



No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. John 15.13

## **St Paul's Chichester**

Sanctuary Hospitality Spiritual Encounter

www.stpaulschichester.org

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Sanctuary Hospitality Spiritual Encounter

## **Contact Information**

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<u>stpaulskitchen@yahoo.com</u>	<u>safeguarding@stpaulschichester.org</u>

Pastoral Care Helpline 07843 719594

We aim to respond to requests for help within 48hrs.

# The next issue of The Grapevine

**The deadline for copy for December's Grapevine is 2pm, Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November.** Items can be submitted by email to <u>office@stpaulschichester.org</u> or as hardcopy to the office. The December edition will be available from Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November.









## Letter from the Rector

#### **Dear Friends**

'The last enemy to be destroyed is death'. So wrote St Paul in his first letter to the Corinthians, clearly viewing death as something hostile, which haunts and threatens us. Contrast his words with those of St Francis who, in his Canticle of the Sun, seems to view death as God's own agent, to be welcomed at the appointed time: 'Be praised, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death, from whose embrace no living person can escape.' Death is the ultimate mystery that all of us must face. What do we think about it? Is it our friend or foe? And what can we do to prepare for it?

The late Canon David Prior, whose all too brief ministry at St Paul's we much appreciated, once told me about how he'd been appointed Rector of an Episcopal Church in Florida. The church was on a peninsular called Jupiter Island, just north of Miami, which is inhabited in the winter months by an exclusive group of the super-rich. When David was interviewed, he found himself faced by a handful of men whose combined income ran into billions of dollars. 'Why should we appoint you as our Rector?' one of them asked. 'What can you do for us?' David was unhesitating in his reply: 'I can help you to die well', he said. 'I can help you face your Maker with confidence.'

Death is the predominant theme throughout November. We begin the month with All Saints' Day, when we celebrate our communion with the saints, many of whom laid down their lives as martyrs. The following day is the Commemoration of All Souls, when we particularly remember our own departed loved ones. And in the middle of the month we keep Remembrance Day and Remembrance Sunday, recalling those who died for their country in the World Wars and in the conflicts of more recent times. It is a poignant and sombre season.

But it is not a season of despair. Death is indeed our enemy, as St Paul declared, and we face it with the respect that all foes deserve. We grieve for those whom death takes from us, and we are often shocked by its randomness

and cruelty. But St Francis was also right: death is contained within the loving purposes of God, and because Christ has robbed it of its power we should deny it our fear. It is something that we must all face, but it is the gateway to a greater fullness of life. In *The Pilgrim's Progress* John Bunyan describes it as the crossing of a river:

'When the day that he must go hence was come, many accompanied him to the river-side, into which as he went, he said, "Death, where is thy sting?" And as he went down deeper, he said, "Grave, where is thy victory?" So he passed over, and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side.'

Inevitably we shy away from death and often use humour to conceal our fear. We find it hard to address the kinds of issues it raises. Have you written a will? Have you written down your wishes for your funeral service? What outstanding business do you need to complete? Have you cleared out your loft!

And what about your spiritual needs? What might help you to 'die well'? Do you need to be helped to let go of old hurts or resentments? Would it be helpful to receive the ministry of healing and reconciliation? Would you like encouragement with prayer or Bible reading? Most of us ask ourselves these questions from time to time. None of us should have to ponder them alone.

Hence the reason for our morning of reflection this month, which we are calling 'Into Thy Hands'. On Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November, starting at 9.30am, Brenda and I, supported by our other clergy, are inviting you to join us to discuss issues of death and dying. There will be no formal agenda, but we hope that together we will be able to address the kinds of issues mentioned above. Our faith will inform our discussion and we will end with a short time of worship. You are all warmly invited.

A compline prayer from the Northumbria Community is printed on the next page: I hope that you might find it helpful in this context.

With my prayers for you all

Fr Simon

Into your hands I commit my spirit; redeem me, O Lord, the God of Truth.

The God of life with guarding hold you; the loving Christ with guarding fold you; the Holy Spirit, guarding, mould you; each night of life to aid, enfold you; each day and night of life uphold you.



## All Saints', All Souls' and Remembrance Sunday

We shall celebrate the Feast of All Saints on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October and at the 8am Eucharist on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November.

We shall commemorate the faithful departed (All Souls' Day) at a special Sung Evensong on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November at 3.30pm. During the service the names of the departed will be read, and there will be an opportunity to light candles in their memory. Please write the names of those to be remembered on the list on the shelf at the back of church.

Remembrance Sunday falls on 13<sup>th</sup> November. The Act of Remembrance will, as usual, take place as near 11am as possible, during the Parish Eucharist.



## Silence: a Sonnet for Remembrance Day, by Malcolm Guite

November pierces with its bleak remembrance Of all the bitterness and waste of war. Our silence tries but fails to make a semblance Of that lost peace they thought worth fighting for. Our silence seethes instead with wraiths and whispers, And all the restless rumour of new wars, The shells are falling all around our vespers, No moment is unscarred, there is no pause, In every instant bloodied innocence Falls to the weary earth ,and whilst we stand Quiescence ends again in acquiescence, And Abel's blood still cries in every land One silence only might redeem that blood Only the silence of a dying God.

## Beginnings and Endings...

This month marks the end of the current Church's year, and the start of a new year on Advent Sunday. The last Sunday of the liturgical year is always marked by the Feast of Christ the King (this year on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November), when we proclaim Christ's sovereignty and celebrate his saving work. In a world that seems so small and fragile, we take confidence from our faith that Christ has overcome all that stands between ourselves and God and that he is indeed the Lord of all creation. We pray for the coming of his kingdom of justice and peace, and we commit ourselves to his service:

From Heaven you came, helpless babe, entered our world, your glory veiled; not to be served but to serve, and give Your life that we might live.

This is our God, The Servant King, we calls us now to follow Him, to bring our lives as a daily offering of worship to The Servant King.

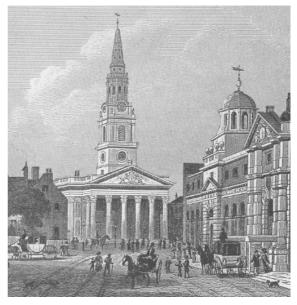
The following Sunday (27<sup>th</sup> November) is Advent Sunday, which marks the start of a new year in the life of the Church. During the weeks leading up to Christmas we shall hear again the great passages of scripture proclaiming the coming of the Messiah, and over the course of next year our Gospel readings will be predominantly from St Matthew's Gospel.



## St Martin: the saint we honour on 11th November

The 11<sup>th</sup> November is not only Armistice Day, it's also the Feast of St Martin. In this country, St Martin is particularly honoured by the parish church of St Martin in the Fields, the parish church of 10 Downing Street and Buckingham Palace. It has a distinguished history, as this extract from its website shows:

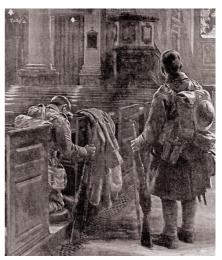
Martin-in-the-Fields 'St is а landmark. Its fine architecture and prominent location place it at the heart of the nation. Its work has valued historic tradition. but St Martin's has innovative always been in response to changing needs. From London's first free lending library to the first religious St Martin's broadcast. has broken new ground in defining what it means to be a church.



The present church was designed by James Gibbs and completed in 1726. It has become one of the most significant ecclesiastical buildings in the English -speaking world. In the 19th century, whilst planning Trafalgar Square, John Nash created Church Path and the range of buildings to the north. St Martin's has always been at the heart of London, offering continued service amidst an ever-changing city.

The work of this church today is informed by the practical Christianity exemplified in the life of its patron saint. Martin, after a career in the Roman army, entered the Christian Church and became Bishop of Tours. He is remembered for an instinctive act of generosity, sharing his cloak with a beggar. Paradoxically, the ultimate blessing was given to Martin by the beggar, who returned to him in a dream as Christ. The example of St Martin was followed by Dick Sheppard, Vicar of St Martin's during World War I, who gave refuge to soldiers on their way to France. He saw St Martin's as 'the church of the ever open door'. The doors have remained open ever since.

St Martin's fight against homelessness was formalised with the foundation of the Social Service Unit in 1948. The work continues today through The Connection at St Martin's, which cares for around 7,500 individuals each year.



### **Advent Carol Service**

We hope that you will join us for our Advent Carol Service on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm. It is always a beautiful and inspiring occasion, led by our choir.



# 'Into Thy Hands' – a meeting to think about issues of death and dying.

During this year's Lent course, we were challenged to think about death and dying from a Christian perspective. Many of us are ignorant of the process of dying and the practical aspects of arranging a funeral. Many people never get round to writing down their funeral wishes. And inevitably, most of us have fears and concerns about death that we have never had the chance to share.

The funeral of the Queen, and the manner of her dying, has prompted us to think about this important subject. In order to help us talk about it together, Brenda and I are inviting you to join us in the Parish Centre on **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November, from 9.30 to 12 noon**. Our Christian faith will inform our discussion, and we shall close with a time of prayer, affirming our belief that in Christ, death has been conquered.

Simon and Brenda



## **THE FIELD or CORN POPPY, Papaver Rhoeas** by Margaret Hughes

The poppy, which has become such an important part of Remembrance, will grow in barren, fallow and recently disturbed soil that is why it is not a favourite with farmers who regard it as a weed. In France during the first world war between No Man's Land and the trenches on the Western Front where the land was churned up by warfare, the poppies took hold. I think that anyone who has seen a field of poppies is mesmerised by the colour and beauty of such a simple, annual flower, sadly not a memory that those who did survive might have carried with them, but it has become the poignant symbol by which we remember those who died for our country ever since.

> So red and bold it's significance of old, is to remember lives lost in wars.

This lovely pictorial poem is by John MaCrae who joined the Canadian Expeditionary Forces, though older and a physician he chose to volunteer to be a gunner and medical officer on the front. A published poet, he died in a base hospital in 1918.

In Flanders fields the poppies blow, Between the crosses, row on row, That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Loved and were loved and now we lie In Flanders fields.

Take up your quarrel with the foe: To you from failing hands we throw The torch; be yours to hold it high. If ye break faith with us who die We shall not sleep, though poppies grow In Flanders fields.

## **Diary** : All events at St Paul's unless stated otherwise. Morning Prayer - Weekdays at 8.30am in the Chapel

Su	30	Oct	All Saints	s' Sunday Ephesians 1.11-end; Psalm 149; Luke 6.20-31		
			8am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Parish Eucharist with Junior Church YOYO		
М	31	Nov				
Tu	1	Nov	8am 10am 4pm 7.30pm	Eucharist Praying for St Paul's Renewed Boys' Brigade PCC meeting		
W	2	Nov	12.30pm	Soup Lunch		
Th	3	Nov	10am 6.15pm 7pm	Eucharist followed by Bible Study Choir Practice (Children's Choir) Choir Practice (Full Choir)		
F	4	Nov	4.30pm	Ignite		
Sa	5	Nov	9.30am	Into Thy Hands		
Su	6	Nov	Third be	ird before Advent 2 Thes 2.1-5,13-end; Ps 17.1-8; Luke 20.27-38		
	7	Nevi	8am 10am 3-5pm 3.30pm	Holy Communion Parish Eucharist with Junior Church followed by coffee, Recycled Card Stall and Traidcraft Stall Afternoon Tea & BCP Evening Prayer at St Michael's Choral Evensong & Commemoration of Faithful Departed		
				Ignite		
Tu	8	Nov	8am 10am 4pm 7.45pm	Eucharist Praying for St Paul's Renewed Boys' Brigade Tuesday Evening Fellowship Group at Creswicks' home		
W 9 Nov 12.30pm Soup Lunch						
				Ladies' Group		
Th	10	Nov		Eucharist Choir Practice (Children's Choir) Choir Practice (Full Choir)		
F	11	Nov	4.30pm	. ,		
Sa	12	Nov				

## **Diary** : All events at St Paul's unless stated otherwise. Morning Prayer - Weekdays at 8.30am in the Chapel

Su	13	Nov	Rememb	rance Sunday	2 Thes 3.6-13; Ps 98; Luke 21.5-19	
			8am	Holy Communion		
			10am	Parish Eucharist with Jui	nior Church,	
				with Act of Remembrance		
			6pm	YOYO		
Μ	14	Nov				
Tu	15	Nov	8am	Eucharist		
			10am	Praying for St Paul's Ren	ewed	
			2pm	F3A		
			4pm	Boys' Brigade		
W	16	Nov	12.30pm	Super Lunch: All welcom	ne but booking essential	
Th	17	Nov	10am	Eucharist followed by Mothers' Union		
			6.15pm	Choir Practice (Children's Choir)		
			7pm	Choir Practice (Full Choi	r)	
Fr	18	Nov	4.30pm	Ignite		
Sa	19	Nov				
Su	20	Nov	Christ the	<b>e King</b> Col 1.11-20; Ps 46; Luke 23.33-4		
			8am	Holy Communion		
			10am	Parish Eucharist with Jui	nior Church	
Μ	21	Nov	2.00pm	Chess Club		
Tu	22	Nov	8am	Eucharist		
			10am	Praying for St Paul's Ren	ewed	
			4pm	Boys' Brigade		
			8pm	<b>Tuesday Evening Fellow</b>	ship Group at Creswicks' home	
W	23	Nov	12.30pm	Soup Lunch		
			2.30pm	Ladies' Group		
Th	24	Nov	10am	Eucharist		
			6.15pm	Choir Practice (Children'		
_	~ -		7pm	Choir Practice (Full Choi	r)	
			4.30pm	Ignite		
			Allday	Mothers' Union Global	-	
Su	27	Nov	Advent S	Sunday 1 Thes 3.9-end; Ps 25.1-9; Luke 21.25-3		
			8am	Holy Communion		
			10am	Parish Eucharist with Ju	nior Church	
			6pm	Advent Carol Service		

## **Outward giving from Mission Group Funds** by Chris Merrien

Owing to an accumulation of funds generated by the Mission Group in recent years, we have been in a fortunate position to make additional donations to various charities. It was decided, with the approval of the PCC, to give to the following:

BEATS (British Earthquake and Tsunami Support) £1500, USPG (United Society for Partners in the Gospel) £750, CMS (Church Mission Society) £750, Church Army £750, IDWAL (Inter- Diocesan West Africa Link) £750, Christian Aid £750 and Chichester Food Bank £500.

The response we had from Sarah Page of BEATS was heartening in which she said:

'How delighted I was, when checking the BEATS' bank statement today, to see that you have given BEATS £1,500.00! You have no idea what a perfect answer to prayer this is, including the timing of the gift. We are due to have our quarterly Trustees' meeting a week today and our 2022 shortfall of funds was to be part of the discussion. Because of your gift (and that of others), we no longer have a shortfall! PRAISE YOU, LORD!'

## **Recycled Christmas and Greetings Cards**

Cards are available each Sunday morning after the 10 o'clock service. Christmas cards with envelope are priced at 50p each or ten for £3.00. A selection of cards can also be brought to your home, from which you can make your choice. Thanks to your generosity, proceeds of £500 have already been passed to the PCC this year. Please continue to put used cards for remaking in the box by the parish library. Thank you.

Carolyn Berriman & Jacqueline Combes (Tel. 783136)

## Message from Bishop Martin

Bishop Martin writes in this month's Faith in Sussex magazine:

I would like to invite everyone in the diocese to keep 2023 as a year of the Old Testament. Next year is the first of two special years [2024 will be the Year of the New Testament] leading up to 2025 which we will keep as a special Year of Faith.

2025 celebrates 1700 years since the Council of Nicaea which gave us what became the Nicene Creed. It also marks 950 years of Christian mission in a diocese based in Chichester. Hence why the three-year programme is known as Proclaiming the Mystery of Faith.

The Year of the Old Testament will reflect on the Hebrew Scriptures. We will seek to understand the Law, the Prophets and the Writings in their original context, and see more clearly how they point us towards Jesus Christ and the gospel, and to our own knowledge of him in the history of his body, the Church.

The Old Testament speaks repeatedly of God as One and as Holy. So we hope that this Year will help us to understand how the Old Testament guides the Church to be 'one' and 'holy': the first two of the 'marks of the Church' and part of our diocesan strategy.

+Martin

Further details of resources for the Year of the Old Testament will be available soon. www.chichester.anglican.org



#### TUESDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP GROUP

#### Autumn 2022

#### The Ten Commandments (continued)

We have some unfinished business with the Ten Commandments, so, Covid permitting, it would be good to complete the series.

8<sup>th</sup> November The Value of Contentment 1 Timothy 6 v 3-10
22<sup>nd</sup> November The Law of Grace Romans 3 v 9-31
6<sup>th</sup> December TBC
We meet for coffee from **7.45pm** onwards, and start our study at approximately 8pm, aiming to finish by 9.30 pm.
All meetings are at Ian and Valerie Creswick's home. Tel: 780248 or email creswick13@tiscali.co.uk for more information or if requiring transport.
New members are always welcome.

## **Bible Reading Fellowship**

The next monthly meeting for users of the BRF "New Daylight" notes will be held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 11am in church.

## Afternoon Tea and BCP Evening Prayer

Join us from 3-5pm at St Michael's Hall on the first Sunday of every month for Afternoon Tea and Evening Prayer (said using the traditional words of the Book of Common Prayer). We meet from 3-5pm and all are welcome to join us. There is no entry fee, but donations are welcome. Upcoming dates are:

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February



## Ladies' Group

St Paul's Ladies' Group usually meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 2.30pm in the Parish Centre. Everyone is welcome at all our meetings, including men. Here is the programme for the rest of this year:

- 9<sup>th</sup> Nov "I was a stranger and you welcomed me". Sanctuary in Chichester's response to the refugee situation. A talk by Lois Smith. Bring and buy.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov "Look after your skin". A demonstration by Michele Groome, a Lymphatic and Beauty Specialist. Raffle

In December we only have one meeting. It will be on December  $7^{th}$ , which is the first Wednesday in the month. Please bring a present (value no greater than £2) and a plate of food to share. There will be a raffle

We invite you to bring donations for the Food Bank to any of our meetings.

## Toy Sunday: 4<sup>th</sup> December

We invite you to bring donations of toys/gifts to church on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December. All your gifts will be forwarded to FSW: The Chichester Diocesan Association for Family Support Work charity, who will distribute them to children in time for Christmas. For safety (and insurance) reasons the gifts must be new and in their original packaging. Gifts suitable for teenage boys and girls are particularly welcome as this age-group often gets overlooked at this time. Please do not wrap your gift, but contributions of wrapping paper are welcome.

## St Paul's Chess Club

Chess Club now meets on the third Monday of each month at 2pm in the upstairs room in the Parish Centre. This is a fledgling group and new members are welcome. The standard of play is modest, but play is taken seriously! For further information please contact Anthony Freeman 783136 anthony.jcs@gmail.com

# Mothers' Union and the UN 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.

#### The United Nations' 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based

16 DAYS

**Violence and Abuse** is an annual international campaign. It takes place from 25<sup>th</sup> November to 10<sup>th</sup> December. Throughout the campaign Mothers' Union members will join together in prayer and reflection and, with over 6,000 organisations from approximately 187 countries, will seek to raise awareness of, and call for an end to, gender-based violence and abuse in all forms and in all societies.

Our Global Day of Action is Mothers' Union's response to the call for 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) which is one of the most widespread violations of human rights. Spanning many societies, it can affect anyone at any time and takes many forms, can be part of a damaging cultural 'norm' or hidden behind closed doors. For those experiencing GBV it can be very difficult to ask for help. Mothers Union are proud of the work our members do both in this diocese and across the world; making individuals, families, and communities safer and supported, giving them a chance to thrive. We recognise that this issue is not one that can be quickly fixed but every life changed, every woman freed, every person who grasps the importance of speaking out on these issues - these are all reasons to celebrate and continue this important work. Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November is Mothers' Union Global Day of Action. Members will come together to hold a minute silence, raising the awareness of the needs of so many people and to be part of the work to which we are all called. To find out more about the day of activism or any aspect of Mothers' Union, please contact Heather Hyde, hchyde21@gmail.com. Tel: 01243 785633

The next meeting of Mothers' Union is Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 7.30pm at St Wilfrid's Church, Parklands, or Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November, 11am at St Paul's Church after the 10am Eucharist to which everyone is welcome.

Ladies and gentleman are very welcome to join us, you don't have to be a mother.



Diocese of Chichester

## Christmas Craft Fair and Community Carols with Rusty the Donkey

## Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December

## Craft Fair and refreshments from 3pm Carols with Rusty at 5pm

Come and join us at St Paul's church for our Christmas Craft Fair and Community Carols. Our afternoon also includes entertainment with dancers from Dance and Beyond and local celeb Rusty the donkey making an appearance.

Please come from 3pm where you will find many useful and exciting crafts with plenty of ideas to solve that annual question of what to give Mum or Dad for Christmas. There will be refreshments throughout the afternoon.

Dance and Beyond will perform later and hot on their heels, or should we say hooves, will be Rusty the Donkey joining us for Community Carols at 5pm.

If you would like to be a part of this festive afternoon, by making a cake, organising a craft stall of your own, or simply giving us a hand on the day, I would love to hear from you. Please email Jane Ambrose: janerhapsodyinbluem@gmail.com

Look forward to seeing you !

# Super Lunch Loaded Burger Lunch Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022 12.30pm

This time round it will be Loaded Burgers!

Toppings will include:

cheese, bacon, homemade pulled-pork and macaroni cheese. They will be served with salad and homemade wedges. Burgers are from Penfolds Butchers in Parklands (yum yum).

As usual there will be a choice of puddings too!

#### **Booking is essential**

(forms are available from the kitchen or office)

<u>Please inform me of any allergies</u> this is very important!! I can also cater for vegetarians.

Look forward to seeing you there

Becci

## F3A in November

All change!! We have changed the time of our meetings and the day of the week: in future we will be meeting on **Tuesdays at 2pm**. Our meetings will be held in the East Hall of the Parish Centre (overlooking the garden) and this month we will be meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> November. We look forward to another of our usual friendly thought-provoking discussions over a cup of tea, and, as always, we welcome new members to the group. For further details contact Mary Ashwin 01243 786501

## Christmas Lunch & Party Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 12.30pm

The time has come - it's time to talk Christmas!

We'll be having Roast Turkey with all the trimmings and of course a choice of puddings.

Plus - a Christmas themed quiz with a few prizes too!

And we'll be entertained by St Joseph's School choir who will be joining us to sing a few carols.

**Booking is essential**, numbers will be limited. Please book as early as you can to secure your place. Our Super Lunches are becoming very popular.

Forms are available from either the kitchen or office. Please advise of any food allergies or dietary requirements.

Christmas jumpers optional !!

I very much look forward to seeing you there!



## Walsingham Pilgrimages 2022



The best bit? What a stupid question! I loved ALL of it!!

"It was amazing having mass in a big top!"



It was my first time away. I needn't have worried, everyone was very friendly.

*"I liked going to Wells (next the sea) and having fish'n'chips"* 

> *"Coming to this place again has been an inspiring few days once more."*

> > Next year's dates: Children: 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> March Youth: 31<sup>st</sup> July – 4<sup>th</sup> Aug Adults: 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> Sept

"The Walsingham experience is one I shall always treasure."



**St Paul's Chichester** Sanctuary Hospitality Spiritual Encounter



Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December **Craft Fair, Dancing, Donkeys and Carols Christmas Craft Fair from 3pm Community Carols at 5pm** with our star guest **Rusty the Donkey** Dancing by Dance and Beyond







