

WHAT'S ON IN MARCH

Sat 2nd Parish Ramble to Petworth Park
Sun 3rd Pancake Party – 3.30pm to 5.30pm.
Weds 6th **ASH WEDNESDAY** Mass 9.00am & Sung Mass 7.30pm with imposition of ashes
Fri 8th Stations of the Cross and Mass at 6pm (every Friday of Lent)
Sat 9th First Communion Club at 10am (every Saturday of Lent)
Sun 10th Carers' Group 2pm
Sat 16th Study day on St John of the Cross
Fri 22nd Stations of the Cross and Mass at 6pm
Wed 27th Rumboldswyke School Easter service in church 2.00pm
Sun 31st **MOTHERING SUNDAY** – Mass in the Round

APRIL

Sat 6th Parish Ramble at 10am
Sun 14th **PALM SUNDAY** Procession from the amphitheatre 9.45am
Tues 16th Chrism Mass & blessing of oils in the Cathedral 12 noon
Thurs 18th **MAUNDY THURSDAY** Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30pm, Foot Washing & Watch until Midnight
Fri 19th **GOOD FRIDAY**
Young people's Good Friday workshop 10.00am
Good Friday Liturgy followed by hot cross buns 2.00pm
Sat 20th **HOLY SATURDAY** Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter 8.30pm
Sun 21st **EASTER DAY** Said Mass 8.00am Festival Sung Mass 10.00am
Fri 26th Organ Recital by the Rector – start of last Friday series of concerts
Sun 28th Annual Parish Meeting at 11.30am followed by shared lunch
Mon 29th **St GEORGE'S DAY** – Sung Mass — 7:30 in the evening

MAY

Sat 4th Parish Ramble
Date TBA Quiz night with fish and chips
Thurs 30th **ASCENSION DAY** Sung Mass 7.30pm
Fri 31st Last Friday concert

The All Saints Window

The three panel window in the south side aisle is one of our treasures; it is from the workshop of the distinguished Victorian stained glass artist Charles Eamer Kempe (1837-1907) There is a Kempe Society, founded in 1984, dedicated to the appreciation of his work, whose members often visit St George's to see this window.



St George's Whyke

Newsletter Spring 2019



View from the Rectory

The month of March sees the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday, Mothering Sunday, and dare we say it... BREXIT. Lent is the six-week period leading up to Easter. In the early Church, it was a time when new converts were instructed in the faith, ready for their baptism at Easter. Over the years, Lent has become a season of penitence, self-examination and fasting. Jesus began His earthly ministry by fasting in the wilderness for 40 days and taught His disciples to fast. (Matthew 6:17).

Fasting might involve missing one meal in a day, if it's safe for us to do this! Fasting might mean refraining from our mobile phones, laptops, TV, alcohol, or whatever gets in the way of us fully focusing on God. So what are the reasons for fasting during Lent?

1. The act of giving up something is a tangible sacrifice to God, reminding us of our desire to put him first in our lives.
2. Giving up things I value shows me how dependent I can be on other things rather than God. Fasting helps me to surrender my 'idols' to God.
3. When fasting I am reminded of a deeper hunger and need for God in my life: *'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.'* (Matthew 5:6). I learn to be more dependent on God.

Lent can also be a time to embrace new spiritual disciplines. Why not join our Lent group on Thursday evenings at 6.00pm during Lent, or try daily to perform some 'random act of kindness', or give more time to prayer and Bible study. Why not think about making use of all the other spiritual vitamins we provide at St. George's such as Stations of the Cross and our daily celebrations of Mass.

Whatever you do, have a great Lent!

Love, joy and peace to you all. **Fr. Tim**

Music at St. Georges

2019 promises something old and something new in the musical life of St George's.

From the beginning of Lent we will use a new music setting of the 'ordinary' of the mass which will reflect the solemnity of the season. It is written by Forbes L'Estrange and is called the St Helen's Mass. There will be a short rehearsal of the music with the choir and congregation at 7.15pm on Ash Wednesday, before the service. Later in the year we will introduce a new celebratory setting.

There will also be the new and old in our next "Last Friday Concert – Series 3". This will begin on the last Friday of April (26th) when the Rector will delight and dazzle with a mixed programme of well-known and well-loved organ solos. Watch out for the forthcoming publicity and make a note in your diary for each Friday at the end of the month until October, when the Chichester City Band will be our guests.

The Nicholson organ will be the centre of attention on March 23rd when interested people are invited to have a go, receive some instruction or just listen to the organ. This is a national initiative called 'Learn to Play'. Pianists will be welcome to play the baby grand or Yamaha upright pianos in church, too.

The Easter Cross

As Easter drew near last year, Hilda Yardley, a tiny, indomitable and well-loved member of the congregation was approaching the end of her life. She was doing this with courage, humour and great faith. It was decided that the large wooden cross, which her husband, Roger had made many years previously, should be decorated especially for her. Sadly, she was not able to see the finished result in church, and neither could Roger who had been in a Nursing Home for some years. It did look beautiful, but the flowers could not last until Hilda's funeral, and so it was refreshed. Purple Irises were added in tribute as purple was her preferred colour. We hope to decorate 'Roger's Cross' again this year, to the glory of God and the memory of two very special people.



The J Team

Christmas is always a very busy and exciting time at J Team. This year was no exception. Thanks to the help and support of our J Team leaders we put on another fantastic Nativity play. Well done to everyone who helped and took part.

We have seen an increase in children attending J Team over the last term with as many as 30+ on occasions. We do however. Need more helpers. If anyone is willing to come and help with the Sunday School then please do contact Fr Tim or Sarah Pack. Any amount of help will be greatly received. Coming up we have Mothering Sunday where the children will be making posies with the help of Dads. Also, we have the Good Friday workshop not too far away where children can take part in lots of creative activities, including baking, on the morning of Good Friday. More details to follow soon.

Churchyard Update

It has been a surprisingly busy period over Christmas and into the new year at the churchyard. With visitor numbers beyond what anyone can remember we have worked to keep everywhere as tidy as possible for all of our visitors. With the increased amount of tributes and flowers left at graves comes an increase in waste especially plastics so can we respectfully ask that visitors take plastic waste away as we have nowhere at the churchyard to dispose of non-perishable material.

Despite being mid-winter we have still had mild enough spells of growth so strimming and mowing continues. We have also cut back dead and low hanging branches on some of the trees so that walkways are clear and to remove hazards. Plans are in place to see the return of the 5th (St George's) Chichester Scout group in the spring to help with more ivy and bramble clearance. Our machinery is soon to get its spring service and we thank Goodrowes of Chichester for their continued support.

Just a reminder that we are a very small group of volunteers and as the warmer weather is not too far away the amount of work required to maintain the churchyard rapidly increases. If you think you could spare a little time, even an hour or two a month, then please get in touch.



The Crown Book Group

The book group, which meets at Muchos Nachos at 7pm on the last Thursday of the month has continued to enjoy meeting, and exploring various different styles of writing and continues to offer members the opportunity to share genre which might not have been a member's first choice. We continue to aim to be a very democratic group with members suggesting and reviewing their favourite books, both fiction and non-fiction. Since September we have shared "The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society", by M.A. Shaffer and "A Pair of Blue Eyes", by Thomas Hardy. We will be reading "My Antonia" by Willa Cather and possibly some Colette later in the year but we have yet to make up our reading list for the next 6 months.

Unfortunately we had to cancel our January meeting due to atrocious weather but will meet again on the 28th February and again on the 28th March, when the proprietors of Kim's Book Shop will be joining us to tell us more about the history of the book shop and the love of books. If you would be interested in coming along to the February meeting and in having some input into our book choices please contact me on the email address below. We are always happy to welcome new members, both men and women so if you enjoy reading and are willing to try and discuss different genre, both modern and classical, we would be delighted to have you join us. Further details from ;

Hilary Nation - hilary.nation@btinternet.com

St George's Ramblers

Resulting from the success of our December ramble, where Ramblers rambled and non-Ramblers drove, we all met at Stansted Garden Centre for a pre-Christmas get together, for the January ramble, we were all invited to join Colette Gray at her home for an after-ramble ploughman's lunch. It just rounded off celebrating the New Year and we were all much appreciative of Colette's hospitality. Thank you, Colette!

This ramble took us along parts of Brandy Hole Copse, Centurion Way, New Lipchis Way, returning via the West Sussex Literary Trail, Lavant and Summersdale. Thank you to Margaret K for leading this ramble.

With snow on the ground a few hearty ramblers donned boots for a much-enjoyed walk starting at Slindon College along to Downe's Barn, liquid refreshments were taken under the protection of the old Warren Barn, returning via Great Down, all located on the Slindon Estate.

If anyone would like to join us on our 1st Saturday of the month rambles, is able to walk between 4-5 miles and possess stout footwear please have a word with Geraldine (Burrows) on 01243 539620 or email: gmburrows@hotmail.co.uk

ABOUT THE CHURCH - The War Memorials



On Sunday the 30th August 1914, three weeks after the First World War had been declared, the Rector, Dr Glover, preached a sermon that called for the young men of the Parish to enlist for active service. 'Ask yourself 'why am I not fighting at the front for my country?''

In May 1917 the Rector again made an appeal, this time it was for funds towards erecting a memorial for the 65 men from Rumboldswyke who had lost their lives in the conflict. Some thought that the cost of £160 was outlandish, [about £4,500 in today's equivalent*]

but by Easter 1918 the amount had been raised and the memorial ordered.

By December the memorial, seventeen feet high and built of granite in the form of a calvary was in place by the West door of the church. The names of the fallen were inscribed on the base. It was dedicated on Sunday 8th December 1918 by Bishop Andrews of St Bartholomew's.

In 1945 the names of those who died in action in the Second World War were added.

Among those who died in the first conflict the youngest was 17 year old Horace Stringer who was killed on the beaches of Gallipoli in 1917. The oldest was Arthur Beaumont, age 41; he had lived at 39 Whyke Lane where he left his wife and seven children. Before the war he had worked as a chauffeur to a local doctor, he initially served as an ambulance driver but later transferred to the recently formed anti-aircraft battery of the Royal Army Service Corps, he died on the front in France on January 22nd 1918

Within the porch of St George's are the two memorials removed from All Saints Church at Portfield when that church closed in 1981. The memorial to WWI is in the form of a painted triptych with the names of the 61 fallen on the outside leaves; the memorial was dedicated on 20th January 1918 by the Bishop Suffragan of Lewes. The WW2 memorial is of stone and contains 38 names.

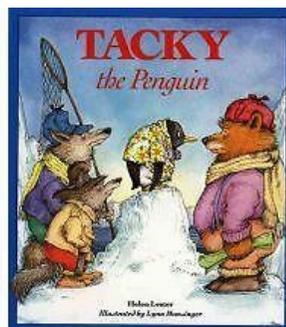
The main intent of war memorials is not to glorify war, but to honour those who have died. Each year since 1918 the congregation have gathered at the memorial on Remembrance Sunday to pay their respects to those of our parish and to all others who fell in the two World Wars and in other conflicts since.

Rumboldswyke Church of England Infants School

A report by By Rebekah and Phoenix in Year 2

Year 1 and 2 children at Rumboldswyke Infants' have been learning all about the freezing cold Antarctic. First we went on a plane to Antarctica. (Not really because it was just pretend!) We had biscuits and water in front of our interactive whiteboard which showed a video of where we travelled. It was very very fun! (I had my favourite biscuit: Rich Tea!). We went to Antarctica, because we wanted to find out amazing, fun, interesting facts. Here are some facts we learned about Antarctica: It's around the South Pole. Penguins live in Antarctica but polar bears do not, and the daddy penguins keep the eggs warm so they can hatch! Mummy penguins go off to search for food.

After that we did lots of learning about a book called Tacky the Penguin by Helen Lester. She is a very good author. It made us laugh at all the things he got up to. Also we read Geronimo by David Walliams which is about a penguin who wants to fly. We wrote our own stories around these books and shared them with our friends – we had a lot of fun making up our own adventures! One week we drew funny story maps about Geronimo, and we acted out our stories. The next day we wrote our own stories using our story maps which helped us to concentrate. How amazing it was! In art work we have been making hot and cold colours using shades and tints. To make tones we added white and to make shades we added black. We had lots of fun and learned a lot.



WRAP Community Choir

We would like to thank everyone who supported us by attending the choir's annual Christmas Concert, raising £325 from donations received. All funds were shared between the ecumenical project called HEART, supporting those sleeping rough on the streets of Chichester along with the newly formed Friday lunch club providing free lunches with access to befriending and advice, held here at St George's.

On returning from the Christmas/New Year break we have welcomed several new members to our Tuesday evening get togethers. The choir is gaining in confidence in singing 4-part harmony and Ben, our Musical Director is beginning to introduce us to new songs in readiness for our summer concert, to held on **Tuesday 9th July** in St George's Church. A *date for your diary!*

Friday Lunch Club

In January St George's was able to join a local churches' initiative and provide a hot meal for the street homeless of Chichester once a week. The aim is to do this in a church venue every day of the week.

A large number from St George's attended a meeting of Chichester Churches Heart for Homeless People, at St Pancras, to hear about the plans, and many also attended subsequent training there, where guidelines, practices and protocols were outlined.

The response from our church has been magnificent, and we were immediately able to set up four teams each with at least four members. This effectively means that is a once a month commitment. Two people prepare and cook the food, and two set up the Centre, assist with clearing away and act as hosts. In addition, we have had others who have come to befriend, bring a pudding or make financial contributions. There has also been the added bonus of helpers from outside our church community.

The atmosphere is excellent, and I think everyone concerned with helping would agree that it brings us a lot of happiness, and we very much hope to build on the 22 guests we had during our first month.

We are not there to address the complex problems which many who find themselves without a home have, but if we can offer some practical assistance by way of a hot meal and a friendly, undemanding welcome, then we can only pray that a better path through life will be forthcoming.

There is room for anyone else who wishes to join us. Father Toby, Louise or Pat would be pleased to hear from you..

Pat Sparkes

Last Friday Concerts

The new season of Last Friday Concerts begins in May with:

April 26th Father Tim on the Organ with a mixed programme of organ solos

And continues on

May 31st - Watch for notices

