

# SPOTLIGHT

Offington Park Methodist Church Magazine



July/August 2022

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### Cover Picture

Our cover shows the Chichester Market Cross, a Grade I listed building which stands at the intersection of the city's four principal streets.



It is believed to have been built in 1501 by Bishop Edward Story, to replace an earlier wooden construction. The Bishop allowed poor peasants, with only a few vegetables or eggs to sell, to trade without paying a toll provided they could stand under the cross. Bishop Story died in 1503 and left £25 a year in his will for the Cross's upkeep.

The current Cross is an eight-sided structure made of Caen stone, a popular building material of the time, and has a central column supported by eight flying buttresses. Around the base of the column is a low stone seating area with a stone-paved floor.

In 1724, Lady Farrington paid for clocks to be added on three sides, the fourth side marking her gift with an inscription. Three clocks were not popular and in 1746, they were replaced with four new dials. The clocks currently in situ were installed in 1904 and are now powered by electricity.

The Cross ceased to serve its original purpose in 1808, when the increased population of the city meant a more extensive market area was required and a large market house was built nearby.

## Dear Friends,

In conversation with other ministers, I often hear the words, 'Oh no, time for the monthly newsletter - what am I going to write about this time?'



They voice the thoughts in my head most months, but not because I have nothing to write about; rather, it is what to leave out as so much is going on. It has been really good to welcome back some of the preachers from the past this year, including Rev Bob Sneddon last month, and this will continue as we welcome our Chair of District, Rev David Hinchliffe. David will be here on a few occasions, as he is coming to preach, to lead our services of farewell for Rev Ian Suttie and Rev Bob Sneddon and then to welcome our new Superintendent Rev Rosemarie Clarke and our new probationer minister Rev Steven Donnison.

Later this year we will be welcoming Rev James Bamber and Rev Paul Arnold back too. We will hold our main Anniversary Celebration service at Harvest and will be using parts of the original 1932 service when the church was opened. We hope to have at least one recorded message from another past minister Rev Brian Fitzpatrick, at this service.

As you look back over the last paragraph, you might notice that it is littered with names. The continuation of our church community builds on the past dedication of the people of God and its leaders, which furthers the building of the kingdom of God here on earth.

However, it is foolish to live only in the glory of the past and not look to the future. We are grateful to those who have gone before, of course, but their commitment and dedication needs to carry us forward. As I preached at Pentecost, the church must be brave enough to speak the language of the common age, to allow the Gospel message of hope, love and peace to reach out into ever larger areas. This can sometimes mean facing challenges.

We offer our congratulations and prayers to Rev. Ian Couchman who will be accepted into Full Connexion and ordained this year at Conference. At the service he will hear the words: "this ministry will make great demands upon you and upon those close to you, yet in all this, the Holy Spirit will sustain you by his grace". These words are echoed in our covenant service each year. The Holy Spirit is our constant helper and guide.

As we give thanks for the past, let's look to the future with hope,  
anticipation and joy. (continued over...)

(continued...) If you are going away on holiday this year, travel safely. If you are going through a difficult period in your life be assured of my continued prayers. If you are looking to the future and wonder what it holds for you, may you be aware of the Holy Spirit guiding your thoughts and direction. May we as a church be ready to make some bold decisions in order to continue the work in this place and community.

With grateful love and prayers for who you are and all you do..

*Dawn*

**Shout.**  
Street Homeless Outreach



**Worthing  
Soup Kitchen**

**SHOUT WSK** stands for **Street Homeless Outreach Worthing Soup Kitchen**. We are a registered charity that provides engagement and emergency food for the homeless and vulnerable community in Worthing. Our aim is to work towards making homelessness in Worthing a thing of the past. We have a team of volunteers providing hot meals, clothes, sleeping bags, and other items and we provide a hot food service every Sunday morning from St Clare's Day Centre to those in need. We also deliver food and items to those unable to get to the Day Centre, alongside food parcel deliveries to people living in Worthing and the surrounding areas.

Through our work with local businesses and the community, we receive donations of food, essential items, furniture and money. This enables us to 'pay it forward' and help those in need. We are very grateful for any help we receive.

We are always in need of the following items: cereal, orange squash, tea, coffee, sugar, hot chocolate, UHT milk, biscuits, chocolate, canned and packet soup, canned meat, canned fish, canned beans etc, sandwich spreads, pasta sauce, deodorant, size 6 nappies, pet food, crisps, washing powder, fabric softener and cleaning products.

Please think of us when you're shopping and buy a couple of extra things to leave at church and help top up our food bank. **Thank you.**

# CHURCH FAMILY NEWS



## DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

**Yvonne & Malcolm H (25th August)**

## GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

**Pauline & Alan D (29th July)**

With best wishes for your special days!



## DEATHS

**Grace F**

**Ronnie G**

**Geoff H**

We give thanks for their lives and pray for their families and friends at this sad time

## 90th ANNIVERSARY & FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Offington Bells would like to thank everyone who supported or was involved in their recent concert which raised over **£670**

### OFFERTORIES FOR MAY 2022

Cash & Envelopes	<b>£1,494.70</b>	Standing Order	<b>£4,989</b>
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A boy was asked the age of himself and of his sister. He replied:

"Three years ago I was seven times as old as my sister; two years ago I was four times as old; last year I was three times as old; and this year I am two and a half times as old." *What are their ages?*



# JULY SERVICES

## Sunday 3 July

8:00am Holy Communion

Rev Dawn Carn

10:30am All Age Worship

Rev Dawn Carn

## Sunday 10 July

10:30am Holy Communion

Rev Dawn Carn

3:30pm Messy Church

## Sunday 17 July

8:00am Breakfast Church

10:30am Morning Worship

Rev Ian Couchman

## Sunday 24 July

10:30am Morning Worship

Rev David Hinchliffe

10:30am Fun Church

Rev Dawn Carn

6:00pm Café Church

Rev Dawn Carn

## Sunday 31 July (fifth Sunday)

10:30am Morning Worship

Rev Graham Locking

## I'M INSULTED!

From William Shakespeare's "I desire that we be better strangers" from As You Like It to Oscar Wilde's "Some cause happiness wherever they go; others whenever they go" throughout the ages people have found new and inventive ways of framing an insult. The following glorious insults are from an era before the English language somehow got boiled down to four-letter words.



"Winston, if I were your wife, I would poison your coffee"

Lady Astor to Winston Churchill

"Madam, if I were your husband, I would drink it!"

Winston Churchill (in response)

"I have never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with great pleasure."

Clarence Darrow

"He has never been known to use a word that might send a reader to the dictionary."

William Faulkner on Hemingway

"Thank you for sending me a copy of your book; I'll waste no time in reading it"

Moses Hadas

"He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends.."

Oscar Wilde

"I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play; bring a friend.... if you have one."

George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill

"Cannot possibly attend first night, will attend second.... if there is one."

Winston Churchill (in response)

"He is a self-made man and worships his creator."

John Bright

"He is not only dull himself; he is the cause of dullness in others."

Samuel Johnson

"Why do you sit there looking like an envelope without any address on it?"

Mark Twain

"His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork."

Mae West

"He has Van Gogh's ear for music."

Billy Wilder

"I've had a perfectly wonderful evening. But this wasn't it."

Groucho Marx



*Saturday*  
*15 October 2022*  
*2:30pm*

We hope you're all rehearsing hard for your 'turn' in our **90th Anniversary Variety Show**.

We hope to give the Broadwater and Offington communities a day they will remember for a long time to come!

We are building a varied programme, but please don't think there isn't still room for your talents! There is!

If you have a hidden desire to be on the stage then you're exactly the person we're looking for. Don't be shy. You can do it!

**If you've already signed up - thank you!**  
**If you haven't, well what are you waiting for?**

Don't forget, we don't just need on-stage talent. If you feel led to help in any way on the day, or in preparation for it, please get in touch with Romy, or speak to the Welcome Desk. We would love to hear what you can offer.

Please watch the notices to find out when you will be able to view our livestreamed church services on the church's own You Tube channel.



We are still finalising everything we need to have in place to stream effectively, safely, and in line with copyright law, and considering how we can provide a worshipful, reflective experience for our online congregation as well as those who are physically present in church.

Our first few livestreams will be private and only those people given access to the streaming link will be able to view. This is to gather feedback on what we are doing well (or not so well) so we can fine tune our online offering. We will announce which services will be livestreamed when we do so.

Please bear with us as we continue to test the technology and please ask one of the AV team if you have any concerns.




**We continue to hold Ukraine in our prayers  
in light of the ongoing conflict.**



We pray that refugees may find safe places to stay, and that they will find a heartfelt, compassionate welcome wherever they have fled. We pray especially for those people still in Ukraine who cannot flee, for example those with disabilities or the elderly. Lord, protect them from the senseless violence, and help the aid agencies in Ukraine to provide them with essential supplies, such as food and clean water.

We ask for healing for those who are wounded or are suffering from trauma; and comfort for those who are grieving.

We pray for those in positions of leadership on both sides. That they will be filled with compassion, wisdom, calm and a strong desire for peace. We pray too for world leaders, that they will balance their responses to the injustice of the invasion by seeking ways to build bridges, de-escalate tensions, and restore global security.



Lord, may your church in the Ukraine, Russia, the wider region and indeed the world be a voice for peace; may they find the resources they need to help the vulnerable, whilst being vocal and persistent against aggression and injustice. May they be a beacon of light, bringing a message of love and hope in the midst of the darkness.

We pray for those suffering indirectly from the war; for those seeing a significant rise in their cost of living, from food to fuel. We ask that food and fuel prices will stabilise, and that provision will be made for economically poorer countries, that are always disproportionately affected by such shocks.

Above all, Lord, we pray for a swift end to the violence - swifter than anyone expects or hopes for. Equip those trying to find diplomatic solutions leading to lasting peace, so that people who have fled will be able to return home, and that what has been destroyed will be rebuilt. Give strength to individuals and organisations in Ukraine, Russia and the region who are working for peace at local, national and regional levels. **Amen**

## Christians Against Poverty (CAP) provides free debt help and local community groups across the UK.

CAP is a free service, run with local churches, providing practical and emotional support and showing people in debt that there is always hope.



With a small donation and a great deal of faith, John Kirkby started CAP in 1996. He believed God was calling him to sacrifice his career in finance and use his knowledge of the industry to help the poor.

His faith adventure led him to people overcome by debt; parents who couldn't feed their children, families facing eviction and desperate people living in fear and without hope. He used his expertise to negotiate with creditors, establish budgets and offer a lifeline to those trapped in debt.

John knew that people all over the country were struggling in the same way and he began looking to replicate the work across the UK. With the vital ingredients of a church to partner with, a passionate person to be trained as a debt counsellor and the faith that God would provide, four new CAP centres were opened at the end of 1998. Since then, CAP has rapidly grown its debt centre network and expanded its services to tackle the causes of debt and poverty too.

We are facing the greatest cost of living crisis in decades. If you feel overwhelmed by debt and are struggling to cope, talk to CAP. They would love to help answer any questions you might have.

**CAP Helpline: 0800 328 0006**



## NOTES TO NOTE!

**Time to check your purses and wallets! On 30 September** old-style paper £20 and £50 notes (over £17bn remain in circulation) will cease

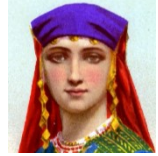
to be legal tender and you won't be able to spend them in shops, although you will be able to deposit them into your account.

The new notes feature the artist JMW Turner on the £20 and mathematician Alan Turing on the £50.

Despite cash usage falling sharply during the pandemic, cash still accounts for around 17% of all payments, making it the second most-popular way to pay after debit cards.

## A CLOSER LOOK AT....REBEKAH

**(Isaac's wife, who used tricks and lies  
to get her own way)**



Family tensions are pretty normal. But resolving them is tricky. Rebekah's methods certainly left a lot to be desired.

We don't know for sure why Rebekah tricked husband Isaac into giving the family headship to Jacob the youngest, rather than the elder son Esau. It may have been in reaction to Isaac's favouring of Esau, or because Esau was rebellious and Rebekah had lost her patience with him.

Whatever the reason, there's no hint that she prayerfully placed her son's lives into God's hands. Instead, she used manipulation and deception to try and shape her family's future according to what made sense to her vivid imagination.

Her actions ripped the family apart. She may have got her own way, but she was forced to send Jacob running for his life.

Family tensions are a given. Peaceful, united resolutions are not. Rebekah shows us the tragedy of trying to force our own agendas. We can end up destroying the very thing we're trying to save.

## WE'RE ALL GOING ON A SUMMER HOLIDAY!

Cliff Richard had a chart hit with those classic words, which were followed by 'no more worries for a week or two'!



That's not how the Grumps feel about it. More like 'plenty of grumping for a week or two'! There's a lot about holidays that yanks our chain. Are they 'fun' and 'relaxing', or are they awful things that leave a gaping hole in your finances, pile on airport stress and leave you fuming behind the inevitable caravan as you crawl slowly into sunny or rainy Cornwall?

Join us for a lively debate on the best and worst of being a grumpy old man on holiday.

**Tuesday 12 July at 10:00am**  
(holiday grump)

**Tuesday 16 August at 10:00am**  
(we're going on a tour of the local cemetery)

**We meet in Zach's Café.**

**Refreshments Available.**

Sing With

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SOUL**

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**Home Baked Cakes!**

Join us on **Tuesday 12 July 2022 8-9.30pm**  
at Offington Park Methodist Church **WORTHING**

No singing experience necessary. Accessible venue.



TO BOOK GO TO **www.brightsoul.co.uk**

**Donations for Safe in Sussex gratefully received.**



**TEA IN THE GARDEN**



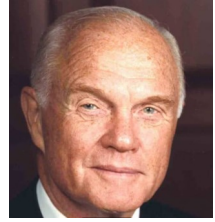
You are invited to the garden of Chris and Liz L,  
(details from Welcome Desk), on Saturday 6 August from 2.30pm to  
5:00pm to enjoy delicious cakes and a chat, plus tea and coffee etc  
in the hopefully warm weather to support Christian Aid.



Tickets are £7. Tickets will be available on the gate, but  
please sign up on the sheet which will be in the church  
foyer from 17 July. This will help us with catering numbers  
and dietary requirements. There will also be a Bring and  
Buy stall. All proceeds go to Christian Aid.

## FAMOUS CHRISTIANS

### John Glenn



Sixty years ago, on 20 February 1962, John Glenn became the first American astronaut to orbit the Earth. He made three orbits, lasting almost five hours, in the space capsule Friendship 7, which he named himself. These orbits made the Presbyterian Christian a hero and a household name.

John Glenn represented Ohio as a Democratic senator for 25 years from 1974, and returned to space in 1998 aboard the space shuttle Discovery, making him at the time the oldest person (at 77) to fly in space. That mission's main aim was to study the effects of space flight on older people.

He later said: *"To see (Earth) laid out like that only strengthens my beliefs. Could this have just happened? Was it an accident that a bunch of flotsam and jetsam suddenly started making these orbits of their own accord? I can't believe that. This was a definite plan. This is one big thing in space that shows me there is a God. Some power put all this in orbit and keeps it there."*

Glenn became an elder in the Presbyterian Church USA and attended the National Presbyterian Church as a member of Congress. "I'm a Presbyterian, a Protestant Presbyterian, and I take my religion seriously as a matter of fact," he once said.

John Glenn died in 2016, aged 95.

### BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU ASK FOR...

A minister was preparing to marry a local couple and when, at the close of the morning service, he saw them both in the congregation, he decided to ask them to come forward so they could be seen by the regular churchgoers.



Unfortunately, he couldn't quite recall their names, so he said: "Will those wanting to get married please come to the front?"

Immediately, nine single ladies, six single men, three widows, and four widowers walked up the aisle.



## **RISE & SHINE, JESUS, SHINE!**

You may have seen this advertised and wondered what it is all about.

Well... it's certainly more Bacon Sandwich than Hymn Sandwich, and there is also Snap, Crackle and Pop as well as Father, Son and Holy Spirit!



We meet on the third Sunday of each month at 8:00am to enjoy a shared breakfast. There is always a wonderful choice – far more than I have at home!

After about twenty minutes, we have a time of all-age worship before splitting up for various activities – craft, games, discussions and singing.

By about 9:20am we join together again to share what we've been doing, maybe sing again and ask God's blessing as we close our time together.

We try to include folk of all ages. You would be very welcome to join us – if you can be up and out of the house for 8 o'clock on a Sunday morning that is!

**Pam F**

## **ZACH'S CAFÉ**

**(a community space)**

**Mondays to Thursdays**

**9:00am - 12 noon**



**Coffee, cake, company - that's what Zach's offers you!**

**We have the perfect space in which babies and toddlers can run around and play with the many toys available whilst their guardians take time out to relax and chat.**

**Prefer the quiet? No problem! In quieter times it's still a great place to sit, work, relax, read or chat.**

**See you there soon?**

## WHAT'S ON - JULY 2022

<b>Sun</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>Rev Dawn Carn</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
		<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Rev Dawn Carn</b>	<b>All-age Worship</b>
Mon	4	10:30am	Short Mat Bowls	
Tue	5	12:00pm	Tuesday Lunch & Social Club	
Thu	7	11:00am	Bible Fellowship	
		2:00pm	Knit 'n' Natter	
Fri	8	10:15am	Offington CAMEO	Strawberry Celebration
Sat	9	11:00am	Caribbean Street Food Party	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Rev Dawn Carn</b>	<b>Holy Communion / Healing</b>
		<b>3:00pm</b>	<b>Messy Church Team</b>	<b>Messy Church</b>
Mon	11	10:30am	Short Mat Bowls	
Tue	12	10:00am	Grumpy Old Men	Grumpy Holidays
		12:00pm	Tuesday Lunch & Social Club	
Thu	14	11:00am	Bible Fellowship	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>Breakfast Church Team</b>	<b>Breakfast Church</b>
		<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Rev Ian Couchman</b>	
		<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Circuit Farewell Service for Revs Ian Suttie &amp; Bob Sneddon</b>	
Mon	18	10:30am	Short Mat Bowls	
Tue	19	12:00pm	Tuesday Lunch & Social Club	
<b>Wed</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Mid-month Holy Communion</b>	<b>Rev Dawn Carn</b>
Thu	21	11:00am	Bible Fellowship	
		2:00pm	Knit 'n' Natter	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Rev David Hinchliffe</b>	
		<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Rev Dawn Carn</b>	<b>Fun Church</b>
		<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Church Lunch</b>	

## WHAT'S ON - JULY 2022

Sun	24	6:00pm	Rev Dawn Carn	Café Church
Mon	25	10:30am	Short Mat Bowls	
		7:00pm	Offington Bells	
Thu	28	11:00am	Bible Fellowship	
Sun	31	10:30am	Rev Graham Locking	

## WHAT'S ON - AUGUST 2022

Mon	1	10:30am	Short Mat Bowls	
		7:00pm	Offington Bells	
Thu	4	2:00pm	Knit 'n' Natter	
Sat	6	2:30pm	Tea in the Garden	Proceeds to Christian Aid
Sun	7	8:00am	Rev Dawn Carn	Holy Communion
		10:30am	Rev Dawn Carn	All-age Worship
Mon	8	10:30am	Short Mat Bowls	
		7:00pm	Offington Bells	
Sat	13	TBC	Brass Band Concert	Methodist Youth Brass Band
Sun	14	10:30am	Rev Dawn Carn	featuring Methodist Youth Band
		3:30pm	Messy Church Team	Messy Church Outing
		6:00pm	Mr Pat Marshall	Summer Songs of Praise
Mon	15	10:30am	Short Mat Bowls	
		7:00pm	Offington Bells	
Tue	16	10:00am	Grumpy Old Men	Grave Matters - Cemetery Tour
Thu	18	2:00pm	Knit 'n' Natter	
Sun	21	8:00am	Breakfast Church Team	Breakfast Church
		10:30am	Rev Dawn Carn	includes Baptism
		6:00pm	Rev Geoff Bell	Summer Songs of Praise

## WHAT'S ON - AUGUST 2022

Mon	22	10:30am	Short Mat Bowls	
		7:00pm	Offington Bells	
Sun	28	10:30am	Rev Frank Okai Sam	
		10:30am	Rev Dawn Carn	Fun Church
		6:00pm	Rev Dawn Carn	Summer Songs of Praise
Mon	29	10:30am	Short Mat Bowls	
Tue	30	12:00pm	Tuesday Lunch & Social Club	

## ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A VENUE FOR YOUR NEXT EVENT?

We have a variety of rooms suitable for parties,  
concerts, seminars, clubs, classes - even  
conferences!

Visit our website at  
[offingtonpark.org.uk/venue-hire](http://offingtonpark.org.uk/venue-hire)  
for more details  
or email us at [offingtonparkchurch@gmail.com](mailto:offingtonparkchurch@gmail.com)



Allan Fletcher Hall



We have all watched with horror the unfolding war in Ukraine and we have been truly heartbroken by the human suffering and atrocities we are seeing every day on our TV screens.

Humanitarian aid is, thankfully, now reaching Ukraine, as are Bibles from the Bible Society team in Ukraine. Despite bombs and missiles raining down on them, and having to drive over rugged terrain as roads and bridges are bombed-out, aid workers are getting through to areas of great need. People in towns outside Kyiv have been asking for bread, but also Bibles as they know that God's word can be a comfort in troubled times, even though many have not had a Bible before.

In some towns, especially Mariupol, but also Borodianka and Bucha, the devastation is total. There is no electricity, natural gas or water and people are cooking on fires just to survive.

Ukraine, which gained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, is over 2.5 times the size of the UK with a population of over 43m, although many millions have fled the country and many more are displaced from their homes. Ukraine (the name comes from the Slavic 'ukraina', meaning 'borderland') is a strongly Christian country with over 70% identifying as Christians. Bible society is not only working in Ukraine, but also in the UK, handing out Bibles and resources to refugees in both Ukrainian and Russian.

Pray for Ukraine. Pray first and foremost that this terrible and unnecessary war will end soon, and that humanitarian aid, in whatever form it arrives, may truly be able to meet the greatest needs.

Pray also that, through the distribution of God's word, the people of Ukraine may have hope and a light in the darkness, and that their resolve will help the country to a better place to face the future, whatever it may hold.

Pray lastly for the children of Ukraine, that they may grow up in a land free from the horrors of war where God's words of peace and justice prevail over human suffering.





## A JOURNEY THROUGH THE BIBLE

### 1 Samuel



**Do you sometimes feel like you know better than God? Do you get tired of having to be different? Does it feel like God's ways are less exciting than everyone else's?**

In 1 Samuel, God's people felt that way too. They were fed up with their Judges; they wanted a king like all the other nations. God knew they were really saying they no longer wanted Him to be King. But He gave them what they wanted anyway: King Saul, the tallest, handsomest man in the land and good king material.

Maybe not. This book traces his downward spiral from jealousy into madness and just plain evil. Saul didn't start out a bad guy, but he made poor decisions, thinking he knew better than God.

Meanwhile, enter one of the Bible's biggest heroes: David, the shepherd boy who would become Israel's greatest ever king! His life is a thrilling tale of bravery, close shaves and killing giants. But what really made David so different was being "a man after God's own heart".

Follow the stories of Saul and David and discover that, in the end, there are only two ways to live in this world: for God or as god. And only one ends well.

## OFFINGTON CAMEO

We meet in the Allan Fletcher Hall,  
where a warm welcome awaits you.

### STRAWBERRY CELEBRATION

Friday 8 July

£3:00 in aid of Action for Children

Greeting cards will also be on sale for the same cause

**You are very welcome to join us for coffee at 10:15am  
and a prompt start at 10:30am**



*Margaret H*

# AUGUST SERVICES

## Sunday 7 August

8:00am Holy Communion

Rev Dawn Carn

10:30am All Age Worship

Rev Dawn Carn

## Sunday 14 August

10:30am Holy Communion

Rev Ian Suttie

3:30pm Messy Church

6:00pm Summer Songs of Praise

Mr Pat Marshall

## Sunday 21 August

8:00am Breakfast Church

10:30am Morning Worship

Rev Dawn Carn

6:00pm Summer Songs of Praise

Rev Geoff Bell

## Sunday 28 August

10:30am Morning Worship

Rev Frank Okai Sam

10:30am Fun Church

Rev Dawn Carn

6:00pm Summer Songs of Praise

Rev Dawn Carn

# Dancing Bears Ballet

Ballet classes for children ages 2+.  
Introducing the basics of Ballet within  
a fun environment

For more info contact :

Miss Tracey – AISTD

07718697943

[Dancingbearsballet.vpweb.co.uk](http://Dancingbearsballet.vpweb.co.uk)

[Dancingbearsballet@outlook.com](mailto:Dancingbearsballet@outlook.com)

like us on Facebook

Pre-school  
Ballet Classes  
at  
Offington Park  
Methodist Church

Main Hall

Wednesdays

11:00am

## Taylor Cleaned

Commercial & Domestic Cleaning  
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Contact David Taylor

07495 571697

Email: [davidrtaylor0108@gmail.com](mailto:davidrtaylor0108@gmail.com)

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Available in and around the Worthing area



## SMARTEN UP YOUR HOME!

Any home can be a smart home. It's the powerful connections that make it smart. But just what is a "smart home"?

Well, an official definition of "smart home" doesn't exist. Smart home technology is still in its infancy, and even among those who have adopted it, one smart home can look very different from another, depending on the number and type of smart devices in the home. At its very core, a smart home is probably best defined as a living area with connected technology meant to enhance the home. This could include lights, plugs, doorbells, locks or voice assistants like Google Assistant and Alexa.

**Smart thermostats** can actually programme themselves and save you more money than they cost to buy. Through artificial intelligence, a smart thermostat will learn when you tend to leave home, when you return, and what your preferred temperature is in the winter and summer. Then, all on its own, it will start controlling the temperature of your house based on that information. Teaching it is as simple as changing the temperature when you feel the need.



Most people who are home a lot probably don't need one, though, and would benefit more from **smart lights and plugs** which offer Voice Control and more. These require no installation knowledge. Light bulbs come in a range of colours that you can change as required. But you'll need one for every light you want to make smart, which means the cost can add up quickly.

Smart switches and outlets replace your existing traditional light switches and outlets, and you will likely need specialist help to install. A smart light switch can cost the same as a smart light bulb or two but controls many or all lights in a room, usually with integrated voice assistant control.

Smart outlets and smart plugs generally have the same features (automation, voice assistant, and energy monitoring). Simply plug into an outlet, then plug a device into it. No wiring is necessary.





With a **smart door lock**, you can grant PIN or app access to your lock and revoke it when it isn't needed anymore. Installation isn't much more difficult than replacing a standard lock. **Smart doorbells** are more tricky to install, but will give you video when movement, such as someone approaching the door, is detected. Between the doorbell and the lock, you'll be able to see who is at your house and, if appropriate, grant access remotely, say to a family member who's dropped by while you're out.

Then, with a **voice assistant**, you can pull your various devices together to make them work in collaboration. That means you can control a whole room or whole house of devices and create automation routines that take care of things for you.



If you frequently forget to turn off the lights or lock a door before you leave, you can set up a daily routine to solve the problem. Much like a smart home hub, every device connected to your voice assistant can be controlled from a single app.

Some might say that nobody needs to talk to a house to control lights, but there's something magical about the first time you have your hands full of groceries, and you speak to turn on the kitchen lights! Afterwards, you may never go back!

While smart home devices cost some money, so do other household purchases you don't really need, such as floor rugs and decorations. The question should always be whether the cost is worth what you get out of it. Do the cost/benefit maths. A starter smart home can be put together for less than £300 and more importantly, you don't have to buy everything at once.

Start with a single voice assistant, then sprinkle in a light bulb or two. Build your smart home up over time, and you won't feel the bite of the cost so much.

Nearly every smart home is different, and that's no surprise because homes themselves are very different. Whether you live in a small flat or a mansion, you can connect your living space to a network and gain new control of your home. At the end of the day, a smart home is whatever you want it to be.



## JUBILEE LUNCH A GREAT SUCCESS!

On Tuesday 31 May, Adam and his small team of loyal volunteers, led by Sarah the Cook, laid on a spectacular celebration lunch. Around 40 guests came, some from Guild Care. Some arrived in “regalia”, including tiaras! Guests were absolutely overwhelmed by the whole event. Our regulars almost expect special treats on these occasions!



The Main Hall was beautifully decorated with Union Flags, bunting and helium balloons. Two long tables were adorned with purple anniversary serviettes, bud vases with tiny flowers and a flag, sparkling drink bottles and place mats printed with word searches about the Platinum celebration. A delicious roast lamb lunch was followed by individual cheesecakes invented and made by Sarah; each ramekin had a rice paper picture of the Queen on the top. Tea or coffee was then distributed with hand made and decorated biscuits and tiny bags holding two special chocolates. Adam invited everyone to raise their glasses to toast Her Majesty, followed by leading the first verse of the National Anthem.

Later those who stayed, about 24 guests, played scrabble and other board games, or table tennis. After this, special cupcakes and teas were served by Adam who then saw everyone safely out of the building and then cleared away the tables and swept the floor. Well done and a huge thank you to everyone who worked so hard, planning and preparing for this memorable event. Now breathe.

**Romy**

**From a school test...**

**Out of the mouths...**

In the first book of the Bible, Guinessis, God got tired of creating the world, so he took the Sabbath off.

Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree.

Noah built an ark with his wife, Joan of Ark. The animals came on in pears.



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### IT'S A MYSTERY

Who knew what time it was  
when the first clock was made?



### NUMBER CHAIN ANSWER

26	27	28				
25	30	29	20		18	17
24	31	32	21	19	16	
41	23	22	33	15		
40	39	38	37	34	14	13
1	4	5	36	35	9	12
2	3	6	7	8	11	10

### YOU HAD ONE JOB!



## PENTECOST PAINTING

After the two paintings I had done for the Offington Tree Festival, Dawn suggested I might like to do a painting relating to Pentecost. I could only imagine a Victorian type picture about Pentecost, and I asked Dawn if she would like a traditional or contemporary setting for the picture: fortunately she preferred a contemporary style!

So I looked again at the reference to Pentecost in Acts chapter 2, which describes the coming of the Holy Spirit. It says, "the believers were all in one place when there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing. Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire which touched each person there. They began to speak in other languages and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. A large crowd gathered. Then Peter stood up with the other eleven Disciples and in a loud voice began to speak to the crowd".

For my contemporary picture I wanted to find a suitable local site for Peter speaking to the crowd. But where? Broadwater Green? Offington's car park? The steps of St Paul's Church? Montague Place? Maybe the Promenade? But I chose Worthing Pavilion Theatre as a background because of the attractive rainbow colours on the steps. And I included a hint of beach and sea by the side of the pavilion.

As I was adding the disciples to the painting, I was wondering what contemporary disciples would be wearing? Jeans and a tee shirt? Would 21st century disciples be mixed gender? Some young, some older, and from different countries? Then I added some indication of the strong wind, with clouds in the sky and people's hair blowing. And a hint of tongues of fire which touched each person there.

I haven't covered all the implications of Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit in my painting, but I have enjoyed the task. I am so pleased to see the painting currently hanging in the Sanctuary. Thank you Dawn for the initial idea!

**Alan C**



Offington Park Methodist Church

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## JC's LITTLE NUGGETS

### Confidence



My mobile phone is so ancient, it was probably used by Adam in the Garden of Eden. I needed it recently though when my car broke down on Worthing sea front, causing traffic chaos!

In a panic I rang my car recovery provider and got a robot telling me they could not help and to use their App! In total despair I rang the sales department and eventually spoke to a human who helped me and they soon came to repair my car.

Recently, we were invited to a nephew's party, with lots of young people. They all had smartphones (whatever they are), which were in constant use. The young people had total confidence that the phones would find them answers, keep them organised, informed and "connected". Both these instances showed how out of date I am.

Well, maybe I am, but as a believer, I have access to a resource infinitely greater and better than any modern phones - the Lord. The Bible tells us (1 John 5:14) that when we pray we can be confident that he hears us, and that we can always ask, knowing he will provide what we need in his perfect timing. (Psalm 116:2).

So I'm confident that when it comes to communicating with God, I'm not such an "old duffer" after all.

God bless you all.

John C

## THANK YOU!

A big thank you to all who contributed to Christian Aid Week. A magnificent sum of £981.20 was raised. The money will go to help the struggling farmers in the Ukraine.





## KENYA CONNECTION (supporting Shauri Yako)

Hello Friends,

It has been a time of ups and downs in Shauri Yako – I have great and good news that a Welsh charity has funded some of Beth's work in schools and helped with the sewing and distribution of sanitary pads! It took a lot of pressure off Beth for the immediate care of young people.

However the charity is very strictly administered in that it will only allow Beth to use the funds to pay for school places, food and materials for pads to give away. The money cannot be used to fund anything that will enable people to earn money, and Beth's control of it is limited.

There is a significant difference in how this charity works and the funding we provide thanks to your generosity. Our fund focuses on providing sustainable help - machines, material, goats, chickens, seed, practical training - things that will enable Beth's community to eventually be self-sufficient, just as Christian Aid has always advocated.

Two weeks ago, a toilet collapsed with a woman inside. It was not one of our toilets, but a shoddy, badly dug one. The woman was rescued, but the community became at risk of disease from the water supply becoming contaminated. Children who don't have a toilet to use quickly spread disease, often cholera, which has an impact on the whole community.

Money was sent to build a new toilet, but Peter, the man who builds them, was attacked and robbed recently. He was beaten with his own hammer and needed hospital treatment. He has lost his tools, money, phone and even his shoes.

The urgency to build a new toilet grows every day. Peter will slowly recover, but needs his tools to be replaced so he can work once his head and hand have healed. **If you can, please help us save the community from disease and a good man and his family from destitution.**

Finally, as many of you will know, I am moving away from Sussex this summer. I'm going to miss you all terribly - this lovely community has been a family to me, and I hope to stay connected through visits and the Internet. Next time I will write an update on all we have achieved together since the Support for Shauri Yako began. Thank you so much for all your love and concern, help and prayers for our wider family in Kenya. Please contact me if you want to know more about any of the projects.

**Hazel**

## NEXT TOURS

### 2 July 2022 "Centenarians"

Worthing developed as a high class seaside resort and spa town following the visit of Princess Amelia, the daughter of George III, who, in 1798, spent five months here partaking of sea baths whilst recovering from an injured knee. The health benefits of the town possibly contributed to the longevity of some of the centenarian residents buried in the cemetery, although it is interesting to note that Henry Irvine, who died in 1920, aged 101 was the only male.



This tour features some centenarian ladies including Emma Louise Rooke, who, at 107, was the oldest person to have been buried in the cemetery and at the time of her death was the oldest woman in England.

### 6 August 2022 "The workhouse"

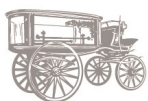
Following a day's hard labour stone-cracking or getting up rocks fit for burning into lime, and then returning for a monotonous meal including mouldy bread, eaten whilst wearing the same shirt for six weeks and the same pair of socks for ten weeks, does not sound very appealing.

Had it been your misfortune to live in East Preston Workhouse in the late 1800's, this could have been your lot in life.

We shall be hearing about some of the inmates such as Benjamin Russell, who on more than one occasion was brought up in custody on a charge of being found unlawfully drunk, or Ellen Sophia Clarke, who following a reasonably comfortable start in life descended in a downward spiral in her later years, until she eventually died in the workhouse.

To join either of these always interesting tours, please meet at the Chapel at 10.45 for an 11.00am start. Tours are free, and hot and cold drinks and homemade cake will be available for a small donation. You can also buy the tour booklet for just £1:00.

All proceeds go to cemetery funds.



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## NEXT EDITION

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*Sunday 28 August*

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

**[offingtonspotlight@gmail.com](mailto:offingtonspotlight@gmail.com)**

Three French legionnaires are lost in the desert. They have plenty of water but not much food and soon they start to see tempting mirages. Suddenly one of them stops and points into the distance.

"Regardez, mes amis", he says. "Is zat a bacon tree?"

They all look, and sure enough, in front of them is a tree with rashers of bacon hanging from it.



The first legionnaire runs towards the tree. Suddenly, a shot rings out, and the legionnaire is hit in the arm and wounded. He falls into the sand.

His compatriots run up to help him.

He looks up at them and says, "Alas, mes amis, zat was no bacon tree. Zat was an 'am bush."

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