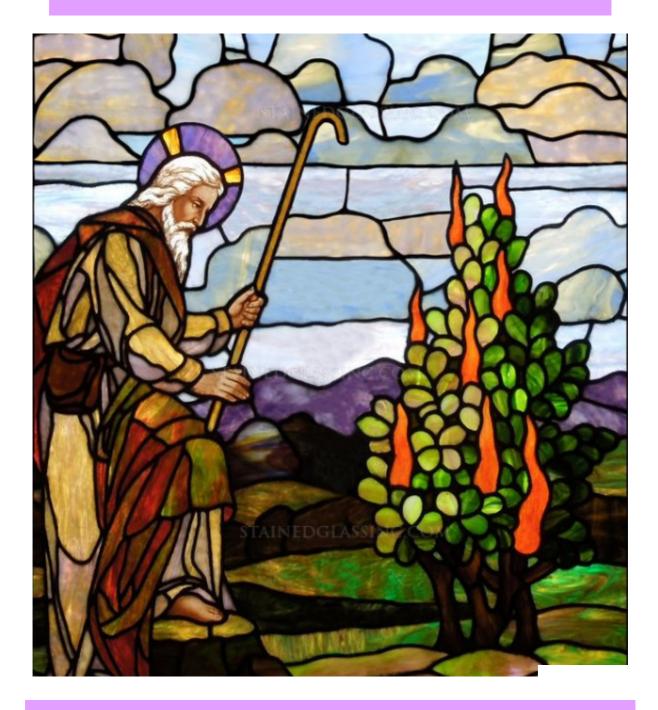
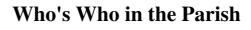
RENDEZVOUS



The Magazine of the Folkestone Town Benefice of **St Mary and St Eanswythe**

St Saviour

Volume 50 No. 2 February 2023 £1





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Front Cover: Stained glass Moses and the burning bush

Deadline for the next Rendezvous Edition: 20th of the month, but December 10th for the January edition. Please submit articles in 16 point text - this shows you how much fits on a page once it is reduced for printing.

Please contact Andrew Plested as above

CALENDAR

Services and Events in February 2023

Thurs	2 Feb	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)			
Sun	5	Third Sunday before Lent			
		10.30 a.m. THE EUCHARIST			
Mon	6	7.30 p.m. Meditation and Silent Prayer			
Thurs	9	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion			
		7.00 p.m. Sound Meditation – Andre Verissimo			
Sun	12	Second Sunday before Lent			
		10.30 a.m. THE EUCHARIST with			
		CHILDREN'S CHURCH			
Mon	13	9.30 a.m. Mediation and Silent Prayer			
Thurs	16	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion			
Sun	19	Sunday next before Lent			
		10.30 a.m. THE EUCHARIST			
		12.30 p.m. Baptism – Betsy Sharpe			
Mon	20	7.30 p.m. Meditation and Silent Prayer			
Wed	22	7.30 p.m. EUCHARIST with Ashing			
Thurs	23	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion			
		7.00 p.m. Concert – John Woolrich			
Sun	26	First Sunday of Lent			
		10.30 a.m. THE EUCHARIST			
Mon	27	9.30 a.m. Mediation and Silent Prayer			
Thurs	2 Mar	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion			
Sun	5	Second Sunday of Lent			
		10.30 a.m. THE EUCHARIST			

From the Parish Registers

Faithful Departed December

May they rest in peace and rise in glory Canon John Wright Ashley Fuller



Don't forget the Donation Station!

There are so many ways that you can make donations or pay for our range of merchandise.

Cash and cheques can be placed in the box by the main door, and credit card payments can be made in several ways:

- by scanning the QR code on the weekly pew sheet or the back of Rendezvous;
- by clicking the Donate Button on our website; or
- by using the Donation Station adjacent to the sales table.

The Donation Station is a very easy way to donate or pay by credit card. It has a touch screen, works just like the card machines in shops and takes contactless and chip-and-pin payments. You can even add Gift Aid to your donation. If you need a hand with it the first time, just ask for help.

Why not subscribe to Rendezvous?

Save money. £10 for an annual subscription starting in January. Have it delivered or collect from church. Ways to pay - use the QR code on the back cover, the Donation Station in church, the Donate Button on our website, cash, or cheque inside a named envelope in the donation box. Or contact Catriona Hunter - details inside front cover.

Parking in the School Playground

We are grateful to the Headteacher of St Eanswythe's School for allowing us to use the school playground as a car park on Sundays and on other occasions. In order to protect the school's security, the gates will now be locked on Sunday morning at 10.25 and opened when the service is finished. On other occasions the gates will be locked 5 minutes before the service or concert begins and opened immediately afterwards. Parking permits for Sunday services are available from the Churchwardens.

Thank you for your co-operation.

The church is now open for private prayer. The schedule is:

• 11.00-13.00 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday



The **Woodward Hall** is available for hire for Wedding Receptions, Family Parties, Club Meetings etc.

Details from Tracy Arnold at St Eanswythe's School on 01303 255516 during school hours





Dear friends,

One of my sons' art teacher was a Welshman. When his pupils did something particularly stupid he used to say, "Don't be such a numpty fathead!". An empty fathead is what he meant, but that's how it came out. From then on, 'numpty' was the word we used in our family for those moments of completely avoidable stupidity.

I have to confess that I'm often a bit of a numpty fathead.

Like the other day in Lidl. I had done my shopping and went to scan my receipt for free parking. Oh no, I thought, it's at the bottom of my shopping bag. So I rummaged around, pulled out the receipt and scanned it. It wouldn't scan. So I asked the young man on duty to help me with the scanner, explaining that I couldn't make it work. "Well, sir, that's because", he explained in polite, patient tones, "this is a receipt from Sainsburys".

Embarrassing, but no harm done. Unlike the time I decided to help out my then wife by cleaning all the tar spots off her car. I did a good, thorough job with an abrasive sponge. The respray job was not cheap.

Or the time when I was surprised to see old Ernie come into church one Sunday morning. Surprised, because I had heard on the grapevine that he just passed away after a severe illness. "Gosh Ernie!", I exclaimed enthusiastically, "It's so good to see you! I thought you were dead!!". My pastoral skills became, you might say, legendary.

So, being a bit of a numpty, I'm really looking forward to reading the Archbishop of Canterbury's 2023 Lent Book, *Failure: What Jesus said about sin, mistakes and messing stuff up* (SPCK) by Bishop Emma Ineson. I think Emma Ineson is a really good thing, so I recommend it as Lent reading for all you other numpties reading this reflection. You can get it from Amazon but, at the time of writing, there's a discount if you buy it from the Church House Bookshop online. Or, order it from a local bookshop, if you prefer.

If this doesn't pique your interest, there are plenty of other Lent books to read – either fresh this year or from past years. Search online, or I can bring a few examples from my bookshelves for ideas, or for you to borrow. Reading a Lent book is a good way of using Lent for what it's meant to be: a time to reflect on our spiritual journey in an intentional way. Perhaps giving up the time to read or join a Lent Group could be a more important a discipline than giving up chocolate or alcohol?

Our Lent groups this year focus on the life of Jesus, as we watch together the video series, *The Chosen*, and discuss our reactions to seeing the world and events of the Gospels depicted more accurately and movingly than any other video I've ever seen. Mary Magdalene, Our Lady, Nicodemus, the Pharisees, the Disciples and, of course,

Our Lord, are all brought to vibrant life in an utterly authentic first-century, middle-eastern setting. It brings alive the story of the Gospels in an extraordinary and extremely moving way. I do hope you'll be able to join me at our daytime or evening group. Full details are on another page in Rendezvous.

With very best wishes for a blessed Lent and a glorious Easter,

Fr John Walker

ST MARY & ST EANSWYTHE MISSION AND MINISTRY PRIORITIES 2023-24

I now have only two years left with you, and I want to ensure that our time together is spent wisely and well. Therefore, at our PCC meeting on 17th January, we agreed together the following mission and ministry priorities to determine where our resources and my energy will go in these next two years. I thought that everyone should be aware of these, so that you can pray and join in any part of this that you feel drawn to. If you want to know more, please speak to any PCC member.

The *Actions* could be for the whole PCC, any of its members, any member of the church, or just for me; but they have been endorsed by the whole PCC.

Measures are important because they tell us if we need to change our strategy.

Ethos

We aim to embed an ethos that is kind, appreciative and co-operative in which difference is valued, initiative is rewarded and mistakes are treated humanely.

Actions

- Support Individuals and teams in developing projects and running them
- Express gratitude both publicly and privately
- Celebrate special moments

Measures

- People feel relaxed and good-humoured
- People feel included and able to have a go at things
- Suggestions are made positively
- Difference of opinion is expressed constructively

Welcome

We want people to feel welcome whenever they come to church

Actions

- Maintain and support our Sidesperson and Welcome teams
- Invite visitors to stay for coffee and to join in with any current events
- Let people know they're welcome to join in the life of the church, e.g. our choir or various rotas
- Develop a Welcome Pack with information for visitors
- Develop a Pastoral Care Team
- Raise money for installing a new heating system

Measures

- The numbers of people who try us out and decide to stay
- Increasing numbers of volunteers
- The Welcome Pack made available
- The commissioning of a Pastoral Care Team
- Installing a new heating system

Worship

We aim to both maintain and develop our choral, Anglo-Catholic approach to worship.

Actions

- Maintaining the tradition of our Sunday morning worship
- Supporting our Organist & Choir Director to strengthen the choir and its repertoire
- Launch an alternative service that uses liturgy, symbolism, the senses and the arts in an informal and contemporary way
- Providing high-quality care through Occasional Offices

Measures

- Increasing numbers in attendance, baptisms, confirmations and in the choir
- Launching a contemporary service

Spirituality

We wish to offer support for people on their spiritual journey.

Actions

- Offering reflective sermons
- Offering Lent & Advent Courses
- Offering experience of traditional monastic disciplines like Lectio Divina and Contemplative prayer through The Companions of Eanswythe
- Offering seminars and taster sessions at our St Eanswythe Festival
- Offering a programme for non-churchgoers to explore the Christian faith
- Offering prayers for healing and wholeness

Measures

• The number of people who access these groups and sessions

Pilgrimage

We want to develop our church as a centre for pilgrimage.

Actions

- Under Dr Andrew Richardson's leadership, to cost the 'Eanswythe Found' project by Summer 2023
- To fundraise for delivering the project by Summer 2025
- To develop ecumenical partnerships

Measures

- Accurate bids and fundraising for every aspect of the project from a variety of sources
- Increasing pilgrimage visits
- Increasing income

LENT COURSE 2023

ST MARY & ST EANSWYTHE

The Chosen is the first-ever multi-season series about the life of Christ.

FOLKESTONE

It creates an authentic and intimate picture of Jesus' life and ministry, seen through the eyes of the people who knew him.



A still from Season 1 of The Chosen

We'll be watching Season 1 together and discussing our reactions to seeing the world and events of the Gospels depicted more accurately and movingly than any other video I've ever seen.

Mary Magdalene, Our Lady,

Nicodemus, the Pharisees, the Disciples and, of course, Our Lord, are all brought to vibrant life in an utterly authentic first-century, middle-eastern setting. It brings alive the story of the Gospels in an extraordinary and extremely moving way.

There are two groups to choose from, both at The Vicarage:

- Wednesday afternoons: Shared lunch at 12 noon, Course 12.30-2pm
- Wednesday evenings: Shared supper at 6.30pm, Course 7-8.30pm

There are seven sessions, starting on 1st March, so our final session will be in

Easter week, on 12th April.

Please register using the sheet at the back of church or by contacting Fr John on 07980 692813 or rev.dr.john.walker@gmail.com



Rendezvous subscriptions for 2023 are now due

Subscriptions to Rendezvous run from January to December each year and payment for 2023 is now due. The **annual subscription rate for 2023 is £10**, which saves you £2 on the cost of 12 individual issues. If you have any questions about subscriptions or distribution, please contact Catriona Hunter, Distribution Coordinator. Her contact details are on the inside front cover of every issue of Rendezvous.

If you have your magazine delivered we have asked your distributor to collect your payment.

Payments to your distributor may be made by cash or cheque made out to Rendezvous Magazine (preferably in an envelope addressed to Catriona Hunter, Rendezvous Distribution Coordinator – but don't forget to include your name and address too). However, if you wish to pay by credit card you can do this in one of three ways: i. use the Donation Station in church; ii. use the Donate button on our website https://stmaryandsteanswythe.org; or iii. scan the QR code on the back cover of Rendezvous. Note that if paying by credit card it would help us enormously if you would let Catriona know that you have paid your subscription so that this money can be separated from general church funds.

If you pay by subscription but collect your own copy in church you can pay in any of the ways outlined above – envelopes containing cash or cheques can be placed in the donations box in church.

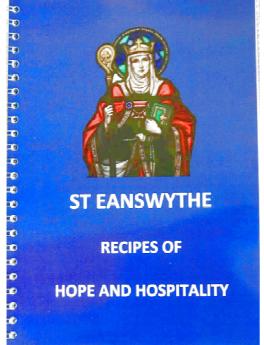
Thank you for reading Rendezvous and helping us to generate valuable income for our church.

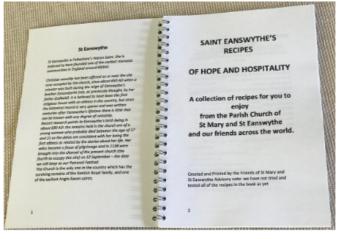
Recipes of Hope and Hospitality and Notelets

A collection of recipes from members of the congregation and many friends. The Recipe Book is available at £5 per copy from the sales table by the main door, please

use the Donation Station for card payments or put the money in the box.

Notelets are available at £5 per pack – all photographs taken by members of the congregation.





All proceeds are used to take care of the Fabric of the Church.

The Friends of St Mary & St Eanswythe

The Friends of St Mary and St Eanswythe were formed in 2014. The Friends are dedicated to the preservation of St Mary and St Eanswythe's church as a place of Christian worship and a focal point of historical interest for residents and visitors to Folkestone. All funds raised are devoted to the upkeep of the building and to the furtherance of public understanding of its history, architecture, and significance.

To find out more please visit http://friendsofstmaryandsteanswythe.org.uk

Single Membership £10 per annum. Joint or Family membership £15 per annum Reduced income £5 per annum.

Cash or cheques made payable to The Friends of St Mary and St Eanswythe can be sent to Pam Keeling, 13 Wellfield Road, Folkestone, CT20 2PJ.

Electronically: Barclays Bank sort code 20-02-62:

Account number 93016250

Please use your surname as the reference.

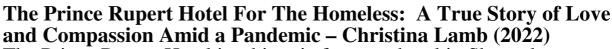
New Membership Form

Email: info@friendsofstmaryandsteanswythe.org.uk

For existing Friends annual subscriptions are due now and if you were uncertain how to pay please see the above details.

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Bookworm – What I've Been Reading



The Prince Rupert Hotel is a historic four star hotel in Shrewsbury (think grade 2 listed, four poster beds, suits of armour, and lots of Tudor beams in the ceiling) that took in local homeless people as part of the government Everybody In initiative during the pandemic lockdowns. Not only did this ensure that the hotel was able to remain operational, albeit with very different clientele, but it also made a real difference to many people's lives, both those who were homeless and the hotel staff.

The three main hotel staff showed tremendous commitment. They moved into the hotel and formed a huge 'family' bubble with their previously homeless guests. It was a very different world for all concerned, but the guests were all treated with respect, kindness, love, understanding, and compassion. It is a story of hope that shows how prejudice from across society can be overcome. It is also a fascinating reminder of the highs and lows of the lockdowns that we all endured during 2020 and 2021.

There are so many reasons why people become homeless; for example, broken relationships, domestic violence, loss of job meaning that people can't afford to pay the rent, evictions, and leaving prison. Drugs and alcohol are often contributing factors. There is a saying that we are all only one payday away from homelessness, which is worth bearing in mind. Yet, frequently the homeless are just invisible. There are numerous interesting facts in the book, including some statistics about the Everyone In government initiative. It took 37,000 people off the streets and 26,000 were provided with long-term housing, which just shows that homelessness could and can be solved if the will and the funding is there.

It is a fairly quick but interesting and informative read and I strongly recommend it.

House Arrest: Pandemic Diaries – Alan Bennett (2022)

In contrast, this was a very quick read over breakfast as it's only 50 pages. I love Alan Bennett's dry humour, but had hoped for a bit more content from his pandemic diaries. Perhaps I should think about publishing my own account of the lockdowns?

Rachel's Holiday - Marian Keyes (1997)

Rachel is addicted to drugs. You name it, she's taken it. Her life is a mess, but she doesn't accept that she has a problem at all. Finally she succumbs to the pressure of her family to check into rehab - but this is only because she thinks it's going to be like a luxury health farm with massages, saunas and lots of famous people. How wrong could she be? She absolutely hates it, has to share a room, and even discovers that she has signed an agreement not to leave in the first three weeks. She thinks she is surrounded by losers, and obviously everyone except her has a problem. Gradually she comes to accept the help on offer and becomes a changed person, but it's not an easy path.

This book was published 25 years ago but is still as relevant today as it was then. It's extremely well researched and a very good, interesting read. It's also my first Marian Keyes book and I think it may be the first of many.

Catriona Hunter

St Mary and St Eanswythe Children's Church

What's coming up?



Sunday 12th February **God gives us everything we need!**





Sunday 12th March Jesus is the living water!





Sunday 2nd April
Hosanna! Hosanna!
US



Children's Church begins in church at 10.30 am. We do hope you can join us for

- © singing,
- making things,
- learning about Jesus and
- © much much more!

All children are welcome, pre-school with an adult please. To find out about it, ring Clare Tomlinson 07751 423 796

PS look out for our puzzles and colouring sheets in the Family Corner – there's a new one EVERY WEEK!

Children's Church Christingle at Epiphany

Jesus is the Light of the World!



After putting gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh into the crib with the three wise men, Children's Church followed the shining star to the Upper Room.

There we shared the good news that Jesus is the Light of the World and we made Christingles.

As we made them, we spoke about -

- · God making the world (represented by the orange)
- God blessing the world with seasons and fruit (the four cocktail sticks with sweets and raisins)
- · God loving the world and all of us so much that Jesus, God's son, died for us (the red ribbon)
- · and that Jesus is the Light of the World (the foil star and candle).



When we shared our Christingles with the congregation, the candles were lit, reminding us all that Jesus is the Light of the World.

Clare Tomlinson

Our Ukrainian Friends

On a cold dreary January morning, the coffee area in the North Transept became alive with the warm and friendly voices of our Ukrainian friends and some members of Inner Wheel and Folkestone Rotary club who have helped us host regular meetings at our church for the latter part of last year.

Saturday the 14th of January was a very special time indeed for our Ukrainian friends to come together as the previous weekend (6th and 7th of January) they had celebrated their Christmas Eve & Christmas Day and the beginning of their 12 day Christmas tide which lasts until the 19th January.

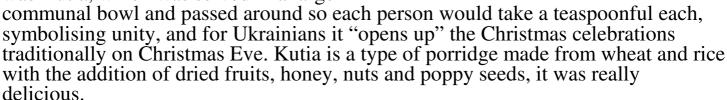
The reason for the 2 week difference in time for the Christmas festivities is due to the separate calendars used by Orthodox Christians, that is the older Julian calendar, whereas Western Christians celebrate Christmas and the birth of Christ according to the Gregorian calendar on 25th December.

In more recent years however Ukraine has began to also use the Gregorian calendar for some of its church festivals and now more Ukrainian churches are also celebrating Christmas on the 25th December and it has also become an official state holiday as well as still having their Orthodox

Christmas on 7th January.

Whatever date Christmas is celebrated around the world, it is not only a very important religious occasion, it is also a time when family and friends come together to celebrate, and food plays a big part of the celebration. Our special gathering in the church involved our Ukrainian guests bringing several types of food which they eat over their Christmas Tide to share with us, their hosts.

The first of the dishes that was offered to us was Kutia, which was served in a large



On the table was a delightful assortment of pastries, cake, dumplings with delicious fillings, stuffed cabbage rolls and honey cookies. There was certainly plenty to share with everyone.

We were able to provide coffee, herbal teas and most importantly mulled wine which some of our guests had requested having enjoyed it at our Christmas Festival in December.

A rough head count showed that about 40 adults and some children attended this special occasion, it was a pleasure to be able to host them, and we know from what we are told, how much our Ukrainian friends enjoy having somewhere they can come and be together, to feel safe, to be able to communicate in their own language the joys and sorrows that are affecting all their lives.

"Let us offer a prayer for Peace: Peace in the world and in each of our hearts"



News From St Eanswythe's Primary School

Our journey into Reading for Pleasure

I am the Reading Lead at St Eanswythe's and 'Reading for Pleasure' has been a huge focus for our school recently. This term has been very exciting because we have invested in some library software that enables the children to take out books like a proper library. For the past 2 weeks, lots of happy children have taken out books using a scanner and taken them home to read for pleasure. We try to invest in new titles regularly and I have applied for a grant to make the library more inviting with some better seating and more book shelves. The possibility of a 'school librarian' to be in school for a couple of hours a week to help children choose and return books, is also an idea. As we move into warmer weather, I hope to expand the use of our little 'outside library' in the playground. Reading for pleasure is an ongoing journey for us here at St Eanswythe's. I firmly believe every child should not just leave school as a confident reader but as someone who has a love of reading as well.

This month's article has been written by Mrs Jacobs, who is not only our Deputy Head, but our reading recovery teacher. Enjoy.

Kim

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Church Hire

For information about hiring the church, with or without use of the grand piano please contact the Parish Office

sainteanswythe@gmail.com 01303 252947

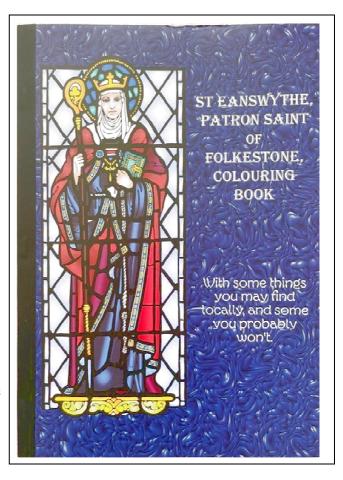
Pre internet chat room using An old version of windows...



St Eanswythe, Patron Saint of Folkestone, Colouring Book

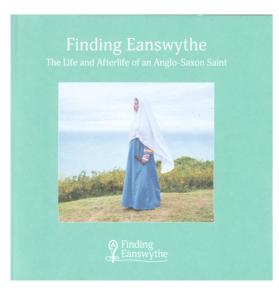
Once upon a time, not so long ago, when Marilyn and Catriona were on church welcoming duty, a father and his two young daughters came into the church. The girls wanted to do some colouring, but although there were plenty of crayons in the children's corner, there was nothing for them to colour in. This was how the idea for a St Eanswythe colouring book came about.

We have worked with local artist, Dandi Palmer, to create a beautiful colouring book with 40 varied pictures and something for all ages. We hope that it will give a true feeling of what you may be able to see in and around the church. You'll find pictures of St Eanswythe, the Reverend David Railton MC, the church organ, various plants and animals that you might find inside the church or in the churchyard, even the church mouse and one of the spiders. Though please forgive us our artistic licence over the likes of the kingfisher.



We are grateful to Rendezvous magazine for sponsoring the printing of the colouring book. You can buy the book at the sales table for £5, which we are sure you will agree is very good value indeed. Even if colouring isn't your 'thing', this is a book you will want for your coffee table.

Finding Eanswythe



Whilst the Finding Eanswythe Project has come to a conclusion, the working group will continue with their research. This book covers the findings over the six-year programme with a series of essays covering such topics as The Legend of St Eanswythe, A Minster in the early Mediaeval Landscape, Minster to Priory, Folkestone and the English Reformation, St Eanswythe's Water, St Eanswythe's Chapel, Matthew Woodward and Eanswythe Found. All by various members of the Research Group.

This 54 page book is available from our sales table priced at £5.

SINGINGS SINGINGS

THE CHOIR OF ST MARY & ST EANSWYTHE IS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!

We are a small, friendly choir with a wide repertoire. We are keen to hear from singers from all voice parts.

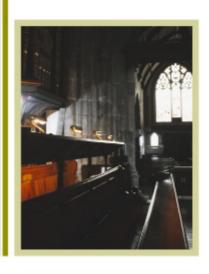
Experience can be an advantage but lots of support will be available.

For more details visit the church website or email Malcolm, our Director of Music

stmaryandsteanswythe.org sainteanswythemusic@gmail.com







Could you be a Governor at St Eanswythe's or St Mary's Church of England Primary Academy?

Both of our Parish's church schools are seeking new Governors to join their board and help steer the strategy to improve the learning of the pupils and care for them, their families, teachers and support staff.

Both schools are communities who are committed to upholding each school's distinctive Christian ethos and values. We therefore would particularly like to recruit governors who share that Christian ethos or, ideally, are members of St Mary & St Eanswythe Church, or another church community.

Why be a Governor?

- Have you ever wanted to give something back to your community?
- Do you have an interest in helping or supporting young people and their education?
- Do you feel that values such as friendship, compassion, service and forgiveness should play an important part in education?
- Do you have some time to spare in the evenings and during the day?

If the answer to these is 'yes', then being a School Governor may be the role for you!

What are the benefits?

You'll enjoy a new challenge, an opportunity to learn new skills and work as part of an effective team.

You'll also be playing a vital role in ensuring every pupil and member of staff flourish through an enriching educational experience, where all have the freedom to grow and develop individually.

It is a highly rewarding role.

Quick Facts

- Governors are one of the largest volunteer groups in the country.
- The Governing Body is a corporate identity meaning it makes decisions as a group not as individual members.
- Governors play a strategic role, offering challenge, wisdom and counsel to school staff, as opposed to school teams who make all the operational decisions.
- Governors are equal and no one member of the body has any more of a vote or say in its decisions.
- Governors normally allow around 10 hours per month for their work. This includes meetings, reading and preparation, attending the school for monitoring and fact finding.
- Many businesses and organisations support volunteer work so may allow you to attend meetings and visits in your working hours. It is worth checking!

Who can be a Governor?

Anyone over the age of 18 can become a Governor. You don't need to have children attending a school and you don't need to have a background in education. Governors come from all walks of life and from a variety of personal and professional backgrounds.

Each individual school will have particular expertise that they need from prospective governors, for example; professional experience in Finance, Health and Safety, Education, Safeguarding and Child Protection, Marketing and Strategic Thinking. But other skills and experience might be useful too.

What do Governors Do?

Governors in our Schools have these core responsibilities:

- 1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos, and strategic direction.
- 2. Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff.
- 3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.
- 4. Reporting to the Academy Trust Board on performance, self-review and operations.

In Church of England schools Governors have an additional responsibility: to ensure the Trust Deed document, which outlines their role and purpose in preserving and developing the distinctive Christian character and vision, is followed and lived out.

Key attributes needed

- The ability to question and challenge policies and decisions being put forward by the school to ensure the wellbeing of every member of the school community is at the centre.
- The desire to see every pupil make progress and flourish through the removal of barriers and the promotion of rich opportunities.
- A commitment to providing an education that is shaped by the school's distinctive Christian vision.
- A passion for building community by encouraging and creating connections locally, nationally and globally.
- The ability to think strategically, triangulate information and offer thoughts and wisdom where appropriate.
- A compassionate and enthusiastic 'cheerleader' of the whole school community.

What might be asked of me?

- Attend board meetings at the school, generally six times per year, although there may be additional meetings for specific purposes.
- Carry out pre-arranged visits during school time, after which you will write up your observations, questions and challenges.

- Undertake annual safeguarding training and attend further relevant training through the Diocese, Local Authority or Academy Trust.
- Prepare for governor meetings by reading the papers in advance.
- Contribute during meetings by asking questions or challenging the information being presented.
- Support and attend school events.

Interested?

Please contact Fr John Walker for a conversation at rev.dr.john.walker@gmail.com or 07980 692813

The Folkestone Churches Winter Shelter

The Folkestone Churches Winter Shelter opened its doors to 13 of Folkestone's rough sleepers on 1 December 2022 and will run until the end of March 2023, covering the coldest months of the year. For the third year running, it is based in a local Bed and Breakfast. We work with each service user to prepare a move-on plan and have regular meetings to look at their aspirations and goals to help them successfully move on from a life on the streets.

Christmas is not always a festive time for everyone, and we spent many an hour supporting clients who were missing family or dealing with past and present problems, which often rear their heads at this time of year. Thanks to the dedicated staff and volunteers, we made Christmas as pleasant as possible.

We received an amazing amount of donations and were overwhelmed by people's generosity; as a result, we were able to provide a huge quantity of Christmas gifts to our clients, including Christmas dinner, which Rocksalt and the Radnor Arms restaurants supplied. The clients said that it was fantastic. We opened the Rainbow Centre on the bank holiday after Boxing Day and were unsure who would attend but were overwhelmed by attendance. We were fortunate to have been donated some food, and we gave our clients bacon rolls and sausages in rolls. It was a friendly, jovial atmosphere, which made it clear that with a four-day bank holiday, those who spent Christmas alone enjoyed the company.

A Typical Day in Winter Shelter

To be honest, there is no such thing as a typical day. Every day brings something different, and our clients as individuals may bring something new for us to deal with.

However, one consistency is their daily appreciation and compliments to the Winter Shelter cooks who deliver and serve the meals each evening. All the clients have expressed their gratitude and praises for the quality and quantity of the food.

Our Winter Shelter guests come to Breakfast Club at the Rainbow Centre daily to sign in. We often meet up with them to discuss their emotional well-being. For various reasons, many of our clients suffer from loss and trauma due to relationship

breakdowns. They have anxiety and depression because they find it difficult to cope with the situation they find themselves in. Some of our clients were professionals in their own right, with their own businesses in the past. We have a photographer, a carpenter, a phlebotomist, and others whose lives have crumbled due to losing a partner.

In the mornings, we meet clients and discuss their future personal development, possible rehabilitation options, move-on aspirations, personal goals, and general well-being.

Every day is different; over the Christmas and New Year period, we had a few clients who needed crisis intervention, and we met them, usually in a local coffee shop, to discuss their emotions and feelings and to give reassurance that there is a listening ear.

While not a usual homeless support service, our pilot support model this year means that we are providing a more intense support service, which sometimes means taking someone to an appointment with mental health, a haircut, a hospital, and other things, as it reduces their anxiety when they are with someone they trust. The befrienders who will be recruited and trained will be that person post Winter Shelter when clients are moving into the tenancy support phase of their move-on, and they can have this support for up to two years if needed.

Want to be a volunteer, train as a befriender, please get in touch with us!

Louise Gotch

Homeless Service Manager, Folkestone Rainbow Centre



Commemoration of the Month George Herbert Priest & Poet 27 February

Born in 1593 into the aristocratic Pembroke family, George Herbert went up to

Cambridge in 1614, eventually becoming a fellow of Trinity College. At the age of twenty-five, he became Public Orator in the University and then a Member of Parliament, apparently destined for a life at court. To everyone's surprise, he decided to be ordained and, after spending a time with his friend Nicholas Ferrar at Little Gidding, he was made deacon in 1626. He married in 1629, was priested in 1630 and given the care of souls of the parish of Bemerton, near Salisbury, where he spent the rest of his short life. He wrote prolifically, his hymns still being popular throughout the English-speaking world. His treatise, *The Country Parson*, on the priestly life, and his poetry, especially *The Temple*, earned



Herbert a leading place in English literature. He never neglected the care of the souls of Bemerton, however, and encouraged attendance at the weekday recitation of the daily office, calling to mind the words of his hymn, 'Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee'. He died on this day in 1633.

Collect

King of glory, King of peace, who called your servant George Herbert from the pursuit of worldly honours to be a priest in the temple of his God and King: grant us also the grace to offer ourselves with singleness of heart in humble obedience to your service; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings

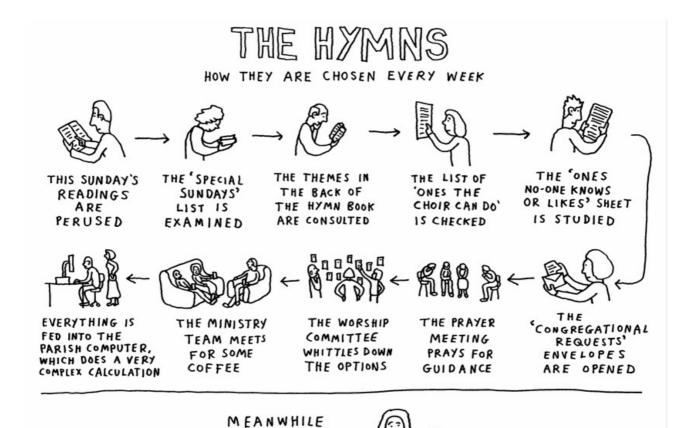
OT Malachi 2.5-7 NT Revelation 19 5-9 Gospel Matthew 11 25-30

What would you like your legacy to be? Leaving money to the church in your will is a wonderful way to ensure that our church will be here for future generations. There are also some benefits for your inheritance tax bill, too. So, if you're thinking of adding a charitable bequest in your will, here's what you need to know.

Big or small, your donation could be of huge help in keeping our beautiful church cared for in the future.

As you may already know, like money you leave to your spouse, gifts to charities aren't taxed. And if you leave at least 10% of your estate to a charitable cause, your inheritance tax rate drops from 40% to 36%. This means that for every £100 you leave to charity; it only really costs your family £24.

Please give this some thought



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email: enquiries@rainbow-centre.org

Please note that the phone lines are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Telephone: 01303 850733

Appointments are available Monday to Friday between 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Help Through Hardship - to be assessed for a Shepway Foodbank Voucher and for other assistance **Telephone:** 0808 208 2138 Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Samaritans

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email: Samaritans: jo@samaritans.org

Telephone: 01303 255000 (local call charges apply)

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Sun ... 00:00-08:00 & 19:00-24:00

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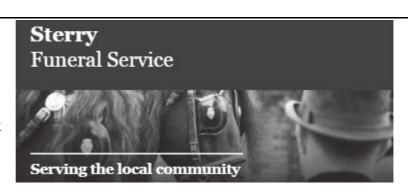
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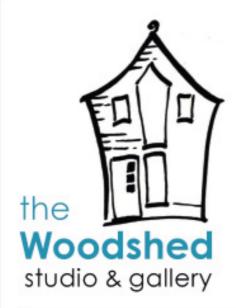
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Music Notes

The Bayle Music concerts, postponed for the winter, resume this month with a performance by the Salomé Quartet in a programme of music by Haydn, Schubert, and Bridge. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE GRAND ON THE LEAS AT

3 p.m. on SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY. Admission is £15 on the day or in advance by following the Bayle Music link on the Sounds Folkestone website –

www.soundsfolkestone.co.uk

Or scanning this QR code





The Salomé Quartet

The final Bayle Music concert in the 2022-23 season returns to our church on SATURDAY 18 MARCH AT 3 p.m.. The Bayle Cantata and Camerata will perform a programme of choral music by J. S. Bach - Motet Komm Jesu Komm BWV 229 and Cantata BWV 4 Christ lag in todensbanden and G. F. Handel Dixit Dominus. Full details now on the Sounds Folkestone website and in Rendezvous next month.

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Bayle Music also is also very pleased to welcome a new sponsor for our concerts - Cross Builders Ltd., Folkestone, specialists in Victorian and older buildings. We are most grateful for their support for this and future seasons.



The Singing Church

Last month we looked at the contribution of Ralph Vaughan Williams as music editor of the first edition of the English Hymnal published in 1906. His partner as editor was Percy Dearmer.

Dearmer was an English priest and liturgist best known as the author of *The Parson's Handbook*, a liturgical manual for Anglican clergy. He was ordained deacon in 1891 and priest in 1892 at Rochester Cathedral. Together with Ralph Vaughan Williams and Martin Shaw, Dearmer is credited with the revival and spread of traditional and medieval English musical forms. His ideas on patterns of worship have been linked to the Arts and Crafts Movement, while *The English Hymnal* reflects the influence both of artistic and folklore scholarship and Christian Socialism. He and his first wife, Mable, served with ambulance units in Serbia during the First World War, where she died of typhus in 1915.

His most influential work, 'The Parson's Handbook' first published in 1899, emphasises the importance of art and beauty in worship. It soon became the foundation of liturgical development in the Church of England and the Anglican Communion. You can read it here:

http://anglicanhistory.org/dearmer/handbook/1899/index1899.html

The New English Hymnal credits Dearmer with the words for 17 hymns, many of them translations from Latin but with five of his own original poems including: A brighter dawn is breaking (102): Holy God we show forth here (290) sublimely matched to a tune derived from Richard Wagner's opera Meistersinger and Jesus good above all other (387).

In 1919 he was appointed first professor of Ecclesiastical Art at King's College, London where he lectured until his death from a coronary thrombosis in 1936. He was also a canon of



Percival (Percy) Dearmer (1867–1936)

Westminster Abbey, from where he ran a canteen for the unemployed. His ashes are interred in the Abbey's Great Cloister.

February Sunday and Red Letter Eucharist Gospels

Sunday 5 February – Third before Lent: Matthew 5. 13-20

Sunday 12 February – Second before Lent: Matthew 6. 25-25-34

Sunday 19 February – Next before Lent: Matthew 17. 1-9

Sunday 26 February – First of Lent: Matthew 4. 1-11

RED LETTER DAY

Thursday 2 February

Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas): Mark 6.1-6a

Candlemas

With certitude
Simeon opened
ancient arms
to infant light.
Decades before the cross,
the tomb
and the new life,

he knew
new life.
What depth
of faith he drew on,
turning illumined
towards deep night.

Denise Levertov (1923–1997)

Day of Special Observation Wednesday 22 February – ASH WEDNESDAY Matthew 6. 1-6 & 16-21

Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Repentance for sin is commanded throughout the Bible. It must be proved by suitable words and acts of contrition, but the pardon which it brings is absolute and leaves no burden of unresolved guilt.

Ashes

You thumbed grit
Into my furrowed brow,
Marking me
With the sign of mortality,
The dust of last year's palms.
The cross you traced
Seared, smudged skin,
And I recalled
Other ashes
Etched

Into my heart By those who love too little Or not at all.

Elizabeth-Anne Stewart (b 1951)



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