

Parish Magazine

For the Parishes of the Lower Ouse

JANUARY 2023

KINGSTON

IFORD

RODMELL

SOUTHEASE



Epiphany 6th January

Epiphany comes from the Greek word meaning 'to reveal', as it marks the occasion the baby Jesus was revealed to the world.

This is why people say they've had an epiphany, when they've just realised something significant.



Happy New Year
to you all

From the Revd Canon Richard Moatt

One of the things that often strikes me is how phrases that perhaps are spoken to a particular group of people are used by others.

In the past year, and no doubt in the year to come, many people have lived out the words of Jesus "love your neighbour". We have seen communities and individuals come together to support those in need. Giving generously to support the many who are struggling with the cost of living crisis. Providing warm spaces or facilities that can give advice or a listening ear. For some it has meant opening their homes to families traumatised and driven from their homes by the terrible invasion of their country Ukraine.

The world can appear very dark at times but all of us can give thanks when we see all the acts of kindness, all the acts of generosity that give light when many feel overwhelmed by darkness.

All good wishes for 2023.

Richard

.....Meet Richard on page 3

Although the Christmas period now seems to start just after Halloween, the true Christmas season actually starts on December 25th which marks the official start of the 12 days of Christmas, the period in Christian theology that marks the span between the birth of Christ and the coming of the Magi, the three wise men, on January 6th.



In the West the evening preceding Epiphany is called Twelfth Night, The Eve of Epiphany. The time between December 25 and January 6 is known as the Twelve Days of Christmas when my true love gave to me.....



There are lots of arguments as to whether Twelfth Night is the 5th or 6th of January – it is definitely the 5th!!!

CHURCH SERVICES: JANUARY 2023

	KINGSTON	IFORD	RODMELL
January 1st			
	Said Communion 8.00am Family Service 9.45am	Music and Meditation 9.45am	Parish Communion 11.00am
January 8th			
	Parish Communion 9.45am	Themed Epiphany 9.45am	Celtic Worship 11.00am
January 15th			
	Morning Worship 9.45am	Evensong 4.00pm	Parish Communion 11.00am
January 22nd			
	Parish Communion 9.45am	No service	Family Service 11.00am
January 29th			
	UNITED BENEFICE SERVICE 9.45am	No service	No Service
Please Note: St Peter's, Southease is currently closed			

CHURCH ROTAS

	KINGSTON	IFORD	RODMELL
January 1st			
Flowers	Brenda Neller	Christmas Flower Team	New Rota in Feb
Cleaning		Christmas Team	New Rota in Feb
Sidesmen 8.00am 9.45am	Nick Darby/Jan Darby Fiona Harrison/Elaine Pumphrey	Churchwardens	New Rota in Feb
January 8th			
Flowers	Elaine Pumphrey	Irene Marot	New Rota in Feb
Cleaning		Linda Cripps/Jan Newbury	New Rota in Feb
Sidesmen	Chrysoula Worrell/Valerie Simmons	Churchwardens	New Rota in Feb
January 15th			
Flowers	Mary Bartlett	Irene Marot	New Rota in Feb
Cleaning		Linda Cripps/Jan Newbury	New Rota in Feb
Sidesmen	Jackie Brown/John Rout	Churchwardens	New Rota in Feb
January 22nd			
Flowers	Diana Crabb	Sue Thompson	New Rota in Feb
Cleaning		Jeanne + John Symonds	New Rota in Feb
Sidesmen	Jan Sumner/Mike Sumner	Churchwardens	New Rota in Feb
January 29th			
Flowers	Linda Creswick	Sue Thompson	New Rota in Feb
Cleaning		Jeanne + John Symonds	New Rota in Feb
Sidesmen	Kingston	Churchwardens	New Rota in Feb

DIOCESE NEWS

The Revd Canon Richard Moatt has been our Visiting Priest in recent months and it is interesting to learn of his close connection to this diocese.



Hello and may I take just a few moments to introduce myself.

My name is Richard and I, along with others, am helping with the running of the parishes until a new Vicar is appointed. I grew up in Eastbourne where Geoff and I were friends, and I went to the same school as Marcus Brown.

After ordination I moved north and, for nearly 30 years, was Vicar of eight very rural parishes in Cumbria between Penrith and Alston. I then returned south and for seven years was Vicar of Lewes before retiring in 2020.

It was a great joy to renew old friendships and to catch up on all that had happened in the thirty or so years I was away. It is also a pleasure to be, once again, working amongst rural communities.

The Epiphany – January 6th

The early Christian Church had no festival celebrating Christ's birth (later Christmas would come in), but it did celebrate The Epiphany, the showing of Christ to the world, as a major festival. The existing mid-winter pagan festival also survived, and the Church compromised by saying that many of the ceremonial observances were so divorced from pagan worship that it did not matter if Gentile Christians took part - provided that the emblems of the rituals were removed before Epiphany. So, the pagan symbols had to come down by Twelfth Night. This tradition continues with the superstition that if Christmas decorations stay up after twelfth night, hobgoblins will cause havoc.

A hobgoblin is a household spirit, typically appearing in folklore, once considered helpful but which since the spread of Christianity has often been considered mischievous.

Shakespeare identifies the character of Puck in A Midsummer Night's Dream as a hobgoblin.



NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

KINGSTON

From Phil Neller

"Thank You" from Landport Foodbank

The Landport Foodbank Team have sent a Christmas Card, posted on the notice board in the church porch, to say how much they appreciate our support. - Thank You.

Donations of food can be made into the box in the church porch. It is emptied (almost) daily and the contributions taken to Landport every Monday morning (except bank holidays), just after 9.00.

Cheques payable to Landport Community Association or even cash (with a note of your name and email address for a receipt) in a sealed envelope, can be posted through the inner, red front door (the porch is always open during the day) of 17, Mushroom Field.

There are few people who would like to be redundant, but the volunteers running this service would like to be. Alas, that does not look likely soon - they are busier than ever!



New Year's Day Service at Kingston

There will be a Family Service at 9.45 on New Year's Day in Kingston Church.

The story of *The Goldsmith and The Light of The Christ Child* will be told by members of the congregation in a way to appeal to all ages.

There will also be a time for children to tell and show their favourite Christmas Present.

Everyone very welcome!

IFORD



Children at Iford and Kingston school made Advent Posters inspired by the regular visits of Richard Moatt.

Linda Creswick has kindly been delivering them to all four churches.

We have posted ours on the door of the church!



27th January QUIZ NIGHT

Come and exercise your brains after Christmas and New Year festivities at the ISFloSS annual Quiz night with a Fish and Chip supper.

Tickets for this fun evening can be booked with Brad

Iford Christmas Fair

The very pleasant communal Christmas Fair took place in Iford Hall on a sunny Saturday, raised £180 which the Iford & Swanborough Flower Show Committee made up to £500 from accumulated funds to be donated to the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal.

Sale of Don Greenwood's Paintings

Many houses in the area now have an original piece of artwork by Don Greenwood, former Farmer of Swanborough, gracing their walls. A talented watercolourist in his retirement, his love of the local countryside shines through his work.

Sales raised £100 for the Church Development Fund



Rainfall in 2022

We haven't quite reached the end of the year but 2022 has certainly turned out to be a year's weather to remember. Writing this in December we are experiencing a longer, deeper cold snap than we have had for a number of years which just adds to the feeling of abnormality.



The rainfall in November far exceeded the previously wettest month October 2020 with 329.5mm [very nearly 13 inches] – almost one third of our average annual rainfall. It followed an exceptionally dry July with only 2mm actually recorded. Some places in the south recorded no rain at all. The year will end with about average rainfall, but without the exceptional downpours in November it would have been a very dry year indeed. Good to see the spring running in the wood and filling the lake.

End of Year Thank You from St Nicholas Church, Iford

Thank you to all those through 2022 who have worked so hard to keep our church running so smoothly throughout a difficult year.

Jane Symonds for organising all the rotas

Everyone who:

- ❖ Decorated the church with such beautiful flowers
- ❖ Unlocked and locked the church every day of the year
- ❖ Cleaned and tidied the church
- ❖ Provided coffee and biscuits at services
- ❖ Helped with fundraising
- ❖ Organised and delivered the monthly Community Teas
- ❖ Rang the bells
- ❖ Looked after the Churchyard and cut the grass

A special thank you to Revd Mary Sitwell and Canon Richard Moatt for taking our services, to all the PCC members for their valued commitment and to Anna MacLeod for taking over the editing of the Parish Magazine.

Iford Services in January

Come and listen to music and several minutes of calming silence on the first Sunday of the month at 9.45am. We always finish with tea/coffee and biscuits at 10.15am

Everyone is most welcome.



8th January at 9.45am

Celebrate the Coming of the Three
Wisemen

Mary Sitwell will lead the service which will include a soloist and quartet singing Peter Cornelius's Three Kings from Persian Lands Afar



15th January at 4.00pm

Evensong

We will be welcoming the Bishop of Lewes, Will Hazlewood to take our service

Candlelit Carol Service



We were treated to a wonderful Carol Service on 20th December led by Revd Mary Sitwell. Welcomed to the church with bells rung by Ed Pack and Milly & Roz Hall, we sang many of the old favourites and listened to some other beautiful Christmas music sung Lucinda Houghton, Briony Lambert, Nicolas Chisholm and Larry Charlesworth. The traditional bible readings were augmented by Sam Cox reading an excerpt of Silent Night by Paul Gallico and Auriol Chisholm reading Christmas Eve by Christina Rossetti. All set in the beautifully decorated St Nicholas Church glittering with candles. Too many people to thank.

The service was followed by mulled wine, mulled apple juice and mince pies.

A collection for Macmillan Cancer Relief was made in memory of Revd Geoff Daw.

RODMELL

From Jenny Brown

The Concert on 10th December.

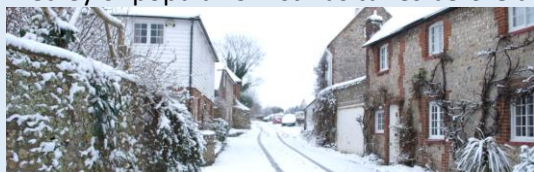
Nearly 50 people came for a really stupendous Carol Concert organised once again by Michael Royalton Kisch. The singing was sublime with Carols old and new in the church lit by tens of candles. The tree opposite the porch had a star on top with lights all around the tree and the path was lit with lanterns.

We had a beautiful Christmas tree in the church with a box for collections of non-perishable goods to go to the Food Bank.

Everyone enjoyed the singing and marvelled at the stunning voices. We rounded off with a glass of wine and mince pie.

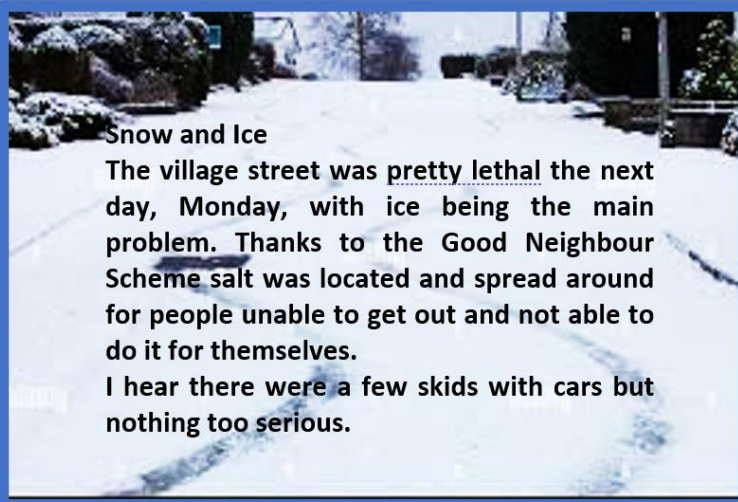
Carol Service 11th December

This year was held in doors because of the cold and was a huge success once again down to Michael who arranged for a trio of Brass players to accompany the carols. They played in the Belfry as the acoustics are so good. As people arrived, they were rung in by our bell ringers which was superb! The Brass players played a medley of popular Christmas tunes before the service started led by our wonderful Richard Moatt.



Once again, we finished with wine and mince pies!
As everyone left it was snowing!!!

It couldn't have been more Christmassy



Snow and Ice

The village street was pretty lethal the next day, Monday, with ice being the main problem. Thanks to the Good Neighbour Scheme salt was located and spread around for people unable to get out and not able to do it for themselves.

I hear there were a few skids with cars but nothing too serious.

Foot Path

The new foot path, Lennies Path, is now open and will be opened officially on or around 8th January.

Please keep your dogs on a lead when going through new path as it contains donkeys.

We thank David Robinson for generously making this path available and keeping us safe off the C7.

Hooray!!

PANTO!!!

We can now reveal that this year's pantomime is Aladdin with a star-studded cast of village thespians.

Friday 21st - Sunday 23rd January

For information about purchasing tickets, please keep an eye out on our excellent village website: www.rodmed.net



Happy New Year One And All

SOUTHEASE

Happy New Year!!

Oh, I have big hopes for 2023. I wonder how many will be realised??

What fun it was for us to have the snow. I know not everyone will be of the same opinion, still it was magical watching my son dance around outside as huge snowflakes fell from the sky like a gazillion dirty feathers. We retreated a bit from the freezing temperatures, as everyone in the household recovered from various coughs and seasonal colds, and I enjoyed the enforced break. Not taking unnecessary journeys, curling up with hot drinks and good books, slowing down. It's not something I would have done for myself otherwise, and it was really enjoyable to just stay put.



I also enjoyed the crisp days. The satisfying crunch of walking over the green, the sparkle of ice crystals in sun or torchlight, the landscape that seemed in stasis for days, yet at closer glance was always changing as ice crystals grew, melted and reformed. Even the experience of feeling seriously cold, which might seem a bit odd, but all the same seemed to vibe with an internal expectation of how winter should be.

I wonder where our long association of Christmas with snowy weather comes from? Perhaps cards featuring snowy scenes or Bing Crosby's White Christmas? Even the boys were excitedly telling me it was a 'proper' winter despite nearly all of their, and my, Christmases being green!

Will the next few months bring weather fair or foul? If I could place an order it would be for dry, bright days with maybe a touch of overnight frost, but not so cold it makes things difficult for those who are struggling to keep warm. And maybe just one more snow fall....

Wishing you much joy and happiness in the coming year!

With love and appreciation, Tracey xx

St Peter's Southease - Funding Appeal

We have a dilemma! We have been unable to open our beautiful Southease Church for the best part of three years now. It is an integral part of our village community. Covid was the first culprit and the second was the deadly fungal mould aspergillus in the roof timbers.

We need to raise £7000 a.s.a.p.! This church with its peaceful atmosphere and historic wall paintings is unique, and throughout the years it has offered sanctuary and spiritual enrichment to countless visitors from all walks of life, whatever their needs.

If you think you can help and support the church, donations can be made direct to Nat West Bank. Account name: Southease Parochial Church Council Sort code 60-13-09;
Account number 41510712. Reference: your name or DONATION.

With grateful thanks,
Southease PCC

David de Mallet Morgan, Helen Macaulay, Susie Kyriakides, Martin Brickell, Sue Brickell, Rachel Wyndham, David Stearman, Ruth de Mallet Morgan and Alex Pett.

CHURCH CONTACTS

Interregnum: Churchwardens in charge

Visiting Priest: Canon Richard Moatt

01273 471691

Lay Reader: Maureen Woodd readermaureen@gmail.com

07919 157645

IFORD			
Churchwardens	Nicolas Chisholm Larry Charlesworth	2 Manor Cottages, Iford BN7 3EP Chartside, The Avenue, Kingston BN7 3LL	471733 474429
Treasurer	Jeanne Symonds	1 New Cottages, Iford BN7 3ER	479030

KINGSTON			
Churchwardens	Vacancy		
Treasurer	Jeremy Boyes	Deeping, Kingston Ridge, Kingston BN7 3JX	473238

RODMELL			
Churchwardens	Jenny Brown Anne Roberts	Abergavenny House, Rodmell BN7 3HS 6 Barley Field, Rodmell BN7 3HQ	473939 473643
Treasurer	Ian Bell	7 The Dicklands, Rodmell BN7 3HQ	472483

SOUTHEASE			
Churchwardens	David de Mallet Morgan	Buckle Point, Marine Parade, Seaford BN25 2QR	01323 897977
Treasurer	Helen Macaulay	15 Newhaven Square, Newhaven BN9 9QS	514060

Snowy Downs above Iford and Kingston taken from Southease looking across over Rodmell



For comments on or contributions to this and future newsletters, or you should want to advertise here or if you have a neighbour who would like a paper copy and you are unable to print one off for them, please contact the Editor of the Parish Magazine as below. Deadline 16th January 2023.

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