



# Coldean

Community & Church Magazine

Autumn 2022

Price £1



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## **A Prayer for the late Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II**



Majestic God, whose throne is in heaven, whose footstool is the earth; we thank you for your servant, Elizabeth, your faithful servant, our beloved Queen.

As we mourn her passing, we give thanks for her witness of devoted service, unflinching wisdom,

compassionate generosity, and faithful dedication and pray that we may embrace her values and build your kingdom today and always.

**Amen.**

## **For everything there is a season - September 2022**

My dear friends,

What a year we have had so far.

In Springtime we were looking towards a brighter year, and it certainly has been!

We began planning at the beginning 2022 for the Platinum Jubilee and what an event it was, held in the Summer on a beautiful day. There was a lot to do but with the help of everyone in the village we were able to offer an afternoon of fun and a time for us as a community family to get together and to learn more about each other. St Mary Magdalen's grounds were filled with laughter, food, and cheerful chatter and at the end of the day everyone had the same question on their lips "can we get together every year" the answer is ... yes of course we can, and we will!

Then of course we had a momentous time in the life of St Mary Magdalen Church when the Right Reverend Dr Martin Warner came to the church and consecrated both the Church and the memorial garden. Following the service, we had another wonderful celebration which many of you attended. This of course was very special as it means that Coldean is now a parish, and the church is of course the parish church.

Now it is Autumn, I love this time of year for its colour and its gentle warmth, and harvest festivals. However, this year we have had sadness as well as our dear Queen Elizabeth came to the end of her earthly life just a few months after celebrating her Jubilee. For many of us Queen Elizabeth II has been the only Monarch we have known but there are those who remember her father and her accession to the throne as a very young woman. There was no question about what kind of Queen she would be because she had put it all into words on her 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday when she said this in a broadcast to the nation.

I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong. Her Majesty The Queen

Ma'am, you served us with dignity, respect and compassion and you have allowed us to see your human frailties and vulnerabilities. As the protector of our Anglican faith, you led always by example and have modelled your faith before others many times. You will never be forgotten.

Autumn has a beauty that can only come when all is complete, work is done and it is time to rest, just as the trees, plants and animals begin to prepare for their winter rest so must we.

But like grief, Autumn is a season; it has a beginning and an end although we have to endure the chills of winter, we can still find beauty as we look at the changing landscape, the frosted leaves that sparkle, the sun that shines with a pure clean light and along with our belief in God and our prayers. this time of grief and sadness will be transformed, with the blossoming of spring, the signs of new beginnings.

We have nothing to fear, and everything to give thanks for. God's presence is all around us now and always.

My brothers and sisters, lift your faces to the light and feel its warmth, give thanks for every new day and for every new season.

God Bless you all and God save the King.

Love and prayers,

*Revd. Betsy*

## **St Mary Magdalen Church Activities Sept to Dec**

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2 Oct 2022 Harvest Lunch for Chestnut Tree House 12.30 p.m.

15 Oct 2022 Car Boot & Table top Sale 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

13 Nov 2022 Charity Lunch for Help for Heroes 12.30 p.m.

19 Nov 2022 Quiz Night St MM 7 p.m.

2 Dec 2022 Christmas Market 6 p.m. – 8.30 p.m.

11 Dec 2022 Charity Lunch for the Children's Society 12.30 p.m.

## **Consecration of St Mary Magdalen Church, Coldean**

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The Bishop of Chichester signed the Mission and Pastoral Measure to create Coldean as a separate Parish within the United Benefice of Moulsecoomb on 19th February 2020.

The Coronavirus pandemic caused a very long delay before the service of Consecration could take place.

The service to Consecrate St Mary Magdalen Church as the Parish Church of Coldean along with the Consecration of the area set aside for the burial of cremated remains, finally took place on St Mary Magdalen's Day the 22nd July 2022.



The service was conducted by the Right Reverend Dr Martin Warner, the Bishop of Chichester and started inside the church building.

The church was full with just over 100 people attending the service.

After the greeting by the Bishop the Churchwardens said:

“Reverend Father in God, we ask that the Petition for Consecration be read.”

The Diocesan Registrar then read the Petition for Consecration.

Following this The Bishop then blessed the water in a vessel and proceeded to sprinkle the Holy Water over the heads of the congregation.

The collect and readings for St Mary Magdalen’s Day followed and then the Bishop delivered a sermon on St Mary Magdalen.



The Consecration of the church started with the prayer of Dedication.

With the Bishop standing before the altar, he said:

“We now anoint this altar and this building. May God in his power make them holy, visible signs of the mystery of Christ and his Church.”

Then he anointed the altar with the oil of chrism in the middle and each of its four corners.

When the altar had been anointed, the Bishop anointed the walls of the church, with four crosses again signing with the oil of chrism.

After the rite of anointing, a brazier was placed on the altar for burning incense. The Bishop put incense into the brazier and said:

“Lord, may our prayer ascend as incense in your sight. As this building is filled with fragrance so may your Church fill the world with the fragrance of Christ.”

The table of the altar was then wiped with cloths after which it was covered and candles were placed on the altar. The Bishop then gave Rev Betsy Gray-Hammond, our vicar, a lighted candle saying:

“Light of Christ, Shine forth in the Church and bring all nations to the fullness of truth.”

The candles on the altar were then lit.

The Bishop then conducted a Eucharistic service for the whole congregation with the Giving of Communion. He was assisted by two priest and two Lay Ministers of Communion. During this time several hymns were sung.

The Bishop lead by the churchwardens, clergy and servers then processed to the area to be consecrated for the burial of cremated remains.

The Churchwardens said:

“Reverend Father in God, we ask that the Petition for Consecration be read.”

The Diocesan Registrar read the Petition for Consecration of the burial ground.

The Bishop then proceeded to each corner of the ground to be consecrated, accompanied by Rev Betsy and Churchwardens.



At each corner, the Bishop marked the ground with the sign of the cross with his pastoral staff, saying,

“The blessing of the eternal God be upon this place to sanctify it, and keep it holy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

The Bishop returned to the centre of the area and said,

“By virtue of our authority in the Church of God, we consecrate and set apart this ground from all profane and common uses, to be a resting place of the ashes of those who have departed in the Lord, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Lord, bless, hallow and sanctify this ground, that all whose ashes are interred in this place may rest in peace and on that great day when Christ returns, may rise in glory. Amen.”

The Bishop then sprinkled the ground with Holy Water.





The service ended with a Blessing and Dismissal given by the bishop, after which he signed the service register in the Lady Chapel.



After a photograph of Bishop Martin, Rev Betsy Gray-Hammond, The Diocesan Registrar and Churchwardens, the congregation, clergy and priests proceeded to the church hall for a celebration party.



The cake made to celebrate the Consecration of the church.

John Phillips

## Coldean Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

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A celebration was held for the people of Coldean in the grounds of St Mary Magdalen Church in Coldean on Sunday, 5 June 2022 to mark the 70th Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's accession to the throne.

A Hog Roast was provided along with a cream tea at the end of the afternoon.

Over 400 people attended the event during the course of the day with some people bringing their own picnic.

The theme for the day was Kings & Queens with fancy dress being optional. The day started with the children making crowns to wear.

The Mayor of Brighton and Hove Councillor Lizzie Deane arrived about noon and was greeted by a fanfare played by two buglers in uniform.



The mayor then led a procession to New Larchwood with gifts for the residents before returning to the church grounds to have some lunch.

Lunch consisted of a piece of Hog Roast in a soft roll with crackling, stuffing, sauces, and side dishes. Vegan and Vegetarian option were also provided.

The mayor left just before 2 p.m. to attend another Jubilee celebration in the town.



A group of musicians played outside the entrance to the Church Hall.

Games for the children took place on the vicarage lawn, along with face painting for the children during the afternoon.

There was a display of cakes and puddings made for the Jubilee event in the Church Hall. Judging of these took place in the afternoon with prizes being presented at the end of the afternoon.

A choir which practices in the church during the week provided entertainment in the church during the afternoon.



The Lord-Lieutenant of East Sussex, Mr Andrew Blackman, arrived about 3:30 p.m. and made a tour to see what had been taking place.



He gave a speech which was followed by a Toast to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and the singing of the National Anthem led by the choir.

The Lord-Lieutenant then drew the lucky ticket number and handed out the prizes for the cake making and pudding competitions.

He stayed long enough to enjoy a cream tea which was on offer to everyone who was present. After which he left to attend a service at St Nicholas Church in Brighton along with the Mayor.

John Phillips

## **Indian Army Medical Officer in WW2**

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By Marc Boase



**Birendranath Mazumdar**

I came across a very interesting article in a recent magazine, telling the story about an Indian man called Birendranath Mazumdar. He was the son of a distinguished surgeon from the city of Gaya and went on to become a doctor himself. Highly educated in elite schools in India that were modelled on the English education system, and brought up to observe a code of honour that was very Victorian British. Even though his family prospered under the Raj, Biren grew up to become a committed Indian Nationalist that was fiercely opposed to the British rule in India.

He was a supporter of both Mahatma Gandhi and the leader of the Indian Independence Movement, Subhas Chandra Bose. Even so, in 1931 he moved to London and became a fellow

of the Royal College of Surgeons. Despite his opposition to British rule, when war was declared in 1939, Mazumdar came to its defence and volunteered for the Royal Army Medical Corps swearing an oath of allegiance to King George VI.



**Colditz Castle in 1945**

He was later dispatched to northern France, ranked as a captain. After leading 40 ambulances carrying 500 wounded soldiers in May 1940, he was captured by a Panzer

tank regiment and made a POW. The article then tells his amazing story of courage, escape and also being treated to racial abuse by his fellow soldiers as well as the Germans. He spent time in the famous Colditz, and was badly beaten by the Gestapo.



**Frontstalag 153 Orleans**

He finally escaped with a fellow Indian POW and friend called Dariao Singh, who was a soldier from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Royal Lancers. They both escaped to Switzerland on July 13<sup>th</sup> 1943 from a prison in central France called Frontstalag 153. This was home to some 500 Indian POW and was guarded by French-Algerian troops.

They both trudged 560 miles in 6 weeks, hiding and being helped and fed by farmers in remote farm houses. He managed to settle in England after the war and became a GP, married and had a family. There is a book published on September 15<sup>th</sup> called 'Extracted from Colditz: Prisoners of the Castle' by Ben Macintyre published by Viking. There is so much more story in the article, so I would imagine the book is a great story.

But the reason I have written this article is not just about Biren and his amazing story, but because one of the facts given in that article. A thought that I have never given a thought to, and not by my own fault either. Since a kid I have watched dozens of WW2 films, covering all manner of battles, fighting all over Europe, Africa and Asia. In all those films I have never seen an Indian soldier being represented by an actor or included in the scripts. Maybe there has been, but none I can think of. The fact that shocked me was there were over two and a half million Indian soldiers fighting for the Allies in WW2. Fighting in Europe, Africa and Asia. It was the largest voluntary Army in history.

## **The Grandchildren's visit to Brighton from Estonia**

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When we said goodbye to Ann and the boys in the autumn of 2018, we expected to see them again the following year. Sadly, for various reasons this did not happen, and then the World was hit by the Coronavirus. Ann is a consultant doctor, specialising in infectious diseases and she was kept extremely busy at the hospital in Tartu, Estonia and also in Finland where she works for a few days each month.

This year we all kept our fingers crossed and hoped that we would see each other but could not be sure until Ann, Perry and Harry arrived at our home to stay with us for a week early in July. The next day we squeezed Ann and the boys into the car and set off to meet Alison, Dave, Dylan and Chloe at Wakehurst Place.

Having looked at the exhibition in the Millennium Seed Bank we walked, at various paces, to the Tree Top Trail where we ate our picnic while the children played.





Harry and Chloe on the tree plank walk.

On our return to the cars, we made the compulsory stop in the shop for the children to buy something, the inevitable soft toy. We were altogether for our evening meal, there was chatter and laughter, and the presence of James, which made our small family complete.

On Monday Ann took Perry and Harry to the beach and the Palace Pier, then to the shops, as they wanted to add to their Pokémon card collection. Having found several shops which sold the cards Ann and two happy little boys came home for lunch and to play with their cards.

Harry was only two years old the last time they visited and the one thing he really wanted to do was go to the Sea Life Centre because he could not remember being taken there. He was fascinated to see such big fish swimming in the tanks and he loved watching the rays. Harry is very much like James, his father, and having done the one thing he had been looking forward to for months, he wanted to come home.

On Wednesday we went to Paradise Park at Newhaven. Every one enjoyed the visit especially looking at the dinosaurs and feeding the fish.

The boys played on some games which needed tokens to enable them to play and Granddad was repeatedly asked for more.



Harry and Perry steering pirate ships on a small pond.

It was a very enjoyable day and John and I will go back on our own soon so that we can read the information about the exhibits without being moved on to the next thing. We had lunch there, so I did not have to cook in the evening.

Alison and Chloe came with us to Washbrooks Farm on Thursday and all three children had great fun while we relaxed, watched and chatted. Dylan was in school so could not join us for the day.



The children enjoyed the bouncy pillow and the toys for them to climb over.

When we got home Ann and Perry went out again to go to the beach and the pier. Harry stayed with me and it was then I realised how fluent his English is. He is almost 7 and has taught himself to speak English by watching cartoons on television. Perry is nearly 9 and although Ann said he could understand much of what is said he will only speak Estonian.

Ann has always wanted to visit the Royal Pavilion and after a little shopping and yet another visit to the beach the three of them went to look inside. Perry was very interested in the King who lived there and Ann had to resort to google so that she could translate for him. Perry wanted to know how the King got his meals because the kitchen is far away from the dining room. We went to see Alison and her children afterwards and they had a great time with a pillow fight in the garden. Dinner was takeaway fish and chips before we went home, an early night for the boys and time for Ann to pack.

Alison came on Saturday morning with Dylan and Chloe. The children had fun playing with Lego which originally belonged to Alison and

James. All too soon a taxi arrived to take Ann, Perry and Harry to Gatwick for their flight home.



Ann and the boys are looking forward to visiting again next year and John and I hope we might be able to see them in Estonia.

Marjorie Phillips

### **Copper Font in Norwich Cathedral**

The font stands on a moveable base in the nave. It was made from two copper bowls which were previously used in chocolate manufacture. They were gifted to the Cathedral by the confectionary company, Rowntree Mackintosh, after the closure of their Norwich factory in 1994.



## Coldean Farm

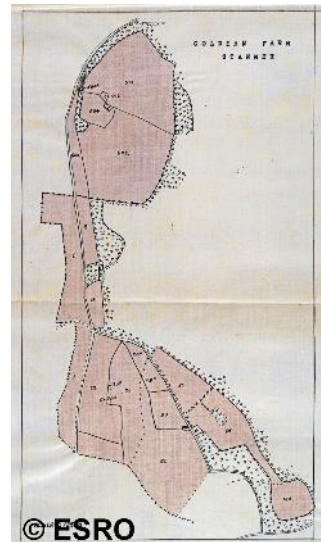
The photograph below is of Coldean Farm and cottages about 1930 with Coldean Lane on the right.

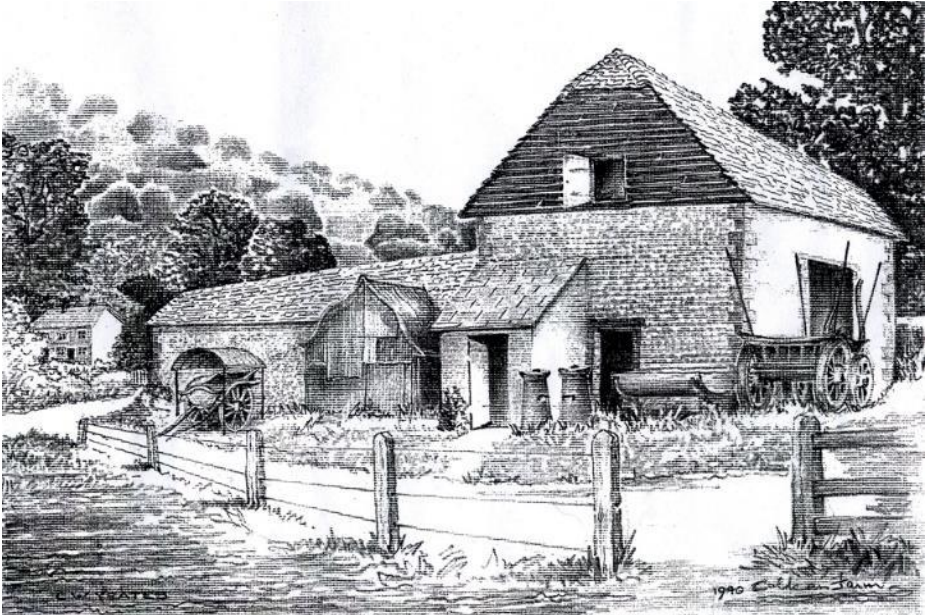


A map drawn in 1933 (right) shows the fields belonging to Coldean Farm with a total area of 225 acres.

Half of the estate was in the Parish of Stanmer while the other half (nearest to the Lewes Road) was in the Parish of Falmer. The land was part of the Stanmer Estate owned by the Earl of Chichester until it was sold to Brighton Council in 1947.

The Lewes Road is at the bottom of the map.





Coldean Farm buildings drawn by C. W. Yeates c1940.

The barn in drawing above was built about 1780, and was converted to the church in 1955.

Information with the James Gray photographs tell us that the farm cottages at the Menagerie farm were built about 1740 and altered in 1784. The presence of these buildings is confirmed by maps drawn at the end of the 1800s.

The old cottage, in the picture on the next page, was originally a barn, built about 1740. The brick front and Georgian doorway were later additions, and on the plaque above the door was the date 1784, and initials T.A.P. These stood for Thomas Pelham and his wife Anne, who lived in Stanmer House. Their favourite walk was from the house, via a path leading past the monument to Frederick Frankland (Anne's father), over Farm Hill and down to this cottage, which was the home of their pet dogs and other animals, hence the name - menagerie. The half-timbered house adjoining, was added about 1830. The photographs were taken in 1950, and the houses demolished in December 1955.



The Menagerie Farm Cottages on the east side of Coldean Lane from the James Gray Collection © The Regency Society

There are a few references to Coldean in the census records for 1851 and 1881 but there is no indication of exactly where people were living at this time. They may have been living in the Menagerie Farm Cottages or at the bottom of Coldean Lane adjacent to the Lewes Road.

The first reference to Arthur West being the farmer at Coldean farm, referred to as the Menagerie farm comes in the electoral register for 1905 for Falmer Parliamentary polling district in the Lewes Parliamentary division of Sussex.

The 1911 census gives a much better record of who was living in Coldean and where they were living. Twenty three people are recorded as living in Coldean Cottages at Falmer; presumably this refers to the cottages at the bottom of Coldean Lane adjacent to the Lewes road.

Eight people are recorded as living in the Menagerie Cottages at Coldean with three people recorded as living in the Menagerie Farm at Coldean.

Address	Name	Age	Occupation
Menagerie Farm	Arthur West	34	Farmer
Menagerie Farm	Winifred West	27	
Menagerie Farm	Jack Simmonds	50	Cowman
31 Menagerie Cottages	Frank Pavey	57	Cowman
31 Menagerie Cottages	Frederick Pavey	17	Cowman
31 Menagerie Cottages	Samuel Pavey	15	Cowman
31 Menagerie Cottages	Ida Pavey	24	Housekeeper
30 Menagerie Cottages	William Pearcey	28	Carter
30 Menagerie Cottages	Phebe Pearcey	24	
30 Menagerie Cottages	Emily Miles	10	School
30 Menagerie Cottages	William Humphrey	18	Carter

Arthur West continued to farm at Coldean until the land was requisitioned by Brighton Council in 1952 to extend the Parkside estate northwards towards the Ditchling Road.

Arthur West moved from the Menagerie Farm into number 2 Park Road at Coldean when the first houses were completed in the road. Records show that he was the first occupant of this property.

The 1939 registration shows the Arthur West was still living at 2 Park Road also known as the Corner house and his occupation was listed as farmer and stockman.

He continued to live at this address until 1960 when the house was sold, he then moved into 33 Rushlake Road.

### **Future Plans for Moulsecoomb Place**

On the 16 and 17 July 2022 there was an exhibition on the lawn in front of Moulsecoomb Place to set out the plans for Moulsecoomb Place and the student houses behind. The aim was to get ideas from local people on what facilities they would like to see.



A group called the Cathedral Group have acquired Moulseccomb Place, including the Manor House and gardens, Tith Barn and the student accommodation behind from Brighton University. They are looking for ideas on how to use Moulseccomb Place and are planning to demolish the student houses which are low rise and replace them with high rise blocks of student rooms.

The group are planning to improve Moulseccomb Place and make it suitable for events for Moulseccomb people.

As a first step they brought the Riwaq to Moulseccomb and set up a series of display boards showing what Moulseccomb Place was like in earlier times and some ideas of what might be developed in the future.



The Riwaq setup on the lawns of Moulseccomb Place to display information about the history of the site and some plans for the future.

The Riwaq was built for the Brighton Festival and originally set up on Hove seafront. Riwaq is the Arabic word for colonnade making a semi-open space.

There were 15 display boards setup in the Riwaq, giving the history of the site, the site as it is today and some idea of the future plans for the site. One was entitled the masterplan, right.



The text on this board reads: -

1. Greening of the building helps blend in with the tree bank behind.
2. Articulated roofscapes to taller buildings help sculpt the skyline.
3. Tithe Barn to open out into courtyard space.
4. Re-purposing of the heritage building and bringing it back into the public eye.
5. Park setting brought to life and linked back to its heritage landscape setting.
6. Series of stepping buildings sit along the bank to the rear of the heritage assets.
7. Lower floor level defines the streetscape.
8. A variety of uses help to activate the public realm.
9. Historic flint walls form sequence of gardens.
10. Space between building provides views to the valley behind.

To find out more go to: - <https://moulsecoombplace.com/>

Click on "have your say" then on scrolling down you will be able to access the display boards mounted in the Riwaq.

To hire the church hall please contact: Debbie Annells

Telephone: 07508 625 667

e-mail: office4stmm55@btinternet.com

The hourly rate is £18.00

(Regrettably 18th Birthday Parties are excluded)

Commercial Organisation rates are £25.00 per hour

Reducing to £18.00 after 4 hours



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# Christopher Stringer

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