



SPOTLIGHT

The magazine of Offington Park Methodist Church



September 2019

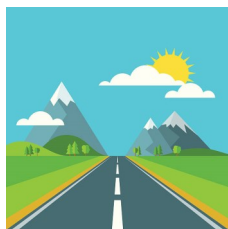
In this issue

Joy's Letter	3-4	All About Britain Fundraising	14
JC's Little Nuggets	4	Bible Fellowship	15
All Grumps to the Mill	5	CPAS DAY	18
Art Club	7	WMHAW	20-21
Magical Mystery Tour	8	Now Is the Time Report	22-23
Grave Matters	9	Church Family News	24
Remembering Joan Way	10-11	Stephanie's Ghana Report	25-27
Harvest Supper	12	Where is God In All This?	28
A Transport of Delight	13	Love in a Box	30

Cover Picture

The picture on this month's cover was painted by our resident artist Jenny Guy during the Worthing Artists Open Houses weekends held at the church in June.

We think you'll agree that it is a stunning picture.



EDITORIAL

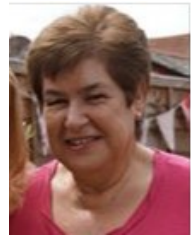
As 'church', we are often uncomfortable with 'business' words such as goals, objectives, strategy, management and planning. We don't believe that such notions, which conjure up images of boardrooms and bureaucracy, have any place in a community led by the Holy Spirit.

But, whether we like it or not, the Church is on a journey and needs to be enabled to listen. We cannot remain where we are - we must constantly be moving forward, learning more about God, and finding new ways to share the gospel. Our new AV system is an example of our attempts to do this.

As a church, we must believe that God has called us for a purpose, and that glory will end what grace began.

Dear Friends,

Do you remember that feeling at the end of an idyllic summer holiday when you realise it's time to go back to school? For some it was a great feeling, looking forward to meeting friends again and to the new opportunities that would open up. For others there was that feeling of melancholy, wishing the summer would go on and on.



Whichever camp you fell into, summer is nearly over and we come back to start a new 'term' at church. I hope it's with the first of those feelings.

But it's also good to look back for a moment at what we have experienced this summer. To begin with there have been the amazing changes to our visual system in the church. Our new screens are up and running and everyone can see them from wherever they are sitting. We have much better clarity and colour and, along with the use of the camera when we get used to using it, our worship will be greatly enhanced. Thank you to all involved in this installation and to those who operate it each week.

In June we became a venue for Worthing Artist Open Houses and for three weekends our church was open for people to come and view some amazing works of art. Many of the exhibitors were from our own church family – what incredibly gifted people we have.

Our minibus has been taken on some wonderful trips around Sussex and beyond and has been greatly enjoyed by those who have used it. A new list of outings is shortly being put together.

Many activities close for summer, but here Stay and Play has come into its own. On Mondays throughout August the church has been open to all ages for a Stay and Play Cafe. There are games to play and an opportunity to chat whilst enjoying coffee and cake. What's not to like? Then on Wednesdays things get a bit livelier and the whole premises are open to Stay and Play with crafts, badminton, table tennis, and toys for the younger visitors. We regularly have 100 – 150 people coming into our premises and enjoying themselves, providing incredible outreach opportunities.

Thanks also to those members who opened their gardens over the summer for us to enjoy and to raise money for our Eco funds. *(continued on page 4)*

Joy's Letter (continued)

But yes, we are now looking forward to the autumn, to our Harvest Celebrations and - dare I say it - to Christmas! It is wonderful to welcome Dawn back with us after her sabbatical. We are looking forward to hearing about some of the experiences she has had over the summer.



I have no doubt she will have some new things to share with us and hopefully she will find we have looked after her church well during her absence.

It's amazing how things work when we work together and so we look forward with hope and excitement to what's to come.

Every blessing, Joy

JC's LITTLE NUGGETS

Alexa gets all religious...

You can now get your Alexa system to provide prayer and explanations of the Christian Faith. Launched by the Church Of England, this is a different and up-to-date way to reach people and connect them with God, at a time that is right for them. For example, you can ask Alexa to read the prayer of the day, to find your nearest church, or what it means to be a Christian and believe in God. All from the comfort of your armchair!



A new bestseller....

A book about the Holy Bible, by John Barton (an Oxford Academic) is now a best seller. ***A History of the Bible: The Book and Its Faiths*** is an easy to read but great study of the origins and development of the Bible, who wrote it and how it was put together. High praise from the critics too - the Sunday Times' Peter Stanford says *"as eminently readable as the best of travelogues, it floods with light a subject too often regarded by many as a closed book...if it can only be liberated and allowed to become its full self, the Bible might just chime once more in a sceptical age. This extraordinary tour de force is the first book I have ever read that makes that feel possible."*

John Carr

ALL GRUMPS TO THE MILL



A group of us Grumpy Old Men had the chance at High Salvington recently to get intimate with large pieces of wood in the shape of a working windmill - the only one left in the Worthing area out of seven working mills in the 1800's.



Today this mill stands as a testament to the soundness of the original engineering and the dedication of a team of skilled craftsmen who have recently virtually rebuilt the mill.

Flour, as we know, is an essential food ingredient; the miller knew this and was considered by many to be a good catch for a husband. He was wealthy and the chances were that he would die young (but hopefully happy?!) through breathing the dusty air inside the mill.

Organic flour is still ground and sold at the mill, but the number of houses now surrounding the mill means that there is less wind availability, and the shortage of trained millers also means supply is limited. One of the worst scenarios for the miller is a strong wind, under which the brake can't stop the sails. Consequently, the sails turn so fast that the wooden bearings overheat and the mill burns down.

Next to the mill is the granary with its base raised off the ground on mushroom shaped straddle stones to provide air circulation under the building to keep the grain dry and of course to prevent rats getting in.

The cafe was opened especially, offering us very reasonably priced drinks and delicious homemade cake. The mill is open the first and third Sundays of the month with different visiting attractions in the grounds.

The mill is well worth a visit. For more information visit their website at:

www.highsalvingtonwindmill.co.uk

Chris Lance



SEPTEMBER MINIBUS TRIPS

Destinations and dates may be subject to change due to driver and venue availability, so please check the weekly notices for the latest information.



Thursday 5 September (afternoon trip)

Borde Hill Gardens, Haywards Heath

Friday 20 September (afternoon trip)

West Hoathly Priest House, East Grinstead

Donation for Bus £5:00 per person
plus admission to venues (where applicable)

We have only 13 spaces on each trip, so please book early!

These trips are the last in our summer itinerary, but we are planning a Christmas Shopping trip later in the year.

Once the date is confirmed, details will be published in future editions of Spotlight and in the weekly notices !

WORTHING 4 REFUGEES UPDATE

We thank the Lord for the precious school places that the children have secured. Our first family is now settled into their new home and the father is actively seeking work.



Both families are learning English so that they can more easily integrate with neighbours, go shopping and help the children at school. We are grateful for the hard work being done by our own people - Leslie Skinner, Elaine Carr and of course Pauline Phillips. Please keep all the families and their supporters in your prayers.

John Carr

Friends of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery

SEPTEMBER TOUR DATE

7 Sep	Epitaphs, Etched for Eternity (11:00am)
--------------	--

A new 'Paint along With Me' Art Club is starting in September - Watercolour Painting for Beginners - with our resident artist Jenny Guy.



The first session is on Thursday 5 September and runs from 1:30pm to 3:30pm. The cost is just £4:00 a week. Places are limited, so if you are interested, please book your place via the church office on 01903 205722.

Drinks and light refreshments will be provided.

Proceeds from the Club will go towards church funds and helping the homeless in Worthing.

Were Adam and Eve the first people not to read the Apple terms and conditions before proceeding?

A business card for 'MIDWINTERS' with a wood-grain background. On the left side, there is a stylized illustration of a hand holding a power drill. The text on the card includes the company name 'MIDWINTERS', the tagline 'All your indoor or outdoor building needs', the name 'JOHN MIDWINTER', the phone number '07880235696', the email address 'Johnmidwinter@Gmail.com', and a list of services: 'Anything from interior and exterior decorating, tiling, kitchen fitting, fencing, patio, decking and full house renovations'.

MIDWINTERS
All your indoor or outdoor building needs

JOHN MIDWINTER
07880235696

Johnmidwinter@Gmail.com

Anything from interior and exterior decorating,
tiling, kitchen fitting, fencing, patio, decking and full
house renovations

A MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR AND GARDENS A-PLENTY



The Marvellous Mystery Trip with driver Mike was blessed with a warm sunny day. Our first stop (where we also had coffee) was Southover Grange gardens in Lewes, a delightful place with historic buildings, formal gardens, at their best at that time of year, and areas of lawn with specimen trees offering welcome shade. There was a wild flower area as well, a great asset to the town and appreciated by all of us.

By way of country roads and pretty villages, we arrived at Ashdown Forest, where we had the option of a walk or a stroll around the nearby village of Hartfield. Those of us who decided on a short walk were led by Mike as we headed off along an easy track lined with heather and amazing views (see picture). We acquainted ourselves with the Heffalumps Trap, as featured in Winnie the Pooh books, then headed into uncharted territory down a track (where a machete would have been useful due to overgrown gorse), and eventually we arrived at a glade where there are panoramic views and a memorial to A. A. Milne.



As we set off again in the bus, we diverted to pick up others of our group who had decided on the visit to Hartfield, and then headed for home via Handcross, stopping on route for tea. This was a truly delightful trip on a summer day...thank you Mike (and Gill).

Shaune King

The second trip was to Stanstead Park Garden Centre, near Rowlands Castle in Hampshire. This is a lovely venue comprising a stately home, garden centre, beautiful tea rooms, maze, light railway and some formal grounds, in which is a lovely (but somewhat expensive) garden centre. We had a full bus and after a slightly hairy journey thanks to an errant motorcyclist, we arrived safely and most, if not all of us, relived our childhood as we went on the model railway.

The highlight for many, though, was the lovely St. Paul's chapel, set in the grounds of Stanstead Park and beautifully kept. It was a real haven of quiet away from the noise and bustle. If you haven't been, Stanstead Park is a great venue for an afternoon out with the family.

Mike Powell

GRAVE MATTERS (or graves matter)

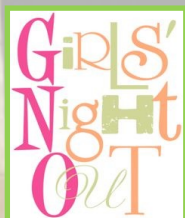


In August the Grumpies had a private tour of Broadwater Cemetery, courtesy of the Friends of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery. We had one of their experienced guides, John Vaughan, who showed us the very first grave to be occupied (1863), the tomb of a former mayor, and a very grand edifice in the centre of the cemetery about which little is known or can be found (except that the occupant is rumoured to be buried in a glass coffin!). We also heard the sad



story of a road worker who was crushed by a steamroller wheel (a wheel is on the grave) as well as the gruesome tale of one of Worthing's first murders in around 1899.

It sounds odd to say you've had a great time visiting the cemetery, but we did! John was very knowledgeable and there is a wealth of history to be explored amongst the 25,000 occupants. Go along to one of the Cemetery Tours (they're all different) and see for yourselves. We're prepared to bet that you won't be disappointed.



Thursday 26 September 2019
7:00pm

Skittles Evening
at the Black Horse, Findon

Drinks and snacks available
all evening from the bar

Cost £5 per person

For further details and to book a place
please contact the Church Office
office@offingtonpark.org.uk or tel: 01903 205722

Remembering Joan Way



Joan died on 21 July and on 8 August we had a thanksgiving for her life at Offington Park. Joan is remembered here by her friend of over 80 years, Audrey Garnett:

Joan and I became friends in our first term at High School when we were 11 years old. I rather admired her as she was taller than most of us, good at most sports and she had learned to swim. We started spending Saturday afternoons together, either at her house or mine - but tea at Joan's was the more exciting! Her family were chair manufacturers and the factory wasn't far from the house. Joan had free admission in the days before Health and Safety had ever been thought of, and she showed me various fun things we could do in the workshop. The most exciting was swinging on the hoist used to take the finished chairs down to the ground floor! Outside there was a stream where Joan would paddle and pick up baby frogs.

At school Joan was a diligent student, never missing any tasks. She was very good at Latin which requires a logical brain and throughout her school life she was always top in maths. Joan only told me later in life that her mother suffered frequent mental health problems, and that she had to nurse her and do most of the cooking. This must have been very hard, but she never complained. When I look back on my school days with Joan I am aware of her high moral standards. We had a difficult school life because it took place during the six years of the Second World War. But I remember Joan as always being cheerful and she could tackle problems in a practical and resourceful manner. She was always totally honest and never involved in anything underhand. That was true of her adult life too. She was always a woman of the highest integrity.

Joan always regretted the fact that she had been an only child. After Michael was born she worried a lot that he would have the same fate, but she was richly blessed and justifiably proud of her three fine sons. Her happiness was complete when Lizzie was born and she and Ted had a grandchild.

Throughout her life Joan loved swimming. She was a very good swimmer and it was a great joy for her when they moved to Worthing and she could cycle to the beach for a good long swim in the sea.

In later years we had serious discussions about religion and I know she never lost her faith. She was a very modest person and I had to remind her more

than once that to get a first in Maths from the University of London was a great achievement. It was my very good fortune that I met Joan at Wycombe High School.

Goodbye Joan. I thank you for the privilege of being able to call you my best friend for the past 80 years.

Audrey Garnett

Joy Barnes also recalls:

For many of us, our memories of Joan started when she and Ted moved to Offington Park from Byfleet and quickly settled into church life. Being good at figures, Joan was called on by several groups to help with their accounts – women’s groups, Network and the Scout Group to name just a few. She was an amazing pastoral visitor (although I think she thought otherwise) and I was lucky to have her as my visitor for several years. I greatly valued her care and concern and listening ear. She used her gardening skills to help maintain the church garden and she and Ted opened their own lovely garden on several occasions for coffee mornings and cream teas to raise funds for charities.

She and Ted worked well together and have had a wonderful marriage for the past 67 years. They loved walking and cycling, and Joan chose Psalm 121 to be read at the service. This speaks of a powerful God who created all we see around us, and yet who also knew and watched over each one of us.

One of the hymns Joan also chose for her service ends like this:
‘Tis Jesus the first and the last, whose Spirit shall guide us safe home. We’ll praise him for all that is past and trust him for all that’s to come.’



This is the beginning of a new day.
God has given me this day to use as I will.
I can waste it,
or grow in its light and be of service to others.
But what I do with this day is important,
because I have exchanged a day of my life for it.
When tomorrow comes,
today will be gone forever.
I hope I will not regret the price I paid for it.



MARK THIS DATE

Harvest Festival

On Saturday 28 September we will celebrate Harvest Home with a supper and entertainment.

Festivities will begin at 6:00pm.

There won't be any tickets, but we will be making a charge for food and for catering purposes we would like to know how many will be coming.

Please see the sign-up sheet in the foyer and watch the weekly notices for more details.



We don't mean to be vague and secretive, but on 29 February 2020 we're taking a leap of faith (leap - geddit?) and planning a grand social event to which everyone will be invited. Think "Britain's Got Talent" meets "X-factor" and "The Voice", with a little bit of "Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway" thrown in!

Look out for more details in the coming months.



Computer problem? **BETTER** call us!

Mention this advert for £5 off your first visit.

Same day service.

PCs, Macs and laptops

Local business.

All computer problems solved.

Home and business services.

No call-out charge.

Times to suit.



We come to you.



Call Gary on 01903 654007

www.betterpc.co.uk

info@betterpc.co.uk

A TRANSPORT OF DELIGHT!

I've finished it !

Nine long years ago, after I had retired, I decided I would like to build a small Traction Engine from scratch. Being an engineer and having a workshop gave me the advantage of doing it at my leisure (i.e. not during the winter months).

Over the years I have exhibited parts of the engine, and pictures of the progress, including a talk to the 'Grumpy Old Men'.

I finally completed it a couple of weeks ago.

Colin Green

We think it looks great—well done Colin for nine years of blood, sweat tears and dedication!

The Eds



Taylor Cleaned
Commercial & Domestic Cleaning
Car Valeting

Contact David Taylor
07495 571697

Email: davidrtaylor0108@gmail.com

Fully Insured

Available in and around the Worthing area





All About Britain

(as we go 'all about Britain')

A fun evening of finding out what you know,
what you thought you knew
(and possibly what you don't know)
about Britain

Teams of up to 6 people
£5:00 per person

Food and Drink included

Saturday 16 October
6:30pm
Main Hall

Look out for the sign-up sheet in the Church Foyer!

AUTUMN PROGRAMME



September 5	The Woman of God, The Lord my Creator
September 12	The Woman of God, The Lord my Saviour
September 19	The Woman of God, The Lord my Father
September 26	The Woman of God, The Lord my Comforter
October 3	The Woman of God, The Lord my Husband (part 1)
October 10	The Woman of God, The Lord my Husband (part 2)
October 17	The Woman of God, Part of the Lord's Body
October 24	The Woman of God, The Lord my King



A minister was wondering how to ask the congregation to stump up more money than they had been expecting after making some repairs to the church building. To add to the problems, the organist had called in sick and a replacement had been brought in at the last minute.

The new organist wanted to know what to play. "Here's a copy of the service," the Minister said impatiently, "but you'll have to think of something to play after I talk about the finances."

During the service, the Minister paused and said, "My friends, we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected, and we need an extra £4,000. If any of you can pledge £100 or more, would you please stand up?"

Just then, the organist began to play "The National Anthem."

SEPTEMBER 2019

Sun	1	8:00am	Rev Dawn Carn	Holy Communion
		10:30am	Rev Dawn Carn	Holy Communion & Rededication of Pastoral Visitors
		6:00pm	Rev Dawn Carn	Contemporary Worship
Mon	2	7:00pm	Offington Bells	
Tue	3	11:15am	Keep Fit	
		12:00pm	Tuesday Lunch & Social Club	Drivers: Alison Wright & Adam Cook
Thu	5	9:45am	Paint With Me	Art Club
		11:00am	Bible Fellowship	(See page 15 for details)
		1:30pm	Knit'n'Natter	
		2:00pm	Short Mat Bowls	
Fri	6	2:00pm	Shopper to Sainsburys	Doug Sibley
Sun	8	10.30am	Rev Dawn Carn	
		3:30pm	Rev Dawn Carn	Messy Church
Mon	9	10:15am	Getaway Club	For Carers and Toddlers
Tue	10	11:00am	Grumpy Old Men	Speaker: Graham Locking
		11:15am	Keep Fit	
		12:00pm	Tuesday Lunch & Social Club	Drivers: Adam Cook & Meg Hopkins
Wed	11	10:15am	Getaway Club	For Carers and Toddlers
Thu	12	9:45am	Paint With Me	Art Club
		11:00am	Bible Fellowship	(See page 15 for details)
		2:00pm	Short Mat Bowls	
Fri	13	10:30am	Offington Cameo	Welcome (with coffee and cake)
Sun	15	8:00am	Breakfast Church	
		10:30am	Rev Dawn Carn	
		6:00pm	Rev Dawn Carn	Holy Communion

SEPTEMBER 2019

Mon	16	10:15am	Getaway Club	For Carers and Toddlers
		7:00pm	Offington Bells	
Tues	17	11:15am	Keep Fit	
		12:00pm	Tuesday Lunch & Social Club	Drivers: Liz & Chris Lance
Wed	18	10:15am	Getaway Club	For Carers and Toddlers
		10:30am	Midmonth Service of Holy Communion	
Thu	19	9:45am	Paint with Me	Art Club
		11:00am	Bible Fellowship	(See page 15 for details)
		1:30pm	Knit'n'Natter	
		2:00pm	Short Mat Bowls	
Sat	21	All day	Worthing String Quartet	Music Recital from 3pm
Sun	22	10:30am	Mr. Pat Marshall	
		6:00pm	Rev Dawn Carn	Cafe
Mon	23	10:15am	Getaway Club	For Carers and Toddlers
		7:00pm	Offington Bells	
Tue	24	11:15am	Keep Fit	
		12:00pm	Tuesday Lunch & Social Club	Drivers: Doug Sibley & Frances Barrell
Wed	25	10:15am	Getaway Club	For Carers and Toddlers
Thu	26	9:45am	Paint With Me	Art Club
		11:00am	Bible Fellowship	(See page 15 for details)
		2:00pm	Short Mat Bowls	
Fri	27	10:30am	Offington Cameo	Joyce Dew - My Life
Sat	28	6.00pm	Harvest Supper	Please sign up in the foyer
Sun	29	10:30am	Rev Dawn Carn	Harvest Festival / YPM
Mon	30	10:15am	Getaway Club	For Carers and Toddlers
		7:00pm	Offington Bells	

CHURCH PASTORAL AID SOCIETY
MINISTRY AMONG WOMEN - WORTHING AREA

Offington Park Methodist Church
ANXIETY & DEPRESSION
WITH INSIGHTS FROM THE PSALMS

Friday 15 November 2019



SPEAKER:
David White
OBE

9:15am-2:30pm

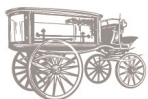
Cost:
£7.00

Your local contact: Gill Powell

A day of worship and teaching for ladies

ALL WELCOME





H D **TRIBE** Ltd

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

3 Generations of Service, One Standard of Excellence



Quality, affordable funerals from a local company that you can trust.

Funeral services how you want them, when you want them.

An independent family firm established in 1929.

01903 234516

130 Broadwater Road, Worthing BN14 8HU

*Local Offices at Goring, Lancing, Littlehampton,
Rustington, Sompting, Shoreham & Storrington.*



24 HOURS A DAY
www.hdtribe.co.uk

Worthing Mental Health Awareness Week

October 7 – 12 2019



Worthing Mental Health Awareness Week (WMHAW) is almost upon us again. Although some details are still being finalised, I know

that we are being blessed, and that our prayers are being answered.

Worthing Samaritans, who are celebrating 50 years of listening in Worthing, have given a generous donation towards WMHAW's costs. They will help with promoting WMHAW through their own contacts and will be on hand during the week itself to offer emotional support. This year the Samaritans' celebratory logo will be on the WMHAW banner with the statement that WMHAW is 'supported by Worthing Samaritans'.

The launch is on Monday 7 October with the Mayor, and this will be followed by a presentation from Safe In Sussex. On Monday evening, Dr Rick Fraser, Medical Director of Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, will give a talk on how psychiatrists arrive at their diagnoses.

On Wednesday 9 October, there is Mental Health First Aid Training** and various workshops will run throughout the week. As ever, there will be a Film Night and a Concert on Friday 11 October.

As a church, Offington is a member of the Worthing Dementia Action Alliance, and we are committed to making our church, and our community, fully inclusive and dementia friendly. I want therefore to draw special attention to events on the afternoon of Tuesday 8 October:

1. A local 'living well with dementia' group, who call themselves 'Worthing Town Cryers' will show how their insights and personal experience is used to improve services for those with dementia, but also benefits the general population; *followed by*
2. A 'pop-up' Dementia Cafe where we have a 'cream tea'. Hazel will be providing some beautiful music to create a gentle atmosphere and Ric Gray will demonstrate how his 'Sing a Song and Smile' sessions can be used as Cognitive Stimulation Therapy; *this is followed by*
3. The Worthing Dementia Action Alliance, with an Admiral Nurse as guest speaker. Please note that there are no Admiral Nurses in this part of West Sussex, yet we have a high number of people living with dementia, and carers who are emotionally and physically exhausted.

We also have groups and organisations joining us for the first time this year. The programme will be published on social media and will be available from the church. Information will also be sent to local press and radio.



As ever, I am grateful for the tolerance of those who find their usual routines in the church disrupted by WMHAW. I ask not only for your forbearance, but for your prayers - that the planning falls into place, that the various speakers are blessed, and that those who attend find a safe space, a welcome, and a sense of peace and hope.

I would value your help with 'meeting and greeting', with making and serving refreshments (especially Monday to Wednesday), with the AV and associated technology. I would also value your general presence if you are able to drop in. All the events are open to everyone.

Thank you.

Carol Barber

**** training course is a half day event which costs £6:00 (including lunch). It is bookable online through Eventbrite, or speak to Carol for more details.**

Reflexology in Sompting

Boost your body's own healing systems with a relaxing massage using gentle pressure on reflex points in the feet and hands.

Introductory offer:
1st session £24 (1 hour)
Subsequent sessions: £30/hr
£24/hr for 2 or more paid in advance.

Gift Vouchers available



Discounts for certain benefit claimants.

Please inquire.

Pamper Yourself, Your Friends & Family

Call Françoise on 01903 755222 or 07984906353
reflex.sompting@btinternet.com

“Now is the time” March for Climate Change (26 June 2019) Report



Together we put our faith in action and made history! Leaders of the major faiths and none, plus 12,000 others from across the UK lobbied over 350 MPs calling for urgent action to address the climate emergency. This was the biggest mass lobby on climate Westminster has ever seen and it enabled previously unconnected people living within the same constituencies to join together for the same issue.

MP's were invited to leave the cocoon of parliament to see the strength of feeling and meet their constituents. Both Tim Loughton and Peter Bottomley met the marchers.



One of the marchers was our own Romy Petts. She told Spotlight:

Chris Lance had told us about this march which was supported by Christian Aid. Carol Goode, Meg Hoskins and I joined Chris (he kept us in order!?) on 26 June at West Worthing station where we caught the earliest “cheap rate” train to Victoria. Although our plan was to catch a bus to Westminster, we were advised to walk as there were long delays. We also planned to attend a discussion at noon, and then go to a specific point on the Thames to meet our local MPs.

We arrived at Church House at 12 noon for the start of the forum between various religious leaders, chaired by Rowan Williams. We expected it to be packed to capacity, but were surprised to find only a handful of people seated looking at a blank screen. We gradually established (whilst eating our packed lunch in comfort) that the strong ‘march of witness’ had been very delayed and the discussion finally began just as we had to get up and rush to meet our MPs some distance away.

On route to our meeting point we passed people bearing placards from WWF, CAFOD, Woodland Trust, Friends of the Earth, and lots of other organisations all desperate to get the powers that be to do something to stop global warming. Banners were thrust in our hands as we arrived at our destination.



I was with the group waiting for Tim Loughton and the others in our group were waiting to see Peter Bottomley. Tim came out to meet us and was excellent. Obviously, he was keen to do all he could and said he felt that climate change was the biggest threat to us all. I was very impressed with his interest in a children's group on Climate Change which he had set up in Worthing.

At 2 o'clock we were all encouraged to make as much noise as we could manage. I wielded a very elderly football rattle which made quite a racket! Carol had brought whistles and Meg a tambourine. The overall din, although short in length, was very impressive.



The others told me that Sir Peter hadn't shown up, but several emails from Chris had elicited his agreement to "probably be able to meet us at the House of Commons at 3 o'clock." Those waiting to see him were not amused but most agreed we would trudge over to Portcullis House and talk to him there.

In my opinion he was patronising, rather rude and showed very little interest in any of the questions we were finally allowed to put to him, having had to endure his reading a long report which we didn't want to hear.

As it was by then too late to catch the last cheap train before the peak charges kicked in (and as we were with Chris) we found somewhere to eat - a brilliant little café with delicious cakes at very reasonable prices and a choice of good coffees.

We then made our way to St. James' Park and killed time by ambling around people-watching and resting weary legs while watching wildfowl in the lake.

On the train home we told those unfortunate enough to sit near us of our adventure and our reasons for going and demonstrating.



They seemed to be in agreement with us, so maybe.....just maybewe changed their minds.

Romy Petts

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS



Wedding

Graham & Katie (7 September)

Many Congratulations to you both!



Milestone Birthday

John T

We wish him a very happy time!



Death

Joan W

We give thanks for her life and pray for her family and friends at this time of loss

OFFERTORIES

23 June	£399.82	28 July	£519.60
30 June	£416.50	4 August	£515.30
7 July	£539.09	11 August	£421.13
14 July	£436.10	18 August	£377.55
21 July	£341.51		

Giving by standing order each month currently averages £3,300.

Thank you for all you give - both financially and with service

Please remember to Gift Aid if you are a taxpayer

that's
Life

A doctor was playing with his young son. The boy scraped his knee and ran crying to Dad, who kissed it better, tousled his hair and sent him on his way.

His elder brother turned to his Dad and said "Six years of medical school and that's all you've got?"

JUBILATE'S JOLLIFICATIONS!

In June we reported that Jubilate is 30 in 2019.

They had a garden party to celebrate and here is the evidence that being part of a singing group isn't all work and no play!



OFFINGTON CAMEO AUTUMN 2019 PROGRAMME

Date	Event
13 September	Welcome with coffee and cake
27 September	Joyce Dew: My Life
11 October	Talk on Teddy bear collection. Bring your own bear
25 October	Quiz by Carol Suddaby
8 November	Men's Challenge: Indoor Cricket
22 November	A morning with John and Douglas
13 December	Christmas celebration

For more information about CAMEO (which stands for **C**ome **A**nd **M**eet **E**very **O**ne), please contact the Church Office on 01903 205722.

CAMEO is pleased to welcome anyone who would like to join them at their first Welcome Morning on 13 September. They are pleased to welcome former members of Tuesday Group, friends who are not church members and anyone else who is interested. See you there.

Margaret Hallard.

Stephanie reports on her Ghana Trip 2019

First of all, I would like to say thank you to everyone who has supported me through my journey towards this trip. I couldn't have done it without your generous donations. It was incredible to see your money being used to brighten the children's school life. It paid for materials needed to build a new classroom, paint the other classrooms and provide toys for the nursery children who previously had nothing in their classroom but tables and chairs.



The experience was truly life changing. I have seen things I never thought I'd see and had new and once-in-a-lifetime opportunities. The smiles on the children's faces when we arrived and the tears in their eyes when we left, showed how much this meant to them and how positive the impact we'd had was.

Most of the experiences I had are indescribable but I still have many stories to tell, some are the kind to put a smile on your face but a lot are difficult to tell and show how eye opening the trip was.

It was hard work but I'm glad I was accepted for this trip and I wouldn't change it for the world. Seeing the faith these people had in God was inspiring and there were many moments when I just stood in awe of their strength and kindness. We were quickly accepted as part of the school community and we were also welcomed by the wider community outside the school.

Seeing the culture and how different it is to ours was shocking and slightly scary at times, but it was definitely good to experience something so different and in the end we became more comfortable with the huge change in lifestyle. The bustling markets and welcoming (and occasionally over friendly) people were an important part of the experience and led to us working better as a team as we learnt how to work efficiently in the new environment.



I will never forget the children's smiles and giggles or the generosity of the teachers at the school. And I will definitely not forget the smell of the toilets!

The sound of the children singing 'My Lighthouse' to send us off is something I hope I will always remember. Never before have I met such selfless and happy people who have to live such difficult lives.



We all learnt so much in the time we spent there. We learnt that anyone can make a difference, that a small smile can have a big impact and, most importantly, we learnt that as a team we can conquer even the biggest of challenges. It was an inspiring trip that taught us many valuable lessons that we will all take with us through life. Thanks again for all your support.

Stephanie



10:00am

Tuesday 10 September

(in the church)

Serving the King of Kings
in the
Sport of Kings

With Graham Locking
Former National Chaplain to Horseracing

**All Men
Welcome**

**You don't
have to
be grumpy
(but It helps!)**



I am a registered domestic electrician, providing a quality and friendly service in the Worthing and surrounding area, including:

- Home inspection: testing your electrical circuits against UK standards to find any potential hazards and highlight any lack of earthing and bonding
- Replace Fuse Boards; House Rewires; Smoke Detectors
- Additional power sockets and renewing light fixtures
- Electrical repairs and maintenance

I am happy to visit and discuss your requirements, providing a free quote. *Reviews can be seen on Checkatrade.*

Chris Ludlow 07899 980090 chrisludlow6@gmail.com

WISE
WORDS
TO LIVE BY

**Great minds think alike...but small minds
and fools rarely (or seldom) differ.**



Babysitter covering Worthing and surrounding areas

Karen Sherratt

Qualified NNEB Nursery Nurse and Early Years Practitioner. Over 20 years experience across nurseries, schools and the NHS. Valid paediatric first aid, DBS and insurance. Covering all ages from new borns to teens.

07393 686028

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



by Sue Head

The soldiers mocked and jeered at him; but it's the same today
When God is mentioned; talked about; so many shy away.

Yet "Where is God in all of this?" So many of us say
When something tragic happens to us in the world today.

"Why should we believe in Him or even read His Word".
"It's just an ancient story". "Just a fable, so we've heard."

We ban him from our homes and schools. We just don't want to hear
And so we turn away from Him and live our lives in fear.

We mustn't speak his words of truth in case we should offend,
As people have a right to do whatever is "the trend".

Our children suffer without rules. They don't know how to live.
With no respect for anyone, learn how to take not give.

But He is there. Just waiting for us. Wanting us to hear
The Words he wrote to show us all we need not live in fear.

And we must care for one another. Care about our world.
For God will meet us where we are. We'll see his plan unfurl.

We'll live in peace and walk with him; we'll finally understand
The joy and peace and wonderment of being in God's hands.

LOVE IN A BOX



We are planning once again to support the 'Love in a Box' appeal, which sends Christmas boxes to children in Moldova.

If you would like to knit scarves, hats or gloves to be included in boxes, we will gladly pass them on to folk who are filling the boxes. Please fill a box if you are able, and please enclose £4:00 with your box which helps towards the cost of transport. Boxes will be collected and transported in early November.

Thank you so much in advance for your contributions this year, and for your overwhelming support in the past.

Margaret Hallard

Unhappy?

Overwhelmed?



EST. 1983 AS OFFINGTON COUNSELLING SERVICE

Here to help you find
a way forward

01903 212275

www.worthingcounsellingcentre.org

info@worthingcounsellingcentre.org

ADVERTISE WITH US



Offington Park is a busy church. We have a number of different sized rooms for hire and we can cater for small groups and larger conference-style events. These are very competitively priced and therefore are popular with the local community.

Our premises are extensively used by church members, community groups, schools and commercial organisations, resulting in a significant footfall through the premises almost every day.

Spotlight magazine is made available to every person that attends regular church services and to the many visitors that use our premises every week. Copies are also sent to former members.

So, why not advertise your services with us and make your name visible to the many visitors to our premises, as well as those that are regularly looking at our website. If required, we can also include a direct hyperlink from our website to your own website at no extra charge.

Our competitive advertising rates (which are for 10 issues and cover a full year) range from £60.00 for a third of a page advert, up to £150.00 for a full-page advert.

There is no VAT payable.

Existing advertisers are invited annually to renew with us - most do.

We welcome new advertisers and we can start your advertisement at any time for a pro-rata charge covering the number of issues remaining before the next annual renewal invitation.

We will accept your own artwork in **Word** or **JPEG** file formats, scaled to fit the space purchased. We can also prepare the artwork for a one-off charge per advertisement of **£35.00**.

To enquire about advertising with us, and to obtain a copy of our full rate guide, please email the Editor at:

offingtonspotlight@gmail.com

NEXT EDITION

Copy Deadline

Publication Date

Wednesday 18 September

Sunday 29 September

Please submit material for the next edition
to the Editors at:

offingtonspotlight@gmail.com

A passenger in a taxi tapped the cab driver on the shoulder to ask a question...the driver screamed, lost control of the car, nearly hit a bus, went up on the footpath, missed a motorcyclist, scraped along the railings and stopped just inches from the plate glass windows of a department store.

For a full three seconds everything went quiet in the cab, then the driver slowly turned around and said, "Look, don't ever do that again. You scared the living daylights out of me!"

The passenger apologised and said, "I didn't realize that a little tap would scare you so much."

The driver replied, "Sorry, it's not really your fault. Today is my first day as a taxi driver. For the last 25 years I've been driving a hearse."



Offington Park Methodist Church,
South Farm Road, Worthing,
BN14 7TN

Tel: 01903 205722

Email: office@offingtonpark.org.uk

Web: www.offingtonpark.org.uk

