Parish Magazine

FOR THE BENEFICE OF THE LOWER OUSE VALLEY JUNE 2026

IFORD KINGSTON PIDDINGHOE RODMELL SOUTHEASE



And what is so rare as a day in June?
Then, if ever, come perfect days;
Then Heaven tries earth if it be in tune,
And over it softly her warm ear lays;
Whether we look, or whether we listen,
We hear life murmur, or see it glisten

James Russell Lowell

June is a lovely month because, no matter the weather, it is much brighter with the long days. All that extra daylight seems to give me more energy; I even wake earlier, and the longer evenings are a good opportunity to walk and enjoy the countryside. The other evening, as I strolled along the path in Iford, I heard a Cuckoo.

There were lots of different bird songs, quite a concert, and like a concert symphony where an experienced conductor can discern the pitch and tone of the various instruments in an orchestra, an experienced ornithologist can hear and identify the different birds, this I am not able to do, however, the Cuckoo is distinct enough even for me.

It reminded me of how even in a crowded room, your ears prick up if you hear your name mentioned and how when lambs are playing in the field and get separated from their mother, they bleat until she replies, somehow they can recognise her call above all the others.

In John chapter 10, Jesus describes himself as the "good shepherd"

"The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice.
He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own,
he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice."

John 10:3-4 NIVUK

What an incredible thought, if we let it sink in… Jesus knows us by name, each one of us is individually known, and He calls us. We are uniquely known by Him; He knows when we get up and when we lie down, He knows our worries, and He knows our joys. May you find that reassuring, whatever point of life we are at, Jesus is with us.

Rev'd Joe

CHURCH SERVICES: JUNE 2026

The UNITED BENEFICE *of*
IFORD *with* KINGSTON,
PIDDINGHOE, RODMELL & SOUTHEASE

Rector: Rev'd Joe Chipper Tel 01273 967511 email: Rev.JoeChipper@outlook.com

Sunday 7th

08:00	PIDDINGHOE	Said Communion
09.45	KINGSTON	Family Service
09.45	IFORD	Music and Meditation
11.15	RODMELL	Parish Communion

Sunday 14th

09.45	KINGSTON	Parish Communion
11.15	RODMELL	Matins joined by Southease & Piddinghoe
18.00	IFORD	Evensong

Sunday 21st

08.00	KINGSTON	Said Communion BCP
09.45	KINGSTON	Themed Service Informal Morning Worship
09.45	IFORD	Parish Communion
11.15	RODMELL	Celtic Service
11:00	PIDDINGHOE	Parish Communion

Sunday 28th

09.45	KINGSTON	Parish Communion
11.15	SOUTHEASE	Parish Communion, joined by Rodmell & Piddinghoe

WHAT'S ON IN OUR PARISHES

PLEASE send dates/times/location of any Charity Events, Parish Meetings, Socials with local benefit (not commercial) to i.k.r.maged@hotmail.co.uk or text to 07976 254316

JUNE				
04/06	19.30	Kingston	WI Annual Business Meeting	Kingston Parish Hall
05/06	18.00-19.00	Piddinghoe	Pub Night	Village Hall
06/06	14.00-16.00	Iford	Afternoon Tea (all welcome)	At the church
06/06	12.30 – 17.00	Southease	Open Gardens	In the village
07/06	12.30 – 17.00	Southease	Open Gardens	In the village
12/06	18.00-19.00	Piddinghoe	Pub Night	Village Hall
13/06	14.00 - 17.00	Rodmell	Open Gardens	Upper Village
14/06	14.00 – 17.00	Rodmell	Open Gardens	Lower Village
19/06	18.00-19.00	Piddinghoe	Pub Night	Village Hall
20/06	18.30 onwards	Iford	BBQ in the Woods	by shooting lodge
23/05	12 – 15.00	Kingston	Citizen's Advice Rural Outreach Project	Kingston Pavilion
26/06	18.00-19.00	Piddinghoe	Pub Night	Village Hall

JULY				
02/07	18.30	Kingston	WI meeting Kingston Pavilion	Summer Soiree
03/07	18.00-19.00	Piddinghoe	Pub Night	Village Hall
04/07	14.00-16.00	Iford	Afternoon Tea (all welcome)	At the church
04/07	11.00-16.00	Piddinghoe	Flower Festival	St John's Church
05/07	11.00-16.00	Piddinghoe	Flower Festival	St John's Church
10/07	18.00-19.00	Piddinghoe	Pub Night	Village Hall
17/07	18.00-19.00	Piddinghoe	Pub Night	Village Hall
18/07	11.00-16.00	Iford	ISVS Summer Show	Iford Hall
19/07	14.00-18.00	Piddinghoe	Picnic on The Hoe	The Hoe
21/07	19.00	Rodmell	Rodmell Parish Council Meeting	Rodmell Village Hall
24/07	18.00-19.00	Piddinghoe	Pub Night	Village Hall
31/07	18.00-19.00	Piddinghoe	Pub Night	Village Hall

AUGUST				
01/08	14.00-16.00	Iford	Afternoon Tea (all welcome)	At the church
15/08	14.00-16.30	Rodmell	Summer Show	

SEPTEMBER				
05+06/09	14.00-16.00	Iford	Afternoon Tea as part of Artwave	Iford church
05/09	17.00	Iford	Private View Artwave	Iford Church
05-20/09	everywhere		Artwave	
19/09	19.30	Kingston	Quiz Night with Fish & Chips	Parish hall

OCTOBER				
24/10	16.00	Kingston	Village Voices Autumn Concert	Kingston Church

GENERAL NEWS

IFORD | KINGSTON | PIDDINGHOE | RODMELL | SOUTHEASE

This General News section is for information which affects all of us along the C7 (and wider).

South Downs National Park : New Local Plan

The South Downs National Park Authority is preparing a new Local Plan to guide National Park development for the next two decades. It will replace the 2019 current Local Plan and will address vital issues such as affordable housing, quality development, restoring nature, climate action, flourishing rural economy and communities.

You can have your say before the proposed Local Plan is submitted to an independent Planning Inspector in the autumn, The Inspector will make recommendations about any changes needed.



The consultation is now open until 23rd June 2026

There is a drop-in session at The Depot on 20 May between 16:00 and 19:00.

Some of the key proposed policies:

- Landscape-led –conserving and enhancing the South Downs landscape to be considered strongly with any planning application
- 58 core policies including landscape, design, heritage, water, pollution, housing, community spaces, economy, transport and infrastructure
- 77 sites across the National Park, to deliver 3,559 new homes, including affordable homes, gypsy and traveller pitches on brownfield sites and in and around existing settlements as well as employment
- 6,735 new homes meeting the National Park's housing need of 323 homes per year to 2042 also supporting more than 2,000 new jobs.
- Key strategic sites for development such as North Street Quarter in Lewes, and Shoreham Cement Works.

To see the proposed Local Plan and make a comment visit www.southdowns.gov.uk/planning-policy/new-south-downs-local-plan/.

Refuse and Recycling Collection Dates
Use this QR code to find your collection days

Citizens Advice is offering free confidential advice at Kingston Pavilion from 12.00-15.00 on 23rd June

Local Government Re-organisation in Sussex

The Leader of Lewes District Council is urging all residents to respond to the government consultation on local government reorganisation, warning that the future of several coastal towns, and Lewes district more broadly, is 'at a real risk of becoming part of Brighton & Hove'.

Councillor Zoe Nicholson, Leader of Lewes District Council, notes that the government is consulting, again, on a modified proposal, which would see Falmer, East Saltdean, Telscombe and Peacehaven removed from Lewes district and placed under the control of the city council. She suggests that Brighton & Hove is struggling to meet its housing targets, and sees those villages, under it's control, as a way to solve that failure. She feels that residents would lose their local identity, their local voice and their agency to influence their future if this proposal goes ahead. Services would inevitably be reshaped around the needs of a city, not small towns and villages.

"It would mark a fundamental shift in who makes decisions about their homes, their services and their way of life, and it could be pushed through despite overwhelming evidence that residents oppose it."

Have your say – the consultation is open until 15th June 2026. This can be seen here : https://consult.communities.gov.uk/local-government-reorganisation/east-sussex-two-unitary-proposal-modification/
more info at: www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/LGR

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

KINGSTON

Kingston Women's Institute the WI INSPIRING WOMEN

Thursday 4th June at 19.30

Annual Business Meeting

For further info:

carolctaplin@aol.com or sue@wylde.me.uk

New Members Always Welcome

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)

The APCM is a mandatory annual meeting held in Church of England parishes between January 1st and May 31st. Ours was held on 17th May before Morning Worship and saw the re-election of all the existing PCC Members with the exception of Jan Sumner, who stepped down from the PCC. Jan has been a member for many years and will be missed, and her significant contribution was acknowledged. Amongst other roles, Jan ran and held the electoral Roll.

The following reports were presented at the meeting: Vicar's 2025/26 Report, Financial Report, Annual Fabric Report and Safeguarding dashboard update.

Morning Worship on Sunday 17th May

Jane Sallis led the themed morning service which takes place once a month. This month's theme was **health and wellbeing**. We were treated to Bach Solo No 1 played by Catherine Rimer, Historical Cello Professor Constellation Orchestra. Jane opened the service with two quotes from Mother Teresa

'Be happy in the moment, that's enough. Each moment is all we need , no more.'

'Accept yourself for who you are. If you can do this you will be so much happier. So today, make yourself a promise that you will not compare yourself to anyone else. You will not dwell on your flaws. Make a list of all the positive things about your personality to remind yourself that you are a good, kind human being. Being kinder to yourself will hugely increase your wellbeing'.

We heard part of an amusing poem written by the late John Crowhurst who had worshiped at Kingston called *'I believe - I think'* and listened to Wendy Forbes playing hymns on the piano and organ. We were treated to wonderful singing by Adam Marsden, a baritone from the Glyndebourne Chorus. who sang Linden Lea, a Dorset song by Ralph Vaughan Williams which reminds us how important it is to get out an enjoy the *'countryside peace and nature over the 'dark room'd towns.'*

The reflection was led by Kingston resident Professor Charles Zammit who spoke of his role as a Breast and Endocrine Surgeon and his personal perspective dealing with patients at the point of being given a cancer diagnosis. He spoke of his own humbling experience of the strength of humans at such a difficult time, but how people so often change a negative situation into a far more positive one.

Lucinda Charlesworth sang a moving folk-like song about the importance of home but also freedom and repatriation… called Homeward Bound by Marta Keen. Similar songs will also feature at the Village Voices Concert in the church on 24th October at 4.00pm.

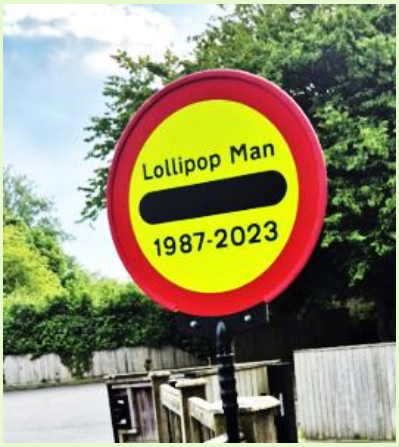
At the end of the service Larry Charlesworth informed us of the sad death of Dame Felicity Lott, the wonderful talented English Soprano who had lived locally and had been very much part of the Glyndebourne Festival for many years. Larry sang the traditional Irish blessing by Bob Chilcott as a tribute to Dame Felicity

After the Service Jane thanked Catherine, Wendy, Adam, Lucinda ad Larry for their wonderful contributions to the service and added thanks, on behalf of the PCC, to Jan Sumner for her commitment and contribution to the PCC over the many years she had served. Jan was presented with a small token of the PCC's appreciation.

KINGSTON CONTINUED……

Remembering John Mills

Our village lost a much-loved figure with the passing of John, who served as the school's lollipop man for an extraordinary 36 years. His friendly smile, steady presence, and unwavering dedication kept generations of children safe on their way to school.



To honour his remarkable service, a lollipop-pole memorial now stands proudly outside the school gates. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Mike Boice for sourcing this wonderful tribute, and to the village for their generous contributions.

John will be remembered for generations to come, not only for his years of service, but for the kindness and care he showed our community every single day.

PLAY READING IN KINGSTON



From Jeanne Symonds; "During Lent Lorna Melia organised a delightful event with the help of Chrysoula who hosted it and others who participated. We gathered every Friday to read one of the plays written in 1942 by Dorothy L. Sayers for the wireless. Each one was an hour long and brought to life an aspect of the Easter Story; we read the parts for Jesus and his followers, Pontius Pilot and his wife, soldiers, priests and other people who would have been present.

Lorna and Chrysoula excelled themselves in hospitality and we all shared in a rewarding and heart-warming experience."

In addition, a group are planning to go for the day on June 19th to Wintershall for "The Life of Christ" play done in various parts of the grounds there. If anyone would like to join us and offer others a lift/ask for a lift please contact either the Lewes Passion Play website, or Lorna at lornaamelia@gmail.com



St Pancras Church Kingston will be open on Saturday 12th September for Sussex Historic Churches Ride and Stride which sees walkers and cyclists visiting historic churches to raise funds for their preservation.

Refreshments will be available. If you felt you could help with this, Jane Sallis looking for volunteers to help a rota for the day to greet visitors. If you feel you could spare a small amount of time, please contact her on janesallis@gmail.com or 07775 708836

Or maybe you'd like to participate? Get your friends and family to sponsor you and then visit as many different churches as you can throughout the day. You can choose any route you want and any mode of transport – walk, run, cycle, ride – or even drive – between the different churches on the route you've chosen.

You can be sponsored either based on the number of churches you manage to visit or by a flat donation. After the event, you can collect the sponsorship money personally or collect sponsorships online via Sussex Historic Churches Trust's Just giving page.
https://www.sussexhistoricchurchestrust.org.uk/ride-stride

IFORD WITH SWANBOROUGH



Donald Greenwood 1934 -2026

Swanborough, and the whole Sussex farming community, has lost a well-loved and popular farmer. Don lived in Swanborough, in four different houses, all of his life until moving to residential care in Seaford a couple of years ago. He followed his father, Pearce, and was later followed by his son William running the 1,000 acre farm until it was sold to Iford Estate in 2014.

He was a kind and generous man who, in his retirement, showed extraordinary talent as a watercolourist, painting beautiful local scenes and is pictured here in his garage, exhibiting as part of Artwave. Married to Dinah for 65 years, he will be a much-missed husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather and friend.



Iford PCC
invites you
to
a celebration
for the opening of the new
kitchen, accessible loo and
baby changing facilities

and a thank you
to

people past and present who, in
true community spirit,
help in so many ways with the
running of the church

Sunday 7th June
5.30pm
At St Nicholas, Iford

Local Government Re-organisation in Sussex

Further to the information on Page 4, whilst people can respond to the consultation individually, Christopher Baker, Chair of the Parish Meeting, is holding an extra-ordinary parish meeting in

Iford Hall

at 19:30

on Thursday, 4 June

for the parish to decide on a response. Iford Parish Meeting had responded to the earlier consultations, objecting to the areas being subsumed by Brighton & Hove City Council unitary authority.

Music and Meditation
Sunday 7th June
at
9.45

Anyone of any religion or none is welcome

Come and spend half an hour in silence listening to some soothing music and the sound of silence in this noisy world.

Finish with a cup of tea/coffee at 10.15

Or just come and join us for refreshments and a chat if you prefer!

Artwave 2026



Such has been the success of Artwave in St Nicholas Church Iford that we will again be showing the talents of artists and makers from Iford and Swanborough on Saturday 5th, Sunday 6th and Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th September from 11.00am till 5.00pm each day.

Artists and Makers:

Now is the time to get creating and to show friends and neighbours your creativity. We are limited to 19 exhibitors so please do let Irene Marot, Wenda Bradley or Nicolas Chisholm if you intend to present work this year.

Local Flora and Fauna

The beautiful tulip tree in the field between the hall and church is in full and beautiful bloom.



This unusual tree is part of the magnolia family



The wonderful Red Kite has been seen regularly over Swanborough and Iford recently

And a badger and her babies in the woods



Weddings
in the Church and Hall
this year



20th June
3rd July
11th July
(Hall and Church)
25th July
8th August
5th September
(birthday party)
10th October

Iford & Swanborough Village Society

Coming Up in July

VILLAGE SHOW
Saturday July 18th 1pm – 4pm

Aaron BBQ, Rob's Bar, Dog Show, Art, Cakes, Flower judging, Vegetable growing, Tea and Cake, Howard's Band, Prizes, Raffles, Games and so much more!

<u>Everybody from anywhere is welcome!</u>



RODMELL WITH NORTHEASE

From Jenny Brown; Out and About in Rodmell



Rodmell Open Gardens is taking place over two days this year

Saturday 13th June
Upper Rodmell
(properties off and on Mill Lane)
Tea and Cakes on the Dicklands Green with Pimms in the garage of Abergavenny House

Free parking
in the field at the end of Badgers Dene

Sunday 14th June
Lower Rodmell
Teas and cakes in the village Hall
Free parking on The Croft

Entry
£6.00 for one day
£9 for both days (proceeds to the church)
Opening hours 14.00-17.00

JUMBLE SALE ON SUNDAY 10TH MAY

The jumble sale was a huge success, ably run by Bill and Brenda Dartnell in aid of Village Hall funds. So far, the brilliant sum of £521.00 pounds has been raised with more to come from sales of top quality articles. Thanks go to all who helped make it such a triumph.

Pub Quiz
June 3rd
The Abergavenny
8pm prompt!



FUNERAL OF ANNE ROBERTS ON 13TH MAY

This was a very moving and beautiful service with gorgeous music and singing brought together by Michael Royalton Kisch and Stephen Charlesworth who got together a cellist, violinists and choir with organ music played by John Warburton.

The church was full and Anne's memory will not be forgotten. Thanks to our vicar Rev'd Joe who conducted the service in the very traditional BCP following Anne's wishes. She is laid to rest with her husband Jim in the churchyard.

21st June: This is the Summer Solstice and also Fathers' Day! There is so much to do in the beautiful South Downs National Park with all the family, maybe finish exploring with lunch at the pub!!
Happy Early Summer

Jenny

Southease

BIRD IN THE BELLY



On a glorious sunny day, we were delighted to welcome *Bird in the Belly* to the historic setting of St Peter's Church at Southease, where the group recorded material for their new album. The combination of warm sunshine, ancient surroundings, and beautifully atmospheric music made for a memorable occasion.

The Brighton-based ensemble brings together members of the folk duo Hickory Signals with alt-folk singer-songwriter Ben Webb and multi-instrumentalist and producer Tom Pryor. They find little-known, long-forgotten lyrics, poems, and stories, transforming them into what has been described as "hypnotically original compositions."

It was a pleasure to host such talented musicians in our church. We very much hope they will return in the future to perform a concert for the local community



Piddinghoe

St John's Piddinghoe Flower Festival

"Anything Goes"

St John's Church, Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th July

11am to 4 pm

Everyone warmly invited with a special section for children to bring a display

Drop off on Friday 5pm-7 pm or Saturday morning from 9 am

Cream teas and cake available to buy with proceeds going towards St John's heating fund

Contact lizephgrave69@gmail.com for further information or help

We Look forward to seeing you at this fun and joyous event!

Picnic on the Hoe

Sunday 19th July

14.00 – 18.00

Bar : Disco : BBQ

Rounders and Welly-wanging!



Piddinghoe Village Hall Pub Night



Every Friday
until the 31 st July.

6 to 9pm

CHURCH ROTAS: JUNE 2026

	KINGSTON	IFORD	RODMELL
7th June			
Flowers	Jackie Brown	Harriet Beauchamp	Audrey Valentine / Jenny Brown
Cleaning		Penny Shimmin	Jenny Brown / Maureen Ford
Sidespersons	Fiona Harrison / Elaine Pumphrey	Churchwardens	Michael Sword Daniels
14th June			
Flowers	Chrysoula Worrell	Harriet Beauchamp	Audrey Valentine / Jenny Brown
Cleaning		Penny Shimmin	Jenny Brown / Maureen Ford
Sidespersons	Jeremy Boyes / Caroline Fry	Churchwardens	Ian Bell
21st June			
Flowers	Caroline Halvatzis	Irene Marot	Sandra Webb / Jane Finch
Cleaning		Kate and Julian Dawson	Graham and Carol
Sidespersons 8.00 9.45	Rev'd Joe and Chrissie Chipper Jane and Tom Sallis	Churchwardens	Audrey Valentine
28th June			
Flowers	Hilary Oglieve	Irene Marot	Sandra Webb / Jane Finch
Cleaning		Kate and Julian Dawson	Graham and Carol
Sidespersons	Jean Taylor	Churchwardens	Southease Sidespersons

CHURCH CONTACTS

Rector: Rev'd Joe Chipper The Rectory, 14 Lockitt Way, Kingston BN7 3LG

Email: rev.joechipper@outlook.com Mobile: 07526 482936 Church Office: 01273 967511

	IFORD		
Churchwardens	Nicolas Chisholm Larry Charlesworth	2 Manor Cottages, Iford BN7 3EP Chartside, The Avenue, Kingston BN7 3LL	01273 471733 07973 837515
Treasurer	Jeanne Symonds	1 New Cottages, Iford BN7 3ER	01273 479030

	KINGSTON		
Churchwarden	Vacant		
Treasurer	Jeremy Boyes	Deeping, Kingston Ridge, Kingston BN7 3JX	01273 473238

	RODMELL		
Churchwarden	Jenny Brown	Abergavenny House, Rodmell BN7 3HS	01273 473939
Treasurer	Helen Macaulay	147 Lewes Road, Newhaven BN9 9SU	07850 130878

	SOUTHEASE		
Churchwarden	David de Mallet Morgan	Buckle Point, Marine Parade, Seaford BN25 2QR	01323 897977
Treasurer	Helen Macaulay	147 Lewes Road, Newhaven BN9 9SU	07850 130878

	PIDDINGHOE		
Churchwarden	Vacant		
Treasurer	Helen Macaulay	147 Lewes Road, Newhaven BN9 9SU	07850 130878

If you would like a paper copy of this magazine, they are available in Kingston church for a contribution of £1.00. Deadline for the July issue is 16th June 2026. Please send items to the email below.

Editor Anna MacLeod, Swanborough i.k.r.maged@hotmail.co.uk 07976 254316