

A New Team Journey

Thomas
Woodhouse

Dear Friends,

As we embark on our journey through autumn, enjoying

perhaps 'St Luke's Little Summer' on the way, we prepare to engage with the cycle of our salvation: the story of what God has done for us, from Incarnation through to Resurrection and the gifting of the Holy Spirit.

It is a journey we make as individuals, as worshipping communities and as a team of church communities in a new and exciting partnership. The focus of the journey is Jesus Christ, with the desire to deepen our faith, that we might better serve the communities we are set among. It feels a God-given time for the new team ministry to be prayed into existence!

The new team ministry, formally titled 'The Benefice of Dorchester and the Winterbournes', will exist from the 6th November 2014. On that day Jean Saddington is licensed as one of our Team Vicars at a service in

Martinstown and her colleagues will receive a new license and commission. The service will focus on Jean's new ministry, while giving us the opportunity to celebrate the worshipping and praying life of nine church families.

I was born in Northamptonshire and one of our county's sons is the poet John Clare. Clare was fond of footpaths because they were 'rich and joyful to the mind: ways of walking that were also ways of thinking.' Footpaths are 'lines of communication by which the flame of civil and religious liberty is kept alive'.

The author in whose book John Clare's words are recorded is Robert MacFarlane; the book is entitled *The Old Ways*. MacFarlane himself writes 'These are the consequences of the old ways with which I feel easiest: walking as enabling sight and thoughts rather than encouraging retreat and escape; paths as offering not only means of traversing space, but also ways of feeling, being and knowing.'

We are about to embark on a new team journey, set within the worshipping and praying journey of the People of God in Dorchester and The Winterbournes. It is a journey that will take in the myriad footpaths running through Dorchester, West Stafford and Monkton, through the Valley and Compton Valence; it is a journey that will open new and exciting lines of communication; it is a journey I am thrilled to be making.

As ever,
Canon Thomas Woodhouse
Team Rector

Ann Onymus



Magazine Copy

All copy for consideration by the Editor for publication should be sent to dorchestermagazine@hotmail.co.uk or by mail to Margaret Morrissey OBE, 9 Hessary Street, Poundbury, Dorchester, DT1 3SF, to arrive not later than the 20th of the month. There are no publications in August or January.

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Dorchester Noticeboard



Mothers' Union

Visitors and newcomers welcome at all of our meetings.

Tuesday 7 October

St. Peter's MU meet at 2.15pm in the hall. Visit to Japan – a talk by June Jenkins. Details 267724.

Wednesday 8 October

Dorcas MU Bible Study group meet at 10am at 2 Colliton Walk. Fruit of the Spirit – Gentleness. 1 Thess. 2: 1-12. Details 260259.

Wednesday 22 October

Dorcas MU Bible Study group meet at 10am at 4 Kingsbere Crescent. Sowing the Future Together: Fruit of the Spirit. Galatians 5: 22-25, Luke 6: 43-45. Details 260259.

Tuesday 4 November

St. Peter's MU meet at 2.15pm in the hall. Details 267724.

THE THURSDAY GROUP

The Thursday Group will meet on 9th October in St. George's Church Hall at 2.15pm. Charge £1 which covers a cup of tea and biscuits. Everyone welcome. This meeting will include a presentation by Dorset Fire and Rescue entitled "Safety First". Come and hear how you can prevent a fire in your home.

Our programme for the remainder of the year is as follows:

13th November – "Come Back Venus - Cyprus, a Divided Island" David Lang

11th December – "Mince-pies and Carols"

For more information, contact Vernon Moffet 259755



Rowan Cottage
Activity Centre

Age UK Dorchester's Activity Centre is open Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays – 9.30 am to 3pm

We provide refreshments, a two course lunch served with tea or coffee, a selection of activities and games throughout the day – all this for just £12.50 per day!

If you would like to find out what we do or to arrange a taster visit, please call Judy on 01305 269444.

Rowan Cottage, 4 Prince of Wales Road, DT1 1PW
T: 01305 269444 – E: info@ageukdorchester.org.uk
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St. Mary's Church



Club

4th October 2014 To book a place please call: 01305 767944

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THE MONDAY CLUB

The Monday Club will meet in St Mary's hall on 20th October from 2.30 to 4 p.m. Jill Minchin will talk about "Holidays in the sun".

17th November – "Inner Sanctums" – Rob Curtis

8th December – Christmas Lunch

Dorset Meditators

invite you to join them on a day of reflection
LIVING PRAYER – that we may live life to the full
Led by EILEEN McDADE

Saturday 11th October – 10am–4pm
at the Dorford Centre

For more details contact Maggie Hooper 07720056310 or Rosemary Bassett 262615

Dorchester Noticeboard

Dorchester and District Bible Society Action Group
Invite you to their
United Service for Bible Sunday
Sunday 12th October – 6.30pm
at Dorchester Baptist Church
Guest Speaker – Revd Canon Thomas Woodhouse

Growth Out Of Discussion
THEOLOGY Discussion Group – All welcome
St Peter's Church Hall

Thursday 16th October – 7pm (finishing no later than 9pm, inc refreshment break)

Topic: Gaugin's Questions – from a paper by Richard Holloway to be led by Keith Howat.

Please contact vickythurtell@gmail.com (268767) if you would like an advance copy of the paper.

Monday 17th November – 7pm (as above)

Book discussion: Rowan Williams' 'Being Christian' – available on Amazon or from Sarum College Bookshop by post/Waterstones.

No December meeting – look out for the Advent programme on the study of Mark's Gospel to be led by David Bowen.

Planning for 2015: Revd Canon Michael Insley on **Atonement; Book discussion; and more... tba.**
If you are interested in presenting a topic/idea/paper (original or otherwise) please contact Vicky (details above)

The next 'LADIES BREAKFAST' will be held at Carluccio's in Dorchester at 9am on Saturday 18th October.

Do come and enjoy fellowship a laugh and a chat. To help the staff and to ensure we do not have to wait to be served, if you wish you can pre-order from Margaret Morrisey at St Mary's, Dorothy Maggs at St George's or Maureen Shaw at St Peter's who have a copy of the breakfast menu.

A Champagne Breakfast is to be held at the 'Wise Man Inn' at West Stafford on Saturday 13th December. If you would like to attend would you please get in touch with me on 261771 by 1st November as these Champagne Breakfasts get booked up very quickly.

Hang On In There
Sharing & caring group for parents with challenging teenagers – meets fortnightly.
Please email hang.on.in.there@yahoo.com for more info.

The Ecology Group invite you to a Bring and Share meal where Martyn Goss, founder of the Devon Green Churches Group, will speak about CLIMATE IN CRISIS, a challenge to the Churches. It will take place on Tuesday 21 October at 7pm at St. George's Hall. It is free but please bring a savoury or sweet dish to share.

Tickets available from the following: St Mary's – John and Mary Foskett 264955, St Peter's – Tom Goss 215150, St. George's – Bill North 264412. Numbers are limited so get your tickets now!

The Children's Society has tickets for a Ben Waters concert (with special guests) to be held on Saturday 25th October. All proceeds from the concert are going to charity, one of the charities being The Children's Society. The concert is to be held in Weymouth Pavilion from 7.30 – 11p.m. Ben Waters is a boogie blues and rock and roll piano player who lives locally when not touring the world. If anyone wishes to buy or reserve tickets which cost £20 each please contact Dorothy Maggs (01305 262436).

"I am the Lord who heals you"
An evening with Martin Cavender & Alison Morgan
of Resource
at St Mary's Church
on Tuesday 18th November at 7.30pm
With worship, teaching and prayer.
Watch for further details.

Christmas Shopping Trip to Bath
Saturday 22nd November

Leaving St. George's Church at 8.30am and returning 6pm. Cost approximately £10 per person.
For more details and booking form please contact elizabethclark40@yahoo.co.uk or leave message on 250927.

St George's Church – Christmas Tree Festival
5th, 6th, 7th and 8th December

St George's Church Events Committee is running a Christmas Tree Festival on 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th December. We hope that your Group/Family can join us in this and decorate a tree. This year the theme is "Celebrations".

For more information and to return your form please contact Maggie Carter, 11 South Walks Road, Tel: 01305 266072 (after 6pm) or email: m.c.carter@dorsetcc.gov.uk

ST GEORGE'S FORDINGTON

MESSENGER



Church Correspondent: Revd Fiona Hall 262394

HAVE A GO at St. George's

On Saturday 11th October from 10-4pm St. George's Church will be holding taster sessions for bell ringing, organ playing, flower arranging, spinning, cake decorating, Dorset button making, messy Church for the younger members or guided tours of the Church. If you fancy signing up for any of the above please e-mail elizabethclark40@yahoo.co.uk for more details. There may be a nominal fee for some activities.

The grand finale for this day will be a Songs of Praise at 6.30pm in aid of the Friendship Club. This will be presented by Hugh Ashley (former presenter of Radio Solent). A truly uplifting evening which is not to be missed. All are very welcome.

Pain, Pain, Go Away

Helen
Harley

When we think of St Paul we probably think of his writing, his missionary work, his martyrdom and his travels. His 'call' to mission to the Gentiles on the road to Damascus is a story that many can identify with.

We know that Paul had a thorn in his side which troubled him greatly, and there are hints in the epistles that he was laid low by it at times. We know that he begged God to take the thorn away, and we know that God refused him.

Everyone experiences physical pain, when recovering from injury or operation, but pain that does not improve and has no point to it, is hard to understand, and harder still to accept. Chronic pain is like a foreign country where you

don't know how any thing works, the customs or how to speak the language. There are brutal truths to be discovered but also precious treasures – the joys that grow out of the necessity of living mindfully and in the moment.

Pain has an innate intelligence that never behaves the same two days running. Some days it hurts more, but bothers you less, and other days the volume of the pain is lower, but like Paul's thorn feels as if it has hooked itself into you and you cannot think of or be, anything else.

There are kindly meant comments and amateur medical advice, that make you feel as if you are reduced only to the sum of your symptoms, and you are faced with explaining the inexplicable again and again. This is pain of a different kind.

So how can we react when someone is ill and not getting better? To be alongside anyone in their troubles without trying to mend or pretend is the hardest work we can do as Christians, but surely it is the most appreciated.

Over time there comes the sight of a path nestling between denying the pain and wallowing in it. This I believe is the space for God's Grace. Suffering may render some people into gentler, kinder versions of themselves..but if you are me or Paul then you are just getting through each day, looking for God's purpose for your life... and if you seem very VERY quiet sometimes, it is just the thorn... telling you to listen rather than to talk.

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For those yet to go on holiday...

Sent in by Brian Hellin – copy of prayer said by Captain on cruise ship at end of Sunday service:

THE TOURIST PRAYER

Heavenly Father, look down on us your humble, obedient tourist servants, who are doomed to travel this earth, taking photographs, sending postcards and buying souvenirs.

We beseech you, O Lord, to see that our plane is not delayed, our luggage is not lost and our overweight baggage goes unnoticed. Give us this day divine guidance in our selection of cabins. We pray that everything works and that the Cabin Stewards speak our language.

Lead us to good, inexpensive restaurants, where the wine is included in the price of the meal. Make the natives love us for what we are and not for what we can contribute to their worldly goods. Grant us the strength to visit the museums, cathedrals, palaces, and if we skip a historic monument to take a nap after lunch, have mercy on us for our flesh is weak.

Dear God, protect our wives from bargains they don't need or can't afford. Lead them not into temptation for they know not what they do. Almighty Father, keep our husbands from looking at foreign women and comparing them to us. Save them from making fools of themselves in nightclubs. Above all, please do not forgive them their trespasses for they know exactly what they do.

And when our voyage is over, grant us the favour of finding someone who will look at our holiday photos and listen to our stories so our lives as tourists will not have been in vain.

AMEN.



Women and Cats

I've never understood why women love cats.

Cats are independent, they don't listen, they don't come in when you call, they like to stay out all night, and when they're home they like to be left alone and sleep

In other words, every quality that women dislike in a man, they love in a cat!



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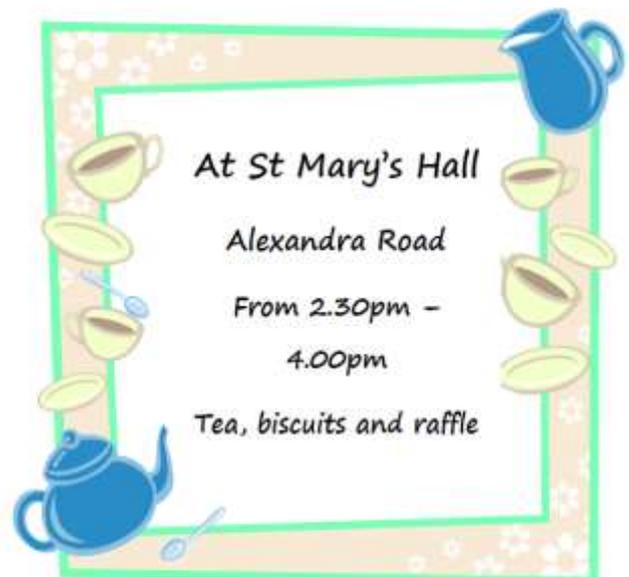
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The Monday Club

Meets on the 3rd Monday of every month



Interesting speakers – outings – Christmas Lunch

Why not join us, limited transport available

For more details phone: Rosemary 262615 or Audrey 262668

St Mary the Virgin The Open Door



Service dates for October

Sunday 5th October – Trinity 16

Harvest Festival at St Mary's

8.00am – Holy Eucharist (said)

9.45am – Holy Eucharist (sung)

6.00pm – Taize service

Sundays 12th, 19th & 26th October

8.00am – Holy Eucharist (said)

9.45am – Holy Eucharist (sung)

Morning Prayer is said on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and

Fridays at 9 o'clock with a weekday Eucharist on

Tuesdays at 9.30.

Other Events

There will be an additional meeting of **St Mary's church** council on Sunday 19th October after the 9.45 service.

Our Meditation groups meet every Wednesday at 5pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at St Mary's & also on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays (9th & 23rd October) at 7.30pm at the Quiet Space, Poundbury. For details contact Rosemary Bassett 01305 262615 or Anita Finnigan 01305 259032.

The Healing Prayer group will meet at 12, Lime Close on Tuesday 21st October at 8pm.

"I am the Lord who heals you"

An evening with Martin Cavender & Alison Morgan of ReSource at St Mary's Church on Tuesday 18th November at 7.30pm.

With worship, teaching and prayer.

Admission free – retiring collection

Martin Cavender is the Director of ReSource, Alison Morgan is a well known author and speaker. Martin and Alison work all over the country, bringing support and encouragement to local churches and regional groupings. Come and find out more about what God is doing among his people today!

Dorset Meditators

invite you to join them on a day of reflection

LIVING PRAYER – that we may live life to the full

Led by EILEEN McDADE

on Saturday 11th October –10am–4pm

at the Dorford Centre.

For more details contact Maggie Hooper 07720056310 or Rosemary Bassett 262615.

The HARVEST SUPPER is on Sunday 5th October at 7.30, after the Taize service.

The QUIZ will be on Saturday 18th October at 7 o'clock in St Mary's Hall. Teams of 6. There will be a Ploughman's Supper but please bring your own drinks. £5 a head. Team entries by Sunday 12th October please.

The Cleaning Group meets from 10am to 12 noon on 4th Thursday in each month (23rd October). Coffee and doughnuts are available as an incentive!

The Monday Club will meet in St Mary's hall on 20th October from 2.30 to 4 p.m. Jill Minchin will talk about "Holidays in the sun".

Jean's last Sunday at St Mary's will be 2nd November. She will celebrate and preach at the 9.45 service. She will be licensed to the Winterbourne parishes on Thursday 6th November at 7 o'clock in St Martin's Church.

Ministry Matters

Thomas
Woodhouse

St. Mary's Church Open

Evenings: Every Thursday evening people are free to visit the Rectory, 17a Edward Road,

Dorchester to arrange a baptism or wedding. There will be no need to make an appointment – just turn up between 6.15pm and 7.15pm. If you would like to chat with the Team Rector, Thomas Woodhouse, ring 267944.

Confirmation: if you would like to discuss the possibility of confirmation ring Thomas on 267944; no one is too old and there is some flexibility at the other end of life too!

Reflections on Riding and Striding around the Benefice

Teresa
Stewart-Sykes

What could be better than cycling around the Dorset countryside in the sunshine, enjoying the company of friends

and visiting historic churches?

So what a lovely afternoon Thomas, Jono and I enjoyed cycling around the nine churches in the Benefice! Whilst our combined ages may be close to 150 years we did not disgrace ourselves, finishing the 30 mile circuit in just under four hours.

St Mary the Virgin — continued

The purpose of our ride was not only to show support for our rural churches, but to make a pilgrimage around the benefice to mark the joining of the Winterbournes and Compton Vallence to the Dorchester team. At each church we prayed for the ministry and witness of the members of the congregation, giving thanks for their commitment and energy. Thomas concluded our prayers using the set collect for the church's saint.



Production Editor's note: What's wrong with Teresa's arm in this picture?

As we meandered our way around the Benefice I was particularly moved by the ministry of hospitality shown to us. Our rural churches are a physical reminder of God's



loving presence in our communities, but the welcome we received in the churches was a demonstration of the love we are all called show every day to strangers and visitors.

Thank you to everyone who supported us on the day and in sponsoring us. Look out for the total amount we raised in the Pews News.

YP@D Autumn Update

YP@D enjoyed a packed few months prior to the summer break. Among the highlights were a quiet day held on Ascension Day on the theme "Exploring the Ascension through Art". We started at the top of St Peter's tower and ended at St George's Hall singing Taize chants with Allen! As part of this quiet day the YP@D members created their own Ascension Day art work which was displayed in St George's and St Mary's Churches. Our summer term concluded with a beach party at which we held a short act of worship on Weymouth beach with our own seashell icon (see the picture!)



Our autumn programme focuses on the Taize Community. We will be reading and discussing the writings of Brother Roger and using Taize worship materials in our prayers at the end of our meetings. In December we hope to come to the Taize service at St Mary's.

As part of our service to the community we will be hosting a 'Quiz Aid' Evening raising money for Christian Aid, so look out for posters in your Church and come and join the fun!

We also hope to have some fun making pizzas for a Harvest Agape meal, having a night walk to Maumbury Rings on Advent Sunday and enjoying a Bible Brunch followed by a Sunday afternoon hike!

If you, or anyone you know is interested in coming along to YP@D contact Teresa on 07765930285 or just come along on a Sunday evening to St George's Hall at 7pm. We welcome any young person aged 11-18.

Sanctuary Lamp Candles

5th Given by Janet & Gerry Comley in memory of their daughter Margaret Janet Comely-Nicholls whose birthday was on 1st October

19th Given by Di House in memory of her niece Rachael whose years mind falls on the 20th October

26th Given by Di House in memory of her Mum & Dad whose years minds falls on the 25th October.

Please Don't Call Me Reverend!

Allen
Knott

I've been a Reader/ Licensed Lay Minister for 28 years. It's a most wonderful ministry but not one for the faint hearted. The problem, I think, is that some have a lack of clarity in their understanding of just what being a Licensed Lay Minister really means. This isn't surprising as, although Canon Law is quite clear, clergy in charge of Parishes have to make decisions on what an LLM in their parish should, or should not, be permitted to do. This is right and proper because these Clergy have an overall responsibility for both their parish and the individual LLM.

Being a Licensed Lay Minister or LLM means that you will have responded to a perceived calling, had it tested by the church, completed a three year training course and finally been admitted to the Office by the Bishop. It does not mean that you are a second rate minister or indeed a mini priest. I have just retired from a thirteen year term of being the Diocesan Discernment Officer for LLMs and my first task with every new enquirer was to ascertain if they really had a calling to a Ministry that is specifically Lay, or would they be better steered into exploring the possibility of being ordained. We Lay Ministers really do need to be comfortable in our being Lay. We are of the congregation but called upon to preach, teach and engage in pastoral work. We take services of the word and can assist the priest during the Eucharist. We take communion to the sick or housebound and these days we are encouraged to take on chaplaincy work and funeral services. Both I and my fellow LLMs often find that being a lay person can often be very helpful when engaged in 'outreach.'

Because we wear the regulation robes we find we get called all sorts of things. As a Police Chaplain I get called Padre

quite a lot. Time without number I have to explain that I am Mr. Knott, not Reverend, and that I do not appreciate being called Vicar or Rector. The press are the worst offenders as they seem to make their own assumptions. Mind you, I never minded being called Bishop by my colleagues when I was in the Police service because I knew that was both typical and wonderful Police humour!

You most certainly need broad shoulders if you are to be an LLM. We are sometimes ignored, sometimes forgotten, some see us as simply 'stand-ins.' What is particularly strange is that some ask us if we will ever seek promotion to the ordained ministry. Promotion! Oh dear, I find myself explaining over and over again that our ministry is just as valuable and valid as any other. It's just different. All ministries are to be encouraged and valued.



In five and a half years I shall be seventy years old; like the Clergy, at that time I shall hand in my licence and, hopefully, be given permission to officiate. When that day comes I shall no longer be part of the Ministry Team but will be available to take the odd service, or preach if asked. Now that gives you just enough time to think about becoming my replacement. I do recommend you think and pray about it. Do talk to your priest, look at the Diocesan Website or chat to an LLM that you know.

In the mean time please pray for us LLMs, recognising us for what we are, rather than what we are not. Most especially please don't make the mistake of thinking that because we wear robes and are called Ministers then we are somehow pretending to be priests.

May God bless all ministries and send the power of His Spirit so that together we may demonstrate a united church that will grow.



Christian Meditation Groups

The 3 Christian Meditation groups met together at the Quiet Space for a time of silent prayer and afterwards to enjoy a bring and share lunch. The groups meet regularly at St Mary's on Wednesdays at 5pm; the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at the Quiet Space at 7.30pm and at Frampton Village Hall also on Thursdays at 5pm. New members would be very welcome.

An Introductory 6 week course on Christian Meditation will be starting on Wednesday 22nd October from 7pm - 8pm at St Aldhelm's Church Hall, Spa Rd, Weymouth. If you are interested or would like more information please contact Anita 259032 or Rosemary 262615.

Lonely Rage

Tony
Wheeler

There are many lonely people around us. It can start when children become teenagers. People need a new reason for living. There are plenty of interests and "causes" around

which give this. But one needs trust and love. If teenage tensions have been too wounding, there may be more anger than understanding. Next comes the stage when teenagers form young families and move away, perhaps to other countries. They may visit the, by now, old people. Instead of the joy of grandchildren there are reproaches and bitterness.

Anger, you see, is progressive. You start by grumbling. If you do not correct it, you become a grumbler, and finally a grumble. Love has lost out to sin. Nobody but Our Lord can help then.

Get it right to begin with. At teenage, let your children go. Guide them still, of course, but more and more when they think they need it, less and less when you think they need it.

Try not to grieve for the joys of babyhood. Our children were never our property. Always they belonged to themselves. They were loaned to us. If you a never own them you never lose them. You still may argue a lot, but basically it is love and forgiveness all round. What joy to see them grow.

The Volunteer Centre Dorset

The Community Credit Scheme enables adults with learning disabilities to volunteer locally, with the support of volunteer buddies/mentors.

If you could offer 1 -2 hours every now and again then we would like to hear from you. We are seeking volunteer drivers or someone to be a bus buddy. People with mild learning disabilities require a little support in their volunteering opportunity and this would be matched with something that you also enjoy. If you would like to know more then please contact us on the number below for an informal chat:

Contact Siobhan Davis at the Volunteer Centre Dorset on: 01305 269214 or email s.davis@volunteeringdorset.org.uk or 07918 639014.

Visit our website to find out how you could help and a list of local businesses supporting the credit scheme. www.volunteeringdorset.org.uk



Dorchester Hosts a Bell-Ringing "Open Day"

Janet
Ranger

On Saturday 16 August Dorchester hosted the Open Day of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Ringers (SDGR); this opportunity occurs only every eight years as there are eight branches in

the guild. Twenty eight belfries in the Dorchester Branch were each open for an hour, starting with the most easterly church, St John the Baptist in Bere Regis, at 8.50am. Times were staggered by twenty minutes, the next tower at Milborne St Andrew being open at 9.10am for an hour. Bishops Caundle is the most northerly church in the branch, with Litton Cheney being westerly and Wyke Regis the most southerly. St Andrew's in West Stafford was open from 6.20pm to 7.20pm, St George's in Fordington was open from 6.40pm to 7.40pm, with St Peter's in Dorchester being the last tower of the day at 7pm to 8pm.

In the UK there are about 5,500 churches with ringable bells; similar to train spotters/bird watchers keeping a record of what they have seen, devoted ringers keep a record of where they have rung and aim to ring in as many churches as they can! As well as SDGR members taking part, there were visiting ringers from as far afield as Kent, Nottingham, Cheshire and Cambridge.

Campanologists could purchase a Day Ticket for £15 or pay £1 for each tower they rang in; all proceeds benefit the Salisbury Diocesan Bell Restoration Fund. Thanks must go to Julian & Hayley Newman (ringers at Holy Rood Church, Wool) who liaised with clergy/tower captains, and planned the route etc.; they arranged a most successful day with in excess of £900 being raised. Thanks also to the stewards in all the churches.

In May next year the Dorchester Branch are hosting the Guild AGM; although an annual event it only comes to this area every eight years.



Janet Ranger, Chairman of the Dorchester Branch of the SDGR outside St Mary the Virgin Church in Glanvilles Wootton.

ST PETER'S

High West Street · Dorchester



Vicar: The Revd Vicky Thurtell 268767
Churchwardens: Mr Brian Hellin 268844
and Mr Mike Nisbett 260983

Services – October 2014

Sundays:
9am BCP Communion
10.30am Sung Eucharist

Vicky
Thurtell

Thursdays:
10am Said Eucharist

Mondays and Thursdays:
9am Morning Prayer (15 minutes)

Thanks from September events

Dorset Historic Churches Trust 'Ride & Stride'

Thanks to all who provided hospitality on the day and to Kate Forrester who cycled 26 churches (over 40miles – on day) and raised over £300

HARVEST – thanks to all who enabled the harvest feast and festivities and for generous contributions to our Gift Day

People

Welcome back to church to Graham Cooke after a long stay in hospital; he and his family give thanks for all the prayers, visits, messages received during his illness and as he continues to recover.

Best wishes also to others as they continue to recover from illness or planned operations: Barbara F, Jane, Jules, Sheila and Debbie.

Last month there were two funerals in church and our prayers continue for *Derek Beauchamp's* family: Sara, Charlie & Emma and for *Connie Renton's* family: Judy & Anne. Thanks to all for the messages of love and support and to all who attended and contributed to the services in any way.

Upcoming diary dates

Saturday 1st November 6.30pm - Evensong for All Saints and All Souls-tide.

Sunday 9th November 9am – one service only: Eucharist for Remembrance Day (before town cenotaph service)

Sunday 23rd November 10.30am – The High Sheriff with representatives of civic and legal bodies of Dorset in attendance. All welcome to the Sung Eucharist as ever.

Sunday 30th November 6.30pm Choral Service of Darkness to Light for Advent Sunday

Saturday 6th December 10-noon Bazaar

Saturday 13th December 2pm-4pm Carols & Cake

Thursday 18th December 7.30pm Thomas Hardy School Chapel Choir – Carol Service

Sunday 21st December 6.30pm St Peter's Choral Service of Nine Lessons & Carols

Christmas Eve 11.30pm Choral Midnight Mass

Christmas Day 10am Christmas Eucharist – accessible for all ages.

From the Treasurer

Christmas Bazaar – 6th December

Please continue to save items for this event and add books and items for a gardening stall to the list. The latter can be outdoor/indoor and if you have suitable cuttings or spare bulbs these could make good Christmas presents. We would also welcome offers of help on the day, please contact Val Beavis (268756) or Beryl Shuttleworth (bshuttleworth04@aol.com) Thank you.

Wills and legacies

Please take a copy of a new leaflet (on table at the back of the church) that encourages us all to think about provision for funeral arrangements. It contains contact details if you wish to discuss any aspect or require further information

Carols & Cake

Penny
Blaby

Another fundraiser is planned for Saturday 13th December from 2pm – 4pm. This will have a Christmas theme. 'Carols & Cake'

If anyone would like to volunteer to entertain:

- Singing a favourite but maybe lesser known carol;
- Reciting a Christmas poem or reading;
- Playing Christmas music on the instrument of your choice;

Or is someone prepared to accompany any of the above?

Please get in touch with me. I can be found at the 10.30 service, by phone on 01305 753566 or email at penny.blaby@gmail.com.

It's amazing what we can do if we all work together.

Note – we welcome Penny Blaby and Jill Bryant to the verging team assisting David in services and behind the scenes...

Photos

The re-ordering under the tower is progressing well. The



*Outside Salisbury Cathedral 29th June
Alison (right) wearing her Canterbury diaconal stole – the gift from St Peter's congregation.*

Free Service for the Over 50's in Dorset



A FREE SERVICE is available to help the over 50's in Dorset to access information and improve facilities in their local area.

Local people working as Wayfinders and Champions

for the Dorset Partnership for Older People Programme (POPP) are on hand to provide help to older people.

Ellis Ford is the POPP Wayfinder for Dorchester and the surrounding villages including Charminster, Cerne Abbas and Buckland Newton amongst others and provides support to individuals or a family member or friend who needs a helping hand to find out about the services and support available in the area. Ellis always tries to find an answer, whatever the question. The team have a large list of contacts and information on a variety of topics, including: Fire Service home safety checks, health services, support for carers, home aids, home care, food, transport, benefits and social activities such as

lunch clubs.

Julian English is the POPP Champion. Julian is here to listen to older people's concerns, identify opportunities, work with local organisations and develop activities in local communities.

Successful services funded by POPP and supported by Champions include voluntary car schemes, memory cafés, exercise classes, tea dances and walking groups.

Local older people with an idea for a project, service or amenity, or a concern about a service being lost or changed, should get in touch with their local Champion.

POPP Champion is:

Julian English – 07825 206050 or Email:
Julian.english@helpandcare.org.uk

POPP Wayfinder is

Ellis Ford – 07825 264346 or Email:
ellis.ford@helpandcare.org.uk

St Andrew's Church West Stafford

Church Correspondent: Revd Jane Culliford



Dates for October

4th October	10am	Churchyard tidy up
5th October	10am	Parish Communion
12th October	10am	Morning Prayer
19th October	10am	Parish Communion
26th October	9am	Holy Communion
(Bible Sunday)	10am	Come and Worship

Ride and Stride

Thank you to Tim and Esther, the churchwardens who took part in the Ride and Stride and raised funds both for the Dorset Historic Churches Trust and St Andrew's Church. Thank you also to those who offered refreshments in the church as they welcomed cyclists and walkers from elsewhere. Thankfully there were no accidents and no punctures but maybe more visitors as a result of the piece in the Daily Telegraph the weekend before! Did anyone spot the columnist on a bike?

Farming and Harvest

Some people, it seems, choose to live in West Stafford because it is conveniently close to Dorchester for work, shopping or social activities and others settle in the village in retirement. However although few in the village are now actively engaged in farming there are still reminders of its agricultural heritage. Through the summer signs advertising the sale of land appeared in fields around the village, each field a separate lot with its acreage displayed.

All the land has now been sold and arable crops have been harvested but the signs remain as a reminder of quite how much land is used for farming so close to town.

Then in early September when the harvest was safely gathered in, the church was filled to overflowing for the funeral of Bill Osmund whose family had farmed at Staff-

ord Farm for generations. Bill was a sociable man, known to a great many people. Many farmers from neighbouring farms and from farming communities across Dorset who had enjoyed Bill's company at markets over the years came to say goodbye. But also nearly everyone from the village, who was able, attended the service, whether they had any agricultural connections and joined in singing the harvest hymn, 'Come ye thankful people come'.

Churchyard Autumn Tidy up



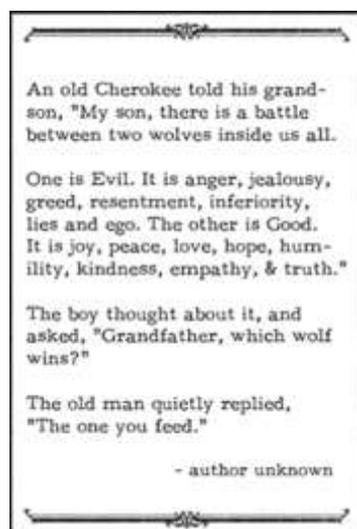
On Saturday 4th October there will be a working party to tidy up both the churchyard and the graveyard up the hill beyond the Wise Man Public House. Volunteers from across the benefice will be most welcome. Please wear old clothes and gloves and if possible bring small gardening tools.

Christmas Carol

While not wanting to write about Christmas too soon, please put this date in your diary: Saturday 6th December. On this evening, in St Andrew's Church, David Bowen will be reading Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol. The church will be lit by flickering candles to create the right atmosphere for such a tale. Further details next month.

Meriel Oliver

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Meriel Oliver wife of John Oliver who was Rector of West Stafford in 1980's until 1990 before he went on to become Bishop of Hereford. Many in the village have fond memories of John and Meriel. There will be a memorial service in Hereford Cathedral on 27th November.



St Simon & St Jude

Winterborne Monkton

Church Correspondent: Ursula Norman



The Great War And The Two Missing Elworthy Uncles

Celia
Robertson

Prompted by Margaret's very interesting article about the uncle she never knew, Ursula and I felt it might be of interest to write about

our two uncles whom we never knew.

In Hendon St Mary Parish Church one of the three Great War Memorial windows, designed by master glass painter Arthur Louis Moore a former member of the congregation, was given by the Elworthy family in memory of their two sons (our uncles) who both died in the Great War. It was dedicated in 1920 to Lt. Edward Pearce Elworthy (Royal Engineers) killed in action at Anafarta, Gallipoli, Aug 9th 1915, and Lt. Thomas Elworthy (King's own Royal Lancasters) killed at Roeux May 3rd 1917: they were both aged 24 when they died. We have a slightly blurred picture of the window, the writing on which the Archdeacon helped us to interpret, as his previous Parish before he came here was indeed Hendon. There is also a plaque below in memory of their Father Robert Pearce Elworthy, died in 1925.

From letters written to our Grandfather in 1915, we know that when Edward was first reported missing, a telegram was received: "a brother officer writes describing Edward's part in action very favourably believes wounded and prisoner". Subsequent searches of lists of prisoners held by the Turks however did not reveal his name among them. We must assume he was killed in the terrible fires that engulfed the fighting, and his body was never found. At

the time he joined up, he was already working in the Omsk branch of the family business which made much-needed agricultural machinery for Russia and some for export, (head-quarters at Elizabethgrad, now Kirovograd in Ukraine). The business of course, plus the farm outside Elizabethgrad, was taken over by the Bolsheviks, and never returned to the family. During the war, they were instructed to make shell cases, so the agricultural side became very secondary.

We have many pre-war pictures of the factory and its workers, and I with other members of the family went out to visit in 2003. The house is now a museum to the history of the business (for which the Bolsheviks had tried to take the credit), and the factory was making refrigerator casings and extruded plastics. Our grandfather was a great philanthropist believing in re-investing profits back into the local economy; he built for the town a theatre, a school and a library. He gave a threshing machine as a wedding present to his younger brother William Elworthy, who came to farm at Monkton in 1901, and which our father was still using until he bought his first combine after the second great war. Both William and his nephew, our father William Ralph, were churchwardens for many years in this Parish.

Uncle Tom, killed in France, was found in a cottage where he had been taken, wounded, and had died there. He is buried in the war cemetery called Brown's Copse.

Cold Calling

Why is it that sales representatives always ring just as you sit down to eat or get in the bath? Is there anything you can do to try to stop it?

It's not illegal to cold call either in person or by phone in itself, unless you have already told the business that you do not wish to be contacted by them.

If they are contacting you by telephone then caller display on your phone can help; if you don't recognise the number, don't answer it. But what if friends and family have withheld numbers – you don't want to miss their calls.

We recommend registering your telephone number with the Telephone Preference Service (TPS). This is a free 'opt out' service which records your preference not to



receive unsolicited sales or marketing calls from UK based companies. Once registered, report any persistent callers to the TPS – you'll need to know what company they have called from and when they called. UK companies that persist in calling TPS registered telephone numbers can face large fines. A local company was recently fined £37,992.00 following action taken by Trading Standards for ignoring residents' wishes not to call them.

The Telephone Preference Service can be contacted on 0845 070 0707 or www.tpsonline.org.uk.

To request a doorcard or report a business that persistently cold calls contact Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 03454 04 05 06



CHURCHES TOGETHER DORCHESTER

Compiled by
Val Potter
264416



Ringling the Gardens

Peals of hand bells, children singing, the glorious sound of the brass band, and fun struggling to make doves out of paper. We

were gathered in the Borough Gardens on 20th September for International World Day of Peace to show our commitment to peace in our world. The Mayor, Peter Mann, opened the event, drawing attention to the beautiful harmony of the richly varied plants and trees in the gardens and expressing the hope that we, as different people and nations in our world, could find ways to live together in the same beautiful harmony. The Town Crier, Alistair Chisholm, ensured that everyone heard that message through his specially composed 'cry'. At noon we made a circle around the bandstand and in a deep shared silence committed ourselves to the search for the elusive peace that the world so desperately needs. We tied ribbons (biodegradable) around the Amnesty tree in the gardens as a mark for others to ponder and share that hope.



Creation in Crisis – A Challenge for the Churches
What has the climate and green energy got to do with us as Christians? We may agree that we need to look after our world's resources but this may be quite well down our list of priorities. At the bring and share meal on 21st October in St George's hall we will hear from our speaker that justice, peace and the integrity of creation all belong together in our Mission from God in and for our world. Martyn Goss is the Director of Church and Society in the Diocese of Exeter, who helped to set up Devon Churches' Green Action, got solar panels installed on ancient church roofs and had so much to share that the Diocese now has a separate website for all the ecology ideas and resources: Exeter Shrinking the Footprint – www.exeterstf.org.uk. To make sure of your place at this meal ask your church representative or the parish office for your FREE ticket now! St Peter's: Tom Goss, 215150; St Mary's: Mary and John Foskett: 264955; St George's: Bill North, 264412

Your Faith, Your Finance

A workshop to explore ethical and spiritual issues around money to help churches and individuals to make more informed ethical decisions. On Saturday 11th October Alison Prout, who works for Quakers at national level, will be in Dorchester and is offering the workshop to anyone from the local churches. YFYF is an initiative of the Ecumenical Council for Corporate Responsibility and Quaker Peace and Social Witness. Book with Sally Cooke on 01305 267758. www.yourfaithyourfinance.org

New Dimensions of Mission Together

Evangelism; Pastoral care; Social action; Schools; Social Justice – **they all belong together for mission and can't be separated.** Revd Steve Chalke, founder of the Oasis Trust, is not afraid of controversy as he seeks to reach out to serve some of the most deprived neighbourhoods across the country. He is currently committed to the campaign against human trafficking and will speak about that as well.

We have the rare opportunity to hear and share Steve's distinctive approach to mission, on Saturday 25th October 10.00am – 4.00pm, at St Nicholas Church Centre, Corfe Mullen. The Forum is organised by Churches Together in Dorset with the current Chair, Bishop Graham Kings. Cost: £6.00 (including refreshments and lunch). Booking is essential, please contact: sherborne.office@salisbury.anglican.org or phone 01202 659 427.

The Quiet Space

We need a new voluntary warden to take up the role this autumn when Alan Murray steps down. The role involves the care and oversight of the premises and takes about 2 hours a week. If you are interested, or know of anyone who may be suited to this role please contact office@thequietspacedorchester.org

We took the updated and refreshed display boards about the Quiet Space to the Dorset Show Churches Together tent. We are keen to see them in our churches to show people what the Quiet Space offers and we will be taking them around the churches for a couple of weeks in each one.

Farewell Catherine

Catherine Dearlove, minister of the River of Life Church, (which now uses St Peter's Church Hall for its worship), will be leaving this month, to begin her new life and ministry in a church in California. We wish her well and thank her for all that she has contributed to the life and witness of the churches in the town, particularly in the past 2 years as Chair of Churches Together in the Dorchester Area. Her energy and commitment to our shared witness and to issues of social justice have challenged and inspired us. So many wanted to attend her farewell service that it will be held in the Town Hall (upstairs in the Corn Exchange) on Saturday 25th October, at 2.00pm. If you would like to attend please let them know as numbers help for the refreshments. board@river-of-life.org.uk.

“Everything’s good in America!”

Jean
Lang

Ifemula is Nigerian but has for the last 13 years lived in the United States. She holds a fellowship at Princetown University granted to her on the strength of an anonymous blog that she has been writing “Raceteenth or Various observations about American Blacks (those formerly known as Negroes) by a Non-American Black”. At the start of this, Chimamnda Ngozi Adichie’s third novel, Ifemula has just decided to return to Nigeria. The novel tells the story in flash backs of her growing up in Lagos and her first love affair with Obinze, the life of her parents and Nigerian trained Doctor Aunt, her decision to complete her education in America and Obinze’s brief stay in the UK (where he remains illegally after the expiry of his three months visitor’s visa), Ifemula’s two sustained affairs first with a white cousin of her employer and then with Blaine a black American and finally her re-entrance into Nigerian life as an Americanah.

The novel is very good. It is well written and plotted. The basic love story between Ifemula and Obinze is the structure on which hangs firstly a critic of the life of a Black non-American in the United States. Ifemula’s blog is used to show just how racist a society the United States still is – she writes “Dear Non-American Black when you make the choice to come to America, you become Black. Stop saying I’m Jamaican, I’m Ghanaian – America doesn’t care”. She is fascinated by the refusal to use certain words as racist while the society in which the words are banned is still predicated on race. In a class discussion she sides with a Kenyan against the Black Americans over the use of “Nigger” on the basis that the word existed and was used “that it’s like being in denial—hiding it doesn’t make it go away”.

She illustrates what compromises Black Americans make to live up to the White American stereotype of the right kind of black. The choice that Black women make to straighten their hair, (Ifemula’s visit to a hair salon to have her hair braided before her return to Nigeria starts

the novel), the importance of being forgiving not angry about racism, the acceptance that diversity to a White American means less than 10% black in a neighbourhood! The book also paints an unsparing picture of life in Lagos, its political uncertainty, the strikes which lead to weeks at University without electricity or lectures, where the only way to make money is to be in the pocket of some-one with more money. A Nigeria which for all its uncollected rubbish, its dirt and corruption attracts its nationals back to the sun, the heat and the pepper soup!

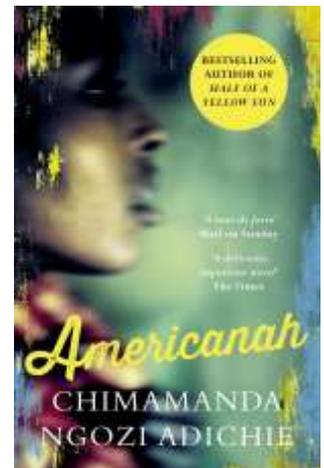
England is briefly considered through the eyes of Obinze, he can only get a job with a national insurance number and he has to pay 35% of his earnings to the Nigerian who supplies the fake card. Two Angolans set up an arranged marriage for him on payment of £2,000 but at the registry office he is arrested by Home Office officials and deported. The English with whom he works in the months before the wedding are supportive and kind, and one of them, Nigel, later becomes Obinze’s English General Manager a necessary employee in any Nigerian expanding business!

Although Adiche writes passionately about the societies she portrays she is firstly a story teller and while exploring different kinds of oppression, the place of gender and the idea of home she tells a strong story with a “heroine” and “hero” who are both totally believable and whose romantic love are at the core of this very readable novel.

“Americanah”

By Chimamanda
Ngozi Adichie

Fourth Estate



Editor’s Comment

Revd Canon Jean Coates took a beautiful Harvest Service at the Dorset County Show. One of the things Jean said has been in my mind since. She said the farmers always consider the show “the last hurrah of summer”.

Sure enough over the following week the mornings became misty and everywhere tinged with autumn. With lots to look forward to one cannot help feeling sad for the lost days of summer – each one becoming a more precious memory as one grows older.