



# Coldean

Community & Church Magazine

Autumn 2020



**Harvest Festival will be celebrated on Sunday 6th September at St Mary Magdalen Church in Coldean.**

## **Parish Contacts**

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### **Lay Reader**

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Jennie Goatley 07947 859 509

### **Treasurer**

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### **Hall Secretary**

Sue Docherty 07526 455 302

## **CHURCH HALL**

The church hall is currently closed for parties and events due to the Coronavirus restriction.

## **A Prayer for this difficult time**

God of compassion,

be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.

In their loneliness, be their consolation;

in their anxiety, be their hope;

in their darkness, be their light;

through him who suffered alone on the cross,

but reigns with you in glory,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Coldean Rocks!

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Dear Friends,

Coldean really has to be unique in so many ways to begin with:

We could let ourselves believe that we are in the countryside, surrounded by woodland and fields, cows and sheep, as well as the birds and the wildlife, no not the wildlife that gathers at the bus stop! I mean the woodland creatures that we are blessed with.

Yet, hop on a bus, don't drive unless you want to pay for parking when you get there, and we are only 30 minutes away from the sea. Personally I have always loved being near the coast, failing that lakes and rivers, but the sea is best! But importantly we are community, and one that many fought hard to call a village.

According to Wikipedia a village is:

*"A clustered human settlement or community, larger than a hamlet but smaller than a town, with a population typically ranging from a few hundred to a few thousand. Though villages are often located in rural areas, the term urban village is also applied to certain urban neighbourhoods. Villages are normally permanent, with fixed dwellings; however, transient villages can occur. Further, the dwellings of a village are fairly close to one another, not scattered broadly over the landscape, as a dispersed settlement."*

I once described it to the previous Bishop of Lewes as a saucer full of people, because if you go up onto the hills and look down you can see this small circle of settlement with a distinct boundary, this is Coldean the little village with a very big heart.

The people of this village really care about their surroundings, their neighbours, their woods; this is not in anyway meant to suggest that they have closed the door to others; quite the opposite in fact the people of Coldean will do their very best to embrace all who come here, whether as a permanent fixture or as a temporary guest, all are welcome.

St Mary Magdalen Church and its vicar are so proud to be part of this community and we have all shone brightly over the last few

months. When churches were closed for public worship and I was live streaming Mass from my son's old bedroom, the church as a building grew busier than ever, a hive of love and care, food piled high to share with the less fortunate, the sick, the vulnerable, the housebound. As for the kitchens, I would like to guide you to Erica and Sue's article, which will give you a taste of life in the fast lane!

All with the aid of volunteers, donations, The Food Factory, Brighton and Hove Food and of course all of you.

One thing that this dreadful time has done is to allow many of us to get to know and appreciate one another far more and it has highlighted the fact that poverty and social need was here long before Covid-19. So, our project is now long term; we hope with grants to refurbish the kitchen and make some other improvements to enable us to keep the Pantry going and the hot food going in the form of a pay as you can café. All of this of course needs much discussion and careful planning but I am sure we will get there!

St Mary Magdalen is open for worship now and we have had one socially distanced wedding and a baptism; different but so much fun was had by all concerned, including me!

And we are also raising funds to put in new sound equipment and an audio loop, which will help us even more. The bell needs its frame repaired so that we can ring it out again. (To our neighbours: the dawn service only happens once a year!)

For the time being our service is at 10 a.m., because I was streaming for both churches at one point and it is good to know if we had a problem, we could go back to doing just that.

This village and its community can, I believe we can feel rightly proud for all that it has done and continues to do into the future. We welcome all to sit and eat with us. Come and see!

Every blessing,

*Revd. Betsy*

# The Parable of The Sower

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In this season of Harvest it seems appropriate to think about the Parable of the Sower.

Here is a sermon given by Dominic Desouza-Campbell on the first Sunday after churches reopened in England.

## Bible Reading

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up.

Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"



## An illustration

A clever little meme appeared on face book during Covid 19.

Now if you're not sure what a meme is it is an image, or video, or perhaps even a piece of text. Typically humours in nature that is copied and spread rapidly by internet users.

One of these was a lovely little meme of God the devil and the world.

The Devils says to God 'with Covid 19 I have closed your churches!'

God replies 'on the contrary I have opened a church in every home'.

Now we know that Covid 19 is not over. But the parable of the sower should now bring us hope and joy.

Our churches are reopening and many have decided to continue to stream some services.

We are in a period now where we are still sowing seeds.

We are seeing across the country smaller congregations as we obey the laws of the land and seat only a certain number per service.

But we are also conscious that some are still weary of venturing out.

In Jesus' day sowing seeds was also haphazard.

Weeds, most commonly a kind of thorn, were not cleared first, but ploughed into the ground.

The paths through the fields became like roads, and seeds were scattered everywhere, on paths and edges and headlands where the underlying predominately limestone rock came near the surface and made the soil very thin.

To his listeners Christ' description would have been instantly recognisable.

He was illustrating his teaching with everyday events, through the language of work, of weather, and of nature.

Jesus knew that if he spoke in the dry language of the priests, of the Temple synagogue, the people would not hear what he had to say.

Jesus was a country boy and much of his teaching involved the use of symbols taken from nature; he spoke the people's own kind of language, and so they listened to him.

It is easy to become distracted when people speak in a way which does not relate to us, to our needs and our lives, to listen but not absorb what is said, to miss the crucial heart of the message, which is what happened to many of Jesus' listeners.

- Some listened but did not want to know.
- Some heard but did not understand.
- Some listened and heard but were too frightened of the challenge to respond.

Jesus prepared the ground in the way in which a person of the earth would do, with symbols which spoke to the experience of the hearts of his listeners.

He valued each person in that crowd and when we value someone we take the trouble to approach them at their own level.

The harvest of response we reap is worth every moment of effort.

So there is joy in the parable of the sower!

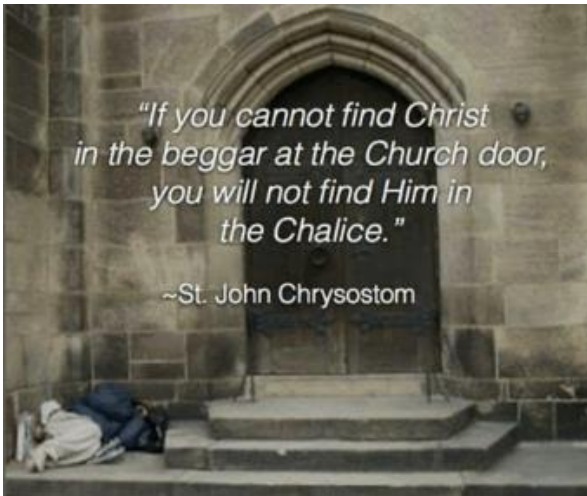
Because seeds have been planted back in every household which has tuned in, expectedly or unexpectedly, to our streamed church services.

Some will listen with the ear of doubt and will argue the concept of God's existence.

Others may not have been to church for a very long time but feel prayer is required during our pandemic, reaching out to God.

And others will be slowly making their way back to church our regular congregations who, have wanted to come but are still worried, and rightly so, about Covid 19.

- So we need to sow seeds in our community.
- Seeds of love! Seeds of joy!
- Seeds of an open door.



Your own parish priest Betsy is very fond of the saying of John Chrysostom.

'If you cannot find Christ in the beggar at the Church door, you will never find him in the chalice.'

So what do we need to do?

Well if soil is thin.

We need to compost it.

By prayer, asking for enlightenment and wisdom, perhaps by a good deed, or a kind word.

- Who have we not seen in Church.
- Can we ring them?
- Perhaps call round for a socially distance cuppa.

If each one of us took just one person we could make a big difference.

What about those, who have tinkered on the edge through our live streaming.

*Those who have said 'I saw the streamed service from your church it felt really nice'.*

Our compost involves facing and not avoiding life's challenges.

This church like all the other churches needs to grow and now is the time to grow it.

God is with us in the great and in the minute events of our lives.

He speaks to us in gentle tones and language we understand.

Listen to him: he is the sower, the seed and food for growth.

The devil may think he has won, but God is not giving up.

Speak to one person today. Tell them of your church and your faith. Connect and sow the seeds of joy and love. Amen.

## **Coldean Church Cooking during the Pandemic**

Since the end of March we have been busy at the church cooking up to 80 meals a day for vulnerable and isolating people and families 3 times a week and providing sandwiches for 2 days a week. These were delivered to Coldean, Moulsecoomb, Bevendean and other parts of Brighton.

This is all being done for free by volunteers with money raised in the local community; we have also had help from Fair Share, the Food Factory and Brakes.

We have provided food parcels, totalling over 40 per week. All of this has been delivered by volunteers as well.

Over the last couple of weeks we have had to gradually cut back as our volunteers are slowly returning to work as are some of the people we have been helping, which is good!



We are still cooking for up to 30 people and still providing food parcels for our most vulnerable people and we have a walk in food bank on Friday mornings for anyone that needs it.

Whilst doing this we have realised there is a continuing need for this service but unfortunately we are running very low on funds and we continue to need donations for our food bank.

If you would like to make a donation of either food or cash and are unable to get to the church we would be very grateful and happy to collect from you.

Keep safe everyone,

*Sue Docherty and Erica Verrall*

Erica (07919) 402514

Sue (07526) 455302

## **Windsor short Break in Pandemic times**

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When the Covid-19 pandemic took hold, I like many others had a holiday booked for the summertime. We had a nice cottage near Kings Lynn, Norfolk booked for a week and were all looking forward to visiting the wonderful county again. Over the years me and my family have had some great times in Norfolk, either staying in a holiday park or cruising up and down the Broads. The Broads are extremely beautiful, and Norwich Castle and museum is well worth a visit if you happen to be in the area. I was looking forward to visiting Walsingham for the first time, as this would have been the most northerly part of Norfolk we would have visited over the years. As we and everyone else was unsure of what would happen with the pandemic, I sadly cancelled the holiday booking. So hopefully one day soon, me and my family can visit Norfolk once again to visit all the places we would like to see, when this horrible pandemic finally disappears.

Even with the pandemic looming over us all, it has still been a busy time for me at work. To which I am a very grateful considering the sad news of job losses around at the moment. With the government now trying to encourage people to go out and live as normally as

possible, using shops and attractions. I decide to take a short break with the family to Windsor, staying 3 nights in a hotel and seeing some of the local attractions. Last time and the only time I have been to Windsor was when there was a safari park and I was only about 10 years old at the time. Sadly, the safari park has long been closed, so other things had to be found to do with the kids. Legoland, hooray thought the kids!

Legoland was built in 1996 on the safari park land, so now we know why it is not there. It was the second Legoland to be built after Legoland Denmark. It was built 1968. and attracted 1.4 million visitors in its first season. In 2017 it attracted over 2.2 million visitors and was the 10th most visited theme park in the world. Just imagine the queues; it was bad enough when we were there. Two, two-hour queues were the longest; oh what joy and a heavy rain pour when queuing for one ride in the open air, oh what fun! So, I decided to run and buy ponchos for all, while getting extremely soaked as my family took cover. Only to pick up the wrong size poncho for everyone. 'One size fit's all' it said! One size for children in one packet and one size for adults in the other packet. So back I went to the shop in the British August monsoon weather to swop children size ponchos for adult size (my kids are not small children size anymore). I then arrive back to where family were standing in the dry, just in time for the sun to pop out again. Should have kept the holiday booking in Kings Lynn I was thinking to myself at the time. To be honest, we had a great day at Legoland and the highlights for me were the mini towns and countries. It was so clever with all the detail, worth going just to see them. St Pauls Cathedral and Buckingham Palace were amazing, as was Edinburgh castle. Then after 9 hours of queues and good fun we headed back to Windsor for something to eat and a good night's sleep.

Actually, our first day was spent in Windsor, with Legoland being on our second day. We left Brighton at around 7:30am on Sunday and arrived in Windsor about 9am. Sounds silly, but I never gave it a thought that Windsor was so close to home and wondered why we

had not visited before. Never to late they say and how true. Just before you get to Windsor you past one of the most important places in history of this country and possibly the world. Sounds over the top, but this little area of land changed life for most people on our planet Runnymede. Never heard of it, nor had I and how shameful I felt when I found out why. Runnymede is where King John of England was made to sign the Magna Carta on 15th June 1215 by 25 Barons and first drafted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Stephen Langton. This document was the forerunner for human rights for everyone and stopped even the King being above the law. If you blinked though, you would miss where it happened! There is a national trust area to explore, but because of Covid the carpark was closed, and we were unable to see the memorials. Hopefully a visit for another day. After making it to our hotel and parking the car, we headed to the castle which we had booked for 11am. What a castle, the oldest inhabited royal resident in the world. Over 900 years there has been royalty living in the castle. The current Queen usually stays every weekend at the castle, but again due to Covid, she is keeping safe at Balmoral Castle. It is quite breath-taking and the decor is unbelievable.

The craftsmanship is as good as you get, and the rooms that were badly burnt in the 1992 fire are fully restored and amazing. Just to give you an insight of the treasures at the castle, they have 600 Leonardo da Vinci pictures and sketches in the library. Even though it is a royal castle and belongs to the country, no tax money pays for its keep. All money from tourism, tickets etc pays for the running of the castle. All state visitors to this country get to stay at the castle with a guided tour by the Queen herself. Earlier this year, the Japanese emperor stayed at the castle on a state visit to Britain. Being only an hour and half drive away, they do have a station very nearby. I would highly recommend visiting Windsor castle if you get the chance. In St George's chapel where Harry and Meghan were married, you can stand on the burial site of Henry VIII and Jane Seymour. How cool is that! They have Henry's suit of armour he wore into tournaments displayed in one of the rooms at the castle

and he was surprisingly short. Sadly, the changing of the guards has been cancelled due to pandemic, but we were fortunate enough to see some guards marching in the castle grounds. We British really do have some incredible history that we should all be proud of.

Our stay in Windsor was really nice with some great memories to have. Jumping off a tree onto a zip wire in the middle of Black Country Park (a Go Ape Adventure, just outside Windsor near Slough), with a very large group of people watching below was not. Especially as I landed hard on my bum, how they all laughed! Being away with a pandemic in the air did bring some extra worries and doings. Everywhere you went you had to hand sanitise and wear a facemask. Eating out meant giving you details just in case someone contracted covid-19 and you needed to be track and traced. Thankfully, we were all ok. Our temperature was taken as we entered Legoland. And being served breakfast in a paper bag by a hotel receptionist wearing a full-face visor was weird to say the least, but the sausage bap was tasty. A drive home in the rain, spent all summer wearing sun cream and decide to have a break when it starts to rain, very British indeed.



Here are 10 facts about Windsor castle:

1. Prince Albert died in Windsor Castle on 14th December 1861 in the Blue Room

2. The current royal family changed their name to Windsor because of the castle
3. The royal family stayed at Windsor castle in World War II, not Buckingham Palace
4. There have been 3 fires - 1296, 1853 and 1992
5. The famous walk to Windsor is 2.65 miles long
6. Around 500 people live and work in Windsor castle
7. The Queen has been breeding Corgi's at Windsor for nearly 70 years
8. The wine cellar has around 18,000 bottles
9. Queen Mary's doll house is displayed in the castle and is the largest in the world and built around 1920
10. When the Queen is staying at the castle, the Union Jack flag is replaced with the Royal Standard flag

*Marc Boase*

## **A virtual holiday – Obergurgl August 1995**

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When our daughter Alison was in the Guide Company at St Richard's Church Hollingdean, over 30 years ago, we went on a number of holidays to the Lech Valley in Austria where houses and small hotels were used in the summer to accommodate youth groups.

On the days when we were not on duty we were able to go for walks in the mountains which gave us a wish to go on holidays there on our own.

Marjorie has kept a scrapbook of some of these holidays and so, as we could not go away this summer, I have decided to look back at one of the holidays and make it a virtual holiday.



We decided we would go to

View from the front door of our hotel

Obergurgl as this is one of the highest villages in Austria and we thought there would be lots of mountain walks. We flew to Innsbruck then travelled on a minibus to Obergurgl staying in a small hotel at Untergurgl, which was a good 30 minutes walk from the main village and uphill, but everywhere you go there is uphill.

On the following day we met our tour guide who had very recently come out of the Army and was very fit. Walking up steep mountains caused him no problem unlike us who were used to much flatter terrain.

Andrew took us down the Valley and then up to Leiteralp Hutte at 1910 m, we walked 10 km and climbed 542 m, quite enough for our first day.

We enjoyed the scenery but the weather was much colder than when we went on holiday with the Guide Company. We both had to buy some warmer clothes.

We visited the local Spar for rolls most days, they make the rolls up for you, cut weigh and price the content separately, so the filled rolls are priced differently each day.

On the Sunday were going to have a lazy day. It started well, with a leisurely breakfast, then a swim followed by coffee and a stroll in the rain taking the scenic route to Obergurgl, to meet Andrew.

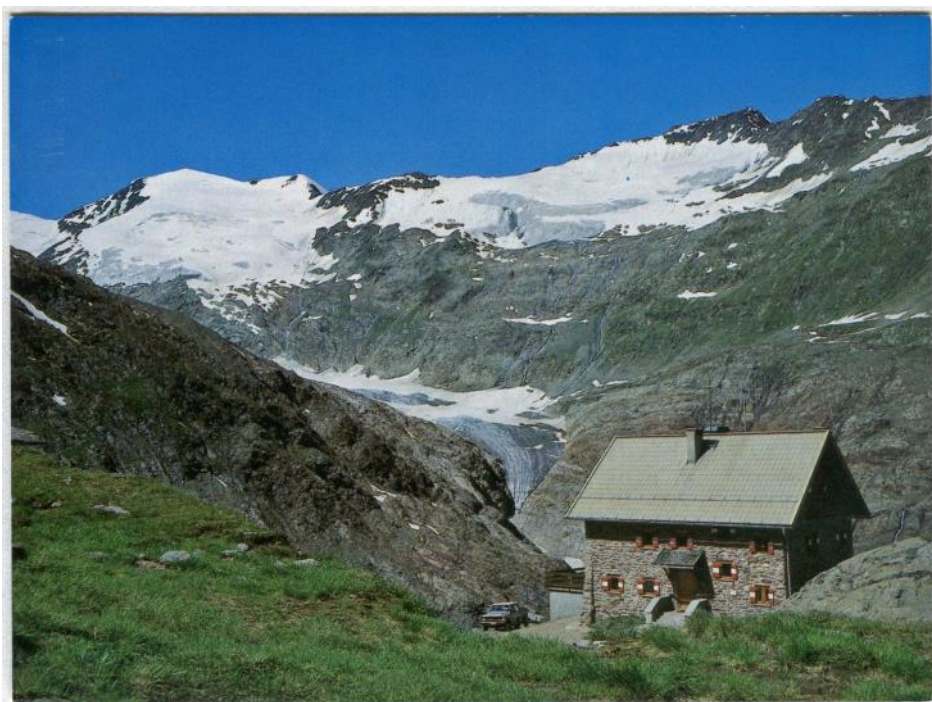
Andrew took us on an easy walk, through an ancient pine forest to see the Routmoos waterfalls and then on to the Schonwiesthutte where we sat on a large rock to have lunch.

That was the end of the lazy day! While we were eating the clouds lifted and the sun shone. Andrew looked behind him and casually said "I think we'll go up there". Up there being the Hangerer 3020 m, one of the highest peaks in the valley. It was a struggle but one and three-quarter hours later we reached the top, which by time it was in the clouds. It was a great feeling to achieve the summit, get the stamp and put our names in the book, but we were very tired by the time we got back to our hotel. We had walked 15 km and climbed 1171 m.

When walking in the mountain's Austria you can collect stamps on a card to show that you have reached one of the mountain huts or a peak of a mountain. They also have books in tins at the top of mountains for you to enter your name and the date you reached the top and where you've come from.

Two days later we did another of Andrew's marathons climbing to the Lehnarker at 2,550 m which is on the ridge opposite our hotel, and then we went on over more difficult ground to the Gurgler Scharte at 2,930 m to get another stamp. We walked 16.5 km and climbed 1080 m.

A couple of days later we walked to the Schönwieshütte and onto the Karlsruher Hutte, which was built in 1929. From here we got a view of the Gurgler glacier, our aim was to walk on past the glacier to the Hochwilde Haus which was built in 1939 for Hitler's youth movement. This hut is at an altitude of 2883 m, but unfortunately there was a big descent before we could actually climb to the hut. From there you could walk over into Italy as the border was not very far beyond the hut. This was definitely our longest walk of the holiday involving 9 hours of walking distance of 24 km and climbing of 1033 m. A memorable day, but very hard going.



The snout of the Gurgler Glacier with the Karlsruher Hutte since renamed as the Langtalereck Hutte in the foreground.

Herr Gstrein's (the hotel owner's) forecast for the next few days was "cloudy in the morning, sunny in the afternoon, thunderstorms possible by evening".

We decided to go down the Valley and tackle the Brunnekogel from Solden. We had seen this from one of Andrew's walks on the other side of the valley earlier in the holiday.

On the climb it started to rain and by the time we got to the hutte at Brunnekogel it had started to snow. Unfortunately we could not understand the menu and ended up with bread and sausage and coffee for lunch. The water for the coffee was taken from rainwater coming off the hutte roof. As it was snowing quite heavily the people in the hut tried to persuade us to stay for the night but we decided we would walk back down to the valley which we did successfully.

On one of our trips down the Valley we just missed the bus on the way back, or rather it didn't stop. However a few minutes later the driver of a bus going to Vent, a valley branching off from the main valley, said get in and change at Zwieselstein. Then he radioed to the other driver who waited for us, so we were able to change buses get back to the hotel for dinner.

The weather had been very changeable and was getting colder but on the second Sunday the weather looked possible to do a walk, on the other side of the valley, to the highest mountain hut in the area which looks down on the Gurgler glacier. The Ramolhaus is 19 km from Obergurgl and up all the way a total of 1156 m. Although the cloud came down soon after we started we decided to continue unless it got too bad, and we couldn't see the red and white markers.

We walked for 2 hours on the opposite side of the valley from the Karlsruhe Hutte when the clouds parted like drawing a curtain back and we could see.

It was very difficult to describe the almost magical scene, mountains glistening black, bright deep blue sky, white clouds and the sun glistening on the ice and snow.

It was a long climb to the Ramolhaus which was built by the German Alpine club, but well worth the effort for the views. Inside the hut was warm heated by an enormous tall wood-burning stove.



The photograph on the wall showed the outside of the house with the inscription 1810 - 1910, I shouldn't think much of the inside of the hutte had changed since those years. The only real modernisation was a "modern" Aga for cooking, electric light, deep freezers and flush toilets.



The final ascent to the Ramolhaus

All the provisions were delivered by helicopter and the staff lived there all the time. We had fried ham and eggs, a very welcome lunch but the coffee was not very good.

The path down was hard on the knees and surprisingly took almost as long as the climb up, but we actually made back for dinner.

We knew it had rained hard overnight but were surprised when we opened the curtains to see a thick carpet of snow on the ground and on the trees. This prevented us from doing any long walks for the last 2 days of the holiday.



The picture here is the road to Obergurgl from our hotel on the last morning

Austria, we have learned to be prepared for snow in August when walking in the mountains.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable holiday but very tiring, we got our gold mountain hiking badges having walked 191.5 km and climbed 9953 m in the 2 weeks.

England looks very Brown compared to the green (and white) of Austria.

P.S. This is not the first time we have walked in snow in

walked in snow in

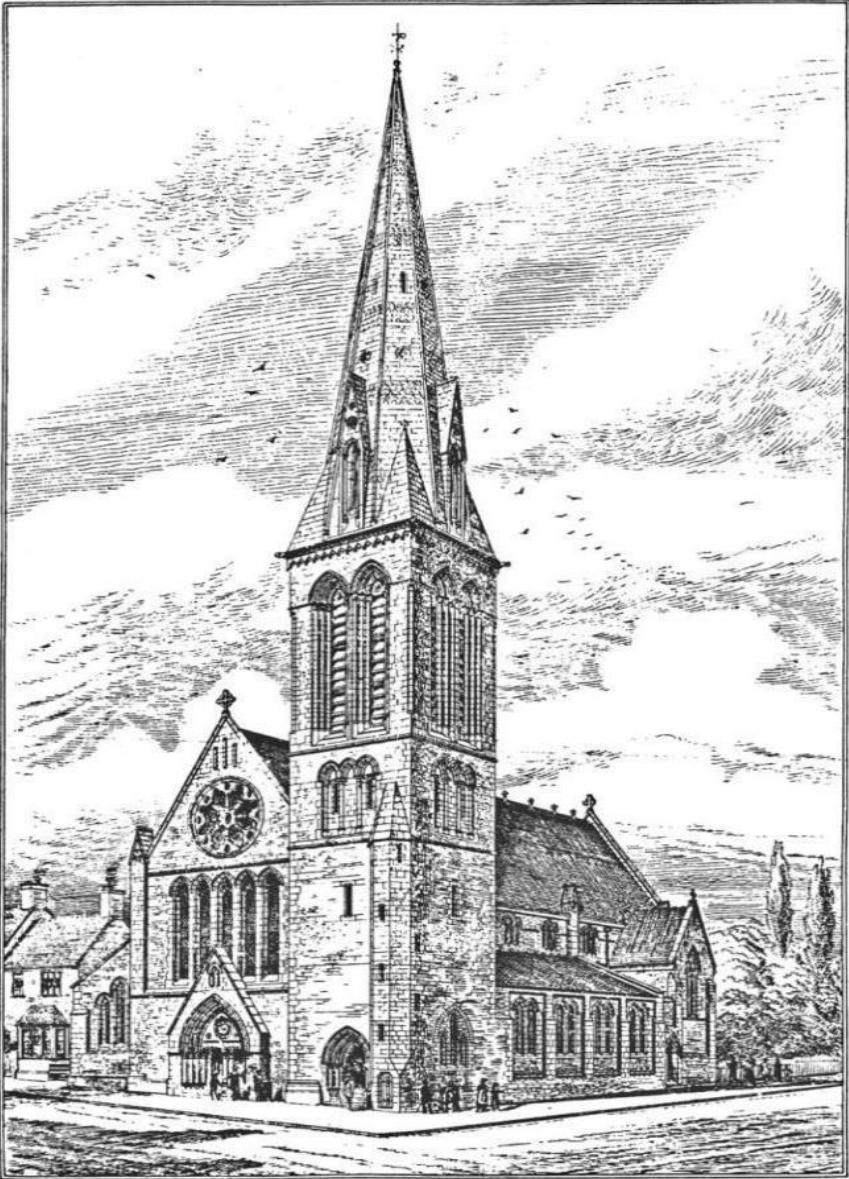
*Marjorie Phillips*

**Harvest Festival will be celebrated at 10 a.m. on Sunday 6th September at St Mary Magdalen Church in Coldean.**

**Please bring your donations of fruit, vegetables and dry goods to the church on the morning and place them in front of the altar before the start of the service.**

## St Matthew's Church, Kemp Town

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A drawing of St Matthews Church published in 'The Builder' of September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1888, but the tower was never completed.

The Church and the Parish of St. Matthew's, Kemp Town, both owed their origin to the energy and generosity of the Incumbent and congregation of the neighbouring Church of St. George's in the 1880s.

St. George's had a very wealthy congregation, and its incumbent, the Rev. J. H. Rogers, was a preacher of remarkable power. St George's Church had no parish assigned to it, and the incumbent therefore had no legal responsibility for the "cure of souls" yet the poorer population scattered around, in the outlying district rising up towards the Downs, attracted the attention and the kindly interest of St. George's congregation. They accordingly approached the Vicar of Brighton with an offer to take charge of the district, and do something to provide for its spiritual needs.

### **The Iron Church**

In 1878, the Vicar of St. George's church, Rev. J. H. Rogers, recognised that since St. George's was chiefly attended by the rich and well-off, the poorer families who lived on the northern edge of its district lacked any church building within easy reach. He therefore began the process of constructing a "tin chapel".

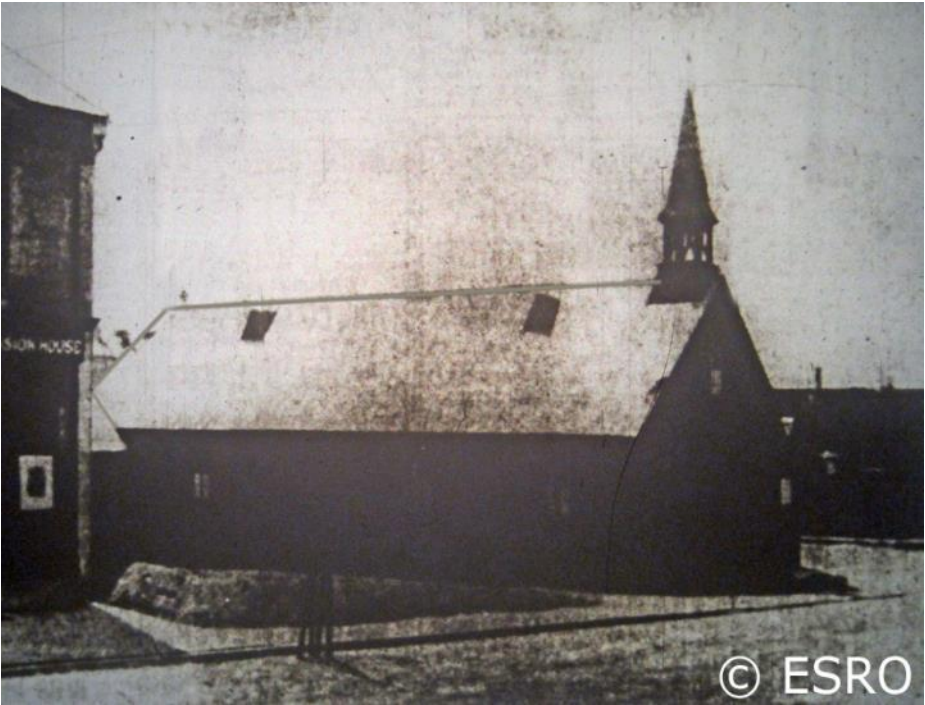
Mr. W. Percival Boxall, J.P. of Belle Vue Hall, Eastern Road, offered a piece of land in Sutherland Road valued at £1,300 for the site of this new enterprise, but for some reason Rogers was prevented by the Diocese from accepting this gift. Boxall donated £1,000 in cash to the Chichester Diocesan Association instead, who then transferred the sum to St. George's accounts, from where Rogers was permitted to pay Boxall for the land, making up the difference of £300 from the Church's own funds.

This offer was accepted, plans were formed, and money was raised to carry them out. A temporary iron church was erected on land now forming part of Brighton College playground. The church was opened for service in January, 1880, by the Bishop of Chichester (Dr. Durnford), Archdeacon John Hannah (then Vicar of Brighton), with the Rev. J. H. Rogers, and the Rev. R. C. Macdonald (Curate of St. George's) also officiating.

At the same time schoolrooms were constructed, using corrugated iron sheets.

A Church Day School was opened in an Iron Room in Canning Street, and was still standing at the end of World War One.

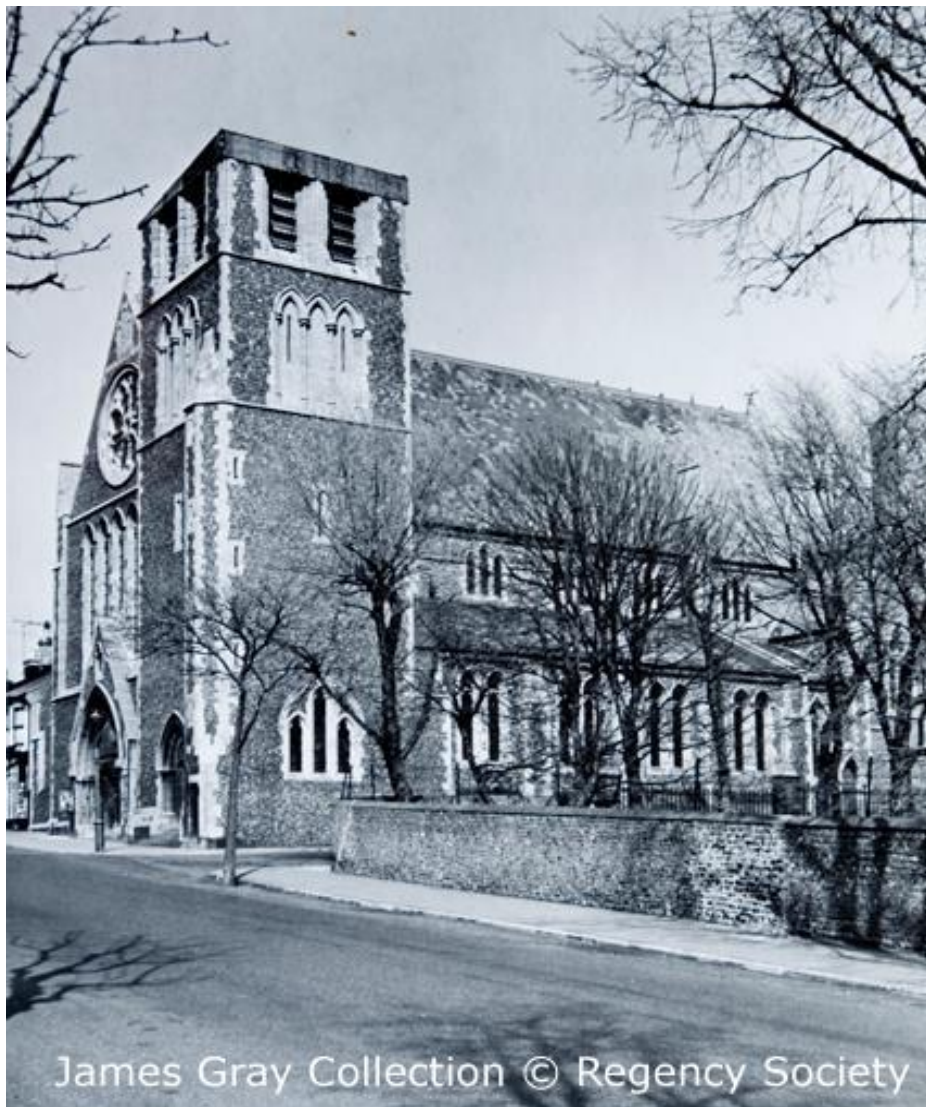
In November, 1880, the Rev. W. T. McCormick was appointed to take charge of the work and, with the aid of many excellent workers from St. George's, he set up a very efficient parochial organisation, suited for the poor population in the area.



The Iron Church in Sutherland Road in 1880.

More ambitious projects began to take shape under the auspices of the Rev. J. H. Rogers, the Vicar of St Georges. A large permanent Church was planned, a Building Committee was formed, and a site was purchased on the corner of Sutherland Road and College Terrace. A subscription list was opened, and public appeals were made.

## A Permanent Church



St Matthew's Church in Sutherland road viewed from the south west in 1967 Many thanks to the Regency Society for the use of this picture.

You can see the whole of the James Gray archive at [regencysociety-jamesgray.com](http://regencysociety-jamesgray.com)

Building work for St Matthew's Church started in 1882 to the design of John Norton, who later designed the school buildings for St Mark's Church in Kempton.

On St. Matthew's Day, September 21st, 1883, the Church was consecrated by the Bishop, and on August 19th, 1884, a parish was legally assigned to it as a "District Chapelry," the Rev. W. T. McCormick being appointed the first Vicar.

The builder was Mr. Chappell, of Brighton. The cost of the building, including fittings, was £13,000. The completing of the Church Tower could not be attempted as there was insufficient money available.

Plans were drawn up in February 1884 to build a Parsonage for the church at an unknown location, although this was never built.

Two years later in 1886 number one College Terrace, adjacent to the church was purchased as a Rectory for St Matthew's.



No. 1 College Terrace in 2020, the site of the Vicarage for St Matthew's Church.

This was enlarged with funds collected and set aside for that purpose by the Rev. J. H. Rogers and was increased by a grant from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

Financing the church and parish was always a struggle, the Vicar Rev. J. H. Rogers resigned the living in June, 1902, and he was succeeded by the Rev. W. T. McCormick.

By the start of the 1900s, nearly all the wealthier friends of

the parish had passed away, and their places were difficult, and often impossible, to fill.

This resulted in steady decrease in the revenue for the church. The First World War increased all the difficulties and prevented further progress.

The upkeep of the building was a constant source of expense. Its exposed position, and its enormous height, rendered it particularly liable to suffer from the frequent gales, and the roof was stripped of its tiles several times

Geographically the Church was unfavourably situated for successful work. The lower half of the parish was separated from the upper half, where the Church stands, by the grounds of Brighton College and the Kemp Town Station and goods depot, and several other places of worship were in far closer proximity and much more convenient for the people living in the neighbourhood.



Photograph taken in 1922 showing the interior of St Matthew's Church with the newly installed reredos brought from St Peter's Church



## The end of an era for St Matthew's

Another round of parish reorganisation in the 1960s decided that St. Matthew's had outlived its usefulness, and it was declared redundant, de-consecrated, and demolished in 1967.

The final service was held on 26th February 1967.



St. Matthew's Court Flats on the site of St. Matthew's Church

*John Phillips*

## Upside down House in Brighton

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The first upside down house we saw was outside the new National Museum which opened on October 2016 in Tartu, Estonia.



Upside down House in Estonia

However the first upside down house was built in Poland in 2007, partly as a political statement highlighting the symbolic inversions of communist rule in Poland by literally turning an entire house on its head.

The upside down house is essentially a fully furnished home like any other, but took much longer than normal to build as workers kept becoming disoriented, forcing them to stop work. It wasn't even built simply upside down, but on a tilt as well, essentially eliminating the comfort of a reliable, flat surface.

Visitors have to climb into the house through one of the attic windows, but once inside, they are able to take a stroll through the house on the ceiling. The interior is decked out in furnishings from the 1970s, when Poland was under Communist rule. There is even an old television that blares vintage propaganda. It is touches like this, where the strange attraction's true message, designed by the project's patron Daniel Czapiewski, becomes clear that life in Communist Poland turned the world upside down.



Upside Down House in Brighton

An Upside Down House has been built on Brighton seafront, between the i360 and the Bandstand which opened in May 2019.

Visitors can go inside and explore the Upside Down House, taking selfies to capture surreal images.

The Upside Down House on Brighton seafront was the idea of Tom Dirse who said, "The reason why we chose Brighton is it has always been a prime location and it is quirky, it's topsy turvy and it is open to new attractions."

It is the fourth upside down house which has been constructed in England as a tourist attraction.

You can wander around the ceilings, go downstairs to go up, or even sleep upside down.



Inside an upside down house

*John Phillips*

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