

# Trinity



Jo Lacy-Smith

I am writing this between Pentecost and Trinity Sunday, so the Holy Spirit is very present. I believe the purpose of the Holy Spirit is to enable us to become more Christ-like, to enable

that Christ part of us all to grow and become our dominant aspect; or in the words of Ezekiel:

*'I shall pour clean water over you and you will be cleansed; I shall cleanse you of all your filth and of foul idols. I shall give you a new heart, and put a new spirit in you; I shall remove the heart of stone from you and give you a heart of flesh instead.'*  
(Ezekiel 36:25-26)

If you are anything like me the Holy Spirit will have her work cut out! So how does she do this? I think she

provides opportunities in our lives where we have falls, choices, obstructions put in our way, delightful surprises, whatever they are they will be events we have not planned; when suddenly we realise that the control we think we have of our lives is an illusion. Through these incidences we will have the opportunity to change, to grow and develop. I recommend a very good book about this aspect of our spiritual journey, *Falling Upwards* by Richard Rhor.

So if this is the work of the Holy Spirit, where does this leave the Trinity? Jim Cotter refers to the Trinity as Lifegiver, Painbearer, Lovemaker: God is the source of life, and the ground of our being, Christ walks alongside us with our joys and sorrows; in His light and love we can reflect on our behaviour, thoughts, feelings that these unplanned occurrences in our lives are showing us. And as we hang our heads and ask for forgiveness He will love us through and through and pour clean water over us and turn our hearts from that of stone to flesh. This is just one way of experiencing the Community of the Holy Trinity that surrounds us. Amen.

*Image: Eugenio Hansen / Wikimedia.org*

## Tony Wheeler is 90 YEARS OLD

In mid August, if God wills, I shall be 90 years old. How astonishing. Is this an occasion for congratulating me? I wouldn't have thought so. All I have had to do is to hang about, and the magic birthday has happened of itself. However my friends and relations insist that SOMETHING MUST BE DONE. That is so kind and loving of them.

Here is the something. I would like to thank my good friends for the joy they have given me, and for not murdering me. I am sure they must have wanted to at times. I would like to thank God most of all. Not only has he preserved my life, but actually wanted me to be a priest – a truly astonishing privilege.

The way to say "Thank you" to God is at the Eucharist".

Which church? I appear to belong to two, St Peter's and St Mary's. No problem. I am allowed to thank God at two Eucharists. St Mary's on 18<sup>th</sup> August at 9.45am. St Peter's on 25<sup>th</sup> August at 10.30am. As is usual in such occasions there will be refreshments, to which you are cordially invited. (Come to both if you like). *Tony Wheeler*



*Tony Wheeler in the flesh, and as drawn by his 13-year old great-niece Kitty – a talented lass!*

### Editor

Margaret Morrissey OBE  
9 Hessary Street, Poundbury  
Dorchester DT1 3SF  
01305 250366  
dorchestermagazine@hotmail.co.uk

### Advertising Manager

Liz Green  
7 Sydenham Way,  
Dorchester DT1 1DN  
01305 269610  
greenliz@hotmail.co.uk

# ST GEORGE'S FORDINGTON

# MESSENGER

Church Correspondent: Margaret Morrissey 250366



## The Children Who Fought Hitler

Margaret  
Morrissey

Ypres, centre of the First World War, was once home to a thriving British community that played an heroic role in the Second World War.

Expatriate children grew multilingual but intensely proud of their roots. One of these children was the aunt of Ron Huxley. Ron and his wife Dorothy are part of St George's Church – strangely, the church in Ypres where his aunt went to Sunday School was also called St George's.



The book "The Children Who Fought Hitler" recalls that on Armistice day, British pilgrims would march from the church to the war graves. When the invasion came in 1940, the children of the memorial school, including Ron's aunt Lily Wilkins, were uniquely prepared to fight in occupied territory. Still in their teens, some risked capture, torture and death in patriotic intelligence operations. Needless to say Ron and Dorothy are immensely proud of Lily. Written by Sue Elliott with James Fox, who was a pupil at the school, it is their story. Publisher John Murray.

## Altar Flowers Last Month

Altar flowers given by:  
Win Thomasson for her for her husband Trevor on his birthday, 2nd May  
Francis Brooks for her husband Hugh on his birthday, 8th May  
Ann Arnold for her husband John on his birthday.

A Bishop was astonished to hear little Mary say that a person must be brave these days to go to church. Why do you say that he asked? Well I heard my Uncle tell my Aunt last Sunday that there was a Cannon in the pulpit, the choir murdered the anthem and the organist drowned the choir.

## Times They Are a Changing

Driving into town the other morning I asked Frank, just 4, if we should sing some nursery rhymes. He thought about it for a minute and said, no thank you Grandma I will be your Sat Nav – now at his age his sisters and brother would have not even known what such a thing was. He then proceeded to mimic a machine, "in a minute turn left, go straight on, turn right and right again..."

What was really scary was that he was absolutely correct with every direction he gave me. What is happening to our little ones? I can hear my mother speaking when I say these things. Every generation has to cope with change, but surely there will never be such a swift and enormous change again. Still prefer Humpty Dumpty myself.

To top this when we got home he asked if he could use my computer! Yes, says Grandma, I will switch it on and get your Cbeebies games for you. It's all right, he says, I can do it, and he did, and after checking what he was doing I left him for a few minutes. Shortly after he came down stairs, thankfully to play with his cars. When I checked he had logged off and closed down – now have you any idea how long it took me to learn all this? and he is 4...



## Man, 78, receives medal he won when he was a Boy in the Royal Navy

Rosemary Skevington's husband, always known as Skev, told her that during his time in the Navy, there didn't seem to be any particular strife in the world where he was on a ship, so he didn't have any medals to wear when they went to Navy reunions, etc.

Then a friend gave them the address of the official medal office. So before Christmas they wrote to this place, listing the ships and the years where and when he had served her Majesty. About six weeks after Christmas, a small packet came through the post, containing a medal, with his name on it and a "B" after his name. The B meant that he had won this medal whilst he was still a Boy (under eighteen). It also is marked with the words Suez Zone.



Skev entered the Navy when he was fifteen, and after his first four weeks in HMS St Vincent at Gosport, was among several boys who were transferred to HMS Ganges, another Boys Shore Establishment situated on the Suffolk coast, not far from Ipswich. There he was trained as a Communicator, hearing the Morse through earphones and simultaneously typing it down.

After training for fifteen months, he was drafted on to HMS St James, a battle class destroyer. HMS St James was one of the British ships in the Suez area during the lead up to the Suez Crisis. Skev remembers that the ship was loaded with bottles of beer, beer in every space, and the beer was to be delivered to an British Army Camp, which was situated up an offshoot of the main canal, and that the ship had to pass under an Egyptian fort, perched on the top of a hill, to get to the Camp.

The Captain called for the ship to be at "battle stations". It was all closed up, ready, but not a man showing, except on the open bridge, where the Skipper, First Officer, a

Yeoman and young Skev, as the radio man on duty, were in full view of anyone wanting to take a pop shot at the ship. Skev says the fort was so close on the hill that they could have rolled any shells down on to the ship. The channel was very narrow and that there was no chance of turning round. It was all fairly nerve racking at the time, and all for the sake of 12000 bottles of beer for the Army! Or was it just that the "powers that be" wanted to test if the Egyptians would open fire on a Royal Navy Battle Class Destroyer?

Skev is proud of his medal, particularly as he was only a Boy when he won it.

A church had a man in the choir who could not sing. Several people hinted to him that he could serve in other places, but he continued in the choir. The choir director became desperate and went to the vicar. "You have got to get that man out of the choir – other members are leaving."

So the vicar went to the man and suggested he leave the choir. "Why should I get out?" he asked.

The vicar gently explained that people had said the man could not sing. "That's nothing," the man replied. "Fifty people have told me that you can't preach!"



# St Mary the Virgin The Open Door



Church Correspondents: Rosemary Bassett & Robert Potter

## Services This Month

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity

8am – Mass

9.45am – Sung Eucharist

6.00pm – Taize service

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Trinity

8am – Mass

9.45am – Sung Eucharist – Preacher will be Rev John Foscett

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Trinity

8am – Mass

9.45am – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

8am – Mass

9.45am – Sung Eucharist

2.00pm – Baptism

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June – St Peter

8am – Mass

9.45am – Sung Eucharist

6.00pm – Healing Service.

The Contemplative prayer group will meet each Wednesday at 5pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and at the Quiet Space at 7.30pm on 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> June

Weekday Mass on Tuesdays at 9.30am

## Social Events Coming Up

Sunday 2nd June

St Mary's Congregation Lunch

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June

A concert by the Encore Choir at 7.30 in the church, in aid of St Mary's. Tickets cost £5

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June

Eco-lunch in the hall.

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July

Tony Holt will talk about his new books and share a wealth of anecdotes about life on board an aircraft carrier and in London clubs, telling us something about what the great and the good get up to. It should be an entertaining evening with plenty of laughs.

A Meditative Communion with Prayers for Wholeness and Healing will be held at St Mary's on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June at 6.00pm.

You are invited to this wholeness and healing service at St Mary's Church where there will be an opportunity for the laying on of hands with prayers and anointing during this Meditative Communion.

## Appointment of a new rector

On June 3<sup>rd</sup> the candidates selected for interview will be taken round the benefice for a 'familiarisation day' and some of St Mary's congregation will be involved in this. Members of the church council have been invited to meet the candidates socially on that day, either for lunch or for supper.

On June 4<sup>th</sup> the formal interviews take place.

## Bluebells

Robert  
Potter

Why are bluebells so important? Is it because they are the highspot of the great burst of new life which is Spring? Is it the haze of blue (seemingly impossible to reproduce in photographs) which

contrasts with the new green of the tree canopy above and around them? Is it their sweet scent on a calm day? Whatever it is, they attract visitors to the woods where they grow in a similar way that snowdrops attract visitors to other woods in February.

Ascension Day (at least the morning of that day) was perfect, although a little breezy. I went in search of bluebells, following the bridleway through Yellowham Wood up to the ridgeway. The beech trees were in that early bright green, stitchwort, campions and anemones edged the track and bluebells carpeted the floor of the woods. It's a sight I look forward to every year and stopping to admire them provides me with an excuse when I get out of breath going up the hill!

Further on, blackthorn lingered in the hedgerow. The views northwards were clear, showing the gently rolling hills of Dorset at their best. Returning through Thorncombe woods there was that other lovely patch of bluebells between Hardy's cottage and the Puddletown

# St Mary the Virgin



road, this time under the tall slender trunks of sycamore trees, the early leaves of which formed dappled shade on the haze of blue.

Spring came all of a rush this year after the long drawn-out winter so hedges and trees became green in a matter of days and the bluebells, too, seem to have gone from early leaf to full flower in a couple of weeks. Like everything in the natural calendar the sight & scent of bluebells comes only once a year. Miss it and you have to wait for 12 months and as you get older you can't afford to do that too often, a warning borrowed from A. E. Houseman who was writing about the transient beauty of cherry blossom "wearing white for Eastertide".

## Thank you Alan and Paddy

Adrian  
Downton

It was late. The phone rang.

Paddy explained that we had a difficult situation to overcome. Our Church had been double-booked by an

orchestra who had a rehearsal for a forthcoming concert and whose many members came from a wide area. We had planned our usual Ascension Day service and the two events clashed – same evening – same time.

It would have been so easy to cast blame and blow the difficult situation into a full scale war. However, these two saints, aided by Alan's wife, Barbara, thought carefully as to how the situation could be managed with the minimum of fuss. The Rectory, now empty, was available for our Eucharist, what a brilliant idea!

During the day chairs and tables, candles and trimmings were brought over and the large lounge was transformed into a 'house church'. The time drew near and we were apprehensive as to whether anyone would come but due to the good signposting our newly converted 'church' was

full to capacity. A moving and sensitive Mass followed, with Paddy celebrating and Alan delivering a thoughtful sermon. To conclude our worship together the haunting words of a well known Taize chant, 'Ubi Caritas' was soon taken up by all who attended, swelling into a glorious and joyous chorus.

Thank you, Alan and Paddy for turning a calamity into a moving and deeply meaningful experience. Thank you both for managing a situation with tact and thoughtfulness. A lesson in diplomacy indeed.

## St Mary's Eco Lunch

Sunday 23rd June 2013 at 12 noon

This is a 'bring and share' meal of 2 courses to be held in St Mary's Hall after the service on Sunday morning.

It is free but we ask you to bring a plate of food, savoury or sweet, which is home grown, locally grown or 'fair trade', to share with others. It should be enough for your family and to share with another person or two. Drinks, such as home made elderflower cordial, will be provided.

For further information and tickets ask John or Mary Foskett or the Social Committee, Audrey Litson, Kath Joslin, Ellie Stephens, or Joyce Potter.

## Sanctuary Lamp Candles

2nd Given by Gill and Adrian Downton in thanksgiving  
9th —  
16th Given by Cynthia Fry in thanksgiving  
23rd —  
30th —



A man, probably in a white van, knocks on your door, or says hello as you clean your car, and asks if you want to buy a quality mattress, possibly a memory foam mattress, at a cheap price. Does this sound familiar?

Nationwide, Trading Standards Services receive

reports about this sort of thing on a fairly regular basis.

In these situations it is hard to tell if the trader is trying to rip you off or if their merchandise is faulty. There have been instances of highly flammable "memory foam" mattresses, mattress toppers and pillows being sold by rogue traders in the UK, often house-to-house or through adverts in local newspapers.

**What you see isn't always what you get. The products up for sale could have been stolen, possibly failed to pass safety regulations, or are being sold for much more than they're worth. The trader often leaves no contact address or telephone number, so even though you might have thought you were getting a bargain, you would have problems if anything went wrong.**

Last year, Dorset County Council's Trading Standards Service saw a surge of 'cold-callers' selling chainsaws door to door. The chainsaws were sold at a bargain price, but lacked many safety features. Chainsaws are potentially dangerous unless used by experienced operators. Trading Standards was concerned that equipment like this had been offered for sale around Dorset without required safety warnings and user manuals with appropriate instructions for use.

Trading Standards strongly advises people not to deal with traders who call uninvited to their door.

Look out for the Buy with Confidence logo - trading standards checks traders so local people don't have to. Visit the website [www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk](http://www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk) or call the Citizens Advice helpline on 08454 04 05 06.

A Sunday School teacher began her lesson with a question, "Boys and girls, what do we know about God?" A hand shot up in the air. "He is an artist!" said the kindergarten boy.

"Really? How do you know?" the teacher asked.

"You know - Our Father, who does art in Heaven... "

People want the front of the bus, the back of the church, and the centre of attention.

## The day I met the new Archbishop of Canterbury

Janet  
Ranger

On Monday 18th March I went to Truro Cathedral to meet His Grace Justin Welby during his "Journey of Prayer", prior to his Enthronement as Archbishop three days later in

Canterbury Cathedral. Whilst there I rang the bells, and, as an icon apprentice, experienced the hallowing of an icon.

My memorable day started when I climbed the two flights of stairs to the belfry – there followed three "firsts" for me! I had never rung in a tower with twelve bells, or rung in a cathedral, nor for an archbishop. I was to ring the fifth bell, with a band of ringers whom I had never met before! The belfry is open on one side which meant that the ringers can be seen from down below within the cathedral. I must admit that when we began ringing it was with great trepidation on my part because I was feeling quite nervous. My greatest fear was that when we had finished ringing, and the instruction was given to "stand" the bell ("set" it in an upright position), I would not successfully "stand" it immediately – thus the one bell would continue ringing until I managed to do it. However, I need not have worried because all went well. I was the first to sign the Belfry Visitor Book, which I did as "Chairman of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Ringers"; their pen stopped working so I left mine as a "gift"!

The Archbishop arrived at about 10.15am, having travelled by train and been met by Bishop Tim (previously Bishop of Sherborne).

They both went "walkabout" around the city before entering the cathedral to the sound of the bells. Proceedings inside began with prayers at 10.30am, followed by hourly prayers from 11am – 3pm, with closing prayers at 3.30pm. The Archbishop led the prayers which ended with alternating traditional/modern versions of The Lord's Prayer. After the first intercession there was much laughter, and applause from all those congregated there, amid audible mutterings of "well, nobody's perfect", when he muddled the two versions half way through and "got it wrong" (his own words).

There were various Prayer Stations around the cathedral, e.g. maps of the world, prayer trees to hang messages on, a labyrinth, indoor garden area complete with birdsong. Also audio events, including a contemporary music worship, choral music by the Cathedral Boys Choir, plus a local school's band. The icon hallowing was scheduled for after the noon prayers. The process of "writing" the icon of The Virgin of Tenderness of Vladimir was begun in 2010 in a side chapel of the cathedral by Glastonbury iconographer IkonJon. When finished it remained in situ but had never been hallowed. This is a ceremony of "blessing" which involves reciting ancient 3rd Century liturgy followed by anointing the four corners with Chrism oil – a "first" for Archbishop Justin, as he had not done this before.

Before I left the cathedral to return home an unusual request was made to me. A lady asked if she could borrow the small litter bin nearby. I duly emptied the rubbish into a bigger bin in the vestry and handed it back to her. She thanked me, saying it was just in case the Archbishop wanted to join in with the last musical event of the day – the School Junk Band, complete with supermarket trolleys (hopefully "on loan"), dustbin lids, stainless steel sinks, etc.

This truly was a most memorable day – not least because the Archbishop signed a Prayer Card for my friend Liz, who is unwell at this time.

*Janet Ranger is the Chairman of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Ringers*



*Janet Ranger with the new icon and the new Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby*

# The Patrons of the Benefice and the appointment of a new Team Rector

Jill  
Minchin

Those of you who read Jane Austen will be familiar with the trials of clerical life. Her six complete novels all describe clergymen hoping for presentation to parishes so that they may marry, or

having achieved a living actively seeking a wife acceptable to their patron. Livings were in the gift of family, relatives or interested and sympathetic friends, and a man without a living was a man adrift. Patrons were essential.

Patronage in the Church of England arose from the original ownership of the land on which a church was built, often many centuries ago; the landowner provided the church building and appointed and paid a priest to officiate in it. During Norman times this gradually devolved into the right of presentation of priests to livings, known as advowson. Over many years the link between landowners and parishes has lessened and in many cases today the patrons of livings may be corporate bodies, the Crown, the bishop or the archbishop as well as many hereditary patrons with links to the land. Today, in Dorchester, the interview and appointment of the new Team Rector will be carried out by the Patronage Board, consisting of the Diocesan Bishop or his representative, the Archdeacon of Sherborne, the Rural Dean of Dorchester, the patrons of the various churches and representatives of the congregations.

The Benefice of Dorchester has a complex system of patronage due to the many changes and inclusions that have affected the original parishes here.

- Of the churches now forming the Dorchester Benefice, Fordington St George, Dorchester St Mary and West Stafford St Andrew have as their patron our Diocesan Bishop, who will be represented by the Suffragan Bishop of Sherborne, Dr Graham Kings.
- The other churches have private patrons: **Winterborne Came St Peter's patron is the Earl of Portarlington** and **Winterborne Monkton SS Simon and Jude has Mrs Ursula Norman.**
- Dorchester Holy Trinity, St Peter and All Saints has three patrons due to its amalgamated history: **All Saints' patron is the Simeon's Trust, St Peter's is the Lord Chancellor** and Holy Trinity has the Guardians of the Free School (known as the Feoffees).
- However, the Lord Chancellor works by different rules and does not take part in the Patronage Board. He reserves to himself the right to work alone and to appoint every third Team Rector of Dorchester and so, because he was the patron of Philip Lambert (the Team Rector before Harold Stephens), his next involvement with the Benefice of Dorchester will be the appointment after the one now in progress.

Have I lost you yet?

Although parish laity now have representation on appointment boards, there have been suggestions that private patronage should be passed to Diocesan bishops. In the opinion of many, existing private patronage brings independence to the process and provides some protection from what has been described as overbearing episcopal power. Now that churchwardens' terms are limited to 6 years, many will only take part in one Rectorial appointment, and the presence of independent patrons enables continuity for a Parish/Benefice over many years.

We are particularly blessed in Dorchester that two of our private patrons are fully involved in our Christian community: all the Feoffees are local residents and active church members, and Mrs Norman lives and works in and fully supports her parish of Winterborne Monkton and the wider Benefice. Patrons such as these will enable the appointment process to take account not only of our church needs but also of our wider community, and with wisdom will enable the appointment of a Team Rector who will unite the Benefice and take it forward to the glory of God.

## JOB VACANCY

Ecumenical Development Officer for  
Churches Together in Dorset



Following the retirement of the previous post-holder we are looking for someone who:

- \* Is passionate about mission and service alongside Christians from other traditions;
- \* Will encourage, inspire and support local churches to develop new and exciting ways of building relationships and engaging in mission;
- \* Is confident working in partnership in local situations and with regional church leaders; and is a self starter with organisational skills.

Salary: £12,000pa for 17.5 hours a week

The successful applicant will be a lay or ordained member in good standing with one of the churches eligible for membership of Churches Together in Dorset. S/he will be employed by Churches Together in Dorset (Registered Charity No 1103400). S/he will work from home.

Full details from: [www.ctdorset.org.uk](http://www.ctdorset.org.uk)

Further information from the present post-holder Val Potter ([ceo@ctdorset.org.uk](mailto:ceo@ctdorset.org.uk)) or from Dudley Coates ([coatesdudley@me.com](mailto:coatesdudley@me.com))

Closing date for applications: 5 July 2013

Interviews will take place on 29 July in Corfe Mullen.

This post is subject to an enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check.



# ST PETER'S

## High West Street • Dorchester

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



### For your diary

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Trinity 1  
9am BCP Communion  
10.30am Sung Eucharist

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June – Trinity 2  
9am BCP Communion  
10.30am Sung Eucharist  
3pm Boys' Brigade Service

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June – Trinity 3  
9am BCP Communion  
10.30am Sung Eucharist with Baptism – baby Alfred  
Mason

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Trinity 4  
9am BCP Communion  
10.30am Sung Eucharist

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June – St Peter  
9am BCP Communion  
10.30am Sung Eucharist

### St Peter's Church Dorchester

### FLOWER FESTIVAL 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> July 2013

Theme: Hymns  
Open to all – entries  
invited from groups or  
individuals\*  
*Closing date: 31<sup>st</sup> May*

For more information or  
to book please contact:  
Val Beavis – 01305  
268756  
bshuttleworth04@aol.com



\*If you can put a bunch of flowers into a vase this is for you!

### Fund-raising Cream Tea

On Sat 1<sup>st</sup> June – More Tea Vicar? – 2pm–4pm – a social and fund-raising event at The Vicarage (38 Herrington Road DT1 2BS). Cream Tea – afternoon coffee – cold drinks – cakes – raffle – socialise... All welcome.

### Rest in Peace

The funeral of John King took place at St Peter's last month. John – Jill King's husband ('1030 congregation') – died suddenly at home at the age of 75. The service, attended by over 150 people including representatives from the Dorchester Hospital League of Friends and the Royal Naval Association was a beautiful farewell and tribute to John. Prayers and support go out to Jill and the family.

The funeral of Madge Gooderham (98) took place in church on 17th May. Well known in various circles in Dorchester, Madge was once one of the St Peter's flower ladies. Condolences to her daughter Carolyn and family.

### Baptisms

It seems to be increasingly popular for Baptisms to take place at the Sunday Sung Eucharist – and after the splendid occasion of baby Lewis Petherick's initiation at Pentecost, we look forward to the same for Alfred Mason – again a 'St Peter's baby' whose parents Chris and Sam were married in church last year.

### Advance Notice – Harvest Festival

This will take place at St Peter's on Sunday 29th September with a bring a share lunch in church/halls afterwards. Timing and details tba – if you have any questions or would like to help then please contact Maureen Shaw: (01305) 261771.

## Photo Gallery



Left: Ascension Day morning on the tower  
Thanks to Town Crier Alistair; to Alan & choir and to Beryl and Val for breakfast. Photo: PS Darby

Below: Confirmation at Salisbury Cathedral 11th May  
Photo shows Marj Snape with Bishop Edward.  
Marj was confirmed with 54 others from across the Diocese including Sammie Bickel and Jenny Featherstone from St Peter's and Kathryn, Timothy and Ben from Dorchester Boys' Brigade.



# St Andrew's Church West Stafford

Church Correspondent: Revd Jane Culliford



## For your Diary

---

June 2nd

10am Parish Communion

June 9th

10am Morning Prayer

3pm Cream Teas in Church

4.30pm Songs of Praise - 'Through all the changing scenes of Life'

June 16th

10am Parish Communion

June 22nd

10am Working party in churchyard

June 23rd

9am Holy Communion

10am Come and Worship

June 30th

10am Parish Communion

## Ordinary Time and Bicycles

---

Ordinary time in the Church's calendar begins in June with the many Sundays after Trinity. However, the altar frontal at St Andrew's for this season, the beautiful green cloth with the embroidered nets and fish representing our patron saint, St Andrew, is anything but ordinary. Ordinary does not mean dull, but reminds us that God is present in everyday life, in our work and in our leisure.

The green service book used for ordinary time at St Andrew's has a picture of the church on its cover and there leaning against the wall is a bicycle. Through the summer months, particularly at weekends, West Stafford is popular with cyclists. Some are touring Dorset and pop into the church for a break, while others clad in Lycra, part of a race or rally, whiz past without a glance. As it is difficult to hear these cyclists coming, crossing the road can be hazardous!

In the ordinary and everyday it is good not to be always in such a rush but make time to pause. The church is always open during the day so it is worth making time to pause, sit quietly, reflect and pray whether you arrive on foot, by car or on a bicycle left leaning against the wall.

## Cream Tea and Songs of Praise

---

There will be a Cream Tea with Cakes at St Andrew's Church on Sunday 9th June from 3pm and maybe a chance to sit outside in the sun! This will be followed by a Songs of Praise service at 4.30pm with the theme 'Through all the changing scenes of life'. It will be good to welcome friends from across the benefice.

## Churchyard working party

---

Despite the long cold winter, the grass in the churchyard is now growing well and the efforts of the band of 'holy mowers' is much appreciated to keep things looking trim. Last year there were several working parties to tend the churchyard, keep the shrubs and ivy under control and keep the walls and gullies clear of vegetation. It was good to work together and there was lots of chatting and laughter.

Although the work made a huge difference, to maintain the churchyard and keep it looking tidy there is another working party on Saturday 22nd June and help is needed once again. Please wear old clothes and bring gloves and some garden tools.

## Village Fete

---

The village fete will be held on Saturday 13th July with stalls, entertainment and food. The church will have a stall on the day while the church will be open and have people on duty to welcome visitors.

## St George's Fair

---

St Andrew's had a small stall at St George's Fair. Thank you to those who made us feel so welcome. It was fun to meet so many people and sell our pocket money toys. Thank you particularly to Sam, the son of our churchwarden Esther, who is a serving Police Officer in Northumbria and was holiday from Durham, but willingly helped on the stall.

# St Simon & St Jude

## Winterborne Monkton

Church Correspondent: Ursula Norman



### Rogation Sunday



Rogation Sunday is always a bit special for our congregation. Our Church is the centre for four farming communities, and this year under the very able leadership of Lay Reader Robert Potter, we assembled at Maiden Castle Farm by kind invitation of Mr and Mrs Hoskin for a simple out-door service to ask God to bless the livestock and the crops growing in the fields around us, and all who work on the land to provide food for us all.

### Coffee morning

Thank you to all our kind supporters who helped us raise the magnificent total of £850 towards the funds to maintain our historic, mediaeval Parish Church.





# CHURCHES TOGETHER DORCHESTER

Compiled by  
Val Potter  
264416

---

## Helping those in Prison

Things are changing in Dorchester Prison. There is a renewed desire to strengthen links with the local community and to find ways in which prisoners can go out on supervised work placements to assist in their rehabilitation when they leave prison. Do come along to the Forum and AGM of Churches Together in the Dorchester Area on 12th June, 7.30 at the United Church to learn more. There will also be the opportunity to hear what the churches have been doing together during the past year.

---

## Working for Mission and Unity

Last month I wrote in general about my retirement as County Ecumenical Officer for Churches Together in Dorset. The Job Description for my successor and a timescale for the appointment have now been agreed. I hope that you may consider it; the main requirement is for a vision for unity and the churches working together. Specific knowledge can be taught later and support comes from the wonderful members of the executive committee of Churches Together in Dorset who represent the main Christian denominations present in the county. See Job advert on page 17.

There will also be a service in Wimborne Minster on 30 June at 3.00pm to give thanks for our shared ecumenical journey, in which it has been a privilege to play my part over the past 17 years.

---

## Earthworks

With creativity and imagination the Dorchester Churches' Ecology Group are planning a fun-filled awareness-raising day on 17th August. There will be music, games, activities and a picnic in the Borough Gardens, a walk to Maiden Castle and an evening Ceilidh in Martinstown. Note the date now and come and bring others along to any or all of the activities to learn more about how we might find ways to look after our planet for the benefit of future generations.

---

## Quiet Space

The weather has improved sufficiently for the beds to be planted up and we hope that they will flourish to provide

that place of peace and tranquillity we envisaged in our early vision for the Quiet Space.

Conversations have begun about how we might maximise the opportunities offered by the building, especially during the evenings so if you have ideas to share please pass them on to any of the Trustees or to me as acting Chair. We are delighted that the Family Church has resumed its sponsorship and we welcomed Kathy Scott as their representative on the Board of Trustees. Special thanks must be given to Ray Broome of the Baptist Church, who has been their trustee from the beginning and who has now stepped down, succeeded by Revd Harry Place.

---

## Time for Peace

A short Time for Peace was held in the Borough Gardens near the Amnesty Tree on 8th May, following the same format as last year. Readings were given by a member of the Royal British Legion, a humanist and a local minister, each followed by a short period of reflection. It gave those who came the opportunity to reflect together on the need for peace and reconciliation in our troubled world today.

---

## CommuniTEA

The churches are partners in the Dorchester Area Community Partnership and the new Community Plan is being launched on 13th June, 2.00-7.00pm You are invited to drop in to the United Church to find out more about the Partnership, the activities of the partner groups, pick up a copy of our new Community Plan, and enjoy a free cream tea!

For more information contact Pauline Trimming, Partnership Coordinator, Tel: 01305 216403 Email: [pauline.trimming@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk](mailto:pauline.trimming@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk)

A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him. Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump.

"Reverend," said the young man, "I'm so sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip."

The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."

## Disposable barbecues – a fire hazard



In 2012, Dorset Fire and Rescue Service attended 241 cooking related

fires; these could have been easily avoided if more people were aware of basic cooking safety. Being aware of the dangers of fire and taking preventative measures could help save the lives of you and your family.

Kate Huelin, Home Safety Manager said: "We would just like to remind the public, especially looking forward to the warmer weather, that disposable barbecues can be a fire hazard. These barbecues should be dealt with and disposed of in the proper manner; they should also be fully extinguished before they are thrown away. Barbecues should not be used near or on public benches or any other potential fuel for a fire."

Cooking outdoors is a hazard at this time of year, please remember:

- When using a gas barbecue with a gas bottle, always check your gas connections with a leak detecting solution after hooking up a new bottle.
- Pay attention to the proximity of flammable

materials to your barbecue. We advise you do not cook too closely to combustibles.

- When using charcoal, always check to see that there is an ash catcher in place before lighting your barbecue. Hot embers can drop down underneath a barbecue and start a fire on the shelf or other combustible surface below.
- Do not attempt to barbecue or use an open fire when it is windy. Hot embers blown from a cooking fire can start a heath, woodland or house fire.
- Educate your children so they know that they cannot play near a barbecue. Running or playing within close proximity to a hot barbecue is an invitation for a serious injury.
- Please make sure that the barbecue is completely out before you leave it unattended.

**Kate added: "As we approach the summer months, we see a rise in fires where people have left disposable barbecues or even camp fires unattended. These then spread to gorse and heath and can be extremely difficult to fight. If you are using disposable barbecues, please make sure you extinguish them fully and dispose of them properly."**

## Flesh and Bone

Jean  
Lang

Robertson Davies died in 1996. He left behind three completed trilogies and two novels of an uncompleted fourth Trilogy. **“What’s Bred in the Bone”** is the second novel in his second trilogy and a book I return to again and again. It is set in the Canada of Robertson Davies’ childhood – small town Canada where most people had British parents or grandparents and where life was limited unless or until the son of the family was able to escape to Oxbridge or beyond!

Francis Cornish has just died at the beginning of the novel and he has left his considerable fortune to a new foundation to support the Arts. The Trustees are his nephew Arthur and two old friends, the Rev. Simon Darcourt and Professor Clement Hollier. Simon Darcourt has been commissioned by the Trust to write a biography of Francis and in doing so he discovers quite unexpected depths to his old friend. Having introduced us at the end Robertson Davies then traces Francis’s life from his birth in Blairlogie in 1909 to his death in Toronto 72 years later, using a recording angel Zadkiel and a daimon Maimar to comment on what might have been.

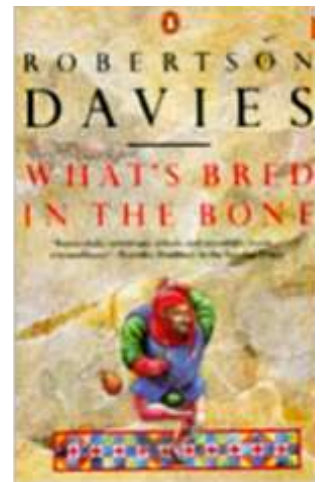
Francis becomes an artist, but his training is unusual in that he sees, observes and draws cadavers being laid out by the family coachman and part time town funeral director. He also discovers that he is not the only son of the family and that he has an elder brother who is physically and mentally retarded and kept, well looked after, but a prisoner. This discovery has a profound effect on him and he leaves Blairlogie hoping to make sense of his inheritance and his brother. He graduates from Oxford just prior to the war and goes to Germany where works with the great Tandcred Saracini, an artist and repairer.

While in Germany he paints a triptych on the theme of the Marriage at Cana but peopled by those who have made him what he is and who were bred in the bone. It is the story of what happens to the painting and its subsequent history which form the centre of the novel and through which Robertson Davies is able to address issues of art and truth. **What’s bred in the bone** is a 12th century proverb and for Davies what is bred in the bone of a writer or artist must be apparent in his work.

Robertson Davies’ uses the observing angels to compensate for what he sees as a lack of symbol, myth and metaphor in an age of science. His view that the absence of the spiritual has left “mankind to a barren land of starved imagination”.

I love this book; it is full of colour, marvellous characters and a good story. It stands alone as well as part of the trilogy and is the best introduction to a writer whose intelligence and whose storytelling meets the criteria set in the 16th century by Sir Phillip Sydney: “He cometh to you with words, set in delightful proportions and with a tale forsooth... which holdeth children from play and old men from the chimney corner”.

*What’s Bred in the Bone*  
By Robertson Davies  
(Penguin)



## Editor’s Comment

Looked out the window for inspiration and saw a thrush with fluffy fledglings running round the lawn after their mother, being fed. Makes you think it’s okay and God is in his heaven – another miracle – Spring has arrived.

*Mistle Thrush image courtesy of Paul Brentnall / FreeDigitalPhotos.net*