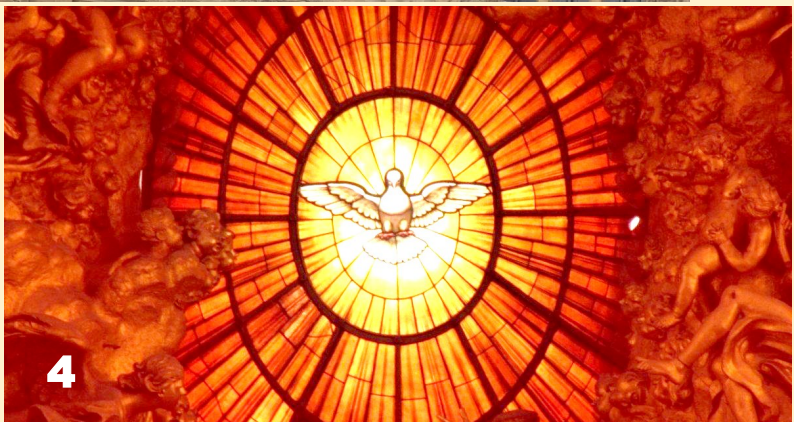


# contact

*The Parish of Keynsham magazine*





See page 5

# SERVICES & ORGANISATIONS

## St John the Baptist, Keynsham

**EVERY WEEK** - 9.15am - with choir  
11.00am - with band

**Occasional Festival Services:** 10.30am - on these Sundays there is an earlier said 8.30am Holy Communion  
The news sheet on the website has further details

**Evening Services** - as advertised

**Weekday Holy Communion:** 11.20am Wednesdays

**Holy Baptism:** In public worship / or Sunday 1.00pm  
(either by arrangement)

**Choir Practice:** Friday 6.15 - 8.00pm - Junior Choir & Choir Club  
Adults 7.30 - 9.15pm

**Worship Band Practice:** Wednesday 8.00pm

**Bell-ringing Practice:** Thursday 7.30 - 9.00pm

**Mothers' Union:** 1st Wednesday - 7.45pm

**Wives Group:** 3rd Wednesday - 7.45pm

**Toddlers Group:** Wednesday - 10.00am

**St John's Pastoral Visiting:**  
Marcia Cohen T: 986 5687

## St Francis', Warwick Road

**Morning Service:** 9.30am

1st Sunday: Eco Service

4th Sundays: Holy Communion

Other Sundays: Morning Worship

(Crèche area at back of church if needed)

**Evening Services:** as advertised

**Holy Baptism:** In public worship by arrangement

**St John Ambulance:** Wednesday: 6.00 - 9.00pm

**Brownies:** Tues: 6.00pm

**Toddlers Group:** Wed: 9.30-11.45am (term time)

## St Margaret's, Queen Charlton

1st & 3rd Sundays: 11.15am - **Holy Communion.**

## St Michael's, Burnett

2nd & 4th Sundays: **Holy Communion (1662)**

11.15am

3rd Sunday: **Morning Worship:** 11.15am

---

---

### MISSION PARTNERS:

**TLM Mission partner: Bangladesh:** *Dr Ruth Butlin*

**CMS Mission Partners: Kenya:** *Aaron Stanbury*

**CMS Prayer partner:** *Ruth Radley*

**Chipata South Parish, Zambia.**

---

*A number of groups meet regularly for Prayer, Bible Study and Discussion.  
Ring the Parish Office (0117 986 3354) for details.*

**Arrangements for Banns and Marriages etc.  
9.30 -10.30am on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays at the Parish Office**



# THE PARISH OF KEYNSHAM DIRECTORY

([www.keynshamparish.org.uk](http://www.keynshamparish.org.uk))

The Parish Office is now open to visitors from 10am-12noon Mondays to Fridays. You can make contact by email at [office@keynshamparish.org.uk](mailto:office@keynshamparish.org.uk), by phone on 0117 986 3354, or in person during opening hours.

Office Manager: Judy Walker - Facilities Manager: Vanessa Body

## Team Rector:

*Rev'd. Dr Stephen M'Caw* - Tel: 0117 986 4437

## Team Vicar - St Francis:

*Rev'd. Anika Gardiner* - Tel:0117 985 3470

## Curate - Keynsham Parish:

*Rev'd Nigel Williams* - Tel: 07850887498

## Pioneer Missioner:

*Trevor James* - Tel: 07368 526997

-----

## Readers:

*Rachel Hall, June Lowe, Rachel Shaw, Paul Thurlow*

## Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults:

*Parish officer: Wendy Harwood* - Tel: 0117 986 2323  
[safeguarding@keynshamparish.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@keynshamparish.org.uk)

## Directors of Music / Choirmaster:

St John's: *Sam Shackleton BA, MMus* - Tel: 07914186634

St Francis: *vacant* [samshackleton@keynshamparish.org.uk](mailto:samshackleton@keynshamparish.org.uk)

## Tower Captain (Acting):

*Edric Broom* - Tel: 07890 364754

## Parish Youth Worker:

*Philippa Lovell* - contact via the Parish Office

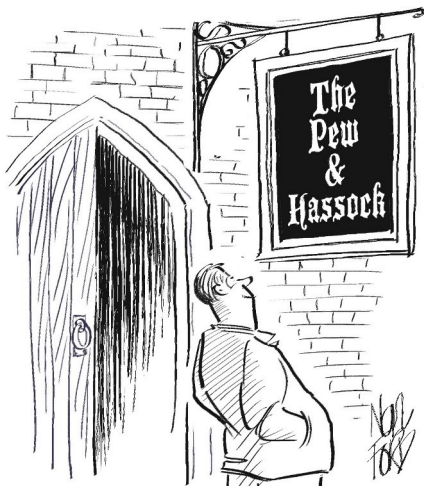
## Parish Children and Families Worker:

*Vacant*

## Caretakers:

St John's: - *Steve Spiteri* - contact via Parish Office

St Francis: - *Jenny Minty and Katie Poynter*



Changing the name from 'St Mark's Parish Church', resulted in a big increase in the number of men attending services

# ELECTRICIAN

[www.fairwayelectricalbristol.co.uk](http://www.fairwayelectricalbristol.co.uk)

Do you find it difficult to find someone to come and do small jobs?

- ◆ Extra Lights and Sockets
- ◆ Fuseboard upgrades
- ◆ Rewires
- ◆ Smoke alarms
- ◆ Electrical Reports
- ◆ Garden Electrics
- ◆ EV Car Chargers
- ◆ Fault Finding
- ✓ Fully Insured
- ✓ Friendly service
- ✓ Free Quotes
- ✓ Reasonably priced
- ✓ Honest Advice
- ✓ 5\* Google reviews
- ✓ Proud to be local
- ✓ Tidy work

Call Jason now on

**(0117) 239 4705**



## GARAGE DOOR & PRE-FABRICATED BUILDING SPECIALISTS

WE'LL RECOMMEND A SOLUTION THAT SUITS YOU, NOT US

That means we listen to your **needs**, take on board your **wants** and, very importantly, take into account your **budget**. We can then advise you on the best way to go; whether that be a top of the range automated door, a basic up and over or simply a repair.

So with direct access to the top manufacturers, a huge stock of spare parts for all makes and our own teams of experienced engineers, you can be assured of the result you want.

**Trading Standards Approved Trader**



**SDS**  
Secure Door Services

Call Debbie or Tracey on **0117 303 5030**  
Showroom: Radstock Rd, Midsomer Norton, BA3 2AD  
[www.sdsgaragedoors.co.uk](http://www.sdsgaragedoors.co.uk)

For details of our pre-fab buildings please visit: [www.sdsconcretegarages.co.uk](http://www.sdsconcretegarages.co.uk)



# Message of the Month

May 2023



There's no doubt about it - the sixth of May 2023 will be a very special day. Firstly, because it is my birthday. Oh, and there is another event happening too – the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla. I suspect rather more people will be aware of that event than the sands of time falling through the hourglass of my life.

Unquestionably, the coronation will be A Very Grand Day Out – and so it should be. A wonderful mix of history, pageantry, spectacle, colour, ceremony, soaring music, majestic words, solemn vows and many millions, maybe even billions watching some or all of it. Mind you, it will not be such a grand day out compared with the last one – almost 70 years to the day ago. At Queen Elizabeth II's crowning, there was a congregation of 8,000 in Westminster Abbey (its normal capacity is 2,200!). Two hundred and fifty carefully selected church and political dignitaries formed the procession that went ahead of her into the Abbey. On the journey back to Buckingham Palace, nearly 30,000 service personnel marched or lined the route and the procession itself was two miles long, including cavalry and state carriages and 40 military marching bands. Even so, 6 May 2023 will still be a magnificent occasion.

Everything will have been meticulously planned and rehearsed to the second. Nothing will be left to chance – except the gloriously and infuriatingly unpredictable British weather.

God, of course does these things rather differently. When He who is *'King of Kings and Lord of Lords'* came into the world that he had made, the world barely noticed him. Only a handful of people (and half of them pretty poor and without a best suit in their non-existent wardrobes) were there to welcome his arrival. A very mixed bag of onlookers watched his first departure on that first Good Friday. There was no cheering but plenty of jeering. The military were there alright, but not to protect the monarch.

When it came to his dramatic and unexpected return from the dead, there was no worldwide audience and no carefully choreographed unveiling of the transformed Christ. Nope. The eyewitnesses were firstly a few second-class citizens (ie women) and then the oddballs (minus one) who had made up his support team (not that they were brilliant at support).

No, it's true: God does these things differently. His wisdom has a special kind of foolishness attached to it. His seating plan reads very differently to the seating plan in Westminster Abbey for the coronation. A title and a coronet cut no ice with God, but a heart full of love and a life of service, well that's another thing altogether, as far as He is concerned.

So, when the TV cameras are gone, the bunting taken down, the Mall swept clean and the bottles of fizz taken to recycling, it will be good to remember what the apostle James wrote in his letter: a different crown, a '*crown of life*' awaits everyone who loves and follows the Lord Jesus Christ to the end. Now that is definitely an invitation worth accepting.

*Tom Preyer*

## **As well as the Coronation there are important Christian festivals in May**

Rogation Sunday is the fifth Sunday after Easter, 14<sup>th</sup> May this year. Traditionally the church processed through the village, blessing the crops and resources. In our Parish St. Michael Burnett still celebrates Rogation Sunday. The following Thursday celebrates Ascension Day when Jesus in earthly form finally left this world to ascend into Heaven. Fifty days after Easter comes Pentecost or Whit Sunday (when the newly baptised wore white gowns). The Bible story tells of the Holy Spirit visiting the disciples with flames and a mighty rushing wind; the surrounding crowd all understood their speech as if it were in their own language. The dove is often an artistic symbol of the Holy Spirit.

### **Inside Front Cover**

1. A mediaeval Rogation procession. People in the background are beating the bounds of the parish.
2. Farmland and livestock at Burnett.
3. The-choir of St. John's College Cambridge sings an Ascension Day anthem from the college roof. Courtesy of Ely Standard
4. A Pentecost window in a Ukrainian Catholic Church

## The Coronation Anthem

### " I Was Glad When They Said----"

Sir Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918) is famous for several religious works including the music for the hymn *Jerusalem*, the Coronation Anthem *I was glad* and the lovely tune *Repton* to the words *Dear Lord and father of mankind*.

Parry was born in Bournemouth to a wealthy family and educated at Eton and Oxford. He had set his eyes on a business career, but music was soon to take over his life. He became an assistant editor for the groundbreaking *Dictionary of Music and Musicians* by George Grove. By the 1880s Parry was Professor of Composition at the Royal College of Music and in 1895 became its principal. He was also Heather Professor of Music at Oxford.

All Coronation services, since King Charles I in 1626, have featured a choral setting of words from Psalm 122 – '*I was glad when they said unto me let us go unto the House of the Lord*', to be sung as an anthem when the monarch arrived at the west door of Westminster Abbey. Parry's anthem was composed for King Edward VII in 1902 and revised for King George V in 1911. The music features a double choir (two sections of sopranos, two of altos, etc), organ and orchestra creating an overwhelming feeling of grandeur and empire.

Not everything runs smoothly at these great national events. For example, one of Handel's coronation anthems in 1717 for King George II and Queen Caroline ended in confusion, while another of the anthems in the Order of Service was left out altogether. In 1902, '*I was glad*' finished too early. The King hadn't even arrived at the west door of the abbey, so the quick-thinking organist improvised some tunes on the spot until King Edward VII turned up, rather late, when the anthem was sung all over again.

Much more recently, it was sung at the wedding of Prince Charles and Diana in 1981, and for the bridal procession of Catherine Middleton at her marriage to Prince William in 2011.

Parry was Knighted in 1898 and became a baronet in the 1902. He died after catching Spanish flu during the 1918 pandemic.

*Les Ryan, Organist, Mumbles Ministry Area, Swansea*





## The Coronation Weekend at St John's Church (Friday 5<sup>th</sup> – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May)



### OVER THE ENTIRE LONG WEEKEND

St. John's Church Tower will be lit up in purple and we hope also illuminated with a Union Flag image too. The Flag will be flying.

Decorations in the churchyard around the trees of knitted red, white and blue. Colourful floral displays inside the Church.

### FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY

Floral displays inside the Church - opening times 9 - 11am and then 2 - 5pm (there is a wedding at 12noon)

### SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MAY - CORONATION DAY

Floral displays inside the Church - opening times 9 - 5pm

### SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MAY

Special Coronation Celebration Church Service at 10.30am

Town Council's 'Party in the Park' - 12noon to 5pm See [www.keynsham-tc.gov.uk](http://www.keynsham-tc.gov.uk)

Floral displays inside the Church - opening times 12noon - 5pm

### MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY

Floral displays inside the Church - opening times 9 - 5pm

Coronation Celebration for all the family inside and outside the Church from 2 - 4pm.

There will be stalls, games, music and refreshments and more besides

At 4 o'clock there will be a 1-hour peal of the church bells, and at the same time all Church members from across the parish and town are invited for celebratory bubbly and cake.

Details as they become available at: [www.keynshamparish.org.uk/coronation](http://www.keynshamparish.org.uk/coronation)

NB Other Churches in the Parish will be holding their coronation celebrations too

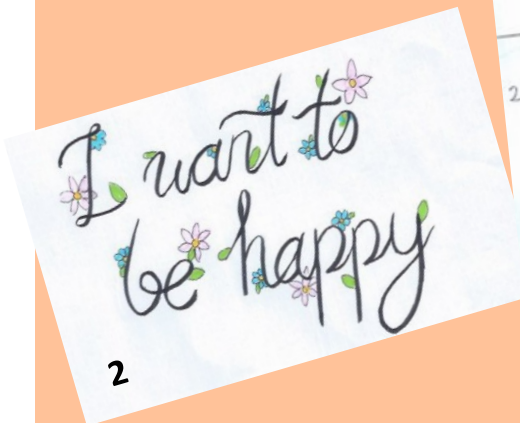
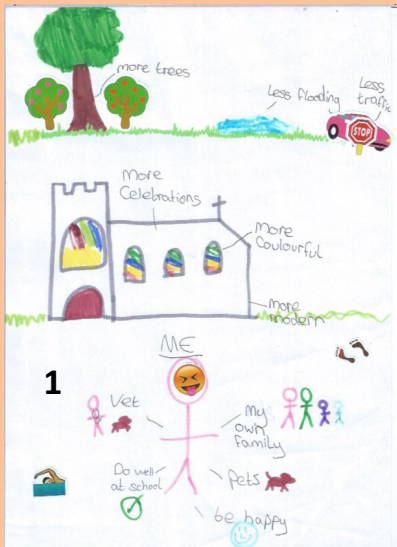
## Come and join in, celebrating this historic event

# Looking to the future

A Coronation looks to the future, as we know our new King is an enthusiast for encouraging young people. We asked Pip Lovell's Youth Group to make a collage for us about the future they would like to see at St. John's.

Thanks to

1: Isla 2: Keira 3: Imogen 4: Josh 5: Anya 6: Patrick 7: Reuben 8: Toby

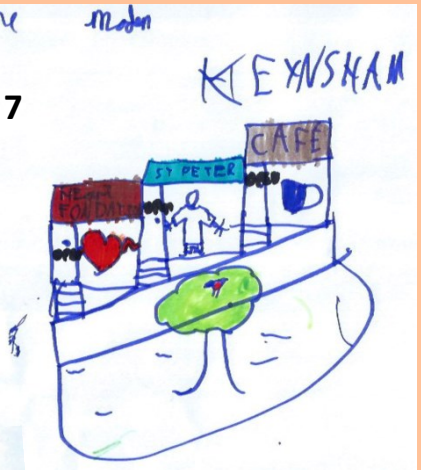




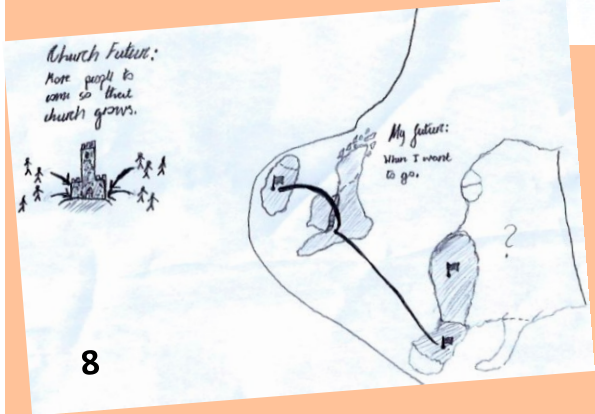
5

more modern

7



KIEVSKAM



Church Future:  
More people to come so that church grows.

My future:  
When I want to go.

8



no pollution

more green spaces

6

St John's +  
better version

# **PUBLIC MEETING**

**AT QUEEN`S ROAD METHODIST  
CHURCH KEYNSHAM TO DISCUSS  
THE IDEA OF CREATING A**



**ON THE LAND BEHIND THE  
CHURCH**

**WEDNESDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY**

**AT 7.00 pm**

**PLEASE COME ALONG AND  
SUPPORT THIS EXCITING  
INITIATIVE**

## Some Adventures of the Crown Jewels



The English Civil War resulted in the execution of King Charles I on 30<sup>th</sup> January 1649; a week later Parliament abolished the monarchy. The new government was (of course) short of cash so the Crown Jewels were broken up and sold. There were a few survivors, two crowns belonging to princesses who had married abroad, the 9<sup>th</sup> century Alfred Jewel and the 600 year old Crystal Sceptre which Henry V had given to the Lord Mayor of London, who still carries it in procession at coronations. When the monarchy was restored in 1660 Charles II had new regalia made, based on records of the old set. They were supplied by Sir Robert Vyner, a banker and the Royal Goldsmith, at a cost of £12,184-7s- 2d, about the same cost as three warships for the King's new navy. It was decided to fashion these replicas like the medieval regalia and to use the same names; they form the nucleus of today's Crown Jewels. This core collection includes St. Edwards Crown, two sceptres, an orb, a pair of spurs and a pair of armills (bracelets). Some of the old collection filtered back, three early Stuart swords were returned and the Dutch ambassador returned jewels that had been pawned in Holland. The King then spent another £11,800 on altar and banqueting plate.

In 1669 the Jewels went on public display for the first time in the Jewel House in the Tower of London, the arrangement being that for a small fee the Deputy Keeper would take the regalia out of the cupboard to show distinguished visitors. This arrangement came to an abrupt end two years later when Thomas Blood, an ex-Parliamentary Army officer, with three accomplices, attacked the elderly keeper and stole a crown, orb and sceptre. They were caught at the castle perimeter but the crown had been flattened with a mallet to help conceal it and the orb was also dented. Colonel Blood was treated very leniently, he was pardoned and even given a pension, prompting rumours that he was really a royal spy. However, since this episode the Crown Jewels have been protected by armed guards.





Circumstances have required additional jewels to be made from time to time. A new set was commissioned for Mary of Modena when she became Queen Consort on her marriage to Charles II in 1685, and a more elaborate set for Mary II when she and William III became joint monarchs in 1689.

During the Second World War the Crown Jewels were secretly moved to Windsor Castle, but the most valuable jewels were taken out of their settings, wrapped in cotton wool, and put in a glass preserving jar, together with a note from the King to say that he had directed this. The jar was sealed in a biscuit tin and hidden in a basement. The idea was that although the Crown Jewels would need a vehicle to move them, if the Nazis invaded an individual could carry the gemstones without suspicion, and even bury or sink them if necessary.

After the war the jewels were kept in the Bank of England until the Jewel House, which had been damaged by bombing, could be repaired.

KING'S CORONATION



Picnic In The Park

Join Keynsham Town Council  
to celebrate!

Sunday 7th May 12pm-5pm

Keynsham Memorial Park

Free family afternoon of music,  
entertainment and more!



# manna

From the Church of England Diocese of Bath and Wells ☩

May 2023

## Celebrating the Coronation

As well as holding their Majesties in their prayers as the Coronation Weekend approaches, Church communities across Bath and Wells will be coming together to celebrate the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III and Her Majesty the Queen Consort, either hosting their own events or coming alongside other community events.

St Andrew's, Minehead are kicking off their celebrations on 30 April, with a 'Sing for the King' Service, and have lots planned for the Coronation Weekend. People are being encouraged to watch the service together, enjoy refreshments and a BYO picnic on Saturday morning, followed by a party with prizes for the best dressed 'guest'. On Sunday, like many other churches, they will be hosting a 'bring and share' Coronation Big Lunch. Organiser Diane Newton says, "What an amazing opportunity to bring the community together to share in this exciting event and create everlasting memories. All are welcome to join us as we celebrate and share in the



joy of our community, our faith and service to others."

At St Mary's, Limington they will be addressing the past with a celebratory cream tea on the aptly named Monarch's Way path. Revd Bruce Faulkner explains, "The path was named after King Charles II, who took this route through Limington as he attempted to leave the country following his defeat by the Parliamentarians. He didn't receive a warm welcome so we thought what better way to welcome the new King Charles than to celebrate in the churchyard on the Monarch's Way." After the cream tea, at which they'll be able to raise a toast with a commemorative mug, there'll be a Coronation Praise Service.

How will you be celebrating the Coronation? Send your pictures and stories to [comms@bathwells.anglican.org](mailto:comms@bathwells.anglican.org) or tag us on social media ■

# News in brief

## Bishop Michael to perform historic role at Coronation

The Cabinet Office has announced that 13 individuals will play historic roles at the Coronation, including Bishop Michael, who will act as Bishop Assistant to The King along with the Bishop of Durham.

Commenting on the announcement, the Rt Revd Michael Beasley, Bishop of Bath and Wells says, "I am deeply honoured that as the Bishop of Bath and Wells I will have the privilege of supporting His Majesty King Charles and Her Majesty the Queen Consort during the service of Coronation. It is a truly historic moment and humbling to realise that this continues a tradition dating back to Richard I in 1189." ■

## Growing Toddler Church Quizzing for Somerset Day

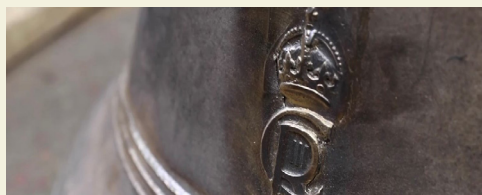
Somerset Day falls on Friday, 12 May this year and everyone is invited to celebrate by joining what is hoped to be Somerset's biggest ever quiz. In conjunction with BBC Somerset, an actual and virtual quiz will take place between 19:00-21:00.

Anyone can take part in the radio quiz, but organisers are also encouraging pubs, schools, care homes and others, including church communities, to host a quiz on the same evening and raise funds for local good causes. Find out more at [somersestday.com](https://somersestday.com) ■

Find more on this story and others at [bathandwells.org.uk/news](https://bathandwells.org.uk/news)

## Historic bells returned

The first set of church bells to have been engraved with the cypher of King Charles III have been delivered to St Peter and St Paul's in North Curry, near Taunton. They will be in place in time to ring for the Coronation, to the delight of the local community who help raised the funds to get them cast.



The Revd Simon Bale said: "It's a wonderful feeling to have new bells and they will ring out with joy and thanksgiving, once again calling people to worship." ■

# Remember Jesus too

By Michael Beasley, Bishop of Bath and Wells

**W**riting about the celebration of Holy Communion almost eighty years ago, Gregory Dix posed the question 'Was ever another command so obeyed?' It's well worth searching online for his whole answer. An edited quote of his response reads:

*'For century after century, spreading slowly to every continent and country and among every race on earth, this action has been done, in every conceivable human circumstance, for every conceivable human need. Men have found no better thing than this to do for kings at their crowning and for criminals going to the scaffold; for armies in triumph or for a bride and bridegroom in a little country church; for the wisdom of the Parliament of a mighty nation or for a sick old woman afraid to die; while the lions roared in the nearby amphitheatre; on the beach at Dunkirk. And best of all, week by week and month by month, on a hundred thousand successive Sundays, faithfully, unflinching, across all the parishes of Christendom, the pastors have done*

*this just to make the plebs sancta Dei—the holy common people of God.'*

The first of Dix's scenarios will be played out before us at the coronation of King Charles III. At the heart of the ceremony, amidst all the pomp and circumstance, the oaths and declarations, the regalia and crowning, will be the celebration of Holy Communion. The words used will be just the same as those spoken in our parish churches Sunday by Sunday. From Communion, the King and Queen will be sent out from Westminster Abbey to live like us the prayer we say at the end of many of our services. They will offer 'their souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice, sent out in the power of [God's ] Spirit to live and work to [God's] praise and glory.'

The command that the King, Queen and all of us obey is Jesus's direction to 'Do this in remembrance of me.' So, as you watch the Coronation please remember Jesus too. For he is the one who comes to us as a servant; the king of Kings ■

Bishop Michael

# A big help!

St John's, Peasedown PCC member, Joy Fraser is Chair of the Hive Community Centre Committee which is hoping to benefit from the Coronation Weekend's Big Help Out.



Joy greets Bishop Michael at the Hive

## What is the Hive?

The Hive is run by the residents of Peasedown St John through its Management Committee with the aim of providing a vibrant space for young people, a place where residents can come together and where they can find help and support when they need it.

## What support are you hoping for?

We are hoping to get some support on the day to have a bit of a spring clean, spruce up the outside space, clean the windows – just as you like to do at home. We are hoping some people may continue their support beyond the day and help in other ways on an ongoing basis.

## What support do you get currently?

The Hive project sits on the charitable status of St John's Church and

members of the church sit on our committee alongside people from the local Methodist and Catholic churches, as well as those with no church affiliation. We have volunteers from all sections of the community.

## What areas do you need help with?

We could really do with more support for our excellent youth workers.

Getting some volunteers to help with simple things such as making the tea or clearing up will allow them to devote more time to work directly with the young people.

## Are you planning anything else for the Coronation weekend?

We'll be getting the bunting out on the Friday and having a Coronation theme for our regular Friday morning Waffle Café. On the day we are working with the local Village Agent to host particularly those who would be home on their own so they can enjoy the Coronation with others. We have applied for funding to give them a lunch, so hopefully that will happen. If you are interested in helping the Hive either for the Big Help Out or beyond, [email: themanager@thehivepsj.org](mailto:themanager@thehivepsj.org)

Follow us on



@BathWells



bathandwells



churchofengland\_somerset



DIOCESE OF  
**Bath & Wells**

Living the story. Telling the story.



## Easter Bonnets

In their last week of The Easter Term Two Rivers School came to St. John's for their special Easter Service. Enthusiastic creativity produced an impressive range of head gear, elegantly modelled.



## Hope for Ukraine



More than a year since the war in Ukraine began, Hope for Ukraine is still providing much needed support for a people stricken by invasion and war.

St John's is no longer a collecting point for donations, the collections finished at Easter, but the charity is still grateful for financial help. They still need our support, there is lots of information about their work on the website.

For information about their continuing work and how to help contact [info@hopeforukraine.org.uk](mailto:info@hopeforukraine.org.uk)

## Messy Church at St. Francis

St Francis Church held their first Messy Church on Saturday, 8th April. Thinking back to Christmas, we offered a craft event for children which was hugely popular and held a Christingle service on Christmas Eve, again very popular in our community. That led us to think about how to engage with these families more, not just in one off events. So, we decided to try out Messy Church, which we will run 4 times this year, the first being a Messy Easter.

The idea behind Messy Church is to offer families an accessible form of church, with crafts and activities, a bible story and maybe a song as well as sharing a meal as hospitality is a core value of Messy Church. We initially had 12 families signing up, totalling about 35 adults and children. On the day, a couple of families couldn't make it. However, those who were there seemed to enjoy the various craft activities – some more messy than others, all telling us a little bit about the story of Easter, from a Playdough crown of thorns and decorating crosses, to Easter hope rocks and a messy hand/footprint cross. After the families had a go at all the craft activities, we came to a time of singing and storytelling – using



the concept of Simon says, sharing what Jesus said and did. After holding up our decorated crosses to help us pray, we then went into the hall to share a meal together; lasagne provided by some of our faithful volunteers.

Children and adults enjoyed our first Messy Church and are all happy to come to our next one which will be in the summer. It was a real team effort, a lot of our church members helped preparing and, on the day, helping with crafts, setting up, cooking and tidying up.



I think it was a successful event, engaging with families from our community, offering church in an accessible way. We also have a visual reminder of Messy Easter, the big cross with hand and footprints around it which we will display in church.



Anika Gardiner

## How your friends may be keeping you alive

Take care of your friendships, and they will take care of you. A recent study has found that if, in later life, you enjoy your friends on a regular and frequent basis, then the joy that they bring you may even halve your risk of death within five years.

The book of Proverbs (27:9) compares the balm of ointments and perfumes to the soothing effect of a good friend, and an analysis of the research would seem to confirm this. People in their later years who socialised every day were healthier than those who didn't. Even those who saw their friends only once a week were healthier than those who saw no friends on a regular basis.

In fact, the team reported having found a 'dose response', with the greater the frequency of socialising, the greater the likelihood of living longer. As one doctor put it: "The more frequent the social activity, the more prolonged the survival time."

It is thought that having regular contact with friends encourages healthier thinking, better personal habits, increased physical activity, and reduces stress. Yet according to Age UK, more than two million older people in England live alone, and more than a million older people can go for a month without speaking to anyone.

The study was published in the *Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health*.

## With the Local Elections in mind this month:

If you want to find out what's wrong with a man or woman, elect them to public office.

There are two sides to every question, and if you want to be popular, you take both.

The fact that Local Councils are no better and no worse than the county as a whole, is something to worry about.

Political campaign: The war in which everybody shoots straight from the lip.  
– R Morley

Politician: A fellow who shakes your hand before the election and shakes you after the election.

Is a lame duck a politician whose goose has been cooked?

A politician doesn't stand on his record; he jumps on the other fellow's.



## 14 conversations to have with your neighbours at a King's Coronation street party



We have all known that awkward moment at a party, when your conversation with a stranger suddenly dries up. But if you are going to one of the King's Coronation street parties next month, you don't need to worry.

An information pack called the [Coronation Big Lunch 'conversation menu'](#) has been published, offering 14 handy ideas for keeping the conversational ball rolling. The ideas range from asking your neighbours whether they have ever met a member of the Royal Family, to what is their favourite way to spend a bank holiday. The 'menu' even includes a couple of jokes you can tell, if you get really desperate.

More than a million people, and more than 7,000 street parties and community events, have so far signed up to the Coronation Big Lunch initiative. Buckingham Palace is hoping the celebration will bring neighbours together across the country. Certainly, chatting with our neighbours is no longer common. One poll from 2019 found that half of us had not chatted over the garden fence or outside our homes in at least a month, while almost one in five of us have never spoken to our neighbours at all.

The Coronation Big Lunch will take place on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> May, the day after the King and the Queen Consort are crowned at Westminster Abbey. More than 17.2 million people took part in Big Lunch events last June, for the Queen's

### **Farewell to Judy Walker**

In the two years she has been our Parish Office manager Judy has become a tower of strength for the office team. She has been unfailingly kind and efficient in this complicated role, as well as a conscientious and generous manager to all the staff. When she joined us Judy thought that family responsibilities would no longer consume all her time, but that proved not to be and Judy is once more to be a full time mother and grandmother.

We will miss her sadly but wish her well in her new and busy life.

There will be some overlap with our new manager, Lin Fry. We look forward to welcoming Lin and introducing her to everyone.

*Kath McCarthy*



## Mayday

May is the month when, as it has been inelegantly expressed, “the ancient pagans used to get up to all sorts”. The Romans held their festival to honour Maia, goddess of nature and growth. (May is named after her.) The Celts celebrated the feast of Beltane, in honour of the sun god, Beli.

For centuries in England people went mad in May. After the hardship of winter, and hunger of early Spring, May was a time of indulgence and unbridled merriment. Philip Stubbes, writing in 1583, was scandalised: ‘for what kissing and bussing, what smooching and slabbering one of another, is not practised?’ Henry VIII went ‘maying’ on many occasions. Then folk would stay out all night in the forest thickets and return in the morning for dancing on the green around the May pole, archery, vaulting, wrestling, and evening bonfires.

The Protestant reformers took a strong stand against May Day, and in 1644 May Day was abolished altogether. May poles came down – only to go up again at the Restoration, when the first May Day of King Charles’s reign was ‘the happiest Mayday that hath been many a year in England’, according to Samuel Pepys.

May Day to most people today brings vague folk memories of a young Queen of the May decorated with garlands and streamers and flowers, a May Pole to weave, Morris dancing, and the intricacies of well dressing. May Day is a medley of natural themes such as sunrise, the advent of summer, growth in nature, and – since 1833 – Robert Owen’s vision of a millennium in the future, beginning on May Day, when there would be no more poverty, injustice or cruelty, but harmony and friendship. This is why, in modern times, May Day has become Labour Day, which honours the dignity of workers. And until recently, in communist countries May Day processions were held in honour of the achievement of Marxism.

There has never been a Christian content to May Day, but nevertheless there is the well-known 6am service on the top of Magdalen Tower at Oxford where a choir sings in the dawn of May Day.

An old May carol includes the lines:

*The life of man is but a span, it flourishes like a flower*

*We are here today and gone tomorrow – we are dead within an hour.*

There is something of a sadness about it, as there is about all purely sensuous joy. For May Day is not Easter, and the joys it represents have always been earth-bound and fleeting.

## Church Services of the Future?

*How will services at our churches run in the years to come?*

*Like this...?*

**Pastor / priest and other celebrants:** 'Praise the Lord!'

**Congregation:** 'Hallelujah!'

**Pastor etc:** 'Will everyone please turn on their tablet, PC, iPad, smart phone, and Kindle Bibles and access our reading for this morning. And please switch on your Bluetooth to download the sermon.'

P-a-u-s-e.....

'Now, let us pray, committing this week into God's hands.

Open your Apps, BBM, Twitter and Facebook, and chat with God'

S-i-l-e-n-c-e

'As we take our Sunday tithes and offerings, please have your credit and debit cards ready. You can log on to the church wi-fi using the password *Lord909887*'.

The ushers will circulate mobile card swipe machines among the worshippers:

Those who prefer to make electronic fund transfers are directed to computers and laptops at the rear of the church.

Those who prefer to use iPads can open them.

Those who prefer telephone banking, take out your smart phones to transfer your contributions to the church account.

The holy atmosphere of the Church becomes truly electrified as ALL the smart phones, iPads, PCs and laptops beep and flicker!

Final Blessing and Closing Announcements...

This week's ministry meetings will be held on the various Facebook group pages where the usual group chatting takes place. Please log in and don't miss out.

Thursday's Bible study will be held live on Zoom at 1900hrs GMT. Please don't miss out.

You can follow your Pastor on Twitter this weekend for counselling and prayers.

## Avon Needs Trees- an update

Our new King is well known for his support for the environment. Here we have an update on the new Avon Needs Trees project. Avon Needs Trees is a registered charity that was founded in 2019. We create new woodland throughout the Bristol-Avon catchment in order to tackle the climate and ecological emergencies.

### New volunteers flock to plant Great Avon Wood

Work on planting the new woodland is already underway, with a record 200 new volunteers registering with Avon Needs Trees after news emerged of the Bristol region's largest new woodland on record.

"The interest and support we've already received for Great Avon Wood has been quite astonishing," said

Avon Needs Trees' Director Dave Wood. "We've had the first handful of planting days fill up almost immediately. We are still looking for as many individuals to get involved as possible, or make a donation. We'd also like to hear from local companies who want to get involved."

**Avon Needs Trees** and the **Forest of Avon Trust** have worked together to secure over **100 acres of land** near Pensford. Over the **next three years**, volunteers will help to plant and care for **40,000 trees** supplied by the Woodland Trust. Great Avon Wood will consist of three linked woodland sites. Both charities are now inviting people across the region to help plant this new woodland.

People can sign up at Avon Needs Trees' website

<https://avonneedstrees.org.uk/volunteering/>

The new woodland has been designed to include species-rich grassland, areas of natural regeneration, agroforestry and a new orchard. As with Avon Needs Trees' other schemes, Great Avon Wood will involve a commitment to long-term stewardship of the new trees, including an ongoing maintenance and care programme led by volunteers and overseen by the charity.



*Vicki Cracknell*

## Churches Count on Nature

3<sup>rd</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> June is the week for communities to count wildlife in ‘undisturbed’ churchyards.

Parishes across England and Wales are registered to participate in “Churches Count on Nature”, a scheme whereby each year people visit churchyards to record the plant and animal species they encounter. The biodiversity survey is supported by environmental charities *A Rocha UK* and *Caring for God’s Acre*, as well as the Church of England and the Church in Wales. It takes place from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> of June this year.

In the last two years, 900 counting events took place across churches in England and Wales, and over 27,000 wildlife records were submitted. Churches from all denominations take part in the count each year. This data will be used to work out where rare and endangered species are located in the country, and also to help the churches to increase biodiversity on their land.

This year, species on some of the 17,500 acres of churchyards in England will be mapped, as well as a further 1,282 acres of churchyards in Wales. As graveyards and church land are usually undisturbed, they can be host to a great variety of wildlife not seen in other green spaces. Old churchyards often have fantastic flowery and species-rich grasslands.

Churches Count on Nature is part of Love Your Burial Ground Week.

The Bishop of Norwich, Graham Usher, who is the Church of England’s Lead Bishop for Environmental Affairs, said: “Hundreds of thousands will have watched Sir David Attenborough’s new documentary on wildlife in the British Isles. Registering for this initiative is a brilliant way for churches to encourage a local response and help to restore the natural habitats on our doorstep.”

---

## Smile Lines

### Sea of Galilee

A vicar planning an Easter pilgrimage to the Holy Land was shaken when he found it would cost him £50 an hour to rent a boat on the Sea of Galilee.

He protested to the travel agent that the cost was ridiculous. “That might be true,” replied the travel agent, “but you have to take into account that the Sea of Galilee is water on which our Lord Himself walked.”

“Well,” said the vicar, “at £50 an hour for a boat, I am not surprised!”

## **The launch of ‘Bell Sunday’ in May**

If you like church bells, you will be pleased to hear that there is now an ‘official’ Bell Sunday – this year to be held on 14<sup>th</sup> May. Each year it will be on the Sunday closest to 19<sup>th</sup> May. 19<sup>th</sup> May is the feast day of St Dunstan, who way back in the 11<sup>th</sup> century had fun experimenting with bell-forging. (Does anyone know if any of his bells have survived?)

The Central Council for Church Bell Ringers (CCCBR) has declared Bell Sunday to encourage churches to celebrate their bells and ringers in Sunday worship. They hope that many local church towers will join in, and where possible churches will open their towers to the public on the day, so that visitors can watch the bells being rung.

The Central Council’s spokeswoman, Vicki Chapman, says: “With co-operation between church and bell-ringers, it may be possible for bell-ringers to be involved in a service on the day. Bell ringers could read lessons, give a talk, and demonstrate the playing of handbells.

We hope that Bell Sunday will help raise awareness of the importance of bells in our communities, and also help strengthen relationships between clergy and bellringers.”

## **New foundation launched to help churches and dioceses tackle housing crisis**

The Church of England has launched a new foundation to give practical advice and guidance to churches and dioceses hoping to help tackle the housing crisis in their communities. The Church Housing Foundation will promote collaboration between churches and dioceses and experts in a range of areas, from community engagement around housing need, to planning and legal issues.

Leaders, housing professionals, and those involved in or wanting to start local projects will be able to contribute to the Foundation and make use of the connections and resources offered.

The Foundation is being led by the Church of England’s Lead Bishop for Housing, the Bishop of Chelmsford, Guli Francis-Dehqani. It takes forward key recommendations from *Coming Home*, the landmark report published by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York’s Commission on Housing, Church and Community.

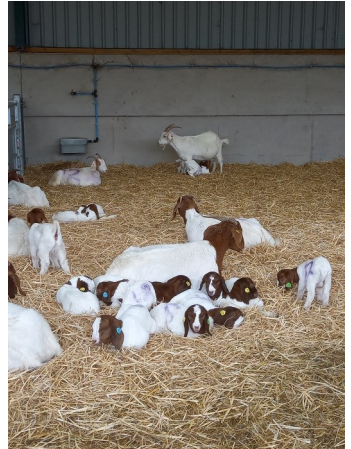


## FARM DIARY

This is written for non-farmers who live surrounded by farmland.

**In the Field.** Turnout of farm animals has been slow this year. Turnout is considered when there is insufficient conserved forage left in the barn, when the grass is growing and when there has been growth so that there is something to graze and when the ground conditions are dry enough to avoid damage to the sward. Our sheep of our new enterprise have never been inside. They are “designed” for our weather with a fleece high in lanolin.

**Myths.** Again, according to the NFU’s “The facts about British red meat and milk” leaflet, British livestock and dairy farming are bad for the environment. Firstly, livestock can play a key role in the maintenance and enhancement of wildlife habitats. There are several examples but one local one is the large blue butterfly. This has been reintroduced on the Polden Hills and it is hoped in time they will spread to our farm. Sheep grazing is essential for its complicated life cycle as is the wild thyme plant; both of which we now have. The county notable plants on our limestone grassland also require animal grazing to flourish as



mentioned before. As gardeners in our area will already know, soils in our area with their clay content are enhanced with the addition of animal manures. Together with our non-ploughing system of cropping, the addition of farmyard manure increases the organic matter content of the soils. This builds soil fertility reducing the need for applied fertiliser. Last year we only bought two thirds of our normal fertiliser as the price was high and we have used a lot of farmyard manure. The yields were the same as the year before. We saved one third of our normal fertiliser usage. Water usage is another claim levelled at our industry. However, it is a complex issue. There is green water that is rainfall used where it falls and which generally cannot be used by anyone else. There is blue water that is taken out of the available water supply such as a tap and there is grey water that is freshwater used to dilute pollution. Beef and lamb mainly use green water. Also comparing our milk with almond milk produced in California, shows that our milk uses significantly less blue water.

*Richard Graham*

# Parish Register & Diary for May

## BAPTISMS

Date	Name	Church
2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2023	Eva Catherine Colbourne	St John's
	William Albert Colbourne	
	April Eva Williams	

## DEATHS

Date of Death	Name	Age
2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2023	Dervan Airey	80
13 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Roy Heelas	87
6 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	Patricia Short	89

## DIARY

Date	Time	Activity / Event	Venue
6 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Clergy Consultation Hour	Parish Office
6 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Who Let The Dads Out	St Francis
7 <sup>th</sup>	6pm	Impact Group for 7-11 year olds	Parish Hall
7 <sup>th</sup>	6pm	Youth Group	OCT
9 <sup>th</sup>	7pm	PCC Standing Committee	St John's Upper Room
9 <sup>th</sup>	8.15pm	St John's DCC Standing Committee	St John's Upper Room
14 <sup>th</sup>	6pm	Choral Evensong	St John's
20 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Clergy Consultation Hour	Parish Office
20 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Mother's Prayers	St John's Upper Room
20 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Who Let The Dads Out	Parish Hall
21 <sup>st</sup>	6pm	Impact Group for 7-11 year olds	Parish Hall
21 <sup>st</sup>	6pm	Youth Group	OCT
26 <sup>th</sup>	1pm	Trio Paradis lunchtime concert	Parish Hall
31 <sup>st</sup>	12pm	Pastoral lunch	Parish Hall



Detail from the Bayeux Tapestry showing King Harold's coronation at Westminster Abbey in 1066

**DAVIES & WAY**  
 CHARTERED SURVEYORS • ESTATE AGENTS

1 High Street, Keynsham,  
 Bristol BS31 1DP  
 Tel: 0117 986 3681  
 Fax: 0117 986 8220  
[www.daviesandway.com](http://www.daviesandway.com)

911

**Garden Maintenance, Patios,  
 Fencing, Leaf Clearance, Decking,  
 Turfing, Hedge Trimming**

**Ian Bodman**

Tel: 0117 329 7096

Mobile: 0796 243 2571

Email: [ian@beaverscapes.co.uk](mailto:ian@beaverscapes.co.uk)

13 Rowan Walk, Keynsham

Bristol, BS31 2RE



**Beaverscapes**

Your friendly, hardworking landscape gardener

***CONTACT EDITORS***

**Kath McCarthy, Robert Cook  
 and Hero**

**e-mail: [keynshamcontact@gmail.com](mailto:keynshamcontact@gmail.com)**

**c/o Parish Office,**

**1 The Park, Keynsham**

**T: 0117 986 3354**

**Cover:** HM King Charles III &  
 Queen Consort Camilla

# *We Care*

We have a genuine desire to look after you.

We promise that we will meet and endeavour to exceed your expectations with regard to the funeral service we provide and the care, professionalism and compassion shown to you.

We are meticulous in our attention to detail and look for ways to make the funeral a special and memorable occasion.

**IT'S OUR PRIVILEGE TO HELP**

## L J GUYAN

12 Charlton Road, Keynsham

0117 986 3268



Part of Dignity plc. A British Company  
[www.dignityfunerals.co.uk](http://www.dignityfunerals.co.uk)

Member of the National Association of Funeral Directors



902

## Town & Country Roofing Services



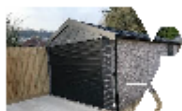
### Slating, Tiling, Carpentry, Leadwork

**Contact: Tony Burford**

**01761 413430,  
0779 9235 555**

**[anthony.burford262@btinternet.com](mailto:anthony.burford262@btinternet.com)**

**6 Millward Terrace,  
Paulton,  
Bristol BS39 7NP**



## Hexagon

### Prefabricated Buildings

All in one service including removal of the old building,  
base work, & new building supply & installation



### Garage Doors

Repairs on all types of garage doors  
Replacement doors to suit your budget and requirements  
Electric remote-control automation



**Excellent – Service, Excellent – Price**

No obligation site survey to discuss your requirements



**Contact us:** on 07516 419 860

**Email:** [hexagon.pbgd@gmail.com](mailto:hexagon.pbgd@gmail.com)

View our **website** for more details:



[www.hexagonprefabricatedbuildingsandgaragedoors.co.uk](http://www.hexagonprefabricatedbuildingsandgaragedoors.co.uk)