

The Friends of Clapham & Patching Churches

Newsletter March 2021



CORONAVIRUS

**STAY HOME
PROTECT
THE NHS
SAVE LIVES**

A year of the covid 19 pandemic has been very difficult for everyone. Now the scientific innovation in vaccine technology and the roll out of the immunisation give us hope for the future. We are thankful for all health care professionals, support workers and volunteers who have cared and continue to care for those that are ill, provide support and are delivering the unprecedented mass vaccination programme.

Events !.....

Due to the current restrictions we were unable to hold any events last year, with the exception of Zoom meetings for the AGM and committee meetings.



Circa 1900



Circa 2015

Similar Views of St Mary the Virgin, Clapham



When examining the possibility of a Clapham 'loo' two frontals that used to be situated in front of the choir stalls, were discovered in the shed, where they have been stored for many years. They presented quite a problem. A video application to TV's

Repair Shop didn't secure an offer of repair. We now await instruction from the diocesan authorities regarding their fate.



Helena trying out the frontals

***** Change to our web address – now: www.focpc.org.uk *****

Comfort for Clapham

The wardens at Clapham are in the process of providing a toilet facility in the old flint shed structure in the churchyard, just north of the lynch gate. Planning is being sought.

Urine will be diverted into a separate container and any solid waste collected in a compostable bag. Maggie will be responsible for removing this and composting it. There should be no lingering or unpleasant smell. The toilet has a fan attached. There will be a partition wall built inside it for additional privacy which will have battery powered lights too. There's no running water, but hand sanitiser will be provided. The toilet will be unlocked when we are using the church, for any village functions which will take place there or when the school uses the church. It will also be open to the South Downs Rangers who are giving us £500 towards the project.

Bequests

We are very sorry that due to current restrictions, it has not been possible to celebrate the lives of **Friends** that have died recently. We are very grateful for bequests and in memorial donations that have been made to the **Friends**. We are especially grateful for the income at this time. Much of the stonework at Clapham church is in need of remedial work. The cost of the works will be high. All donations to the Friends are much appreciated. **If you would like to include the Friends in your will, all you need to write is:**

"I give _____ % of my residuary estate OR I give the sum of £_____ (pounds only) free of all taxes to The Friends of Clapham and Patching Churches, registered charity number 1059567 for its general purposes, and I declare that the receipt of an officer of The Friends of Clapham and Patching Churches shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors and trustees."

Dates to be pencilled into your diary

Full details will be provided when restrictions are finalised

Clean and tidy Clapham church and churchyard	Saturday 10 th April – 9-30 till Noon
Guided walks to explore local woods	Sunday 25 th April – 2-15pm
A Music event at Patching	Friday 23 rd July (to be confirmed)
Afternoon garden tea at Clare House, Patching	Saturday 21 st August
St Mary the Virgin, Clapham church - Open Day	September date to be confirmed
Harvest Supper	October date to be confirmed
AGM in C & P village hall	Sunday 17 th October – 2-30pm

Not a Member?

**If you are interested in joining the Friends, please click the web link above to download a membership application form, print it out, fill it in - and send it in to Trish!
Or call her on: 01903 871044**