

ST GEORGE'S SUMMER FAIR - SATURDAY 24TH JULY 10AM - 2PM

The event is coming together nicely and everyone is getting excited and looking forward to having fun, meeting people and at the same time raising funds for the church. We are still in need of parasols with bases and gazebos for hard surfaces. Also, to enable us to provide a vegetarian option we need another portable BBQ for the day. If anyone is able to help please let Jill know. In the meantime, please promote the Fair on your social media and, if you can, please collect a pile of flyers with designated road names from the back of the church for delivery. Posters are also available. For more details please speak to Jill Merry on 528795 or by email merryjill@btinternet.com

There are 2 places remaining to join the St George's Moonlight Walk team in aid of St Wilfrid's Hospice. On 11th September up to 600 walkers will be taking part with staggered start times on a 5 or 10 mile walk in and around Chichester. The Bishops Palace Gardens will be specially lit for the occasion. The St George's Team will be starting the 10 mile walk at 7pm.

It should be great fun as well as raising money for such an important cause. Refreshments and T-shirts are provided. The registration fee is £16. for further details please contact Jill Merry

Serving Team

We are urgently in need of more adults and young people, male or female, to swell our team of servers (Those who provide support to the Minister during Mass, wearing white albs)

Since lockdown in March 2020, it has only been possible for one server to be on duty at a time, but we hope that soon we will return to having four servers.

For various reasons the team has become depleted, we provide the simple training required to anyone wishing to join the rota and we have sufficient albs to fit all sizes. We all view serving the officiating minister at Sunday Mass and other services during the church calendar as a privilege and an honour.

Interested? Like to know more? Please have a word with Nikki, [01243-786759] our lead Server, or one of the churchwardens.

The church continues to be open for private prayer and reflection on **Wednesdays** from **10am-4.00pm**, this is for individual persons, or support bubbles, entering the church to sit or pray on their own.

Occasional articles on the history of St George's Church No. 1

The Parish Chest



In 1538, Thomas Cromwell, the Vicar General of Henry VIII, ordered that the Church of England clergy keep written records of baptisms, marriages and burials. From that date, every parish church was required to acquire a 'sure coffer' (i.e. parish chest) with two locks, one key for the vicar, the other for the wardens, within which their records could be securely stored.

The iron chest at St George's, currently kept in the Parish Office, was originally kept in St Mary's Church and is thought to date from the mid-18th Century. It more than likely replaced earlier wooden chests provided to comply with Cromwell's

decree. In addition to Church registers it would have contained documents belonging to the parish vestry when churchwardens were overseers of the poor.



The chest was usually kept in the vestry or in some churches under the high altar. Our chest has a lock accessed by a 'secret' keyhole. Often internal screws were fitted through the base of the chest attaching it to the floor preventing it from being lifted. Today our chest is used to store various files and documents prior to them being deposited with the County Record Office.



A Prayer

We pray for all who speak out for the communities to which we belong,

for councillors and community workers.

Bless our homes, our families and friends,

support with your love all who sustain family life.

We pray for families that are in trouble at this time.

Show us your mercy, O Lord,

and grant us your salvation

Items for future Newsletters We welcome contributions and if there is an item, or two, that you would like to share with us please forward to the editors.

Ken Green - kaagreen@talktalk.net - 01243 789869.

Geraldine Burrows - gmburrows@hotmail.co.uk - 01243 539620.