



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

# The Buzz

April 2024

Monthly information for the  
Parish of Ifield



## Thought for the Month



I find it interesting that the story of Easter morning takes place in a garden. Early in the morning Mary Magdalene goes to the tomb where she saw the body of Jesus being laid on Good Friday. To her dismay she finds that the tomb is now empty, and she jumps to the conclusion that someone has stolen the body. In her distress she hurries to find Peter and another disciple to tell them what she has found. They run to the tomb to confirm this news, and then return to their homes, leaving Mary standing beside the tomb, crying.

Then two amazing events happen. First, as Mary looks again into the tomb, she sees two angels who ask why she is weeping. Then, when she turns round, she encounters the Risen Lord. At first, she thinks He is the gardener. But when He calls her by name, she realises the wonderful truth that Jesus is indeed alive, and joy fills her heart. All this takes place in the setting of a garden.

In fact, gardens occupy a central place in scriptural thought. The Bible begins with an account of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. It is a scene of harmony and happiness. Then, this idyllic state is shattered when Adam and Eve choose not to listen to God and to go their own way, letting the power of sin get in and take control.

The remedy for this occurs in another garden, the Garden of Gethsemane. Here Jesus reverses the dynamics of Adam and Eve's action in the Garden of Eden. He talks with God, but this time He listens; He faces a choice of action and this time He goes God's way, even though it proves to be at great cost to Himself, leading to His death on a cross.

The final vindication of Jesus' obedience to God, undoing the effects of Adam and Eve's disobedience, is revealed in the Easter Garden, with the joyful reality of the resurrection.

The word garden is mentioned 59 times in the Bible and often used as a metaphor to describe our relationship with God. This is a fruitful image for Christian spirituality in terms of cultivating the garden of our hearts. Beautiful gardens don't just happen. They take a lot of work, pulling up weeds, planting flowers, encouraging growth. So we need to attend to the spiritual dimension of our lives holding on to the promise we find in Scripture, "*You shall be like a watered garden.*" (Isaiah 58:11)

The Easter Garden was a place of encounter between Jesus and Mary. May our hearts also be a place of encounter where we hear God call us by name, that our lives may be transformed by the joy of the resurrection and the continuing presence of Christ with us. Happy Easter!

Every blessing,

*Christine*

## SERVICES AT ST. MARGARET'S DURING TRIAL PERIOD FROM NOVEMBER 2023 TO APRIL 2024

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday</b>	9.30 am Parish Communion	11.00 am Sunday Celebration	(2.00 pm Baptisms)	(3.00 pm Baptisms)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</b>	9.30 am Parish Communion	11.00 am FIISH Service		
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</b>	9.30 am Parish Communion	11.00 am All Age Eucharist		3.30 pm Choral Evensong (in new year)
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>		11.00 am Parish Communion		
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	9.30 am (BCP) Holy Communion	11.00 am Service of the Word		3.30 pm Vision Service (in new year)

Wednesdays  
Last Wednesday

9.30 am  
5.00 pm

Said Eucharist  
Family Church

**Please send your feedback on the new pattern of services as soon as possible to [focusgroup@ifieldparish.org](mailto:focusgroup@ifieldparish.org)**

# PARISH HOUSE GROUPS



Mondays 10.30 am–12 noon at Tree House, Rusper Road

Please contact Jill Bell on 521699 for details

Tuesdays 7.30-9.30 pm

Venue may vary.

Please contact Jo Strutt [jo@bridgeham.com](mailto:jo@bridgeham.com) for details

New members are always welcome.

## ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM) ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH WEDNESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024 AT 7.00 PM

All are welcome to attend our APCM as we review the life of our church over the past year, our mission and our plans for the future. Revd. Christine Spencer is Chair of the meeting.

During the evening, we will elect the Parish Wardens and 12 Parochial Church Council (PCC) representatives (five new).

This is an open, public meeting, but if you wish to vote at the meeting, you will need to be on our Church Electoral Roll. Please contact Clare Wilson, PCC Secretary and Parish Electoral Roll Officer for additional information.

Email: [pccsecretary@ifieldparish.org](mailto:pccsecretary@ifieldparish.org)

If you would like to be considered as a PCC representative, please contact Revd. Christine Spencer for details Email: [Rector@ifieldparish.org](mailto:Rector@ifieldparish.org)

## 200 CLUB

*The latest 200 Club Building Fund draw took place on 10th March. The results are set out below:*

1st Margaret Shaw  
2nd Sarah Ward  
3rd Mary Pedlow

*The next draw will be on 14th April*

*Thank you for your valued and continued support - new members are most welcome!*

# **AN INVITATION FROM THE LOCAL SIKH COMMUNITY**

IFIELD GREEN GURDWARA - AKHAND PATTH SAHIB INVITATION  
SATURDAY 25th MAY 2024

Dear Everyone,

We would be both honoured and privileged if you would like to join us for a different kind of celebration to the ones you may have attended in the past. This celebration marks the martyrdom of our fifth Guru - Guru Arjan Dev Ji.

We would like you to attend at 11.00 am and have lunch with us if possible. I completely understand if you have other commitments and can only stay for a short while. On this occasion, we can perhaps just socialise and mingle with the congregation and ask any questions you may have. You are most welcome to bring your family or friends who may wish to join us.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

Kind regards

Jasvinder

**OPEN DOOR**

**St. Margaret's Church  
Ifield**

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the  
month**

**10.15am - 12 noon**

**All welcome to come and**

**chat  
drink coffee**



# Ifield Mayfayre

**Bank Holiday Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**11:30—16:00**

**May Queen Parade Leaves St. Margaret's School at 11am  
Fayre Opens at Ifield Barn Theatre at 11.30am Proceeds  
to  
St. Margaret's Church Building Fund & Ifield Barn  
Theatre**



Our practitioners continue to be incredibly busy with complex caseloads as well as new referrals arriving daily. The main areas with which families are needing support continue to be support for children with SEN, financial hardship and poor mental health (and in many cases, a combination of all of these). Our practitioner is very often the only friendly adult our parents come into contact

with, and they really value the long-term support we are able to provide. One mum recently sent this email to her practitioner:

*"All I can say is you have helped so much for our family. The kids love you, and always get excited when they know you are coming over. Thank you for your financial support, if I could have you every day 7 days a week I would for an hour, even at weekends and holidays.*

*I hope the help and support for our family can continue, as we don't get much from anywhere else."*

For more information, or to donate, please visit: [familysupportwork.org](http://familysupportwork.org)

The poster features a green and yellow color scheme with floral motifs. At the top left is a pink flower. In the center is a yellow house icon with a white seashell inside, with blue raindrops falling from it. The Family Support Work logo is in the top right. A yellow banner on the left says 'NEW FOR 2024!'. The main title is 'CUCKMERE PATH SPONSORED WALK'. Below it, text describes the walk route and duration. At the bottom, a calendar icon indicates the date and time, and contact information for the fundraising team is provided.

**F Family Support Work**  
THE SUSSEX CHARITY FOR CHILDREN  
SINCE 1870

**NEW FOR 2024!**

# CUCKMERE PATH SPONSORED WALK

DISCOVER THE BEAUTY OF THE SOUTH DOWNS, LOW WEALD, AND CUCKMERE VALLEY ON THIS CIRCULAR WALK. JOIN US FOR THE ENTIRE 11 MILES OR AS MUCH OR LITTLE AS YOU LIKE.

THURSDAY 30TH MAY AT 8.30AM, ALFRISTON

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE FUNDRAISING TEAM ON 01273 041401 OR [FUNDRAISING@FAMILYSUPPORTWORK.ORG.UK](mailto:FUNDRAISING@FAMILYSUPPORTWORK.ORG.UK)

A team from St. Margaret's plans to take part in this walk. If you would like to join us, please speak to Jill Bell. Please look out for a sponsor form in church soon.

# EASTER TEAM FOODBANK

Please leave items in the basket in church or contact [sue@ifieldparish.org](mailto:sue@ifieldparish.org) for collection.

# LITTLE DRAGONS

It's church, it's messy, it's for little ones, their parents and carers!

9 till 10.30am every Monday in term time  
St Margaret's Church



## OUR YOUTH GROUPS

**Junior Youth Club** - School Years 1-4  
**Above Youth Club** - School Years 5-8

For more information, please contact the Rector

# WHO'S WHO IN IFIELD PARISH

Rector	Revd. Christine Spencer	561283	<a href="mailto:rector@ifieldparish.org">rector@ifieldparish.org</a>
Curate	Revd. Dominic Desouza-Campbell		<a href="mailto:curate@ifieldparish.org">curate@ifieldparish.org</a>
Reader	Jill Bell	521699	<a href="mailto:reader@ifieldparish.org">reader@ifieldparish.org</a>
Parish Wardens	Andy Ironside	07758 168411	<a href="mailto:andy@ifieldparish.org">andy@ifieldparish.org</a>
	Kevin Lawler	07792 809165	<a href="mailto:kevin@ifieldparish.org">kevin@ifieldparish.org</a>
PCC Secretary	Clare Wilson	416438	<a href="mailto:pccsecretary@ifieldparish.org">pccsecretary@ifieldparish.org</a>
PCC Treasurer	James May	529146	<a href="mailto:treasurer@ifieldparish.org">treasurer@ifieldparish.org</a>
Safeguarding	Amy Wilson	07701 098350	<a href="mailto:safeguarding@ifieldparish.org">safeguarding@ifieldparish.org</a>

## REST DAYS

Please note that Friday is our Rector's rest day  
Our Curate is only in the parish on Wednesday mornings (and Sundays)

## PLEASE NOTE

St. Margaret's weekly notices can be viewed on the parish website

## IFIELD PARISH WEBSITE

[www.ifieldparish.org](http://www.ifieldparish.org)

Please send any information/photos for publication on the website to  
Carl Peirce [carl@ifieldparish.org](mailto:carl@ifieldparish.org)

Follow us:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stmargaretsifield>

## IFIELD PARISH OFFICE

**Mondays-Thursdays 9.00 am – 12 noon**

1 Lychgate Cottage, Ifield Street, Crawley, West Sussex, RH11 0NN

Parish Administrator: Mave Eshun Tel: 537578 Email: [office@ifieldparish.org](mailto:office@ifieldparish.org)

Please send any updates for the May 2024 issue to Jill Bell  
[reader@ifieldparish.org](mailto:reader@ifieldparish.org) by 22<sup>nd</sup> April