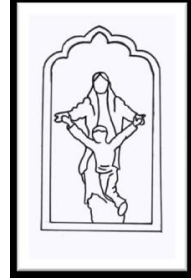


St Mary the Virgin
Ringmer



**ANNUAL
PAROCHIAL
CHURCH
MEETING**

18th May 2026

7.30pm

Prayers

Annual Vestry Meeting

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of Annual Vestry Meeting 2025 (*in italics*)
3. Election of Churchwardens

Annual General Meeting

1. Minutes of the APCM 12th May 2025 (*in italics*)
2. Electoral Roll Report
3. Vicar's / Churchwardens' Report
4. Finance
5. 5.1 Treasurer's Report
5.2 Appointment of Independent Examiner
6. Safeguarding
7. Fabric & Facilities Report
8. Presentation of Inventory
9. Deanery Synod Report
10. Other Reports
11. Elections to the Parochial Church Council -
5 vacancies
12. Election of Deanery Synod Reps - 3
13. Announcement of Sidespersons for 2026/7

Hugh Bailey	Elizabeth Humm
Martine Bailey	Chris Kingswood
Murray Brickell	Tina Lambird
Garry Clark	Jo Linehan
Jill Clark	Ian Loughborough
Chris Gebbie	Christine Smith
Sue Howes	Carole Speed
Ken Humm	Peter Speed
14. Any Other Business

Minutes of the ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING held on Monday 12th May 2025 in St Mary's Church Room with Rev'd David Bouskill in the chair.

31 people attended.

The meeting was opened in prayer by Rev'd David. The names of those church members who had died in the past year were read out and remembered with respect.

1. **Apologies for absence**

David Booth, Deirdre Booth, Garry Clark, Jill Clark, Kay Fitzgerald, Nick Green, Chris Kingswood, David Lambird, Tina Lambird, Gill Macadam, Charlotte Mitchell, Rosemary Norris, Jenny Pigott, John Stamper.

2. **Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting held on Sunday 12th May 2024**

These had been circulated in advance by email and hard copy. Kenneth Barber proposed that they be approved as a correct record of the meeting. This was seconded by Richard Vincent and accepted by all present. The minutes were then signed by the Chairperson.

3. **Election of Churchwardens**

There were two nominations only, both for the existing Churchwardens.

Andrew Edgar was proposed by Richard Vincent and seconded by Joanna Linehan.

Anne Franklin was proposed by Meriel Vincent and seconded by Sue Howes.

There were no objections, so Andrew and Anne were duly elected to serve until the next Annual Vestry Meeting.

Rev'd David thanked them for all they had done during the past year, and they were applauded by those present.

This ended the Annual Vestry Meeting for 2025.

Minutes of the ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING held on Monday 12th May 2025 in St Mary's Church Room with Revd David Bouskill in the chair.

29 members of the Electoral Roll attended.

Apologies for absence were the same as for the Annual Vestry Meeting.

1. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Sunday 12th May 2024

These had been circulated prior to the meeting by email and hard copy. They were agreed and signed by the Chairperson as a correct record.

2. Electoral Roll Report

The Electoral Roll Officer, Chris Kingswood gave a written report stating the number on the new Roll to date stood at 74. This was considerably lower than before the revision of the Roll but reflected more accurately the number of active members. It was noted that some members had not appreciated the need to renew their Roll membership.

3. Vicar's and Churchwardens' Report for 2024

The Vicar's and Churchwardens' report for 2024 was contained in the Annual Report, as approved by the External Examiner, circulated by email, was available in hard copy and available on the church website <https://www.ringmerparishchurch.org.uk/>

The main achievements had been to provide an accessible space for personal prayer and contemplation; conducting relevant public worship open to all; conducting 1 baptism, 3 weddings and 22 funerals and 9 burials of ashes; teaching about Christian doctrine and practice; promoting understanding of the faith through events, meetings, literature and electronic media; maintaining care of the fabric of the church and its grounds; advancing the church's mission to those of all ages in the community; providing practical and spiritual care across the village; maintaining facilities for church and community use; giving financial support to those in need locally and further afield, an increase of 16% more than in 2023; protecting all who use the church facilities by maintaining safeguarding and health and safety standards; maintaining robust governance in all activities of the church; and maximising our efforts to reduce climate change, demonstrated by achieving a Silver A Rocha award.

*The summary of the current **Mission Action Plan (MAP)** was displayed on the screen. This had four aims:*

1. Growing as Christians, in depth and number: through varying the forms of worship to maintain freshness and relevance; by challenging our complacency through sermons, Bible studies and discussions; by providing a warm welcome to all; by encouraging and developing the skills within the congregation without judgment.

2. *Outreach - to follow Christ's command to 'go out' and live what we have learnt: by making advancements in communication through our new website; by improving the sound system, installing streaming to benefit both home-based church members as well as geographically distant families and friends for funerals and weddings; by linking further with the local community through the re-launched Friends of St Mary's; by developing the visits to and from the schools and by keeping in mind and prayer the needs of the young people of Ringmer at their challenging time of life.*

3. *Sustainability – to treat the world's resources more responsibly than in the past, even if we are less comfortable than previously: by making personal efforts to adjust to the low level of heating in the church building while being aware of the needs of others for blankets and hot water bottles; by continuing to care for our community in plans being made for a new, sustainably managed churchyard on land kindly offered by Gus Christie.*

4. *Giving: to work towards receiving more than is spent on the Parish Contribution, upkeep of the buildings, outreach and charitable donations - by encouraging regular financial giving through the Parish Giving Scheme; by discussing more openly the need for finance; by reviewing personal giving more regularly; by following Christ's command to be 'innocent as doves but shrewder than snakes' in putting in expense claims and donating the sum back to the church with Gift Aid; by encouraging the involvement of Friends of St Mary's for funding fabric upkeep; by finding other funding sources for activities where possible. This would enable increased funding for the previous three priorities of the MAP. The Vicar emphasised that God provides the resources lacking for his work when his people are dependent on him.*

Although St Mary's spent £50,000 more than was received in 2024, the Vicar reminded those present that through God's grace and the hard work of its worshipping congregation, St Mary's would continue as it had for the last 800 years.

Rev'd David thanked the members for all they had done to towards these aims through the year, as well as those who arrange the flowers, provide coffee, clean the church, act as sacristans and all who work behind the scenes. He also thanked his family for their support, as well as the Churchwardens and the PCC.

4. **Finance**

4.1. **Presentation of the 2024 Financial Statement and Treasurer's Report**

Detailed accounts had been made available before the meeting and were presented by Anne Franklin, Churchwarden and Acting Honorary Treasurer. She reported that the Annual Report and Financial Statement for 2024 had been approved by the Independent Examiner, Nathan Coker. These accounts also fulfilled the requirements of the Charity Commission.

Income: *The total of St Mary's receipts in 2024 was £134,151, compared with £120,556 in 2023 – an encouraging increase of £13,595. The Parish Giving Scheme provided the largest proportion of income (£51,998); with Gift Aid adding £15,476. More people had signed up to use these schemes over the past year.*

Expenditure: *The total expenditure for 2024 was £184,098, compared with £185,402 in 2023. The largest item of expenditure was the Parish Contribution (£81,500) followed by £32,137 on major repairs, and £19,339 on utilities. Savings had been made through reducing paper-use, bulk-buying necessary products and minimising the use of electricity.*

To summarise, with income at £134,151 and expenditure at £184,098, there was an overall deficit £50,000.

In view of this, this PCC had proposed a negative budget of £37,980 for 2025, but savings made for the first quarter of 2025 showed some encouragement for the future.

The following responses were made to questions from the floor:

i. Reducing St Mary's Parish Contribution could have the negative effect of becoming part of a benefice of several churches.

ii. Users of the church room were being asked to increase their donations.

iii. Since an improvement in quality, more advertisements and a small price rise, the Parish Magazine had made a surplus of £94 in 2024.

iv. The Vicar was arranging to have a discussion with a potential Treasurer for St Mary's.

v. The Vicar and the Churchwardens were thanked for their work during the past year.

4.2 **Appointment of the Independent Examiner of Accounts**

Anne Stamper proposed that Nathan Coker of Price & Company Chartered Accountants, 30/32 Gildredge Road, Eastbourne BN21 4SH be appointed as the Independent Examiner for the coming year. This was seconded by Richard Vincent and agreed unanimously

5. Safeguarding Report

Deirdre Booth, the Safeguarding Officer, reported that she kept in close touch with the Vicar and PCC about safeguarding matter. The implementation of St Mary's stringent safeguarding policy included members of the PCC, the pastoral group, bellringers, all helpers with toddlers and fun days for families being asked to take the basic awareness and/or foundation courses provided by the Diocese. These had been successfully taken up and DBS checks were up to date. A Safeguarding Sunday service had been held to remind the whole church of each person's responsibility for safeguarding. The safeguarding policy was available to view in the porch and on the website.

Rev'd David drew attention to the posters having been put up in the Church Room toilets about recognising and reporting domestic abuse. In relation to safeguarding and health & safety, he noted the care being taken to reduce trip accidents with trailing wire. He thanked Deirdre Booth for her work over the past year.

6. Fabric & Facilities Report

Ken Humm reported that the urgent (Category 1) actions resulting from the Quinquennial Report of 2022 had been completed, and that in 2024, Category 2 items were being addressed. These included repair of cracks round the east window in the Springett Chapel and the resulting wider need for plaster replacement; and repair to the roof at the east end of the church. The church room had been redecorated following ingress of water the previous year; repairs had been made to the church clock; regular safety checks of leaning headstones were carried out in order to notify Ringmer Parish Council for their correction; the church lightning conductor had been upgraded to comply with insurance requirements; the organ was being monitored for possible woodworm and action would be taken if it appeared to worsen. He thanked all those on the Fabric Committee who had made necessary minor repairs around the church during the year.

Questions from the floor were answered:

- i. John Howes reported that the organ damp had been reduced successfully to date by installation of a heater within the structure, and that a report was awaited about the condition of the organ blower.*
- ii. Due to continuing personal circumstances, the contracted sculptor was still waiting to complete the replacement statue.*

Rev'd David thanked the Fabric & Facilities group for their hard work throughout the year.

7. Presentation of the Inventory for 2024

Anne Franklin reported that, in 2024, nothing had been removed from the Inventory. Acquisitions had comprised: an oak chancel desk for the curate; 28 navy seat pads; and one set of purificators.

In answer to a question from the floor, she reported that the valuable NADFAS documents and books were now kept in the choir-vestry safe, but that a request could be made to the Vicar or Churchwardens to view them.

8. Deanery Synod Report

Shirley Squires reported that the Deanery Representatives were Margaret Sweatman, Jo Linehan and herself. In 2024, the four meetings and a service had been attended by Representatives and Rev'd David, at which ways of addressing the 1.2m deficit in the Diocesan finances were announced. These included encouragement for joining Friends of Chichester Cathedral to help with repair costs; cessation of training of new Lay Readers for the next two years to save £4,000 per Reader; the possible cutting of training costs for curates; withdrawing support for May Camp and Family Support Work (FSW). These cuts had been challenged by Lay members of the Deanery Synod.

The Deanery was exploring the Five Marks of Mission and had addressed Tend and Transform so far.

Pastoral workers had spoken about their involvement with care homes, and there had been a talk and discussion on Modern Slavery.

Rev'd David spoke to a comment about stopping Lay Reader training, noting that an objection by Deanery Synods had gone to the Diocesan Synod for consideration. He thanked the Deanery Synod Representatives.

9. Other Reports

Additional reports from groups for church members and for the village community had been made available online and in a separate printed booklet. Rev'd David mentioned each report individually and was encouraged that new members had joined several groups within the church and those run by St Mary's members in the community. He thanked everyone for their work and commitment to each of these areas of St Mary's life, and thanked Rev'd Pat and Ray Benton for their support in his ministry as well as the Administrator, Shirley Squires; the PCC secretary, Meriel Vincent; and Jonathan Franklin for his financial support.

A vote of thanks to the Rev'd David was made by Marisa Hayes and to Claire and Ben Bouskill by Sue Howes.

10. Election of Members to the PCC

For the two vacancies for 3 years, there had been only two nominations in advance: Christopher Gebbie for a second term and Nick Green for a first term. All those present were in favour of their election for three years.

The outgoing PCC members: Ken Humm and Richard Vincent were thanked for their contributions.

11. Announcement of Sidespersons for 2025-26

Sidespersons were now to be appointed by the PCC. The list of 16 people had been circulated in the APCM booklet, and these were accepted and thanked by all present. The Vicar pointed out the importance of this role in welcoming people into St Mary's.

12. Any Other Business: none

The meeting ended at 9.18pm with The Grace

REPORTS 2025 / 2026

PCC WORKING GROUPS – Apart from our new group , please see the Annual Report for the work of these groups.

Technology and Communications Working Group Andrew Edgar

A new working group to oversee the maintenance and updating of the technology used in the church and church room, including the St Mary's website, was formed in July 2026.

The working group oversaw the installation of a system of CCTV security cameras for the church and the church grounds in April 2026. This was necessary due to an increase in the number of anti-social incidents in and near the church.

The working group continues to explore options for updating the church's sound system, and options for broadcasting services (including weddings and funerals).

St Mary's website continues to function as a source of news and information about the church and its activities, as well as a resource for Christian development, including an archive of sermons preached at St Mary's. The website also serves as a means through which people can

contact the church, for example with queries about weddings or family burials. The website's pages received an average of approximately 8,000 visits per month, between April 2025 and March 2026.

The Children, Youth & Families group

Marisa Hayes

The CFY group planned First Sundays and outreach during the year. It has been a delight to see a community of mums established from the weekly toddler group and we are grateful to everyone on the rota for making this happen. More volunteers are always welcome - please speak to Shirley. A highlight of 2025 was the Easter Fun Time with many lovely crafts and activities reaching a good number of families. We continue to pray for guidance in our thinking for youth provision in the parish as part of our MAP.

Music

Rosemary Colebourn

Our four new choir members settled into our SATB choir of 13-15 singers. The choir sings at all Sunday services with appropriate hymns and anthems, with choral evensong and a range of Taizé style chants sung once a month. Our special contributions to worship included an environmental focus on Creation Sunday and a Creationtide Evensong in September, plus leading our second combined Festive Evensong with over 30 singers from local parishes in June. In 2025 we held an Advent Service with appropriate hymns and anthems for the season, followed by our Christmas Carol Service. Our 5-member music group played at all the First Sunday All age services and on the Village Green for the combined service with the Baptist Church on Trinity Sunday. The choir sang carols in the community at two of the residential care homes and the church hosted two much enjoyed student concerts during the year, given by Luckley House choir and the Senior String ensemble of Create Music and there was a fund-raising Jazz Group evening concert in the church in October.

Organ

John Howes

2025 was observed across the country as 'Play the Organ Year', with the twin aims of generating interest in the instrument itself and encouraging new players. We took part in the project during the autumn by holding a number of open afternoons when people could take a look at the working of our magnificent organ 'close-up', and a few were brave enough to try it for themselves. The organ weathered the winter well, assisted for the first time by a miniature heating device under the keyboards which helps to ward off some of the effects of the cold and damp.

Bellringers

Jonathan Franklin

We are lucky here at Ringmer to have such a keen and friendly group of bellringers. Apart from one occasion during the summer, we have been able to ring for all the main Sunday services as well as disturbing the peace of the Vicarage on Wednesday evenings. We also rang to mark the 80th anniversaries of VE Day and VJ Day

And it is not just ringing in Ringmer:

- we support Barcombe by organising bi-monthly practices and coordinating ringing there for weddings
- our outing was to West Sussex – a good variety of bells including a mini-ring
- the annual tower lunch.
- the Friends of St Mary's have visited us
- we created a superb Christmas Tree for the church Christmas celebration
- and provided some excellent handbell entertainment at the Coffee and Carols evening (as always the highlight of the evening!)

We have welcomed Vanessa to our numbers and we are very appreciative of the non-ringing support we have from John Stamper, Sue Donbroski and Liz Clifford.

New recruits are always welcome. If you want to find out more (or have a go), please contact me.

St Mary's Toddler Group

Shirley Squires

This continues to flourish and it is great to see the Mums/carers doing other things together. It meets on Wednesday mornings, all year round, between 10.30 and 12noon for Mums/Carers with pre-school children. As we are also open during school holidays we do welcome siblings then as well.

Floodlighting

Shirley Squires

If you would like a loved one remembered on a specific date by having our church floodlit do contact me on 01273 752167 / 07552 492354 or ad-sasquires@talktalk.net. We do ask for a donation of £15 for this.

Church Flowers

Deirdre Booth

We have 20 volunteers on our flower rota, who very willingly give their time to make our church so beautiful. Each member of the group has

personal responsibility for the flowers and containers for two weeks. We also have teams for the main church festivals of Easter, Harvest and Christmas. I would like to thank everyone on the rota for their work which is much appreciated by both the congregation and by visitors. We are always on the lookout for more people to join this happy band, absolutely no experience is necessary, so if you think this is something you might like to help with please do get in touch.

Study Group

John Howes

The Thursday afternoon Study Group has continued to explore the writings of both the Old and New Testaments of the Bible. On the one hand we have pursued our journey with the children of Israel through the Wilderness, and into the Promised Land with Joshua. This has been interspersed by dipping into the sayings of Jesus in the Gospels, in particular the Lord's Prayer. During Advent and Lent we have used published materials to help us discover fresh encouragement from familiar seasonal stories. Each study stands on its own as well as forming part of a series, so do feel free to join in when you can, even if that's not every week.

Ringmer Book Club

Margaret Sweatman

Our book club meets six times a year in members' homes usually on the third Thursday of alternative months. A friendly group of seven ladies discuss our chosen book for about an hour and then we chat over coffee and biscuits. We all contribute towards choosing our next book to read.

We have covered an interesting range of books this year including, "Five Love Languages," by Gary Chapman who suggests that people have unique ways of expressing and receiving love. Understanding these ways can improve relationships. In "The Case for Christ," by Lee Strobel focuses upon the historical, scientific and legal evidence for Jesus' divinity. Paula Gooder's book, "Lydia: A Story," explores the life of Lydia, a purple cloth seller and the first recorded convert to Christianity in Europe. "Wounded I Sing," by Richard Harries guides readers through Advent using the poetry of George Herbert. The two books by Laura Cummings "Thunderclap" and "On Chapel Sands" blend art and photography, biography and personal memories of her parents. Her Mother was kidnapped from Chapel Beach for 5 days when she was only three years old.

As a member of this book club, I have been introduced to many interesting authors and books that I would not have read otherwise. I have enjoyed discussing the books and listening to people's opinions. There would be space for one or two more people to join us. If you are

interested, please contact Margaret Sweatman on 07969386605 or email me on mam.sweatman@btinternet.com.

Prayer Rugs

Christine Harding

With grateful thanks to a few regular knitters the prayer rugs continue to be created. Since April 2025 four rugs have been blessed and distributed and there are a further seven completed ones to hand. A discussion with the Pastoral Team is planned in the coming weeks to reflect on how this ministry continues to develop.

Bible Reading Notes

Shirley Squires

14 members of our congregation take these notes which contain a daily reading and a commentary. They are a good way of reading the Bible. If you would like to take them, please let me know on 01273 752167/ 07552 492354 or ad-sasquires@talktalk.net

Friends of St Mary's

Richard Vincent

In October 2024, a small group from our congregation, chaired by Chris Gebbie, met to revitalise the Friends of St Mary's. Our plans, including our aims and objects, were approved by the PCC in January 2025. From then, we planned a new Launch of the Friends to be held on 15th March at St Mary's church. Fliers were delivered to about 2000 homes and posters were displayed in the precinct.

The launch was attended by over a hundred villagers. Gus Christie spoke about his contact with St May's, and John Kay gave an illustrated talk about the history of our church from its first came about. Subsequent donations amounted to £1,700.

In 2025 we staged events for fund raising: A garden wine-tasting evening; A jazz concert - with an audience filling the Church completely; A film evening

In 2025 the Friends have paid for repairs to the church clock and upgrading the lightning conductor.

The Friends will continue to present events to give contributions to the repair and the preservation of the church building in liaise.

Mothers' Union

Christine Smith

The Ringmer Branch of the MU has had another successful year and with 23 members, it is the largest in the Lewes District. We continue to meet in the Church Room on the second Tuesday evening of each month and have, additionally, joined in with District organised events as

well as sending representatives to the Diocesan Spring and Autumn gatherings in Brighton. Over the past twelve months, we have welcomed speakers on a wide range of topics- Rosemary Colebourn entertained us with the story of her life in music, Martin Auten- Lloyd told us a great deal about the Family Support Work Charity and Neil Peters spoke to us about the Recycling process in Lewes. Alongside our meetings, the Branch supports the St Mary's Church Mother and Toddler Group and is also responsible for providing and serving refreshments following the Citizenship Ceremonies that take place in Southover Grange in Lewes.

2026 marks the 150th Anniversary of the MU. From its humble origins in Hampshire we are particularly proud of the organisation it has become, transforming lives across the world in so many different ways. Restoring dignity, confidence and hope through the literacy and agriculture programmes in Burundi and South Sudan for example. Delivering food boxes and other basic supplies to desperate families in Myanmar following the earthquake in 2025, or much closer to home, supporting the Away from it All (AFIA) caravans allowing families in need the opportunity to have some invaluable time away together. With our fundraising efforts and the generosity of our members we are delighted to be able to support these vital initiatives and long may it continue.

Caring and Sharing East Sussex

Tina Lambird

Another year has passed and our supporters have yet again done so much to help our two charities, Hamlin Fistula Hospital and Amara House, with their ongoing work.

As well as life-changing surgeries (with over 94% of obstetric fistula cases being successfully repaired) and the training and deployment of midwives, who travel out into the countryside, new and vital equipment has been purchased.

Legislation in Ethiopia has meant lots of fireproofing work has been carried out to Amara House but the focus, as always, remains on the boys' routine, personal care, therapeutic activities, social engagement, and dignity. As they grow older, medicines and staffing costs increase, but the boys play their part helping in the house and with gardening and lawn mowing jobs.

Wednesday Coffee Break

Christine Smith

Coffee Break continues to operate every Wednesday morning from 10am-12noon in the Village Hall. Even when the Drama Group have

their Spring and Autumn productions, we have been made welcome in the Library. We have been delighted to welcome a number of new faces over the past twelve months. Everyone seems to enjoy meeting up with old or new friends and to have the chance to chat about anything, to reminisce about old times and generally 'put the world to rights' over a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits. All proceeds, after the hall hire costs, are sent on to the St Peter and St James Hospice.

As ever my heartfelt thanks to the team of volunteers who willingly set the tables up and serve the refreshments- not only to the Coffee Breakers but also to the Mums and Carers attending the St Mary's Toddler Group in the adjoining room.

Family Support Work

Martine and Hugh Bailey

Like other charities, FSW has found the past year a real challenge: a drop in income, ever increasing costs and increasing demands. Some staff were made redundant or were not replaced yet the team has managed to support more children (3458) and more families (818), helped by a lot of volunteers. The impact they make is really impressive. Families are referred to FSW by doctors, social workers, schools or sometimes the families themselves. They are followed for as long as is needed, unlike other agencies which limit the numbers of sessions offered.

St Mary's support is mainly through the basket in church and the 4 appeals – Christmas, Easter, the summer holidays and Harvest. These are generously supported by the congregation and gratefully received. But did you know you can be a Friend of FSW for as little as £3 a month or £36 a year? £35 pays for a family day out in the summer holidays, £103 supports a family for a month. Maybe we could have a fund raising event in the coming year? It is certainly a worthy local cause.

HOMELINK

Pauline Porter

Following the publication of the Government's homelessness strategy, Housing Justice, with seven other charities, wrote to the government in December asking for

"a greater focus on prevention, working with a wider cohort of people experiencing homelessness than those rough sleeping.... "to prevent homelessness where possible" and "to create the conditions where everyone can thrive in a place they call home."

This well describes the "helping people into housing" ethos behind **Homelink**, the Churches Together in Lewes' response for over twenty years to the housing crisis.

It has continued its work through the last twelve months, to help us show God's care to people in need. Through our giving and volunteering, people are helped as far as possible to find and equip in small ways, the safe, affordable housing they need to flourish. A small team of professionals is supported by a larger team of dedicated volunteers from churches in Lewes and villages like Ringmer. Its work is funded by faithful individuals from the churches, from grants by larger benefactors and by fund-raising events through the year, including, this year, an Art Wave event at Castle Lodge in Lewes, the traditional Christmas carol concert by the Ashdown Singers in Seaford, and an Easter egg hunt in Lewes, by courtesy of Lewes District Council. If you are newer in the village or church, you may not know of this work. A good way to understand more is at the AGM on Wednesday 17th June at 11.00am at King's Church, Lewes, where coffee, the meeting and a light sandwich lunch will introduce you to the people involved. Do join us. Leaflets giving full details are at the door.

Ringmer Parish Magazine

Rosemary Colebourn

The high quality of the printing and design by editor Deb Lancaster helped keep the number of magazines distributed stable. They were delivered by nearly 40 volunteers across the parish, organised by John Johnson and, from June, Murray Brickell. A careful rise of the charges for advertisements, organised by Paul Dench, led to the Magazine account being in balance over the year.

Eco-Church

Rosemary Colebourn

We made progress in all 5 aspects of moving towards the gold standard for an Eco Church (A Rocha). Our team arranged the Creation Sunday service with a talk from Greenpeace and the Creation Choral Evensong in September. The 'Tenants of the King' bible study course with practical sessions was led by the Eco Team members. Eco team members joined the steering group that helped lead the launch of the monthly Ringmer Repair Café with members of the village community as volunteers, from April onwards. A direct link with Kings Academy Ringmer was made with their supply of vegetables and fruit grown and cooked by the students at the school, as cakes for the Repair Café. In the New Churchyard a new wildflower area and extra planting thrived. 2025 provided a clearer view of our very careful use of electricity which was reduced dramatically. The PCC approved moving to more ethical banking and 80 church members measured their life styles in terms of their carbon footprint.