can you get the most from the site? The team behind ACNY recommend five things that are easy to forget but will help maximise your reach on A Church Near You and it starts with a welcome.

- Welcome
- Gallery
- Cover photo
- How to get here
- ACNY as your church website

Amaris Cole, Digital Content and Communications Manager for the Church of England explains the rational behind each of the five recommendations in her labs-learning blog on the Church of England website www. churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/digital-labs/labs-learning-blog/five-things-editors-forget-acny or contact Diocesan Communications Assistant, Amber Jackson for further information. amber.jackson@chichester.anglican.org



THE ORDER OF ST RICHARD

Honour for devoted service

HUNDREDS of friends, family and parishioners gathered at Chichester Cathedral to watch 40 people being awarded the Order of St Richard.

The 40, from every corner of the diocese, were admitted to the Order of St Richard by the Bishop of Chichester Dr Martin Warner. They each received a certificate signed by him, a bespoke medal to be worn on special occasions and a lapel badge which can be worn at all times.

Dr Warner told them: "This comes with my congratulations on the award and my thanks for our partnership in the apostolic life in this diocese."

Some of the recipients share their thoughts with us:



Sarah, of Holy Cross, Uckfield, was put forward for her initiative, positivity and talent for outreach, her work with children, her strong faith and for managing the annual Festival of Christmas Trees. She said: "It was amazing. So many people are deserving of this. I feel very humbled. It was very special to sit all 40 of us together and the archdeacon to talk about what we do. It was such an honour to be part of it."



MARGARET

Margaret, of St Andrew's Tangmere, was put forward for her involvement with schools and forging of links with overseas churches and many years of tireless, devoted service within her village church, parish, diocese and wider community. She said: "I cannot believe that I deserve it any more than anyone else in our parish. When I got the letter, I thought, what does the Bishop want me to do now?

I was overwhelmed that all our supporters were with us cheering us on."



David, of St John the Baptist, Tidebrook, was put forward for his tireless work in the three parishes and community, for his calm wisdom and for his international outreach in Kenya, Burundi and with A Rocha. David is a churchwarden and was licensed as a reader 50 years ago. He said: "It's a lovely sign of us belonging together, this sense of God's love enfolding us. We have received much more than we've been able to give."



BRADLEY

Bradley Smith of Aldingbourne, Eastergate and Barnham received the award for thanks and recognition for his deep commitment and devoted service to the church both locally and nationally as he shares his deep spirituality with a joyful demeanour, whether working in his innumerable voluntary roles

or as he runs his Christian bookshop.

"I am very proud to be part of the Diocese of Chichester and delighted to be engaged in its life and witness in various small ways. Being involved in my local church community is really important to me and I believe passionately in the role of the laity in traditional parish ministry. For me everything flows from Christ's gift of Himself in the Eucharist. That is at the heart of my faith and I am glad to play my part in supporting others as they come to know, love and follow Jesus.

"I consider it a great honour to receive the Order of St Richard."



GEORGE

George Rix of St Peter the Apostle East Blatchington was recognised for his decades of support to the administration, worship and Ministry, and his valued training and development of others.

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HEATHER

Heather Child of St Mark,
Mark Cross, was recognised for
her unstinting commitment to
the parish, her dedication to
the re-ordering of the church
and community space, her
pastoral work, and for her
Hymns & Pimms evenings.
She said: "I feel truly honoured
and touched that I was put
forward for the award. It was
a complete surprise to me
when I received the letter
from Bishop Martin."



ANGELA

Angela Maddison of St
Nicholas Iford was recognised
for being the 'real Martha' of
her Parish, and an exemplar
of the Christian way of life
through her care of the elderly
and connection with the
church in Zululand. She said:
"I am humbled and honoured
to have been selected for
this award, but I see it as
recognition for all that Iford
Church and its very special
village community have
achieved together."



NAUME

Naume Chawulaka of St Mary Kemptown Brighton was recognised for keeping the brass sparklingly clean, for offering her deep spirituality and dedicating her time to countless causes in the local community



HILARY

Hilary Norsworthy of St Andrew's Bishopstone was recognised for her indefatigable and selfless willingness to meet any and every need of her church, serving as Churchwarden, Treasurer and Sacristan.

JOHN

John Puttock of Bishop Hannington Hove was recognised for exceptional leadership of two major building projects, alongside being involved in virtually every area of the church's ministry.



PHILIPPA

Philippa Parsons of Holy Cross Woodingdean was recognised for sustaining the spiritual life of the church during a very long interregnum, for services to music, children's work, lay ministry and outreach. She said: "For me, that is a great honour and this award emphasises the value and importance of being able to serve where we are."



MURIEL

Muriel Pyne of St Mary's Church Barcombe was recognised for a period of outstanding service to the church and wider community which started with her role as PCC Secretary in 1948.

MIKE

Mike Lewis of Fishbourne was recognised for his years of selfless work in the church and among the children and elderly of his parish and community, all carried out with humility, faith and good humour.



RACHEL

Rachel Moriarty of Chichester Cathedral with thanks and recognition for her years of devoted and unstinting service in her many roles within the cathedral, and for her work as a member of deanery, diocesan and general synod.



PAMELA

Pamela Kendall of All Saints, Herstmonceux was recognised for her dedicated service to the combined benefice and to the wider community, her extensive work with the young and her liaison with Herstmonceux primary school. She said: "The award is a lovely idea and it is honour to be given it."

CHRIS

Chris Bell, Ifield was recognised for his service to the diocese and deanery and for his unstinting vision to enable the growth of his parish, sustained by his deep faith, humility and prayerfulness.

MARY

Mary Nagel of St Richard's Aldwick, has been recognised for a lifetime of faithful service to the church at local and national level, chairing deanery synod, a member of general synod and the Bishop's council for many years, as well as a leader in the Mother's Union plus extensive youth work, all this while selflessly supporting her husband and the parish where he is Vicar. She said: "For the past 29 years I have been privileged to serve the diocese as a member of the General Synod with all its joys and sorrows. I retired last year as lay chair of Arundel and Bognor deanery synod after 19 years.

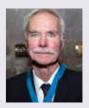
"I have been involved with the Mothers' Union in various roles and in children's work particularly leading the Diocesan group to the Children's Pilgrimage to Walsingham for the past 14 years. My four children now have families of their own and are all involved in their local churches."

RUTH

Ruth Gasson of St George, Brede, was recognised for her cheerful and uncomplicated hard work in the service of the parish and village, for her generosity with her time and talents, and for her encyclopaedic knowledge of hymns. She said: "I am greatly honoured to receive the Order of St. Richard but also humbled."

MERVIN

Mervin Bridger of St George's East Worthing was recognised for many years of devoted service to the church and parish as reader, volunteer, PCC member, and organiser of repairs and reordering, all carried out with wisdom, kindness and professionalism.



DAVID

David Gasson of St Thomas a Becket, Brightling, was recognised for a lifetime of quiet dedication to his parish church, for his bell ringing, his guided tours and his skill with the barrel organ.



MELANIE

Melanie Edge, St Michael, Amberley was recognised for her tireless work as Churchwarden during a recent interregnum, and for encouraging her church to flourish and develop through a major restoration project and by nurturing links with its local community.

2020-2025

By Richard Jackson, Bishop of Lewes

OVER the last few months a group has met to evaluate the goals and outcomes of our current strategy.

This flowed out of the goals set by the Church of England at the start of the last five years of General Synod. They were Church growth, numerical and spiritual; re-imagining ministry, and contributing to the common good. We have been resourcing these goals from Church House, Hove; the "years of" (mercy, Bible, prayer and vocation) and the "one thing" project.

The next phase of the strategy builds on this work and sets out a vision for the next five years of our life together. As with the last strategy, these visions for the future will be fleshed out in local parishes. However, they will guide the deployment of our central resources and parish support. We aim to be in practice what we are by the grace of God: a Church that is one, holy, catholic and apostolic.

MORE OPEN

A sign of being one

We have a vision for congregations with age and other profiles reflecting the communities they serve. We want to see the Church as a family of all ages, loving, serving contributing and receiving together at a level appropriate for their age and maturity.

MORE CONVERTED TO JESUS CHRIST

A sign of being holy

We have a vision for a Church which communicates the Gospel effectively, so women, men and children come to a living, personal faith in Jesus Christ and join their local church family on the journey to know, love and follow Jesus. We want to be a Church where people are valued and nurtured, finding support through the difficulties of life. We envisage a wide-open front door to a community where people feel at home and want to stay. We want to see our life flow out of prayer and worship, rather than see these things as one among other activities that we do.

MORE GENEROUS

A sign of being catholic

We have a vision of a diocese where there are "no needy among them", where wealthier parishes contribute joyfully to sustain ministry in deprived areas and where economically deprived parishes don't feel a liability to the rest. We envisage a diocese with a balanced budget and financially sustainable benefices by 2025.

MORE ENGAGED

A sign of being apostolic

We have a vision for a Church where people have a sense of vocation to love, expressing itself in service and a Church family that nurtures and encourages that vocation. We long to see a Church whose reputation in the community is one of bringing blessing and transformation, a Church which works with all those of good will to contribute to the common good.

There will be more information about the strategic steps to bring this vision to life over the next few months.

THE GREAT CHURCH VISITOR COUNT

Do churches know the number of visitors that pass through their doors? The National Churches Trust (NCT) has launched the Great Church Visitor Count, a research project which will analyse the difference between the number of entries recorded in a church visitor book and the actual number of visitors who pass through the door.

Unlike cathedrals, museums and historic houses, there is no reliable data on the number of people who visit churches each year. The only data gathered is from the entries recorded in visitor books and of people who attend services. These are thought to seriously underestimate the number of visitors and tourists who visit churches and chapels.

Higher visitor numbers

The Great Church Visitor Count project builds on work carried out in 2018 when digital counters were installed in a sample of churches. These churches recorded a much higher number of visitors on the digital counters than that recorded in visitor books.

One church made a remarkable discovery about the number of visitors to their church when they installed a counter at the porch entrance. Over four months the counter recorded 1,729 visits compared to only 49 names recorded in the visitor book.

Churches urged to install digital counters

The NCT is asking churches to install their own digital counters and to collaborate in the research project. Any churches that already have digital counters are also invited to share their data with the research project.

NCT Chief Executive Claire Walker said the Great Church Visitor Count project will help churches in several ways. She said: "Accurate visitor numbers will help support grant applications from churches for repairs to funders such as the National Heritage Lottery Fund."

Dr Katherine Prior, Diocesan Fundraising Officer, said it's always a good idea for churches to count visits accurately when seeking funding support. She said: "Many churches are providing much more of a community and tourist resource than they realise. If you have a big fundraising challenge ahead (and especially if you are a church that is open all day unattended) buying one of the digital counters could be a worthwhile investment. But old-fashioned head-counting by volunteers works too!

"Choose a representative sample of days and line up volunteers to count the visitors and to see how they interact with the church. It's a great way of getting the congregation and secular supporters involved in the research for a building project and it can really strengthen the case for improved interpretation, signage or facilities in your church."

NCT has teamed up with a supplier to offer churches a discounted counter device for £140 plus VAT and postage included. Any churches wanting to take part in the Great Church Visitor Count project are asked to contact Linda Patrick at linda.patrick@nationalchurchestrust.org

Will you need a faculty?

The counter devices can be installed without any damage to a building. For further advice on this please contact Greg Moore from the Church Buildings Team.





MORE than 100 children's and family work leaders attended The Journey conference hosted by the Diocese of Chichester. The two-day event was led by Dr Irene Smale, diocesan children's and families work adviser, and was the result of Bishop Richard Jackson's presentation at Diocesan Synod in May 2019 when he talked about the decline in children's church attendance. Dr Smale tells us about it.

I FELT as children's and family work officer for this diocese that this conference would form an important part of my strategic planning for the future of children's and family work.

The evaluation feedback and outcomes will help inform our strategy for the next five years. That's why I called it "The Journey - looking at the past, present and future of children's work" because it meant we had to take stock of what has happened in the past,

to inform what is going on in the present and therefore plan for the future using the data and knowledge most useful for our purpose.

I was delighted with the attendance. We had some very strong speakers, including Canon Sandra Millar, Mary Hawes, and the Bishop of Lewes, Richard Jackson, who not only gave a general overview of children's work in the Church of England but also gave insights into what is happening in our own diocese.

These sessions were interspersed with optional workshops offering a range of specialisms such as school pastoral work, ideas for school assemblies, running toddler groups as mission initiatives, organising all-age communion services, Godly Play, ideas for leading worship with families, reaching out to children and families in our communities and including and supporting children with additional needs.

Canon Sandra Millar, head of life events for the Church of England, said: "Churches have such great opportunities to welcome families, connect to their hopes and fears and build a relationship that reflects the love of God. Whether we meet them through a request for a christening, at a toddler group or the school gate, a few small steps can make a big impact on the amazing journey of faith."

Bishop Richard spoke about shifts in how the Church is engaging with younger people. He said work with children and young people must be one of the top priorities in the next five years.

Having more dialogue with parents helps to build relationships. To get to know and understand the individual needs of children and parents on their life's journey and to be reassured that children's leaders are there to offer support and hopefully answer their questions rather than simply giving general good advice

The strapline "to know, love, follow" encompasses what it means in terms of developing a life-long journey of discipleship rather than just church attendance one day a week. In practical terms this means that we are not just there to fill churches with attendees on a Sunday morning but to encourage and support all believers, including children of all ages, in their spiritual journey and so to have a closer walk with God throughout the rest of their lives.

Delegates said they would encourage others to attend next time because it was so helpful. One of the most useful outcomes appeared to be networking with others. Conversations flowed over coffee as people compared notes and were able to talk personally with the speakers. New friendships were forged as people discussed the fact that sometimes children's work can be quite isolating.

Building on the success of The Journey we are planning the next children's and family work leaders' conference for July 2021 where we will be looking at building vital links, complementing and supporting children's and family ministry in the three key streams of church, home and school. Look out for future details on our web site: https://youth. chichester.anglican.org/

One of the most useful outcomes appeared to be networking with others. Conversations flowed over coffee as people compared notes and were able to talk personally with the speakers.





IT'S ALL ABOUT THE HUBS

HUBS are being set up as a follow-up response to the growing need for support for busy volunteers. Three have already been launched and these have been met with great enthusiasm and inspiration. The aim is to provide:

- · Networking support at peer level for children's and family leaders across parishes
- · Prayerful encouragement for the children's leaders and the congregations they serve
- · Sharing of ideas and resources across parishes and deaneries
- · Friendship for those new to children's work and in particular those who have just completed the ALM children's leadership elective
- · Spiritual and theological input from selected qualified and experienced leaders
- · Pastoral support for busy volunteers
- · Leadership training for ongoing professional development in children's and family work

Look out for further comments, ideas, handouts and powerpoints over the next few weeks on the youth and children's web site: https://youth.chichester.anglican.org/

ENGLISH HISTORY COMES ALIVE FOR AMERICAN PILGRIMS

A GROUP of American university students and teachers visited the churches of St Cuthman and St Andrew in Steyning as part of a study tour to learn more about the play The Boy With A Cart by Christopher Fry.

The tour was the latest in a 40-year tradition for the university.

Tiffany Kriner is an English professor at Wheaton College, a Christian college in Illinois.

She helped design the six-week tour for the 28 students and teachers - and five children.

She said: "The visit to Steyning was a pilgrimage long in the making for me. In my undergraduate days I played a small role in the gorgeously written chorus of Christopher Fry's The Boy With A Cart - and also one of the antagonists, Mrs Fipps, who gets blown away by a mighty, miraculous wind from God.

"The lines we memorised then worked in me a strong sense of vocation in Christ - 'with God we work, shoulder to shoulder - God providing, we dividing, sowing, and pruning; Not knowing yet, and yet sometimes discerning'.

"Our experience of the South Downs Way, also known to us in the poetry of Edward Thomas and the contemporary nature writing of Robert Macfarlane (in The Old Ways), was bliss.

"Father Mark Heather, Vicar of St Andrew and St Cuthman church in Steyning, met us at Chanctonbury Ring and walked us down to Steyning. He prayed with us a liturgy based on blessings from the St Cuthman story. We walked 'stone over stone' as St Cuthman did when he, like many of our students, was a young person seeking his vocation."

"On this trip,
we have met folks
along the way who
have enlightened
us with good cheer
about England's
rich history,
architecture,
and way of life."

The students loved the experience. Morgan Moxley said: "I have been learning on this pilgrimage about the goodness of hospitality. On this trip, we have met folks along the way who have enlightened us with good cheer about England's rich history, architecture, and way of life. Many of us on this trip have felt out of place, out of body and out of time, as we are far from our homes and what is familiar to us. I am thankful for the blessings of God's Word and Holy Spirit that unify us as Christians with the folks we have met along our way."

And Madison Cash said:
"Actively walking through
the English countryside has
so beautifully paralleled my
journey through English
literature. The people we've
encountered along the way,
in hostels, bookstores, and
especially in the lovely,
welcoming town of Steyning,



have expanded my view of the real life that inspired the books we are reading."

Lynnea Befus said: "When God reaches out to us, doesn't he often do it through other people? This made the pilgrimage described in the play feel closer to our own pilgrimage, one made up of a community rather than a primary figure."

The visit was organised in conjunction with Steyning Museum. You can find out more about the story of St Cuthman in Steyning Museum. For more information, visit www.steyningmuseum.org.uk.



"Actively walking through the
English countryside has so
beautifully paralleled my journey
through English literature."

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UNCOVERING NEW GROUND







A CHURCH has been running a successful initiative that has transformed the churchyard, the community and people's lives.

St Mary's Felpham, near Bognor, has a very large open churchyard that was costing more than £11,000 each year to maintain. Over the years the bushes and trees became overgrown because there was no money to look after them. All the money went into just cutting and removing the grass.

Rev John Challis has been the vicar of St Mary's for the past three years. He had tried numerous ways to tackle the issue. Then one day a member of the congregation mentioned someone in their family had been arrested for a crime and given 200 hours of community service. He was taken to a church and told to cut the grass.

Rev Challis wondered whether this could transform the churchyard and at the same time make a contribution to society and the local area. "I wondered if it might bring about a transformation in those doing the community service - it could be the answer to a prayer.

"We contacted West Sussex probation service and after several meetings and site visits they finally agreed to bring at least three people every week to mow, trim, cut down, clear up and restore the churchyard to its former glory and then maintain it for the years to come.

"A team arrives at least once a week. The members are keen to work and enjoy doing something that makes a difference. Some even volunteer to do extra. One has come in to the church and left a note saying that having this role of churchyard gardener has changed him. He has given up his old ways of crime and is now seeking legal employment. He thanks the judge, the probation services and us for showing him there are better ways to live."

Not everyone was happy. Many had grown used to the churchyard looking overgrown and unkempt. What they did not see were the gangs of drug and alcohol users and the related paraphernalia that was left. They didn't see the ghetto that at times made managing the churchyard very difficult. What they didn't see was the work that simply could not be undertaken by a few local people and a pair of secateurs.

"They could not see that it needed proper management, that the job was just too huge and needed a different approach to sustain it for many years to come.

"I wondered if it might bring about a transformation in those doing the community service - it could be the answer to a prayer."

"One of the first obstacles for the church was dealing with the large amount of green waste. I invited Arun District Council to visit and talk through our options. It agreed to send a lorry, whenever it was required, to remove the green waste. It then composts it for use in its public gardens. Another win for us all.

"By drawing together the probation service, the council and ourselves we now have an amazing looking churchyard, though it is work in progress. The grass is cut, the bushes and trees are looking fantastic and it will take two more years to see how the area will look when we are happy with it. One bonus is that a whole section of bramble has been cleared,

exposing new burial areas for ashes that we didn't have before. This will extend the life of the churchyard by many years."

The church bought three lawnmowers and two strimmers and pays the probation service £500 a year. As a charity that is a huge saving.

"For me the best part of this story is seeing the men and women who come and pay back to the community and knowing the church is playing an important part and making a difference to their lives. How we welcome these people is massively important. They are always polite and really keen to do a good job and we always, always thank them and make them feel as welcome as we can. I am always reminded of that wonderful phrase often read on Easter Day: "supposing him to be the gardener" John 20:15.

*Sussex Pathways supports people leaving prison to resettle successfully back into the community. It offers a range of effective services across several areas of the justice sector. Its main focus is to empower ex-offenders to make positive life choices. Find out more at www.sussexpathways.org.uk



Bishop Richard has spent his entire ministry in the Diocese of Chichester. In the new year we will say farewell to him at a service in Eastbourne to mark his 25 years ministry ahead of his departure to become the Bishop of Hereford.

Ordained in 1995 he served his curacy in Lindfield. His first post was Vicar of Rudgwick, from 1998 until 2009 when he was appointed as the Diocese of Chichester's Advisor for Mission and Renewal. He served for 5 years before being consecrated a Bishop of Lewes in 2014.

Bishop Richard will be remembered across the diocese for many things. Known as the biking bishop, he often undertook prayer pilgrimages on his Harley motorbike, helping folk pray for the life of the diocese, visiting parishes week by week, being

encouraged and encouraging folk in their day by day discipleship through teaching and preaching.

His leadership approach was fundamental in helping parishes think strategically and realistically, both as Missioner and in leading the strategy work for 2015-2020 and 2020-25. Enabling parishes and leaving them with more with a 'yes we can' attitude rather than a despair of needing to change anything.

His work with partners outside the church has also helped raise the profile of several projects helping those on the margins in our society as well as establishing initiatives that will have a lasting legacy such as Clewer on modern slavery and establishing Brighton Citizens.

Bishop Richard's encouragement and good practice in preaching can also be seen in his work with Readers and more recently pushing the Occasional Permission to Preach scheme.

The diocese is also grateful for the work that he has done building and strengthening links with our overseas partners through the Diocesan Overseas Committee as well as ecumenical projects such as leading the Thy Kingdom Come events for the past three years.

The Bishop of Chichester,
Dr Martin Warner, said: "In
his time as Bishop of Lewes,
Richard and Deborah have
exercised an exceptionally
generous ministry of
hospitality – an outward
expression of their pastoral
and spiritual care for those
with whom they share the
Christian life. At the same time
Richard has been imaginatively
and generously engaged in
turning our attention to the

evangelistic and missional aspects of our vocation as a household of faith. He has encouraged this engagement across the whole spectrum of the diocese and done so with kindness, humour and flair".

We asked several people across the diocese for their own reflections of working with or alongside bishop Richard.

Gabrielle Higgins, Diocesan Secretary said: Bishop Richard has displayed calm presence throughout his ministry as a suffragan bishop in this Diocese, a gift that is appreciated by all. We are so very grateful for all that he and Deborah has given to enrich the household of faith over the past 25 years.

Rev Rob Dillingham, Deputy Director for Apostolic Life said: "Bishop Richard has added so much to Chichester Diocese. He has championed a whole series of diocesan wide initiatives.

"Along with Deborah, they have opened their home annually to clergy and their spirit of care, friendship and generosity has been appreciated by all. We will miss him but are so pleased for Hereford who have gained a great Bishop."

Canon Ann Waizeneker, St Mary De Haura Shoreham, said Bishop Richard will be remembered in the diocese for many things but his most important contribution to this diocese has been that of bridge builder.

"He has a great gift for putting people at their ease. He has

"In his time as Bishop of Lewes,
Richard and Deborah have
exercised an exceptionally
generous ministry of hospitality"

contributed greatly to holding together differing traditions and thinking, helping us to live side by side, and steering us to focus on our commission to proclaim the gospel to those around us.

"We have much to be thankful for in his leadership and he leaves a strong legacy for us to build on."

Dan Jenkins, Diocesan Youth Officer, reflects on Bishop Richard's determination to keep mission to children and young people on the agenda. He said: "Bishop Richard has been a great advocate for children and young people in our diocese. Helping to keep mission to children and young people on the agenda."

Archdeacon of Brighton and Lewes, Martin Lloyd Williams said: "Richard and Deborah have exemplified the welcome of Jesus Christ and in so doing have brought hope and renewal to churches and communities across East Sussex. Their warmth and good humour have brought people together in a fresh way."

The Archdeacon of Hastings, Edward Dowler spoke of an open, sharing bishop. A bishop that clearly loves the diocese. "He has deep knowledge and love of the parishes, people and the county, which he is able to

share with others. This was of particular help when I was settling into my post here, as it has been ever since."

Rev Martin Poole, St Luke's Prestonville praised Bishop Richard for his 'wonderful pastoral presence, over the last five years, supporting all of the clergy in his patch, whatever their outlook and circumstance.'

"His pastoral compassion and commitment extended beyond clergy and church folk to wider society through his chairing of the Council for the Promotion of the Common Good and his support and enthusiasm for establishing Brighton and Hove Citizens as a branch of the national community organising collective."

Former Mothers' Union President, Chris Emson and current MU President, Kathryn Anderson said MU will miss Bishop Richard. He has always been supportive of Mothers' Union, keen to listen and be part of initiatives.

Bishop Richard's farewell service will be held at All Saints' Church Eastbourne on Saturday 18th January at 3pm. All welcome



MEET THE READERS

Seven new readers have been welcomed to serve in parishes across Sussex.

The seven, supported by colleagues, family, friends and parishioners, were formally admitted to their roles in the Church of England by the Bishop of Lewes, Richard Jackson, at Chichester Cathedral.

Readers are licensed to ministry and assist priests in a range of tasks including leading worship, preaching and pastoral ministry. The women and men have responded to a vocation in the Diocese of Chichester to serve in this particular kind of ministry. They have also undertaken a period of rigorous training in their own time.

Bishop Richard said: "We recognise that the years of initial training the candidates have now completed is a considerable sacrifice in terms of time and study.

"This is a sign of their dedication to their call to this ministry in the Church. We all join with them with gratitude and thanksgiving to God for their commitment and we pray that he will continue to give them his grace for their future ministry."

"We all join with them with gratitude and thanksgiving to God for their commitment and we pray that he will continue to give them his grace for their future ministry."



MIKE ATTFIELD

St Mark's Holbrook, Horsham

"St Mark's has a strong tradition of reader ministry and I have been very blessed by the support of the other readers as well as Richard our vicar and the whole congregation as I have gone through training.

"My placement in the neighbouring parish of All Saints Roffey was very valuable and I was made to feel so welcome in a church of a very different tradition.

"The final months of my training have been marked by the sadness at the loss of my dad, a retired priest and theologian, who was very committed to my training, but also by the joy at the birth of my first grandson. Preparing and delivering talks at both the funeral and baptism gave me a deep sense of God's renewal all around me and the exciting possibilities of His plans for my ministry."



ADAM HARDY

Benefice of St Denys Rotherfield and St Marks, Mark Cross

"My Christian journey began and continues at St Denys. My call to ministry has developed over the last six years as I have grown in my faith. During a particular low point in my life I heard and felt God's calling and knew that he had a plan for me. Ever since then I have felt his hand guiding me towards lay ministry and two years ago I began training at St Augustine's college.

"One of the key events in my Christian journey was during a conversation with my nan, who's always been my greatest inspiration. She said to me once: "Adam, when things get tough you only need to pray for the Lord's strength, take a minute to feel the Lord's strength and then live the Lord's strength." This advice continues to be my mantra for life and ministry."



ANNIE SNELLER

All Hallows Tillington

"I started to worship in my parish church after moving to this small village about 18 years ago. Having been based in non-conformist settings for most of my life, I felt drawn to the timeless rhythms of worship and the ancient paths trodden by so many over the centuries.

"My life has always been based in the community as a mum and now a grandmother, as a nurse, family and schools support worker and latterly as a mediator.

"I love the fact that the tangible presence of God can be demonstrated in our parishes through our worshipping communities living out the inclusivity of the Gospel. I feel strongly that we need to be ready to communicate the love of God to all who seek him."

MEET THE READERS (CONTD)



CHRISTINA HEATH

St Peter's Church Lynchmere

"After at least two interregnums and a stint as church warden I was encouraged to contemplate lay readership. I followed the example of others who had trodden this path before and who had assisted so many in their own journeys to faith.

"My children, grandchildren and friends have fully supported me in this exciting fresh vocation and I look forward to my future ministry and what the future holds for me.



EVLYNN SHARP

Chapel Royal Brighton

"I valued the encouragement of people at my church and with the support of Deacon Julie, I strengthened in preaching and leading worship.

"Christian fellowship with others in training allowed for lively dialogues and friendship. I am thankful for all the many people who enabled transformation in my life and for my placement at Chapel Royal, where I was greeted with kindness and sincerity.

"I think about those who are isolated and pushed to the margins of society. A Church that reflects inclusivity, empathy and unconditional love draws people together in unity to know God. The cultivation of love, trust, respect and hope among people in community is my reader's role.



JANET WEBB

All Saints, Wick with St Mary's, Lyminster.

"In 1992 at Green Park Tube Station, a complete stranger came up to me and told me that Jesus loved me. I was astonished, 6 months later I was baptised and have been on the Emmaus road ever since.

"God has been leading me to a place where I can use my own skills to communicate something of His love to people, particularly those who are struggling. My life has had a number of very high highs and some very low lows; all of this makes for an interesting lens through which to hear God speaking.

"My journey to become a Reader has been a long and slow one for various reasons but has been a joy, with much encouragement along the way from ordained and lay alike.



St George's East Worthing

"Some years ago we bought a computer from a priest. I found his screen saver, 'God has everything under control', scrolling across the screen very reassuring. This image sums up my journey over the last two years. It has been joyful. So much learning and change.

"The encouragement from my family and friends and from the church families, both St George's and my placement, has been very affirming. The support and fellowship of our cohort of readers in training helped throughout.

"It has felt like all parts of my life have come together. I continue to try to find the still centre and to 'let go and let God'. I am looking forward to continuing the journey and serving the parish, living our mission, 'knowing Jesus and making him known'."

If you feel you may be called by God to reader ministry you should first discuss this with your incumbent whose support you will need to be considered as a candidate. You can read more about the process on the diocesan website www. chichester.anglican.org/readerselection-and-training-forreader-ministry/

A packed year ahead

Dan Jenkins, diocesan youth officer, gives the low-down on the latest plans for May Camp 2020 and other exciting activities for the year.

THE planning for 2020 May Camp has been under way for several months already. Tickets are now on sale with our super early bird rate. exclusively online. Every year we've tried to build on what has gone before, striving to make the event bigger and better than ever.

If you saw the July issue of Faith In Sussex you will know that this year we hosted our biggest May Camp yet with more seminars, workshops and sports and hosting more churches. To book for 2020 please head to www. maycamp.org or get in touch for more information.

But there is more to look forward to in the coming year. Newly launched regional hubs are gaining traction and provide a networking and training opportunity for youth and children's volunteers across the diocese. These hubs are currently held in four locations, one for each archdeaconry - Hastings, Chichester, Brighton and Wadhurst. More will be rolled out in the coming year. If you are interested in finding out more, visit our website and hit the HUBS banner.

If you are looking for rest, reflection and spiritual refreshment, then join us on the two-day retreat for youth and children's workers. Planning has started for this popular event which is now in its second year. More information will soon be available so keep an eye out for developments on the youth website or youth bulletins.

Quarterly link-up networking events will continue to run for salaried workers, inviting a range of visiting speakers to talk about a variety of youth, children and families-related resources and research.

On November 29, mini May Camp will be held at St Andrew's Church in Burgess Hill, a taster and a reunion for our flagship youth festival May Camp. The evening starts at 6.30pm and kicks off with worship followed by high energy games, sports, inflatables and food. For more information visit www.maycamp.org

Lastly, Pursuit, the new diocesan "year out" programme is now working to recruit associates to come and work in a church for a year, gaining insights and experience in a range of ministry opportunities. Open to anybody 18 to 35, this is a year of discipleship, training and discernment. You can find out more information at www.pursuitchichester.org

or by clicking the link on the youth home page.

We are also looking for churches that would like to partner with us on a placement for the Pursuit programme. If you could offer an excellent placement for a year at your church please get in touch to discuss. For any other queries or one-toone support and advice on youth and children's work in your church contact us via youth@chichester.anglican.

You can also follow us on all the socials -

Instagram: @maycampgb Twitter: @diochiyouth Facebook: Diochiyouth.



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Uhy you should seize every opportunity

IN THIS Year of Vocation in the Diocese of Chichester we have been examining how people in different walks of life express their faith. In this issue we hear from Rebecca Allinson, a member of St Mary de Haura Church in Shoreham, who explains her vocation in three parts.

MY LIFE has mostly taken a rather ordinary path. However it is shaped by experiences and the support, opportunity and guidance provided through the family of the church and my own family.

MY FOUNDATIONS:

I grew up in St Giles Church Camberwell. My parents were married there, my son was christened there and I remember spending a significant amount of time in the church, the choir, the Brownies, youth club, pantomimes, parish holidays and in later years in the pub down the road after the services.

My mum and dad are huge influences in my life. Both

took very active roles in church life - my mum is ordained and my dad was a churchwarden and member of the choir. They joined me in Shoreham a few years ago.

St Giles was a fascinating place to grow up. An amazing church, a vibrant congregation in a suburb in inner London with the affluent worshipping alongside the community from the surrounding council estates. I grew up high Anglo catholic with a great love of incense and pomp.

LEARNING & OPPORTUNITY

I was always open to excitement and opportunity. After school in 1990 I went to Africa in my gap year with friends. We had little preparation as we made our way from Kenya to Zimbabwe, at the time considered the land of milk and honey in the early years of Mugabe.

On the way we worked in a blind school in Tanzania, helped out at a boys' school in Malawi and generally had a lot of fun camping. I fell in love



with Africa. This was a time of great change on the continent.

I came back and went to study chemistry at King's College London. My next adventure involved being given the opportunity to study for a Master's degree at Bordeaux university on space shuttle technology.

TAKING ACTION

Being a scientist with a language opened up my horizons, particularly in what I might do for a living. I went to Belgium for my first job. I spent seven years working in Brussels in the field of science and technology policy. It was an incredibly exciting period for Europe. With the opening up of central and eastern Europe, the European Union grew at a great pace from 12 member states 28. It

Life isn't just about work and I have tried to balance it with parenthood, family and trying to be involved at Church and within Shoreham.

was an exciting, changing, multicultural city in which to live and work.

I came back to the UK in 2001 to join a company called Technopolis in Brighton, where I still work. I moved to Shoreham in 2005, pregnant and ready to start family life. This led me to St Mary de Haura and I joined the Mothers' Union, a great place toenjoy fellowship.

I joined Technopolis as a senior consultant and am now a managing partner. We have offices all over Europe, in Africa and South America. Technopolis also works in science and innovation for the public sector.

Work is always challenging but rewarding. It takes me all over the globe, but I concentrate on Africa. For me, after nearly 30 years, the opportunity to work in a place I fell in love with is incredible. I immediately said yes to the first job in South Africa and have since then worked in places from Senegal to Somaliland and across the whole of East Africa.

It is crucial to have good evidence to help shape decisions about where to invest money in science and innovation to have the most effect. This is about improving health, education and livelihoods. It is not just about whether the money was spent, but whether it is spent wisely.

For me, there are ethical decisions to be made about how to make sure people benefit from decisions made by policy makers, whether that be investing in new vaccines for Ebola or helping entrepreneurs to start businesses in fragile economies. This is where I feel I can provide the most value with my skills.

But life isn't just about work and I have tried to balance it with parenthood, family and trying to be involved at St Mary de Haura and within Shoreham.

All these opportunities have helped to shape every aspect of my life.

Without taking the opportunity to study in France and learn French as a scientist I would never have been able to live and work abroad, broadening my horizons, learning about new cultures and international science policy.

Without having gone to Africa at 18, I would never have taken up future opportunities to work there.

Without walking into St
Mary's with a young baby, I
would not have met so many
friends, enjoyed the collective
worship and had the support
I needed to say yes to other
opportunities. These include
being on the PCC, joining the
Mothers' Union and being a
governor at St Nicolas and St
Mary's Primary School

It is all the elements together, the foundations and the opportunities, that shape your personal, spiritual and professional life. All the elements affect each part of your life and I don't think I would change anything for the world.





FAITH IN SUSSEX



The Children's Society has partnered with Messy Church to bring you a family-friendly Christingle resource. If you want to share the light in your community in a fun, creative way, a Messy Church service is the way to go!

Take a look at the website to find the Christingle resources you need for all types of services and activities for your community, church or school. You will find Dementiainclusive resources as well as resources for under sevens and Christingle plans for teachers too.

This year the society has teamed up with Bob Hartman, storyteller and author of the Lion Storyteller Bible, on a special nativity rhyme. It combines the Christingle and nativity and is huge amounts of fun, which we hope will leave your whole congregation smiling.

The Church Team is always interested to hear your ideas on how it can improve or add to its resources in ways which churches would find helpful. You can also email them directly. https://www. childrenssociety.org.uk/

Follow us on Twitter @ChildSocChurch for news and resources from our churches team.

The work of the Children's Society has been grounded in our churches as a movement for change. Together we partner to realise a shared vision of a world where all children and young people are respected, valued and heard.

The Children's Society website is packed with service and Sunday school content that will inspire your ministry, and equip you with fresh ideas to speak about their work. You will see themed resources for key dates in the Church year such as Mothering Sunday, Advent, and Christmas.

BISHOP'S CHAMPIONS NAMED

FIVE "bishop's champions" have been announced to raise the profile of Family Support Work (FSW), a charity which supports families in need throughout

Denise Patterson, Caroline Nicholls, both Deputy Lieutenants for West Sussex. Jonathan and Caroline Lucas and Maureen Chowen, a Deputy Lieutenant for East Sussex, will be joining FSW as representatives to expand the charity's networks and bring its work to the attention of new audiences.

The Rt Rev Dr Martin Warner, Bishop of Chichester and president of Family Support Work, was delighted to welcome them. He said: "Each of these new champions already has a distinguished track record of public service and we are hugely fortunate that they will be supporting FSW.

"Their willingness to serve in this capacity is an indication of the serious plight that many families are in, and the important work that FSW is doing, at the local level, to improve the quality of life for children and their parents who are in most need."

Family Support Work works with families who are in or facing crisis and who need help to overcome complex issues.

Martin Auton-Lloyd, FSW chief executive, said: "We are very excited to have these five incredible new bishop's champions on board. At a time when FSW is trying hard to increase the support it is able to give to families across Sussex, I am sure they will be greatly effective in helping us to expand our networks and bring our work to the attention of new audiences."

Family Support Work works with families who are in or facing crisis and who need help to overcome complex issues. It offers home visits, support groups, drop-ins, play opportunities for children and supported family breaks with their community workers. It also provides food, clothing and toys to families it works with, where needed.

Find out more about the charity and how your parish could get involved at https:// www.familysupportwork.



The Sussex Charity for Children Since 1890







OVER the years the Friends of St Mary's, East Preston, have organised all kinds of fundraisers and activities such as musical evenings, a church calendar and catered events - but it's the Christmas tree festivals that really light up the community.

Ann Bird has been a member of St Mary's for more than 20 years and helps the Friends with fundraising.

She said: "A Christmas tree festival is a twinkle-tastic way to raise funds and reach out to our community.

"We are currently planning our third festival and there will be much more going on than uniquely decorated firs lining the ancient aisles. We'll have the cafe area and stalls brimming with festive goodies.

"It's all in aid of the Epic (East Preston's Iconic Church) Appeal to help maintain and repair a beautiful medieval building." Jack Cogman, Friends of St Mary's secretary, said: "A Christmas tree festival is by far the best fundraiser we've had about £9,000 profit for each of our previous festivals.

"But as well as the financial benefit, the event also brings the community together, because local businesses and organisations sponsor trees, which they either decorate themselves or donate to groups to decorate."

Any parish thinking of decking its aisles with boughs of baubles should note that staging such an ambitious event can be a tall order.

Ann said: "The festival only lasts a few days but it requires year-long planning.

"It's essential to recruit a group of team leaders for the different stages. Tree sponsorship, catering, publicity and setting up are just some of the areas to cover.

"This year there will be much more going on than uniquely decorated firs"

"Pooling resources can really help too. For example, St Mary's has previously borrowed tree stands and planking from St Mary's in Goring-by-Sea."

Malcolm McLelland, chairman of the Friends, said: "The hardest part is finding tree sponsors. But they benefit from great visibility and can even keep the tree when the festival finishes."

St Mary's Christmas tree festival is from December 13 to 15 at the church in Vicarage Lane, East Preston, Littlehampton. Visit StMarysEP.org.uk/friends-ofst-marys for more details. A RECORD number of worshippers filled St Olav's Christian Bookshop in Chichester for the annual celebration in honour of St Olav of Norway.

Rev Neil Shaw, of the city's St Wilfrid's Church, celebrated the Eucharist and preached an engaging and thought-provoking sermon.

Assistant manager Rev Sarah Manouch read the Gospel and intercessions.

Celebrations continued with refreshments and a collection for Chichester District Foodbank, which raised £115.

St Olav's Church, in North Street, was built around 1050 and is the oldest building in the city. Still a consecrated church, it has served the Christian community as a bookshop and resource centre since 1956 and for the past ten years has been governed by an independent ecumenical trust.

"St Olav's Bookshop is a real gift to this city and to our faith"

The shop's staff regard St OIav's Day, July 29, as the highlight of the year, when they give thanks for the past and renew their commitment to the ministry entrusted to them in the year ahead.

Fr Neil said: "St Olav's Bookshop is a real gift to this city and to our faith because it is a source of encouragement, challenge, insight and hope that we gain through the resources available here.

Since arriving in Chichester 18 months ago I think I have spent more money in here than I have in any other shop in Chichester, including Sainsbury's. As St Olav wanted Norway to understand the Christian message better, so this bookshop helps us to understand God better."

Why not call in and see what St Olav's has to offer? The staff would be delighted to see you.

Opening hours are 9.30am to 5pm Monday to Saturday.

Bradley Smith is manager at the St Olav Trust Christian Bookshop





for on inspiring leader

MOTHERS' Union worldwide I was met by diocesan president Sheran Harper made a much anticipated whistlestop tour of **Chichester Diocese during** a visit to the UK. Here she reflects on her time in the diocese, visiting the places and the people, and seeing first hand the great work her MU colleagues are doing in our communities.

I FELT at home when I arrived in the diocese - there they were, the same faces I was used to seeing on social media, always posting good news about the impact of their amazing work and the changes they make to families and communities.

president Kathryn Anderson who was sporting her blue and white Mothers' Union uniform. What more could I have asked for? Mothers' Union is visible even at the train station.

There is always something about a Mothers' Union welcome that is lasting. The geographical location does not matter because it is the same all over the world. It is always sincere and filled with a special kind of love.

The programme included a visit to a church spring fair where the MU stall raised much-needed funds for their work. I met many key members and thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship.

My next stop was the AFIA (Away from it all) Caravan in Selsey. I had read so much about these caravans and was excited to visit one. It was a blessing to see a family enjoying a much-needed holiday. We prayed right there that God would bless the families who stay in the caravan and for the hands that work diligently to raise funds each year to maintain this worth-while project.

It was wonderful to visit the cathedral with the diocesan president and trustees at Evening Prayer. The quietness of the evening added to the serenity of the proceedings.

Ministry of Cake project at the Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath. This is a heartfelt initiative where a lovingly baked cake is wrapped and labelled by MU members and offered to staff and visitors of the special baby unit. I was moved to tears as I realised this was only a very small part of the ministry taking place there. MU members make themselves available to the parents whose babies need special care or for those who do not make it. I met a couple whose twins had been in hospital for four weeks. Mum was attentively nursing one and Dad was gently cuddling the other. He said 'I should be at work today but I had the feeling that it was important for me to be here with my babies and supporting my wife'. He was young yet the sincerity in his voice was clear that he understood his role as a father. I was deeply touched by all that took place so quietly in the hospital. It really is important to have a safe place for individuals to be listened to in times of need.

I also saw first-hand the

Mothers' Union in action, women of amazing faith giving hope, life and a future. I have only touched on their work here but I pray for God's blessings to sustain it and for new and innovative ways to grow your membership. I will also pray for new younger members you would nurture and prepare for future leadership in Mothers' Union. My sincere thanks to all members for making my visit a memorable one.

Chichester is certainly



Sheran inspired us all. She had time for everyone. I am so grateful to the trustees and members who came together to make Sheran's visit so memorable."

KATHRYN ANDERSON

Diocesan president



Sheran puts all those she meets entirely at their ease. Clearly she enjoyed chatting to everyone and we were able to talk about the work the MU teams do in Sussex prisons and the new partnership there with Spurgeon's Children's Charity."

SCILLA PAGE

Action and outreach co-ordinator



Sheran has a wealth of experience in working with parents' groups in many different countries. As we chatted and shared news over lunch, I was reminded of the many ways Mothers' Union members support family life and of the privilege of being a part of this work."

DIANE CLACK

Diocesan parents' group co-ordinator



"She told stories of perseverance in prayer and obedience to God's guidance. She encouraged and inspired with gentle humour and grace."

MICHELE WHITE

Vice president and host for the trustee meal



She was so interested in everything we did. Her outgoing friendliness was our main memory of the day, ending with her insistence on coming into the kitchen as she was about to leave for a photo with the tea makers. We feel MU is in very safe hands for the challenging years ahead."

ROSEMARY CUTBUSH

member from Cuckfield



50 YEARS OF FELLOWSHIP

Vivienne Bush from Saltdean branch of Mothers' Union has celebrated 50 years of faithful commitment to MU membership. Maureen Smith, branch leader, led a time of prayer, followed by an opportunity to share stories of membership, look at a display of archive material and of course have cake. Congratulations Vivienne - what an amazing ministry.

MORE GOVERNORS NEEDED

Church Schools need more Foundation governors and your parish could help. Do you know of someone in your parish with skills, experience, energy, interest and commitment who would be suitable to serve as a school governor?

Being a school governor does take time and commitment. However, it is immensely rewarding. Being so closely involved in the education and development of children and young people is both a privilege and joy, as well as a responsibility.

Training is provided for new governors as well as further training on specific aspects of Church school governance. The Education Team at the Diocese is here to help, support and advise current governors and for those considering for the first time this important and valued role.

Rose Wisdom is the Diocese of Chichester's Governor Development Officer who is here to support schools and governing boards in the recruitment of foundation governors.

If you would like more information or are interested in talking further about the role you can contact Rose for more details about the role of Foundation Governors. Rose. wisdom@chichester.anglican. org or on 01273 425 687

FEDERATION CELEBRATED AT SPECIAL SERVICE

John Barnes was recently commissioned as Head of School at All Saints & St Richard's Church of England Primary School at a special service in the Parish Church (19 September).

The school is part of the recently formed Sussex Spires Federation. The federation launched in March 2019 and brings together All Saints & St Richard's and Herstmonceux Church of England primary schools.

The Federation looks after school governance, school budgets, development plans, curriculum targets, and other initiatives across both schools to benefit pupils in providing 'outstanding education so that they move on with a love of life and learning.

The special service was led by The Reverend Christian Mitchell, vicar of the parish.

Prayers were offered for the new federation; it's teachers, children, and parents.

Christian Mitchell said the service was really important and helpful. He said: "It's a two-way thing. From a church point of view - for those who perhaps don't recognise the involvement that the church has in the schools - and to the schools who don't necessarily recognise the important part the church plays. I was also really encouraged that we had a good number of the congregation come to physically embody that support."

The new Head of School, Mr. Barnes, said: "One of the real draws for me applying for the post was that the fact the federation was there. I have worked in a federation before. and when they work they are superb, and this one is working really successfully."



By Diocesan Environment Officer Rev Debbie Beer CLIMATE CHANGE you do? Manage of the Control o

"Passionate, Peaceful Protest... and Prayer" The church responded to the recent Extinction Rebellion protests. The Bishop of Salisbury, Nick Holtam said: "We are facing an unprecedented global climate crisis. Christians have a duty to care for God's creation. This runs through everything we believe. Climate change is upon us and most affects the world's poorest. Peaceful, passionate protest is a democratic response at a time when business as usual will not do."

"It's absolutely clear that in 2019 following Jesus must include standing alongside those who are on the frontline of this unfolding catastrophe" Archbishop Justin Welby

Are we loving God and our neighbour if we ignore the compelling evidence of climate change and its impacts now on communities across the world, let alone its implications for our young people? Does it all seem too big, too overwhelming to tackle?

Every journey begins with a single step... so, we've put some ideas together to get you started. Choose what is most appropriate for your situation -

Talk about it

With your friends, family, colleagues, church... Share your questions... How can you support each other in taking

action? What can you do together?

Reduce Energy Use will save money too! Can you switch to LED lightbulbs? Switch off standby appliances, and lights when not in use?

Reduce your use of tumbler dryers and dishwashers? Change heating settings to reduce waste?

Think about how you travel Can vou car-share? Walk? Cycle? Use public transport? Reduce your air travel?

Experiment with new eating ideas

Could you eat less red meat? Try some (more) veggie and vegan dishes? Buy more locally produced food?

Buy less stuff, and throw less away - especially single use or disposable items Remember the 6 R's -

1st Rethink, 2nd Refuse, 3rd Reduce, 4th Reuse, 5th Repair, 6th (last) Recycle

Tell politicians and business that you care

Write your own email or letter or join in a campaign. Helpful organisations include -

Christian Aid www.christianaid.org.uk

Operation Noah www.operationnoah.org

Climate Coalition www.theclimatecoalition.org South East Climate Alliance www.seclimatealliance.uk

Sussex Wildlife Trust www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.

Campaign to Protect Rural England www.cpre.org.uk

Support tree planting and other carbon emissions reduction projects

In the UK – Woodland Trust www.woodlandtrust.org.uk

Across the world -Climate Stewards www.climatestewards.org

How to go further - and

environment/eco-church/

work together in your church Want something more challenging? Could your church sign up to EcoChurch? - www.chichester.anglican.org/

Or take a look at the Church of England's action page for churches www.churchofengland.org search for environment-andclimate-change/how-you-can-

If you would like a speaker at your church or deanery synod, and for any other help, please contact the Diocesan Environment Officer, Rev. Debbie Beer (07530 039299 / debbie.beer@chichester. anglican.org)

NEWS FROM OVERSEAS

News from our Companion Links Officer and Vicar of All Saints' Church Crawley Down, Rev Christine Keyte

A group from our Diocese visited Carlile College in Nairobi in October 2017 and met the students sponsored by Chichester Diocese. It was clear that they were articulate, positively focused and had a strong sense of vocation. The group from Chichester were extremely impressed at how the students were passionate about making a difference, building community and working in mission in their sending Dioceses.

One of those students, Judy Kiget has been studying for a Diploma in Christian Mission. She will graduate in November 2019. We wish Judy every blessing and success as she prepares for her Ordination and a Title Post in Baringo Diocese.

She said: "By the grace of God I have learnt about conflict resolution, Anglicanism order of service and moral theology.

FATHER SANG BEYAI WAS FUNDED FROM THE DIOCESAN HARVEST APPEAL. AFTER TRAINING FOR THE PRIESTHOOD AT ST NICHOLAS SEMINARY, CAPE COAST GHANA, HE WAS PRIESTED ON THE 27TH JULY IN ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL BANJUL WHERE HE IS NOW AN ASSOCIATE.

"I thank my sponsors for supporting me through with my diploma course in Theology. There are a few women in our diocese who have done theology serving in Baringo. May God bless you abundantly for your generous support."

We also extend our prayers to another student sponsored by Chichester Diocese. Abel continues in his final year of study at Carlile College. He is from Maralal Diocese and will graduate in 2020. We will report on his progress in the new year.

Diocesan Harvest Appeal

The Chichester Diocesan Harvest Appeal has run successfully for many years and has made a difference in the lives of many communities throughout our Companion Link Dioceses in East and West Africa. However, we have decided not to run an official Harvest Appeal this year as we are in the process of reviewing our operating processes so that we can be sure we are running things in the best and most efficient way

This decision does not affect those parishes that directly support projects in our Companion Dioceses. They should continue to do so directly.

LAMBETH 2020

Parishes might like to support the our hospitality initiative as Bishops from our Companion Dioceses will be visiting us pre-Lambeth 2020.

The Conference is taking place in July and August 2020 in Canterbury, UK, under the theme "God's Church for God's World: walking, listening and witnessing together."

The Lambeth Conference is a hugely significant event in the life of the Anglican Church. It brings together all active bishops and their spouses from across the worldwide Anglican Communion – that's more than 165 countries. The aim is to seek God's direction for the future of the Anglican/ Episcopalian Church for the decades ahead.

We will be looking for volunteers to meet our guests at Gatwick Airport, transport and help with logistics and hospitality throughout the visit. Please contact Christine Keyte if you can help. companion. links@chichester.anglican.org

You can find out more about the Lambeth conference here https://www. lambethconference.org/about/

HYMNS UPACKED

BY REV NEVILLE MANNING

JUST AS I AM without one plea

AS A youngster I remember being asked to join a church choir. One of the first hymns I recall singing in that choir was Charlotte Elliott's "Just as I am, without one plea" and for many years it has been a personal favourite.

It is a hymn with a fascinating and moving story behind it. Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871), granddaughter of Rev Henry Venn (who, with William Wilberforce and other Evangelical Christians, belonged to the so-called Clapham Sect), contracted an illness at the age of 32 and spent some 50 years of life as an invalid.

Swiss evangelist Dr Cesar Malan visited the household and, sensing Charlotte's restlessness and lack of peace, asked her whether she had thought of "coming to Jesus". She replied by referring to her own sense of unworthiness, asking: "How can I come to Jesus?".

He replied: "Come as you are."

Several years later, when through illness she was unable to attend a bazaar her family were involved in and was feeling deeply frustrated, she remembered those words and took the step he had suggested.

As a woman with great poetic gifts she then wrote the words of "Just as I am", which was first published in The Christian Remembrancer in 1836.

ALL INFED IN THEE TO FIND. O LAMB OF GOD, I COME

Since then it has become part of a wide range of Christian hymnals. It is usually sung to one of two tunes, either Saffron Walden by Arthur Henry Brown or Misericordia by Henry Smart. A different tune was used when the hymn became part of the Billy Graham evangelistic campaigns in the 1950s and onwards.

Sometimes it has been thought of as only a hymn for someone coming initially to faith in Christ.

However, its use is much broader than that. Some hymn books rightly include it in the sections for use at the Eucharist, as does The New English Hymnal.

The theme that runs through the whole hvmn is that we come to our Lord, not because we are worthy or deserving but because he loves us and accepts us. The refrain after each verse, "O Lamb of God, I come", reminds us the one to whom we come is the Lamb of God, who by his cross takes away the sins of the world.

One of the middle verses focuses on what we receive each time we come to Christ:

"Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind, sight, riches, healing of the mind, yea, all I need in thee to find,

O Lamb of God, I come."

So we receive sight, in other words the enlightening of the eyes of our hearts, together with riches, not worldly riches but spiritual ones, together with healing of the mind, setting us free from whatever in the past holds us back. The barrier-breaking love we find in Christ is a love that embraces us not only in this earthly life but also for eternity - "Here for a season, then above".

40 FAITH IN SUSSEX ISSUE 24 4



As the number of churches in the Diocese who are in the Parish Giving Scheme now exceeds 50%, Treasurers are saying that they never thought that accounting for regular giving and claiming Gift Aid could be so easy.

PGS is a very simple and effective method of transferring regular giving from a donor to the PCC's bank, even if the parishioner cannot go to church on a particular Sunday; and it is designed to suit taxpayers and non-taxpayers alike.

Treasurers are happier because they have predictable sums of money flowing into the bank each month and bills are paid without worrying whether the next Sunday collection will be sufficient. Additionally, PGS does all the administrative work for the monthly reclaim of Gift Aid from HM Revenue and Customs.

Once a church has joined the scheme, the benefits become so apparent that no-one yet has asked to leave it. To help your church increase its income, why not consider joining PGS? Churches not yet in PGS, or who are planning a wider stewardship campaign, should contact John Kemp for further assistance.

John.kemp@chichester.
anglican.org

"Our total planned regular giving has increased by 23% since 2016 to nearly £39,000, and PGS now accounts for 83% of that. PGS, combined with prayer and good teaching, has been an important part of that success. In addition, PGS has significantly reduced the administrative burden which has allowed us to put more resources into building the depth of our faith and the numbers attending."

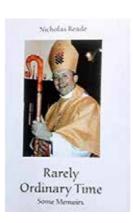
The Reverend Julie Sear
Incumbent at St Mary's HARTFIELD

"I would highly recommend its implementation to any Parish. It brings with it a number of advantages, not least of which is that it is an efficient means of engaging with regular as well as potential donors about the level of their support for their local Parishes. The other advantages being that it delivers Gift aid returns monthly as well as well as enabling donors to link their pledges to the rate of inflation thus assisting Parishes as they deal with the challenges of meeting their ever increasing costs."

Andrew Lamont
St Mary's Barcombe

BOOKS AND REVIEWS

REVIEWS BY CANON JOHN TWISLETON

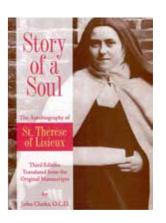


RARELY ORDINARY TIME - SOME MEMOIRS,

NICHOLAS READE

Unsurprisingly people ask more and more "what is a priest and what do they do?". Sussex based Bishop Nicholas Reade provides good answers in this hearteningly confident statement of Anglo-Catholic faith. Fr Nicholas looks back at the main ambition of his life being fulfilled in his twenties, that of bearing Christ's priesthood. What follows his ordination is seen as a working out of that in the communities he has served in Sussex, West Midlands and Lancashire. I found Rarely Ordinary Time highly readable with the memoirs telling the story of the author diverting to fill out the main characters as well as to explain doctrine. It brings the ministerial priesthood to life and, pray God, will touch a new generation pondering his invitation to serve in what many of us see as the most rewarding occupation on earth.

Rother Print 2019 £10 ISBN 978-1-5272-4282-1 276pp



STORY OF A SOUL

ST THERESE OF LISIEUX

It was a Baptist minister who recommended to me the spiritual classic Story Of A Soul by St Thérèse of Lisieux. This French nun lived just 24 years from 1873 to 1897 but her autobiography is world famous and well worth putting on your Kindle. Her motto "love Jesus and make him loved" attracts folk across Christian traditions. Though the story of convent life is clothed in 19th century piety, from it shines a sticking to God through thick and thin inspirational in any age. Thérèse is an easy read and she writes with both depth and humour. The author lived to see the electric lift invented and saw this as a pointer to how we get to heaven by Jesus's gracious uplift and not slogging up the stairs of spiritual effort.

ICS 2013 £7.66 Kindle edition ASIN BOOFBY4BGE 306pp

CATHEDRAL NEWS



CAROL SERVICES

THE cathedral holds many carol services in December. Throughout Advent, it will also host carol services for schools, colleges and other organisations as well as concerts and events including the Advent procession on November 30. For full details visit the cathedral website or call 01243 782595.

Two special services are included this year. On Monday, December 2, at 2.30pm there will be a Christmas carol service in partnership with the Chichester Anna Chaplaincy and Alzheimer's Society's Chichester and Bognor Positive Thinkers, a group of people living well with dementia. On Tuesday, December 3, at 1.45pm, the Our City Carol Service will be held in partnership with the

Wrenford Centre for adults with learning difficulties and Coastal MIND. This is special service for people with support needs who would benefit from a more relaxed environment.

All are welcome at both these services but booking is essential. Contact sue.poil@chichestercathedral. org.uk or call 01243 812497.

SEASONAL CARDS

Thursday, November 14, 10am

Enjoy a printed seasonal cards adult craft workshop with professional printmaker Cath Bristow. Learn the basics of relief printing, how to design your artwork, prepare and cut your soft lino block and print your cards by hand. Experiment with coloured inks and papers. At the end of the day you will take away

a set of cards and gift tags as well as your carved lino block so you can carry on printing at home. Be inspired by the cathedral as a starting point or bring along images to translate into a seasonal design. The workshop runs from 10am to 3pm and tickets are £50.

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Saturday, December 14, 7.15pm

Join us for an evening of sparkling music as cathedral organist Charles Harrison directs the professional singers of NMH in a performance of Handel's Messiah. Hear this much loved masterpiece come to life in this beautiful setting. Proceeds will go to support the work and ministry of the cathedral. Tickets cost £20 (£16 with restricted view).

FRIENDS EPIPHANY LUNCH

Tuesday, January 7, 12.30pm

Chichester Cathedral Friends invite you to their annual Epiphany lunch. This year we have the cathedral's new chancellor, the Reverend Dr Dan Inman, as the guest speaker. The lunch this year returns, by popular request, to Vicars Hall with its refurbished kitchen, funded by the Friends. Tickets cost £22 per person.

FRIENDS CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday, December 7, 2pm

Buy just the right gift for someone and enjoy chatting to friends over a cup of coffee, while browsing the stalls at our Christmas fair. All your favourite stalls will be there - plants and wreaths, cakes, raffle, tombola, jams, honey, Christmas cake auction - and this year there will be a new "time for tea" stall. Entrance is £2 per person, which includes a cup of coffee. No need to book, just come along and pay at the door.

LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

Tuesdays until November 19, 1.10pm to 2pm

Admission is free, bring a sandwich and come along and enjoy the concert. Coffee is provided and all are welcome.

Chichester Cathedral welcomed its new Canon Chancellor, the Reverend Canon Dr Dan Inman at a special Evensong service on Sunday 6th October during which he was ceremonially installed by the Bishop of Chichester, The Right Reverend Dr Martin Warner.

The new Chancellor received a warm welcome from the large congregation, including many friends and family who had travelled to share the special moment with him.

Dan said: "I'm enormously grateful for the prayers and the hospitality I've received from the Dean, Chapter, residents of the Cathedral Close and the wider Cathedral community since arriving in Chichester. It's great finally



to be embarking upon this new ministry and I really look forward to supporting colleagues across the Cathedral in the coming years, particularly in Learning and Engagement, as we seek to grow in wisdom, knowledge and the love of God."

Dan was most recently the Chichester Diocesan Director of Ordinands and was installed at Evensong on Sunday 6th October.

A HISTORIC TREASURE TROVE

A LITTLE-KNOWN fact about Chichester Cathedral's library is that it is closely associated with the Civil War poet and bishop Henry King (1592-1669) a friend of John Donne and his executor.

Sub-librarian Diana Wills said the library houses a variety of books and some can be traced back to the late 12th century. She said: "Among the jewels of this treasure trove are two 'Vinegar' Bibles, a 'Breeches' Bible (1601) and a four-volume set of Boyle's Scientific Works (Boyle 1627-1691) as well as the county of Sussex copy of the Domesday Book.

"Our aim is to assist in the fulfilment of the bishop's mission to make the Gospel known, and although the library is a place of private research for clergy and scholars, we do respond to requests for access for specific research and information. The library is open to the public on the first Tuesday morning of each month from 10am to noon and the last Friday from 2pm to 4pm.

"We also hold two behind-thescenes days for the public each vear and vou can visit this historic library as part of the Festival of Chichester heritage open days."

Diana is assisted by a team of library volunteers and can be contacted by email at library@chichestercathedral.



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 - the Walker and Frobenius organs
- the moving story of the fallen 1911 pupils

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Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day

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www.lancingcollege.co.uk/chapel

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