

The Benefice of New Shoreham and Shoreham Beach

# ST MARY'S NEWS

*To know, love, follow Jesus*

OCTOBER 2021



Price 50p

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CHICHESTER



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

## WHO'S WHO IN THE PARISH OF ST MARY DE HAURA

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# **Worship & Services at St Mary de Haura**

## **SERVICES IN CHURCH**

Every Sunday at 8.00 am and 10.00 am—Every Tuesday at 11.00 am

There is now no need to book for any services in church

The 10.00 am Parish Eucharist in church will also be broadcast on our Facebook page and you can join from 9.50 am onwards by clicking on the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/StMarydeHauraShoreham>

**Please note this replaces the 11.15am Zoom service**

## **Evening Services**

In October we re-start our Sunday evening services:

The 2nd Sunday (Oct 10<sup>th</sup>) 6.00 pm - Compline. A short said service of night prayer.

The 3rd Sunday (Oct 17<sup>th</sup>) 6.00 pm - Choral Evensong. This month we will give thanks for the 40 years' service of Ian Tompkin during this service.

The 4th Sunday (Oct 24<sup>th</sup>) - Taize style evening prayer.

## **Looking forward**

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November, 3.00 pm All Souls' service, when we remember and give thanks for those who we love but see no longer.

## **Special Services**

October 3rd at 4.00 pm Pet Service

A short service in which we give thanks for our pets and the joy they bring us. All pets welcome - under the control of their owners!



# First Thoughts

## Letting Go

I watched my first leaf fall during this past week. A small golden birch leaf, it transfixed my attention as it swirled slowly and gracefully down to the path – it seemed to have so much to say.

I was transported back to the excitement of autumn school days; the joy of kicking crispy leaves along the pavements and discovering the first shiny conkers of the season. Such things remind me of the delights of a new school year (I was one of those lucky kids who loved school). Falling leaves for me as a child heralded the pleasure of new school books, new friends and new learning.

It is the case that in our Northern hemisphere the new beginnings of the autumn term are strangely linked to what seems to be a valedictory season, as we say goodbye to the riches of summer.

With passing years I have appreciated more the gifts of each season and what they have to tell us about the wondrous life-cycle of the natural world and of our own human experience. For me the gift of autumn has become the invitation and pattern of how to 'let go'.

Our mortal lives are constantly presenting us with the challenges of 'letting go'. Leaving school friends behind, the death of our first pet, losing a grandparent, moving house; such life-events alert us to the reality that life never stands still. As time goes on and we begin to explore the dynamics of our interior human lives we are set greater challenges; how to adjust to unrealised hopes and dreams; to process feelings of anger or resentment; to deal with hurt and physical limitation. Finally, at some time in our lives we can no longer evade the reality of our limited life span; we mourn the loss of family and friends, recognise a growing need to surrender our independence and envisage the possibility that life will go on without us.

Many years ago a friend passed to me a copy of Sr. Macrina Wiederkehr's poem, "The Sacrament of Letting Go". I hope that it may speak as powerfully to you as it has to me, as we enter this season of leaf-fall and wait on God's new beginnings.

Slowly

She celebrated the sacrament of Letting Go...

First she surrendered her Green

Then the Orange, Yellow and Red

Finally she let go of her Brown...

Shedding her last leaf she stood empty and silent, stripped bare.

Leaning against the winter sky

She began her vigil of trust...

Shedding her last leaf

She watched its journey to the ground...

She stood in silence

Wearing the colour of emptiness

Her branches wondering:

How do you give shade, with so much gone?

And then,

The sacrament of waiting began

The sunrise and sunset watched with

Tenderness, clothing her with silhouettes

They kept her hope alive.

They helped her understand that

her vulnerability

her dependence and need

her emptiness

her readiness to receive

were giving her a new kind of beauty.

Every morning and every evening she stood in silence

and celebrated

the sacrament of waiting.



Liz Rathbone

## PCC Matters: report from the Parochial Church Council Meeting, September 21<sup>st</sup> 2021

One of the main items of business at this meeting was to review the arrangements made in August to relax the restrictions put in place to manage the risks of the pandemic. It was agreed that these had worked well and that we will now reintroduce:

Sunday evening services, servers and welcoming teams at 10am service, coffee after the service, Farmers' Market coffee and stalls in church, the Craft Group and MU meetings and various ad hoc social activities.

It was also agreed that the wearing of masks would still be advised, whilst recognising that this is now a matter of personal choice. Further discussion will be needed about the big town services (Remembrance and Christmas) but numbers will have to be limited for these. Streaming of services will continue, not every Sunday but perhaps once a month and for the bigger Festivals.

Time was spent in looking at our strategic priorities, in response to the Diocese request for our key objectives. It was agreed that the foci will be on the following:

- A greater focus on environment / eco initiatives.
- The development of the East St / New Road building
- Reviewing our community audits and working more closely with the Council and other groups to better understand local need and the church's role in responding to this.
- To continue to develop opportunities for bible study, discussion and learning.

As usual, our finances were reviewed and the continued recovery was noted, thanks to the generosity of town and congregation and some good fundraising initiatives.

Sue Clay reported that we had been unsuccessful in our bid for funds from Historic England's recovery programme to enable us to undertake essential repairs to the external stone work. This was disappointing but not unexpected because of the volume of bids submitted, and we were successful in a grant application last year.

Finally, Ed Downes was re-elected as a Foundation Governor to St Nicolas and St Mary's C of E Primary School. He was thanked for agreeing to serve a second term.

The next full PCC meeting is on November 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
Ann Waizeneker, PCC Chair.



Our next programme begins again on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October in the Parish Centre. It will be a 'Welcome Back Celebration' lunch from 12 noon. All welcome to join us. Subsequent meetings will be held on the second Monday in the month from 11.00 am in the Parish Centre followed by a sandwich lunch for all who can stay. The theme will be 'Pilgrimage'. We will explore all its aspects with our clergy and this will take us into 2022. Our first speaker in November will be Canon Ann. Printed programmes will be available in church. There will also be some evening meetings and a visit to sing carols at Elreg Nursing Home.

The programme is overleaf

# Mothers' Union Meetings

Programme October to December 2021

Our theme for the next programmes will be 'Pilgrimage'

Our clergy have agreed to speak about their experiences. This will look at all the different aspects of 'Pilgrimage' and take us into 2022

## OCTOBER

MORNING MEETING – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October from 12 noon in the Parish Centre. Our welcome back lunch.



## NOVEMBER

MORNING MEETING – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November from 11.00 am in the Parish Centre followed by sandwich lunch. Canon Ann will speak.

## DECEMBER

VISIT TO ELREG NURSING HOME – Rosslyn Road  
Thursday 2nd December from 2.30 pm to sing  
Christmas carols.  
(This will be subject to the pandemic)



MORNING MEETING – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December from 11.00 am in the Parish Centre followed by sandwich lunch. Revd Liz will speak.

EVENING MEETING – Christmas Fun Quiz- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December from 8.00 pm in the vicarage (with a little 'fizz' - all subject to current pandemic restrictions)



There may be occasional changes to the programme  
(See weekly news sheet)



# The Diocese of Chichester

## Order of St Richard

This is an annual award for lay people within the Diocese who have made exceptional contributions to the parish, the local community, or the Diocese.

This year, this honour is awarded, among others, to Ian Vaughan, a long standing member of St Mary's.

Ian was born in October 1937 in the Parish of Christ Church Blacklands in Hastings and was baptised, confirmed and married in that Church. He joined the Choir shortly before his seventh birthday and became a bell ringer in 1950. National Service and work commitments took him to Stafford, Guildford, Windsor and Brighton, where he joined the local bell ringing teams. Following his marriage in 1971 his late wife and he lived in Hove before their move to Shoreham in 1977. He has been a ringer at the Church of St. Mary de Haura since then and was Church Treasurer for 23 years and is a voluntary cleaner as well as looking after a grave in the Churchyard. His other interests include playing cricket, watching football and flying.

Ian will be awarded this honour in Chichester Cathedral on Saturday 9th October.



## Congratulations Ian!

### Choral Evensong

This will recommence on the 3rd Sunday of the month (Oct 17<sup>th</sup>) at 6.00 pm This month we will give thanks for the 40 years' service of Ian Tompkin during this service.



# Musings at Harvest Time

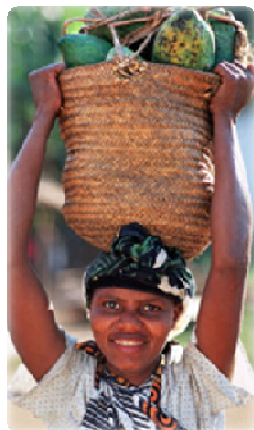


Rachel Smith's article (in the June edition of St. Mary's News) about the Service of Thanksgiving in Soweto, South Africa with its vivid description of the joyous singing and dancing during the exuberant offertory procession as the people presented their alms, brought back happy memories of some of the services we attended in Tanzania.

The harvest festival service provided another variation on this theme of joyous giving in thanksgiving for God's gifts to us. A lady, carrying a large basket on her head, went to the corner of the church where she emptied the basket in a stream of golden maize which piled up on the floor. Another person followed with a large stem of green bananas which was laid next to the maize. Bags of rice, beans and ground crops such as sweet potatoes, European potatoes and cassava were added to the collection. Children came with fruit and peanuts, eggs and even a live chicken.

There were no flowers or other types of decoration such as we might associate with a harvest festival as the poorer people did not 'waste' precious land, water and energy on growing 'mere decorations'.

In their deep gratitude for all they were given there was an awareness that food production was a collaboration between them and God. God provided the seed, the fertile soil and the rain without which nothing would grow but without their hard work the seed would not have been planted and the growing crops would not have been protected from disease and marauding birds and animals. Even the younger children had a share in making sure there



was a good harvest as they chased off stray animals and threw stones at the birds.

To these people, working so closely with nature, whatever their religion, God was very real. He provided for his people but they realised that their co-operation was needed. If they neglected or misused God's gifts, then they could not expect good harvests.

Perhaps there is a danger that as we rely so much on the retail sector for our food we lose sight of the essential link between God's provision and man's co-operation.

God is constant in His provision but are we equally constant in using these gifts correctly and protecting them from misuse?

CSP

## Christmas Flowers

The Flower Team would welcome donations in memory of loved ones for the Christmas flowers. Please place in an envelope (cash only) clearly marked with who the flowers are in memory of and hand into the Parish Centre or 128 Gordon Road.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Sue Vincent and the Flower Team



# PROSECCO PARTY!

Hi there **Prosecco Lovers** thank you for coming to our home on Saturday 4th September, and making our fundraising such a success. We raised £616 for church funds. It was a great afternoon of love and laughter celebrating our joy at being together once more.



Val and Keith



## The Julian Meetings

I am very please to say that the Shoreham-by-Sea Julian Meeting will be starting again in October. The first meeting will be on Mon 4th October, and will continue on the first and third Monday of each month, as before, from 7.30-8.30. The meetings will be held at the Convent at 22 Buckingham Rd, Shoreham-by-Sea BN43 5UB.



The Julian Meeting provides an opportunity to explore silent prayer together. After a short reading, the meeting then remains silent for half an hour, and members can use that silence prayerfully in any way they chose. There is then a half hour together for tea or coffee and a social time. If anyone wants to know more about silent or contemplative prayer, resources can be made available. Spending a quiet time together is a great way of exploring the presence of God, and everyone, from any tradition, is invited to join us.

If anyone would like to ask questions about the meeting, you are welcome to call Jonathan on the number below.

Jonathan. Smith

01273 389207

## Time for a Smile with David Webb

My Auntie Mildred was such a terrible hypochondriac, and so afraid of picking up other peoples germs however remote the possibility! I'll never forget the day I 'phoned her to say I had a very bad dose of 'flu'....Uncle Sid said she instantly put the 'phone down, poured a bottle of disinfectant over it and went straight to bed with a hot water bottle!!



## “Living in Love and Faith”

Earlier this year the Church of England entered a process of discernment following a report to General Synod on faithfully living out our faith and responding to issues of gender and sexuality. The Shoreham parishes will be responding to this challenge by offering the Living in Love and Faith course in October. You can find more information on “Living in Love and Faith” on

[www.churchofengland.org/resources/living-love-and-faith](http://www.churchofengland.org/resources/living-love-and-faith)

Here are a few words introducing the topic taken from the website:

“The Church of England is keenly aware that issues of gender and sexuality are intrinsic to people’s experience; their sense of identity; their lives and the loving relationships that shape and sustain them. We also know that the life and mission of our Church – and of the worldwide Anglican Communion – are affected by the deep, and sometimes painful, disagreements among us which have been debated and discussed on many occasions over the years.

“These divisions have come into sharper focus because of society’s changing perspectives and practices, especially in relation to lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual and intersex people. The Church wants to understand what it means to follow Christ in love and faith given the questions about human identity and the variety of patterns of relationship emerging in our society, including marriage, civil partnership, cohabitation, celibacy and friendship

[www.churchofengland.org/resources/living-love-and-faith/about-living-love-and-faith](http://www.churchofengland.org/resources/living-love-and-faith/about-living-love-and-faith)

(Accessed 18.09.2021)



Father James has invited our Benefice to join the course he is running for St Nicolas and Kingston Buci, to have this conversation in a safe and respectful environment.

**We will meet on Wednesdays—13th, 20th October, and 3rd November from 7.30pm to 9pm at St Julian's Hall.**

All are welcome and at the end of these sessions, we hope to be in a position to draft a short statement from our respective PCCs responding to the report. This will be sent to the General Synod working group which is gathering thoughts from across the Church of England. You may also wish to make a personal statement which you can send through the website above. Let us pray for the Spirit to lead us in this conversation as we listen to one another and discern where the Holy Spirit leads us at this time.



**CHILDREN'S CHURCH &  
SCHOOL NEWS !**



**MARIUS  
MUSIC**

A simple singing and music group for under 5's and their parent/carer

**Mondays 10.00 – 11.00 am term time - £2**

**St Mary's Hall, 25 East Street, Shoreham  
BNM43 5ZQ (opposite the church)**



**St Mary De Haura  
Shine Sunday School**

2nd & 4th Sunday of each month  
for 0-11 year olds in St Mary's Hall at 10am.  
0-6 year olds to be accompanied by an adult.  
Doors to the hall open at 0945.  
We will start in the hall then join the church service.  
No need to book  
Covid compliance in place.

## A Message From Canon Ann

I am writing to let you know that I have taken the difficult decision to retire next January, my last Sunday being January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2022. As I think you will appreciate, this is not an easy decision because I have loved being in Shoreham and it has been both a privilege and a joy to serve in this community. However, several factors have come together to make me feel this is the right time. One of these is that it feels right to give up working full time. I will be moving to Worcester (near my brother and sister in law) and will help out there as a retired priest as needed. And I should like to help a bit more with my grandson now that both his parents are fully back at work. The other reason for now is that it is good to go while Revd Steve is still our curate - I know how difficult a vacancy can be without having priests and what a burden it places on the churchwardens, retired priests and readers in particular. So to have both Revd Jane and Steve in the benefice is a real blessing.

I look forward to making the most of the next few months and seeing as much as possible of you all!

With love and prayer,

Ann





# Puzzle Corner—challenges!

Here's a medium Sudoku for you this month

					2	7	1	
1			7					
	2		1		5			8
		4		5		6		
	8		6		3		5	
		2		7		8		
8			5		4		7	
					6			3
	6	5	2					

An Easy Futoshiki to start you off

<div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div>3</div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div>2</div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div></div></div>
<div>^</div>	<div>∨</div>	<div>∨</div>	<div>^</div>	
<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
	<div>∨</div>	<div>∨</div>		
<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div>&gt;</div> <div>4</div>
<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div>&lt;</div>	<div></div>
<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>

## Ride and Stride St Mary's Report

Ride and Stride, a sponsored event with participants walking or cycling to visit churches in the area, took place on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September, after the cancellation last year because of Covid. St Mary's had walkers Liz and Anthony Rathbone and cycle volunteers Isaac Hughes and Phil Crompton. Liz and Anthony spent their time walking around Lewes and visiting 11 churches in the area. Isaac cycled in and around Shoreham visiting six churches and I cycled up and down the Downs Link visiting 13 Churches. One cyclist, and it wasn't Isaac, even cycled up to Lancing College only to find it was closed for Ride & Stride this year! Meanwhile back at St Mary's stalwarts Edith, Amy, Delia and Jayne welcomed other participants visiting our Church.



The sponsor money has raised a total of £600 so far with some money still to come in.



I would like to thank the many members of the congregation who generously sponsored our riders and striders and look forward to more volunteers next year. A date for your diaries Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September!

Phil Crompton

Let us pray for:

Lilith and David Farrell on the blessing of their marriage, October 9th.



## Another Smile—with Ian Vaughan



A man walked into a barber's shop accompanied by a small boy. The man sat down and had a haircut, then stood up and said "Just give the lad a trim, will you? I'm going next door to get some cigarettes".

By the time that the barber had finished cutting the boy's hair the man had still not returned, so he said "When's your dad coming back then, son?" The boy replied "Oh, he's not my dad. He's a man who stopped me outside and asked if I'd like a free haircut!".

## Duck Race Winners

After a nail biting finish, with two ducks bobbing frantically towards the finish line, the winner won by a beak! The winners of the duck race were

Derek Hansen from the Church of the Good Shepherd and Sarah Akehurst from St Mary's.



### Answers to Puzzles

4	9	8	1	7	2	3	5	6	4
2	4	5	6	9	8	7	1	7	2
8	6	2	7	4	5	1	3	9	8
6	5	2	4	7	9	8	3	1	6
9	8	1	6	2	3	4	5	7	9
3	7	4	8	5	1	6	9	2	3
7	2	3	1	4	5	9	6	8	7
5	9	8	3	6	2	7	1	4	5

3	1	5	4	2
2	3	>	1	5
4	>	5	2	1
1	4	3	2	5
5	2	4	3	1

## FREE RE-CYCLE



This space is freely available to advertise unwanted items which can be offered free of charge to anyone who has a use for them. Please let Sue Clay (parish administrator) or Gudrun Hansen (magazine editor) know if you have any items to advertise. We will need a brief description of the item and a contact telephone number or email address.



**Keep up to date** with all the latest events and activities at St Mary de Haura. Take a look at the Facebook page. You don't need to be a member of Facebook to view the page:

<https://www.facebook.com/StMarydeHauraShoreham>



If you're getting married at St Mary's or have recently been married here, then join the Weddings at St Mary de Haura Facebook group to share photographs and keep in touch with other couples from the Loving for Life marriage preparation course:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1523449864564736>

St Mary's is on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/stmarydehaura>



Our website can also be found at :

<http://www.stmarydehaura.org.uk> where you can find weekly and monthly diaries of all events



Follow St Mary's on

**Instagram**  
@shorehampilgrim

**CCPAS**  
setting standards in safeguarding

**Safeguarding is a priority here**



At St Mary de Haura, we are committed to following government and CCPAS guidelines on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults and good working practice, including safe recruitment of workers. If you have any concerns regarding the safety or welfare of a child or vulnerable adult, please contact the safeguarding officer: Ash Sayers 07788190550

[safeguarding.smdh@gmail.com](mailto:safeguarding.smdh@gmail.com)