

# contact

*The Parish of Keynsham magazine*



*November 2022*

A close-up photograph of a field of bright red poppies. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some fully open and others as buds. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting a lush field. The lighting is natural, highlighting the texture of the petals and the dark centers of the flowers.

**Lord God,  
our refuge and strength  
bring near the day  
when wars cease,  
suffering and pain end  
and all the earth knows  
the peace of heaven.**

# SERVICES & ORGANISATIONS

## St John the Baptist, Keynsham

**Holy Communion:** 8.30am every Sunday

**IN CHURCH @ 10.30** - in Church with choir

**TOGETHER @ 10.30** - in Parish Hall

**Occasional Festival Services:** 10.30am

**Evening Services** - as advertised

**Weekday Holy Communion:** 11.00am Wednesdays

**Holy Baptism:** In public worship / or Sunday 12.00 noon  
(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

**Choir Practice:** Thursday: 7.00 - 8.00pm

**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: 10.30am - **Holy Communion.**

## St Michael's, Burnett

2nd & 4th Sundays: **Holy Communion (1662)**  
11.15am

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

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### MISSION PARTNERS:

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

**CMS Mission Partners: Lebanon: *Audrey & Colin Gibson.***

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

**Chipata South Parish, Zambia.**

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*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

## Missioner and Team Vicar - St John's:

*Rev'd. Mike Burke* - Tel: 0117 909 9425

## Curate - Keynsham Parish:

*Rev'd Nigel Williams* - Tel: 07850887498

## Pioneer Missioner:

*Trevor James* - Tel: 07368 526997

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## Readers:

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

## Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults:

*Parish officer: Wendy Harwood* - Tel: 0117 986 2323

## Directors of Music / Choirmaster:

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

St Francis: *vacant*

## 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*

## Hope for Ukraine

Since the last issue of Contact Hope for Ukraine has stopped using St. John's as a collecting point, so you can no longer bring items from the wish list.

However they are still very active in their support for people who are suffering so much in Ukraine, you can learn more on their website

[www.hopeforukraine.org.uk](http://www.hopeforukraine.org.uk) or email [info@hopeforukraine.org.uk](mailto:info@hopeforukraine.org.uk) or ring 07933 712584 if you would like more information.



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# Message of the Month

November 2022

## Thought for November 2023 – Remembering

It seems to me that November is a month for remembering. How do you remember things? I use a diary to help me remember important dates and a scrap book to keep mementoes of things I've done. Throughout history people have either built monuments or set up special days to remember people or important events.

In November we have 'All Saints Day' on the first where we remember loved ones who have passed away. On the fifth it's 'Guy Fawkes Night' where we remember the gunpowder plot to blow up Parliament. Then on the eleventh is 'Remembrance Day' where we remember the end of World War 1 and all those who died in the two world wars.

In modern times people have designated nearly every day of the year as a day to remember something. Apparently the 3<sup>rd</sup> November is 'World Jelly Fish Day' and the 13<sup>th</sup> is 'World Kindness Day'.

There are well over 200 references to remembering in the Bible. We are encouraged to remember and be grateful for how God has provided for us through his creation and all the food that the earth produces. In fact we are to remember and give thanks for all the blessings and good things we have like family, friends, health and our very lives. We are to remember his laws of love summed up in the golden rule of 'Love God and love your neighbour as yourself'. Above all we are to remember that Jesus came to earth and died that we can know God. In the church we use bread and wine as a way of remembering what Jesus Christ did for us.

I wonder what or who or how you will remember this November?

*Paul Thurlow*



## Grandma Hobbs

Patricia Lewis has been researching the history of her grandmother Fanny Hobbs, an early member of the Salvation Army. The article "Blood and Fire" in the August/September Contact prompted her to share the story of Fanny's adventures as a member of Whitchurch, Hampshire, Salvation Army.

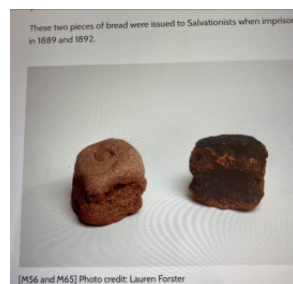
### **The Great Demonstration for Liberty and Freedom to Worship. October 14th 1889.**

On October 14th 1889 history was made in Whitchurch, a small market town in Hampshire. 2000 Salvationists from several "corps" held a demonstration in the square, protesting about freedom to worship. My Grandma, Fanny Hobbs, was one of them.

Fanny was born in 1871 and was one of the "never give ins", standing firm in her belief in Jesus Christ. Her father (my great grandfather) was Dick Hobbs, a soldier in the Basingstoke Salvation Army Corps. In 1881 he founded the Whitchurch Corps which Fanny joined in 1886, aged 15. The Salvationists faced much persecution for several years by people opposed to their outdoors evangelism, and were frequently prosecuted using public order offences as the excuse. As a result, many Salvation Army soldiers faced arrest, harsh treatment and imprisonment.

Aged 18, Fanny attended the Great Demonstration and was arrested. She refused to pay the fine, so along with several colleagues she was sentenced to jail in Winchester Prison. She was jailed again on two further occasions. Conditions were severe. The prisoners were handcuffed and marched from Whitchurch to Winchester (12 miles), singing hymns all the way. There was more hardship in jail; bed was a plank of wood and the rations 2 small loaves a day. In addition, Fanny lost her job because of the prison sentence.

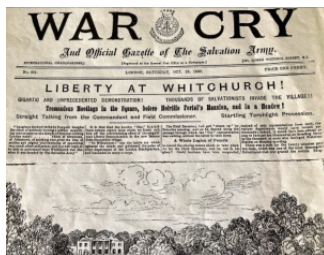
Feelings were running very high. A court case was arranged before a grand jury in Winchester, but the Salvationists feared they would not get a fair trial, especially as the Whitchurch magistrate was a brewery owner, an arch-enemy of the tea-total Salvation Army. They applied successfully for the case to be heard in London. On July 1st 1890, in a court room filled with Salvationists in uniform,



the Lord Chief Justice of England heard the case. He returned a verdict of not guilty, a famous victory for freedom of worship.

## The Centenary celebrations

A century later I felt very privileged to attend the anniversary celebrations in Whitchurch, a very special and emotional day. It began with a hundred bandsman from neighbouring corps marching in to



town and through to the Market Square. The salute was taken by Lt. Colonel Bramwell Booth, General Booth's great-grandson. The Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire and Lord Denning, the Master of the Rolls and 1600 people were in the square to witness the unveiling of a Memorial Plaque for "Liberty at Whitchurch". Lord Denning lived in Whitchurch and always supported the Salvation Army.

In his speech the Chief Constable said that "the rules which the Lord Chief Justice set down 100 years ago are exactly the rules we follow today when policing demonstrations"

We sang "Onward Christian Soldiers" and "Fight the Good Fight", then my husband Peter and I and two cousins were invited to a celebration afternoon tea at Lord Denning's house.

## Fanny's family life

Fanny married William West in 1893 and had six children. My dear Dad and two aunts were faithful followers in her footsteps. She died in 1953, always sustained by her strong faith. I am very proud to be her granddaughter and remember her brave steadfastness with much love, respect and admiration.



*Patricia Lewis (née West)*



## Keynsham Eco Festival

Climate change is sweeping across the world, people everywhere are concerned to mitigate its causes and effects. At the Keynsham Eco Festival on 15<sup>th</sup> October a swathe of groups concerned about these changes, both at a local and a worldwide level, came together to highlight the problems and offer some solutions. Plenty of visitors were taking a keen interest, so their efforts were rewarded.

Christian Aid, Tearfund, and Fairtrade emphasised the help needed in poor developing countries; work with water supplies, changes to farming techniques and solar power were in evidence.

Closer to home a whole raft of stalls concentrated on energy saving homes. You could have a thermal camera survey showing where your house loses heat, and advice on insulation. The Bath and West Community Energy and more locally, Keynsham Community Energy, have schemes to help qualifying households with the costs of energy efficiency. They also promote community wide schemes.

Other groups concentrated on the need to protect bio-diversity. Avon Wildlife Trust, Avon Needs Trees and Chew Valley Plants Trees had lots of hints and tips on how to help. (They have lots of information on their websites)

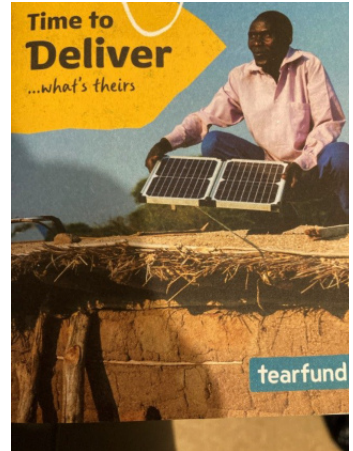
Avon Needs Trees sums up the challenge:

### Why does Avon need trees?



Over recent centuries the Bristol-Avon catchment area has lost most of its woodland and is now one of the most deforested parts of the UK. This leaves us vulnerable to the climate crisis, increased flooding,

and a sharp decline in our local biodiversity.



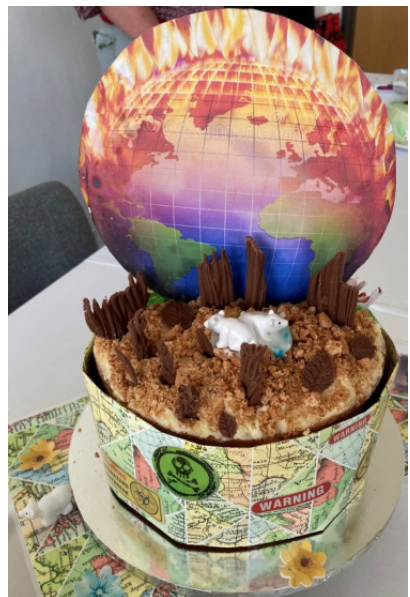
Planting new woodlands is essential to tackle the climate and nature emergencies. Woodlands take many years to deliver these benefits. With any tree planting project, it is important to ask if there will be long-term maintenance to ensure the woodland will thrive, and if the trees will be maintained when land changes hands. The best way to guarantee the permanence of new woodlands is to purchase the land on which they are created.

For more information visit: [avonneedstrees.org.uk](http://avonneedstrees.org.uk)



Our local heroes, Keynsham in Bloom were there, with some of their volunteers running an information and plant stall.

But what had the real wow factor? No competition, it has to be the cakes.



## Saint of the month. Saint Andrew

St. Andrew is the last of the UK's patron saints we have looked at. We celebrate him on 30th November.

### Early life

Andrew was born about 5-10 AD in the village of Bethsaida in Galilee. He had been a follower of John the Baptist but recognised Jesus as the Messiah. The story of Jesus meeting Andrew and his brother Simon, later Peter, on the shore of Lake Galilee and Jesus' call for them to be disciples, "fishers of men" is well known. Gospel references to him include Andrew bringing the boy with the five loaves and two fishes to Jesus when He fed the five thousand, and at the Last Supper.

### Travels in life



Monument in Kyiv



Andrew travelled widely preaching the gospel. The early writers' accounts of where he worked vary, but it seems to have been around the Black Sea, in what today is northern Greece, Rumania, Bulgaria, and Ukraine. He is said to have travelled up the river Dnieper to Kyiv and on to Novgorod, by tradition in Kyiv the church of St. Andrew is on the site where he planted his staff and preached.

Probably he also reached the eastern and southern shores of the Black Sea, to modern Georgia and Turkey. In AD38 he founded the Bishopric of Byzantium (later Constantinople). Eventually he reached Patras in western Greece, where he was martyred by crucifixion. Claiming that he was unworthy to be crucified like Christ, he was martyred on a diagonal cross.

### Travels after death

After the crucifixion his remains were buried at Patras, but fourteen hundred years of power play in the medieval world saw his mortal remains shared between Byzantium, Amalfi, Warsaw, Sarzana in Italy and Edinburgh. In 1964, Pope Paul VI, as a gesture of goodwill toward the Greek Orthodox Church, ordered all of the relics of Saint Andrew in the Vatican City to be sent back to Patras.

The cross of Saint Andrew's martyrdom was taken from Greece during the Crusades by the Duke of Burgundy. It was kept in Marseilles until returned to Patras in 1980.

### **So where does Scotland fit in?**

There are two versions of how the relics came to Scotland.

One is that St. Regulus (or Rule), a monk at Patras, was visited by an angel in a dream, and told to hide some of the remains after the Emperor Constantius II ordered their transfer to Constantinople in 357. In a second dream he was told to take the hidden remains by ship to the ends of the earth, and build a reliquary wherever he came ashore. By tradition he was shipwrecked at St. Andrew's.



A more likely explanation is that the relics were brought to Britain by St. Augustine's mission in 597, and taken to St. Andrews in 732 by Bishop Acca of Hexham, a well known collector of relics.

Backdating his arrival by about four hundred years helped to establish him as the patron saint of Scotland, when many in the church believed St. Columba should have the honour. St. Margaret of Scotland, who married King Malcolm III in 1070, promoted his cause as part of the struggle for supremacy of the Catholic church, and not the Celtic church, as the state religion. However history can be malleable; the Declaration of Arbroath in 1320 stated that Scotland had been converted to Christianity by St Andrew, so allegedly proving that God would have wanted to preserve Scotland's independence from England.

Until the end of the eighteenth century the saint's day was not especially celebrated but first in North America and later in Scotland 30th November became a good excuse for a party.

### **Where else is he revered?**

His extensive travels linked St. Andrew to many other countries. His famous flag, the saltire, is also the ensign of the Russian Navy. He is the patron saint of Barbados, Georgia, Ukraine, Russia, Greece, Cyprus and Rumania and many towns and cities. As might be expected he is the protector of fishermen and fishmongers as well as the Russian Navy, also singers, miners, pregnant women and many others.

A busy saint.

## **John McLennan shares his thoughts after illness:**

I wrote most of this prayer after being immobile for a few days with cellulitis. It comes as a shock when one is suddenly reliant on crutches. As a direct result of my experience and being so grateful for the healing with lots of antibiotics, most of my thank you prayer came to me then. I shared it with good friends and was strongly encouraged to send it to you for publication. Then I had a lovely cruise holiday on the Danube which I enjoyed immensely. Sadly I came home with cellulitis in the other leg and antibiotics. After the St John's Service with a lot about Leprosy I submit my prayer with one extra line:

*Thank you Lord, for my two legs and feet to move on,  
Thank you Lord, for my two arms and hands with which to do  
your work,*

*Thank you Lord, for my mind and soul to receive, ponder and  
hopefully carry out your word,*

*Thank you Lord, for my two eyes to see what I need to do,*

*Thank you Lord, for my two ears to listen and hear what  
others have to say,*

*Thank you Lord, for my mouth and speech, guide me to speak  
wisely with your ways in mind,*

*Thank you Lord, for being released from modern 'Leprosy',  
Covid, and God's healing of the leper,*

*Thank you Lord, for good health and guide me to be  
understanding and helpful to those who suffer from ill health,  
Lord, when I fail, please, gently show me my failings and guide  
me to make amends.*

John McLennan

9<sup>th</sup> October 2022

# A new home for old soldiers 'broken by age and war'

*By Christopher Bailey*

In 1681 Charles II commissioned Sir Christopher Wren to provide a home on the Chelsea embankment for sick and elderly soldiers 'broken by age and war'. He had been influenced by the Institution Nationale des Invalides in Paris, initiated by Louis XIV in 1671. The Royal Hospital Chelsea was completed in 1692, by March the full complement of 476 Chelsea Pensioners were in residence.



As well as living accommodation, the building contained an infirmary for the care of sick and elderly 'In Pensioners' as they became known. Over the next 330 years the infirmary and additional care accommodation was modernised but the Care Standards Act of 2000 made the 1950s building untenable.

In 2003 I was privileged to be selected as project manager by the Commissioners of the Royal Hospital for the design, construction and commissioning of a new infirmary on the site of the old one.

The brief of the Commissioners was to build the new infirmary to accommodate about 70 'In Pensioners' in self-contained suites, together with other facilities expected to give the old gentleman — and latterly ladies — the best possible recuperative and end-of-life care.

Safety and security systems with stand-by electricity generation were essential, and facilities that acknowledged the mental decline of patients were also important, together with a Chapel of Rest where private funeral services could take place.

Designs for the building were sought from eminent architects. An initial planning application was turned down by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, as its modern approach did not properly reflect the historical importance of the site and Sir Christopher Wren's building. As a result, Quinlan Terry, the UK's most distinguished classical architect, and a favourite of King Charles III, was engaged to provide what was eventually agreed to be a very acceptable but costly alternative

# manna

From the Church of England Diocese of Bath and Wells



November 2022

## A formal, and not so formal, welcome

**T**he final step of Bishop Michael becoming the 80th Bishop of Bath and Wells will take place when he is installed at a service at Wells Cathedral on Saturday, 12 November.

While Bishop Michael legally became Bishop of Bath and Wells in June, and has already been out and about visiting parishes and deaneries, the service in November marks his formal welcome to the diocese.

People from across Bath and Wells, many of whom have been involved in the selection and interview process, will have a role in the service. They include school children and young people, people from church communities across Bath and Wells, community and charity representatives, and local leaders of other faiths.

On the morning of the service, which will take place at 3pm, Bishop Michael will attend morning prayer at Bath Abbey and travel back to Wells using a range of forms of transport, meeting and greeting the



The historic cope of the Bishop of Bath and Wells is being restored ahead of the installation

people of Bath and Wells along the way.

Bishop Michael says, "Before I was interviewed for the role of Bishop of Bath and Wells my wife Lizzie and I undertook a 60 mile walk around the diocese so it felt only fitting to undertake a similar pilgrimage on the morning of my installation. I hope to meet many people of Bath and Wells along the way as I travel by foot, electric bike, bus, tractor and lorry from Bath, through Peasedown St John, Chilcompton and back into Wells in time for the service."

The ticketed service will be livestreamed via [the Bath and Wells Facebook page](#) so individuals and churches across the diocese and beyond can share in the occasion ■

# News in brief

## Learning lessons of the past

The Church of England has published the findings of the national safeguarding [Past Cases Review 2 \(PCR2\)](#). The Diocese of Bath and Wells, along with dioceses across the country, has shared a [summary of its report](#). Bath and Wells has already started to action the recommendations in the report submitted by its independent reviewers and continues to strive to be a safer church for all ■



## Church volunteers transform charity garden

Volunteers from St Francis' Church, Keynsham spent a day refurbishing the overgrown RICE Centre garden, to make it a more spacious and attractive relaxation space for patients, families and staff to enjoy. Local charity RICE (the Research Institute for the Care of Older People) has been providing support for the past six years to a member of St Francis' Church who has dementia ■

## Follow the star this Christmas

The Church of England's 'Follow the Star – The Great Invitation' campaign for Christmas 2022 encourages all our churches and all our churchgoers to invite their neighbours and their communities to an in person gathering this Christmastime where they can hear the Christmas story and



be welcomed into the love of Jesus. There are resources for churches to use where they are, and also 12 daily reflections, available to access in a range of ways, from Christmas Eve. Find out more at [churchofengland.org/advent-and-christmas-resources](http://churchofengland.org/advent-and-christmas-resources) ■



# Called to walk the way of the cross

**The Rt Revd Michael Beasley, Bishop of Bath and Wells**

**A**s I prepare to be installed as the 80th Bishop of Bath and Wells on 12 November, I have been reading and re-reading the charge given to me by the Archbishop of Canterbury when I was legally confirmed as bishop back in June. The charge can be found on the [diocesan website](#). Please do take a look at what it says.

The charge is terrifying. It calls me to walk the way of the cross. It urges me to rely not on my own strength, but on that provided by the Lord. The charge asks me to 'speak out on behalf of the voiceless, and for the rights of all who are vulnerable' (Proverbs 3:18). It reminds me that I am to be the shepherd of the flock entrusted to me. It also includes calls to be committed to the highest standards of safeguarding and care of the environment.

Reading my charge makes me wonder whether I have been invited to impersonate the Archangel Gabriel! Thankfully it also includes words which act to make the whole thing possible. Chief among these is this phrase: I am called to 'build a

church where each stone is valued'. Drawing on the writings of the First Letter of Peter (see Chapter 2), the charge calls me to remember that I'm not doing this all alone. We are doing it all together.

I've already been discovering this as I've travelled around Somerset attending worship in different churches and meeting new clergy colleagues. The installation will see people gather from across the county, committing together to our vision of 'Living and Telling the Story of Jesus'. Undertaking that task with authenticity and integrity is the greatest charge of all. It's one that I'm looking forward to sharing with you.

Every blessing  
**Bishop Michael**



# We heat, you eat

The Benefice of Street, Walton and Compton Dundon is one of the churches living out Bishop Michael's charge, offering a warm space and food to those in need. Rector Ana Lawrence explains.



A warm welcome awaits at The Mission Church, Street

## How did 'We heat, you eat' come about?

We wanted to respond practically to the 'cost of living crisis' in our local community. 'We heat, you eat' is a great way of using our building to do just this.

## What are you offering?

Every Saturday, from 11am to 3pm, we can offer a warm and comfortable building, free wifi and parking, disabled access and easy pedestrian routes from the centre of Street.

There are comfy chairs and the space to spend time either chatting, playing games or simply to find a quiet corner to work or do homework.

## What about the 'eat' element?

We will also be offering a simple hot meal, with guests invited to pay what they can as a donation to cover costs, but there will be no obligation to pay.

## Do you have to be a church-goer to come along?

The invitation is open to everyone, not just those who go to church regularly. People can come as often as they want and are welcome to stay for as long they like; they can pop in for half an hour, or the whole afternoon if they wish.

## How do you see 'We heat, you eat' developing?

In the future we hope to be able to offer other things our guests need and want including possibly craft activities or a Saturday film.

Many churches are opening their doors for those struggling with their heating bills. [Find out more at bathandwells.org.uk/warm-spaces](https://bathandwells.org.uk/warm-spaces)

Follow us on

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 churchofengland\_somerset



DIOCESE OF  
**Bath & Wells**

Living the story. Telling the story.

**You are my Memorial – my Legacy**  
(Some thoughts on remembering)

Remember me –  
As the poppies fall on the shoulders, heads, and at the feet  
Of young and old  
All gathered for the Festival.

Remember me –  
In the music played,  
In the clapping of the audience keeping time<  
And uniforms so proudly worn.

Remember me –  
In the stories told,  
Most from the distant past, but others new,  
Each one rehearsing memories stored

Remember me –  
And if a tear should chance to flow  
Then let it flow for the world in pain,  
And dedicate yourself to peace

Remember me –  
And let the sun, moon, stars, shine bright  
To bring my love to you like the light  
That shines in the darkness all around.

*By Sam Doubtfire*

## ***With war and Remembrance in mind...***

As long as there are sovereign powers possessing great power, war is inevitable. – *Albert Einstein*

The belief in the possibility of a short decisive war appears to be one of the most ancient and dangerous of human illusions. – *Robert Lynd*

More than an end to war, we want an end to the beginnings of all wars. – *Franklin D Roosevelt*

The true soldier fights not because he hates what is in front of him, but because he loves what is behind him. – *G.K. Chesterton*

I know not with what weapons World War III will be fought, but World War IV will be fought with sticks and stones.” – *Albert Einstein*

War must be, while we defend our lives against a destroyer who would devour all; but I do not love the bright sword for its sharpness, nor the arrow for its swiftness, nor the warrior for his glory. I love only that which they defend. – *J.R.R. Tolkien, [The Two Towers](#)*





## Wonder and Worship

“I was travelling, and out early in the morning: at first there was a vast fog; but, by the time that I was seven or eight miles from home towards the coast, the sun broke out into a delicate warm day. We were then on a large heath or common, and I could discern, as the mist began to break away, great numbers of swallows (*hirundines rusticae*) clustering on the stunted shrubs and bushes, as if they had roosted there all night. As soon as the air became clear and pleasant they all were on the wing at once; and, by a placid and easy flight, proceeded on southward towards the sea”.

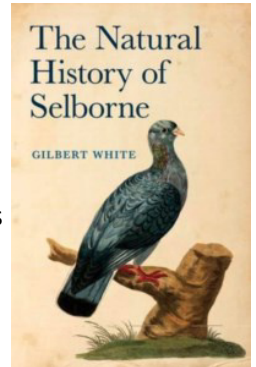
How many church leaders today have time to enjoy their surroundings? Gilbert White was a vicar who became famous for his observations about the flora and fauna of his parish. His letters about the local wildlife through the seasons were so beautifully written that they are still in print today, more than 200 years after they were first published as *The Natural History and Antiquities of Selbourne*.

White is a great example of someone who saw science and faith in harmony. He writes that he hopes his readers will be inspired to “pay a more ready attention to the wonders of the Creation”. His stories are often so vivid that he gets away with packing in quite a bit of scientific detail, painting a more accurate picture of the wonderful events he observed as he travelled around the countryside. White’s book is one of the classics of nature writing, and there’s even an apocryphal story online that this is one of the most printed books in the country, after the Bible and Shakespeare.

White may have been one of those people with a capacity for endless activity, or perhaps he took rather more care over natural history than his vocation. Either way, I do think that anyone - from the parish priest to the youngest member of the congregation - could learn from his appreciation of creation. It is well worth spending ten minutes every now and again staring into a bush, pond or tree - especially in winter when it’s easy to hurry indoors and put the kettle on. Experiencing wildlife first-hand is wonderful fuel for our worship of God and care for His creation. As Psalm 111 says, “Great are the works of the Lord; they are pondered by all who delight in them” (NIV).

\*(White’s book can be downloaded free at <http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/1408>)

*By Dr Ruth Bancewicz, who is based at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.*



# MALE VOICE CHOIR CONCERT

December 10<sup>TH</sup> 2022 at 7.30pm

St John's Church

1, The Park

Keynsham

BS31 2BL

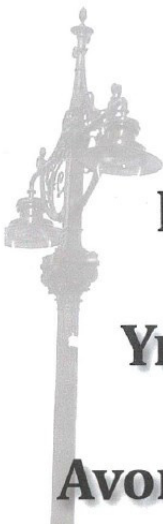
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of

Ynysowen (Aberfan District)

and

Avon and Somerset Constabulary



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ON THE NIGHT,  
AT THE DOOR**  
OR  
ST JOHN'S CHURCH  
OFFICE



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# All that Glitters

is certainly not Gold for the environment!

The majority of gift-wrapping paper cannot be recycled and thousands of tonnes end up in landfill every year. Shiny metallic paper or anything containing glitter or foil, cellophane or Sellotape will not recycle. This is true for other decorations as well.

Eco gift wrap that can be recycled is now available in many places or why not use brown paper which does recycle with the cardboard? Get creative with felt tips and crayons or natural objects and use coloured string instead of sticky tape. The yards of packing paper that comes with on line parcels can be flattened and (easily ironed) makes excellent wrapping paper!

Members of St John's Mothers' Union have agreed to try to avoid buying any gift wrappings that cannot be recycled. Please join us in thinking of the environment when you buy your festive items.



**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families

## Strap lines

- Actions speak louder than words, but not as often.
- Advice is what we ask for when we already know the answer but wish we didn't. (*Erica Jong*)
- Comment in a local newspaper: 'We are pleased to announce that the violent storm which virtually destroyed the local church last Friday did no real damage to the town.'
- Friendship happens when people know a lot about you and like you anyway.
- God isn't politically correct; he's just correct.



# Bereavement Support Keynsham

For anyone suffering bereavement in  
Keynsham and the surrounding area

Come along to a safe space to  
chat with one of our volunteers,  
share your experiences with  
others who have lost a loved  
one or simply to take time to  
enjoy a drink and biscuit

Drop in to see us at Keynsham Baptist Church Hall  
High Street Keynsham on the 4th Monday 2-4pm  
and/or the 1st Wednesday 5.30-7pm of each month.

Our service is free and is not church related

For more details email [bereavementkeynsham@gmail.com](mailto:bereavementkeynsham@gmail.com)  
or call 07776493221

## St. John's School Harvest Festival



October is the time for Harvest Festivals, when we all give thanks for God's wonderful gifts. It is always a delight to host a younger congregation than usual, as when St John's School came to church for their

Harvest Service.

Nigel's theme of using the word "Harvest" to make "have" "starve" and "share" kept his audience engaged and interested in what will be for many a rare visit to church.



### Chew Valley Choral Society

Our autumn concert includes a beautiful selection of music including

*Haydn, St Nicholas Mass*

*Pergolesi, Magnificat*

*Vaughan Williams, Three Elizabethan Part Songs  
and music by Bach, Buxtehude and Monteverdi*

**Saturday 26 November at 7.30pm  
St Andrew's Church, Chew Magna, BS40 8PW**

Tickets: £15 (£6 for children and students)  
Available through our website or on the door

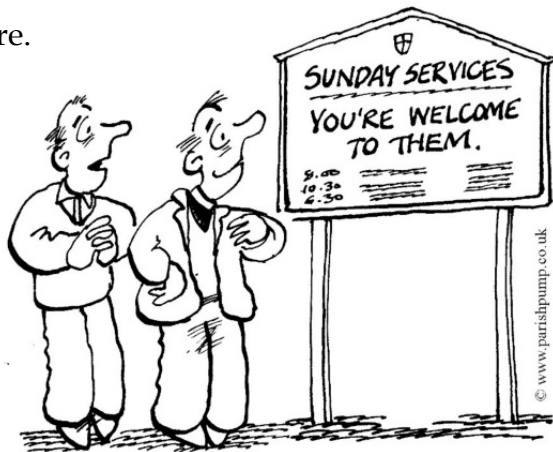
**[www.chewvalleychoral.org.uk](http://www.chewvalleychoral.org.uk)**

Virginia Hughes sent us this poem, which she wrote on 8<sup>th</sup> September on hearing of the late Queen's death.

## The Queen

We have lost our Queen today  
Her face always smiling  
A beautiful queen in every way.  
To us completely committed,  
Devoted and always serving.  
There has never been anyone like her, or any queen to replace her.  
The colours she wore- bright, cheerful so pretty  
And those HATS

So she is gone,  
But her memory lives on  
In our hearts  
In our minds for ever  
Leaving us with love  
Now in God's great care.



*...love the new notice board, Vicar..  
...just not quite so sure about the wording...*

## Thinking of Guy Fawkes

Guy Fawkes Night used to be much more popular than it is now, and many homes had bonfire parties and made 'Guys'. Until the 19th century the law even said that you had to go to church on that day for a special service, and no doubt the day ended with bonfires and celebration.

The Observance of 5th November Act 1605, also known as the Thanksgiving Act, was a response to the deliverance of King James I from the Gunpowder Plot. It required church ministers to hold thanksgiving service annually on 5<sup>th</sup> November, during which the act was to be read out loud in church; "all persons must "diligently and faithfully" attend."



The introduction to the act described the "inhuman, barbarous and cruel" terrorist plot to murder the king and his government, which was prevented by the miraculous discovery just in time. The legislation said the country should always be thankful and have a "joyful day of deliverance".

The law was repealed in 1859 by the Anniversary Days Observance Act, together with other commemorative days dating from the Seventeenth Century which were largely anti-Roman Catholic.

*David Pickup, Solicitor*

## Holding a fireworks party on Bonfire Night?

- Don't drink alcohol if setting off fireworks.
- Keep fireworks in a closed box.
- Follow the instructions on each firework.
- Light at arm's length, using a taper.
- Stand well back.
- Never go near a firework that has been lit. Even if it hasn't gone off, it could still explode.
- Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw them.
- Always supervise children around fireworks.
- Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves.
- Never give sparklers to a child under five.
- Keep pets indoors



## FARM DIARY

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

In the Field. Lots of grazing animals at the time of writing are still outside. Sheep are usually outside all winter and if housed at all then for lambing only. They have thick wool. Most grazing animals can stay outside but it depends on soil type and production required. For high performance, it is best to house stock as grass which is the main feed for the nation's animals declines in value as the autumn progresses. High performance sheep outside will often be on stubble turnips or such other crops to plug this gap before the spring. Most autumn sown crops will now be drilled. Beans are the last to go in. We used to plough them in which is quite dramatic but now drill them with our no-ploughing regime. This year some land has been ploughed to bury a bad weed burden and also to level up a field that has been in grass for many years.

**Star Gazing.** The author is indebted to Farmers Weekly. It's edition of 14th October carried several articles that are of interest to the general reader. Rothampsted Research institute is one of the world's oldest agricultural research institutes and a beacon in the research world. It has Europe's first GE wheat trials. Gene-editing (GE) is different from genetic modification (GM). GE is a matter of using the Crispr tool, essentially a molecular pair of scissors, to make changes to an organism's genome and produce desired traits. This latter is the aim of all breeding. On the other hand GM technology transfers a piece of DNA from one organism to another. These two have been confused. The holy grail for cereal breeding would provide varieties with good disease resistance, drought tolerance, the right quality characteristics and better nitrogen efficiency. At the same time, scientists at the Crop Science Centre in Cambridge had a GE barley trial in the ground this year. They were examining the signalling pathway between plants and naturally occurring mycorrhizal fungi. In legumes, this allows the plant to produce its own nitrogen. They are working towards this in barley. We have bought our nitrogen for next year's crops and it is three times what we are used to. We don't know what price we will receive for our crops using this expensive nitrogen. Such is farming with its long lead time.

*Richard Graham*

# Parish Register & Diary for November

## BAPTISMS

Date	Name	Church
2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Annabelle Jayne Parkes	St John's
	Thomas Matthew Parkes	“
	Toby Joseph Geoffrey Price	“

## DEATHS

Date of Death	Name	Age
9 <sup>th</sup> September	Joyce Lilian Liddon	86
14 <sup>th</sup> September	David Wilfred Bridges	87

Date	Time	Activity / Event	Venue
2 <sup>nd</sup>	7.30pm	Mother's Union	Parish Hall
5 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Clergy Consultation Hour	Parish Office
6 <sup>th</sup>	6pm	Commemoration Service	St John's Church
7 <sup>th</sup>	2pm	Warm Keynsham	Parish Hall
12 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Children's Society Coffee Morning	Parish Hall
13 <sup>th</sup>	9.35am	Remembrance Day Service	St John's Church
14 <sup>th</sup>	2pm	Warm Keynsham	Parish Hall
14 <sup>th</sup>	7pm	CTKS Council Meeting	Parish Hall
15 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	St John's DCC Meeting	St John's Church
16 <sup>th</sup>	7.45pm	Wives Group	Parish Hall
19 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Mothers Prayers	Upper Room
19 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Clergy Consultation Hour	Parish Office
19 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Who Let The Dads Out	Parish Hall
21 <sup>st</sup>	2pm	Warm Keynsham	Parish Hall
25 <sup>th</sup>	1pm	Trio Paradis Lunchtime Concert	Parish Hall
26 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Who Let The Dads Out	St Francis
26 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Keynsham Orchestra	St John's Church
27 <sup>th</sup>	12pm	Church Meal	Parish Hall
27 <sup>th</sup>	6pm	Impact Club	Parish Hall
27 <sup>th</sup>	6pm	Youth Group	OCT
28 <sup>th</sup>	2pm	Warm Keynsham	Parish Hall



Lift up your heads  
 Prepare for the Promised One,  
 The Promised One who is  
 Hope and Peace and Love and Joy,  
 Who lived and died and rose.

Stand, lift up your heads,  
 Worship the was, and is, and  
 is to come King.

*by Daphne Kitching*

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***CONTACT EDITORS***

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

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**Cover:**

Andrew Wyatt - Snap and Stroll

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