



Pathways

Volume 6 Issue 1

May 2007

Future Events St Riquier area Picardy

Festival of Churches
7th and 8th July
*St Josse Exhibition
*Meeting of the
Choirs at Estrees
*Rally to 9 Churches
*Picnic and Batnight
at Hiermont

“Son et Lumiere”
15th and 16th
September
Training course
aimed at those
wishing to make use
of sound and light or
live pictures. Will
take place during the
French Heritage
week-end, when
their newly-restored
churches will be
open. Contact me for
more information.

Enclosed with this
mailing is the pack of
leaflets produced
with our French
partners. If you
would like a supply,
let me know. It would
be useful if they
could be collected
from Church House,
Hove.

Website to be revamped

The Sacred Sussex website is being
revamped under the direction of David
Mason, who is based at Diocesan Church
House, Hove.

If your place of worship is open on a
regular basis, apart from worship services,
please write an entry which can go onto the
website. These will be edited to fit into the
“house style”. When describing your
building, please limit it to 100 words and it
should be a factual description—no waxing
lyrical about “peaceful atmosphere” and
“holiness”!

Please include the following. If an item is
starred, it is **essential**. If not, it is optional.

- *1. Location (village, town, etc)
- *2. Dedication/name
- *3. Street or road
- *4. Denomination/faith
- *5. Ordnance Survey grid reference number
(two letters + six digits) for your location
- *6. Two telephone numbers with post (not
name) for each, ie Churchwarden, Visitor’s
Officer, Minister, Rabbi
- *7. Description of building, congregation
and its history (100 words maximum)
- *8. Opening hours. If you are open 24 hours
a day, I will put “dawn to dusk” for security
reasons.
- *9. Which of the following applies to you:
Bus service nearby—at least once an hour
Car parking
Guided tours available
Railway station within 1 mile
Refreshments (at your premises or nearby)
Toilets (at your premises or nearby)
Wheelchair access
- *10. Photo
11. Website address
12. Times of worship services

E-mail your entry to
david.mason@diochi.org.uk. We cannot ac-
cept entries by any other means.

Please get in touch if you have any queries.
Also, why not contact your local authority
(district, borough or county council) to see
if you can be included on their websites.
Ensure someone in the congregation is
responsible for keeping your entry up to
date.

National Standards

**Do an audit of your quality of visitor
welcome.**

*Is there a sign outside stating that you
are open or a notice stating your opening
hours?*

*Is it obvious which door visitors should
use and it is easy to open?*

*Is the path clean and tidy? Are any signs
new and fresh or negative, old and tatty?*

Is there a light on where people come in?

*Do you leave a few lights on during the
day? It looks much more welcoming if
you do—especially if the sun isn’t shining
through the windows.*

*Do you have a notice welcoming visitors
if there isn’t a friendly person to welcome
them?*

*Do your notice boards have peeling paint,
rusty drawing pins and notices brown and
curling with age and damp? Do you
laminare everything that is going to be up
for longer than a month?*

*Do you have a free walk-around leaflet or
bat board and are people directed to it
when they enter the building?*

*What do you have for children? A quiz or
treasure hunt is easy to do and can be
photocopied. What about pictures to
colour in or small brass rubbings, along
with their equipment.*

*Do you use language which non-religious
people don’t understand?. Unless you
have a drawing of the building, the visitor
won’t necessary know what or where the
“nave” is.*

*Do you explain what the different parts of
the building are used for as well as their
historical significance?*

*Is your guidebook old, in black and white
and with rusty staples? Does it talk about
the architecture and not the faith?*

*Are you still selling the postcards you
bought twenty years ago? New printing
methods mean you can produce good
quality items in colour at a low price.*

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**I will be away from July 16th to August 7th
and from September 28th to October 15th.**

Sacred Britain

Places of worship and the tourism destination experience: an agenda for action

This "agenda for action" has been prepared under the guidance of the national "Sacred Britain" working group involving representatives of churches and tourism interests at national level. The strategy proposes a marketing framework for the promotion of visits to churches and other places of worship of heritage significance.

The vision for Sacred Britain is: "Making churches and places of worship a "must see" part of exploring Britain's destinations.

The strategic aims are:

- To increase the number of people who are able to visit and enjoy engaging with the cultural heritage of Britain's churches and places of worship.
- To achieve an inclusive approach including more visitors from socially excluded backgrounds and multi-faith cooperation
- To attract increased appreciation of and support for, maintaining the cultural inheritance among visitors, tourism organisations and heritage agencies.

The full text of the strategy can be downloaded from: www.churchestourismassociation.org.uk.

A group of artists from our partner area in north-eastern France would like to visit Sussex in late July to paint some of our churches. If you are able to offer accommodation and hospitality, they would return the favour later on. Please get in touch if you are interested.

Please notify changes of address, contact person or incorrect details.

www.sacredsussex.org

Interreg IVa Final Call

Information about the next cross-border European Union programme, Interreg IVa, appeared in Pathways in March and July, 2006. Several places of worship and other organisations got in touch and we held a meeting last December. Now it appears that others are interested in being part of the bid, but their projects are not so far advanced as to be included. As the programme lasts from 2008 to 2013, we are trying to find ways to include these latecomers without jeopardising the chances of the bid's success for those who have taken on board the initiative from an early stage.

The Diocese of Chichester will be the main partner in Sussex but we hope that we have projects from other churches, faiths and holy places. Finding match funding for Interreg IIIa has been difficult, so the decision has been made that those who may benefit will have to pay the costs of the bidding process (money which will not be returned if the bid is unsuccessful) and project management.

It is essential that we find out as soon as possible who are the serious contenders for the bid so that we can begin to search for partners in Normandy. **Get in touch now!** I will send you a copy of the detailed guidelines, but this is a shortened version:

Your responsibilities:

1. A genuine interest in creating a long-term relationship with an area in Normandy and working towards welcoming an increasing number of French tourists.
2. Attendance at up to four meetings annually, two of them in France, and a willingness to provide entertainment and hospitality to French partners.
3. Payment of invoices before submitting a claim and the confidence that your cash flow can sustain this.
4. Completion of timesheets for voluntary work.

You must supply as much of the following as possible by June 15th:

1. A statement explaining your links with Normandy and how you would see your project as a contribution of making Sussex a more welcoming place for the French.
2. Description of your project and Board/PCC minutes approving it.
3. Copies of your accounts for the past two years and written evidence of outside match funding.
4. Architect's drawings and estimate of costs.
5. Local authority planning permission or your organisation's approval, such as a Faculty or Archdeacon's recommendation.
6. A timetable for when the work will be started and completed. You cannot abandon or delay the project without incurring severe penalties.
7. A cheque, payable to "Chichester DBF" for £750 if your project will cost less than £250,000 of £1,000 if it will cost more.

This is a tourism and heritage project. **It is not for repairs to churches** and is limited to those places which are open regularly (usually daily) and have a track record of working positively to welcome tourists. Improvements to places of worship which enhance their ability to welcome visitors will be funded as will other initiatives such as local history projects or anything which makes our heritage available to the public.