

NEWS FROM THE MARKET PLACE

75 pence

July 2018



The Parish Magazine
of St Andrew's Church, Chippenham
with St Nicholas' Tytherton Lucas

Registered Charity No 1131163

'Act Justly, Love Mercy and Walk Humbly'

www.standrewschippenham.org.uk

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Magazine deadline for the September 2018 edition
Sunday morning 29th July 2018

Please leave copy (on paper, disc or email) with the editor: Jenny Norris
2, Monument View, Calne SN11 0FR
norrisjm2@gmail.com

.. but keep on being joyful too!

The most observant amongst you will have noticed a change in the “theme phrase” for St Andrew’s – the words printed at the bottom of our pewsheets and letters. I accept that “theme phrase” is a bad description, but I hate the term “strap line”, so if anyone can suggest an alternative, I’m all ears.



Anyway, it used to be, “Be joyful!”, and since our Annual Meeting it has changed to, “Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly.” This is *not* to say, “Phew! We’ve been joyful for a whole year now! That was hard work – let’s hope acting justly will be easier!” You’re not meant to stop being joyful.

It’s interesting how the phrase has had its effect. It’s not a tut, tut, finger-wagging accusation, “Why aren’t you joyful?” but a kind of subconscious question; “is there anything getting in the way of my being joyful? God isn’t asking me to always be happy, but to have joy at the heart of my experience of being me.” The phrase is from Paul’s letter to the Philippians, where he actually says “Be joyful in the Lord”, but people don’t hear it at all if you say that. It becomes a scripture text or “thought for the day” and gets blanked out.

Similarly with, “Act justly...”; if you say, “Walk humbly with your God” as the prophet Micah actually records it, people switch off (funny world we live in). But if you keep it to those six words, I don’t think there’s anyone in the world who could say that we shouldn’t always be trying to do just that.

So let’s allow our new “theme phrase” to challenge us each day: “am I acting justly? Am I loving (showing) mercy? ...” We can make the mistake of thinking these things are all about world issues and politics, but they’re not. Acting justly is about the tiniest actions and simplest words we use each day. If we challenge ourselves to do this, I’m convinced we’ll find ourselves growing closer to God – whether we like it or not.

.. but keep on being joyful too!

Every blessing

Rod

Mary of Magdala

(Lk 23:49, Jn 20:1-18)

She watched, she followed,
she wept, she loved.
She looked into darkness,
she turned to the light.
She didn't know Him,
then she did –
in His speaking of her name,
then she did!

And everything was different,
forever,
because the living Jesus spoke
her name,
Mary.

He is alive today and always.
He still speaks to those who will
turn and listen.
He knows my name.
He changes everything for me as
he did for Mary.

By Daphne Kitching

The Church Florists

They have done splendidly!
Through many hours
No moistened eye did see
So many flowers!
The rainbow's range of hues –
The yellows, reds, and blues
They are, with love and care all
used
By skillful florists!

By Nigel Beeton

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Forthcoming Events

Thursday July 5th, 2.30pm

Lady Chapel, St. Andrew's Church

A talk will be given on the work of
the Macmillan Nurses

All are welcome to attend as it is an
open MU meeting.

Thursday August 2nd

MU members will be joining the St.
Andrew's Outing to Romsey Abbey

AUTUMN FAYRE EXPENSES COFFEE MORNING

Thank you to everyone who supported our Coffee morning on Saturday 2nd June.

A fantastic total of £482.41 was raised—so commitments/expenses for the Autumn Fayre are now well funded.

Diary Date for Autumn Fayre is Saturday 13th October.

Definitions:

Egotist: a person who suffers from too much vitamin I.

Duty: what you expect from other people. *Oscar Wilde*

Desk: a waste-paper basket with drawers

Your Church Warden Team

At the recent Annual Parish Meeting a new team of Church Wardens were elected. We said thanks to George Silk for all he has done during the past year helping us to maintain our historic Church building and progressing the hall refurbishment project.

One of the team will be on duty each Sunday, ensuring that everything proceeds smoothly and who you can talk to about any matters that concern you. On a day-to-day basis, we've divided the responsibilities between us as follows;

Barry Hayward	Church building and property matters
Jenny Norris	Communications: magazine, IT, website
Maurice Chadwick	Weddings, Funerals, Events
Margaret Harrison	Pastoral Matters

We all look forward to serving you during the coming year.

THE FRIENDS of ST ANDREW'S 100 CLUB

The 100 Club was set up in 2005 as an initiative to raise money for Church funds. At present we have 63 members and would very much like to increase this number. The cost per month per number is £5.00 payable either by Bank standing order (annually) or by cheque twice a year (February and August). Any increase in the number of participating members will help to raise much needed funds in a different and fun way. Prizes each month are £100, £40 and £25.

Up to the present time, the Draw has taken place during Wednesday morning Coffee Shop but we now feel that in order to encourage some of our newer church members to participate, the time and place of the Draw will be changed. To this end, from July 2018 it is proposed to hold the Draw on the second Sunday of the month (8th July) during Coffee time at the end of the Service.

As before, winners will be notified that day and the numbers displayed on the 100 Club information board at the back of the Church.

**The winning numbers in June
were 44 (£100) 18 (£40) 5 (£25)**

For further information please contact Margaret Harrison on telephone 652148 or at margaretharrison9@outlook.com



Canon David Winter:
The Way I See It :
Holiday and Holy-Days

‘Going to go somewhere nice for your holidays?’ is the standard hairdresser’s opening gambit at this time of year. ‘Yes’, I reply, ‘I’m staying here’. They laugh politely, but clearly that’s not their idea of a holiday.

In an average life holidays go through stages. Do you remember your late teens, and the thrill of independence - hitch-hiking with a friend across Germany, or scuba diving, or climbing mountains or camping (in the rain)? Then it’s couples, and memorable meals in little cafes in Italy or France. Next, perhaps, it’s children – warm sunshine, beaches, Spain or Cornwall. Then it’s retirement, and apart from grand-parent duties it’s cruises (‘cheaper than staying at home!’ they tell me, but I don’t believe it).

The final stage is where I am now, the holiday season as a time when the fever of life cools, when there’s room on the buses and trains, and blissful idleness punctuated by the occasional theatre outing or visit to Lord’s to snooze and watch county cricket.

Each phase has its appeal, and each can fulfil the fundamental principle of a holiday, which is hidden in the very word. It is, of course, a holy-day, because God commanded us to rest as well as work, and space and time to think, reflect and pray are precious holiday gifts.

At the different stages of life our holiday needs are different. What it should offer is a change from the normal, a new environment (even if it’s only the local park) and new experiences to treasure during the months of winter. God invented the Sabbath because we needed it. Enjoy your holy-days, wherever or whatever they are.

Here for what?

A parishioner was confiding to his vicar: ‘When you get to my age, you spend a lot more time thinking about the hereafter.’

‘That’s good,’ approved the vicar, ‘and what do you conclude?’

‘Nothing much,’ went on the parishioner. ‘It’s just that more and more I find myself going into a room and thinking ‘now what on earth did I come in here after?’



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Marc Allum is a locally based specialist with thirty years of experience in the fine art and auction world. He is an author, lecturer and an expert on BBC Antiques Roadshow

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www.mjallum.com

Andy & Nic's Page



15th July St Swithun (or Swithin) - saint for a rainy day



St. Swithun is apparently the saint you can blame for rainy summers. It is said that if it rains on his special day, 15th July, it will

then rain for 40 days after that. It all began when Swithun was made Bishop of Winchester in 852 by King Ethelwulf of Wessex. It was an important posting: Winchester was the capital of Wessex, and during the 10 years Swithun was there, Wessex became the most important kingdom of England.

During his life, instead of washing out people's summer holidays, and damping down their spirits, Swithun seems to have done a lot of good. He was famous for his charitable gifts and for his energy in getting churches built. When he was dying in 862, he asked that he be buried in the cemetery of the Old Minster, just outside the west door.

If he had been left there in peace, who knows how many rainy summers the English may have been spared over the last 1000 years. But, no, it was decided to move Swithun. By now, the 960s, Winchester had become the first monas-

Andy's @ 4

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July 8th

at St Andrews church, Chippenham
Stories - songs- prayers - refreshments

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tic cathedral chapter in England, and the newly installed monks wanted Swithun in the cathedral with them. So finally, on 15th July 971, his bones were dug up and Swithun was translated into the cathedral.

That same day many people claimed to have had miraculous cures. Certainly, everyone got wet, for the heavens opened. The unusually heavy rain that day, and on the days following, was attributed to the power of St Swithun. Swithun was moved again in 1093, into the new Winchester cathedral. His shrine was a popular place of pilgrimage throughout the middle ages. The shrine was destroyed during the Reformation and restored in 1962. There are 58 ancient dedications to Swithun in England.

What does a cloud wear under his raincoat?

Thunderwear!

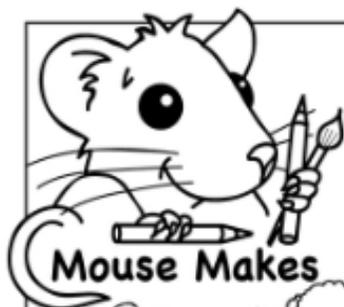
What goes up when the rain comes down?

An umbrella!

Sunday Club Diary

8th July

22nd July



LOST AND FOUND

Jesus told three stories to help us to understand God's love and forgiveness.

The first is about a missing sheep that the shepherd did not give up looking for.

The second is about a lost coin that the owner kept searching for until it was found.

The third is about a young man who returned home after he realised he had made a mistake by wanting to go his own way.

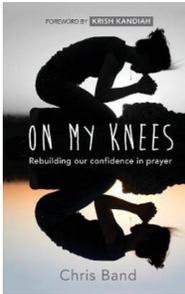
Read the 'Lost and Found' parables in **Luke 15**



Can you find the lost COIN, the lost SHEEP and the lost SON in the word search? Can you find these other words from the Lost and Found parables too?

HEAR • JESUS • HUNDRED • LOST • LOOK • FOUND
REJOICE • SINNER • REPENT • TEN • ONE • LAMP • SWEEP • SEARCH
FATHER • JOURNEY • SPENT • HUNGRY • PIGS • BACK • HOME • RAN
ROBE • RING • CALF • EAT • CELEBRATE • DEAD • ALIVE

BOOK CORNER



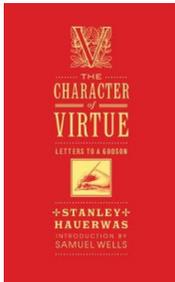
On My Knees - rebuilding our confidence in prayer

By Chris Band, Monarch, £8.99

Life has a tendency to knock our confidence in prayer. In the face of persistent difficulties, our prayer-fuelled hopes can be overwhelmed by such despair that we end up "on our knees" not so much in prayer, as in defeat.

In this honest and engaging book, Chris Band discusses the issues that we may have about prayer but were perhaps afraid to ask: Is prayer wasted effort? Is God less involved in the world than we might wish? Is His will going to be done anyway, whether or not we pray? We discover that our prayers, far from being squandered by God, are powerfully and consistently used by him - both to build his relationship with us and to build his Kingdom through us.

This encouraging and practical book will inspire and lead each of us afresh, to be on our knees, in prayer.



The Character of Virtue - Letters to a Godchild **By Stanley Hauerwas, Canterbury Press, £16.99**

Stanley Hauerwas is one of today's greatest theologians, but like many of us, he is also a godparent. In this very special collection he invites us to share in fifteen letters which he sent to his godson, Laurence Wells. Each letter, sent on the anniversary of Laurence's baptism every year, distils years of self-reflection and religious thinking into heartfelt notes packed with wit, warmth and verve.

The letters explore what makes a happy, fulfilled life: kindness, courage, humility, joy, friendship, simplicity, humour, generosity and faith. An introduction by Samuel Wells - Laurence's father - tells the story behind these letters and offers insight into being a godparent.

A decorative border surrounds the text, featuring various autumn-themed illustrations: leaves in shades of orange, yellow, and brown, acorns, and pumpkins. The background has a light green and white checkered pattern.

AUTUMN FAYRE

Sat 13th October 2018

10 am - 2 pm

at

St Andrew's Church

Market Place, Chippenham

To be opened at 10 am
by the Mayor of Chippenham

Stalls include: Cakes, Books,
Handicrafts, Gifts, White Elephant,
Plants, Jams & Pickles,
Sweets, Flower Baskets,
Greetings Cards, Games,
Tombola, Traidcraft, etc.

GRAND DRAW

(Winners announced at 1.30 pm)

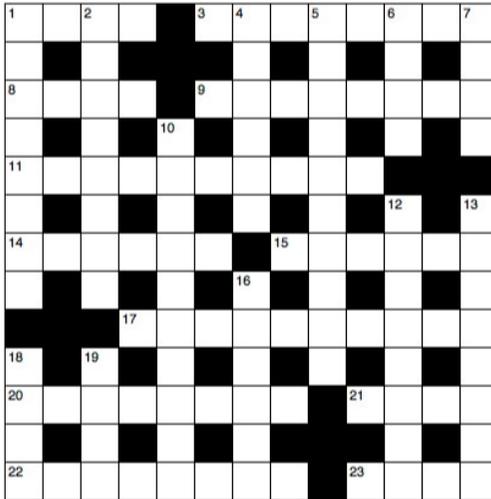
Refreshments

& Lunches in Church

Entrance free - proceeds to
Church Funds



July Crossword



23 'As the — pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God' (Psalm 42:1) (4)

Down

1 Nickname of popular First World War chaplain, the Revd G.A. Studdert Kennedy, — Willie (8)

2 Occasion of religious joy (Lamentations 2:22) (5,3)

4 'We three kings of — are' (6)

5 Allegation or charge (Jude 9) (10)

6 Kind (1 Chronicles 12:33) (4)

7 'Open your — and look at the fields!' (John 4:35) (4)

10 Also known as the Feast of Lights (John 10:22) (10)

12 Area that saw the healing of two demon - possessed men and a herd of pigs stampeding to their deaths (Matthew 8:28) (8)

13 Forebear (James 2:21) (8)

16 Name given to the first two books of the Apocrypha (6)

18 Esau sold his birthright for this (Genesis 25:34) (4)

19 Rear (anag.) (4)

Across

1 Proverbs describes her as being 'of noble character' (Proverbs 31:10) (4)

3 'Shall we go up again — — against the Benjamites, our brothers?' (Judges 20:23) (2,6)

8 A descendant of Shem (Genesis 10:28) (4)

9 'Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my —' (Luke 14:27) (8)

11 Resentment (Ephesians 4:31) (10)

14 In Cain (anag.) (6)

15 'Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to —' (Psalm 139:6) (6)

17 Intense (1 Thessalonians 4:5) (10)

20 Third Order of the Roman Catholic Church (8)

21 'At midnight the cry rang out, "Here's the bridegroom! Come out to — him"' (Matthew 25:6) (4)

22 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in —' (2 Corinthians 12:9) (8)

Answers on Page 23

St. Andrew's Coffee Shop



*Wednesday Mornings
from 9.30 a.m. in Church*

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From the Registers



Holy Baptism

6th May Felicity and Gabriella Penrose

'Welcome one another, just as Christ has welcomed you'

Romans 15.7

Christian Burial and Cremation

10th May Robert Frank Williams

11th May Audrey Lillian Love

12th May David Affleck

'I am the resurrection and the life'

St John 11.25

The Gloucester & Bristol Diocesan Association of Change Ringers Quarter Peals at St Andrew's Church, Chippenham



Sunday, 20th May 2018

1280 Plain Bob Major

1 Jane Ridgwell
2 Debbie Stott
3 Joanna Wheatland
4 David Parks

5 Sara Bye
6 Morley Bray
7 John Stott
8 Julian Ferrar ©

*For evening service, and to celebrate the wedding yesterday
of HRH Henry of Wales and Ms Meghan Markle*

Also in thanksgiving for the life of Sandra (Sandy) Anne Muir

Diary for July

Sunday 1	<i>Fifth Sunday after Trinity</i>
	8.00 am Said Eucharist, traditional language, St. Andrew's Church
	10.00 am All Age Eucharist, St. Andrew's Church
Monday 2	1.30 pm Art Group, St. Andrew's Church
	7.30 pm Wiltshire Young Musicians Concert
Tuesday 3	1.30 pm Andy's Tots, St. Andrew's Church
Thursday 5	2.30 pm Mother's Union, St. Andrew's Church
Sunday 8	<i>Sixth Sunday after Trinity</i>
	8.00 am Said Eucharist, traditional language, St. Andrew's Church
	10.00 am Parish Eucharist, St. Andrew's Church
	4.00 pm Andy's@4, St. Andrew's Church
Monday 9	1.30 pm Art Group, St. Andrew's Church
Tuesday 10	1.30 pm Andy's Tots, St. Andrew's Church
Sunday 15	<i>Seventh Sunday after Trinity</i>
	8.00 am Said Eucharist, traditional language, St. Andrew's Church
	10.00 am Family Worship, St. Andrew's Church
	11.15 am Holy Communion, St. Andrew's Church
	6.30 pm Celtic Service, St. Andrew's Church
Monday 16	1.30 pm Art Group, St. Andrew's Church
Tuesday 17	1.30 pm Andy's Tots, St. Andrew's Church
Sunday 22	<i>Mary Magdalene</i>
	8.00 am Said Eucharist, traditional language, St. Andrew's Church
	10.00 am Parish Eucharist, St. Andrew's Church
Monday 23	1.30 pm Art Group, St. Andrew's Church
Tuesday 24	1.30 pm Andy's Tots, St. Andrew's Church
Sunday 29	<i>Ninth Sunday after Trinity</i>
	8.00 am Said Eucharist, traditional language, St. Andrew's Church
	10.00 am Parish Eucharist, St. Andrew's Church



THE GREAT WAR
1914 - 1918

Diary of a Momentous Year: July 1918: When Friends come to help

It is called ‘*World War 1*’ and certainly no previous conflict had spread its ugly fingers so widely. Of course, we tend to think of the Western Front. Our default image of the War is of men in trenches, of mud and blood and soldiers with drawn bayonets going ‘over the top’. In fact, the War was being fought on

many Fronts: the Eastern Front (Germany/Russia, about to end with the new Russian regime); the Ottoman Front, in the Middle East; the Italian Front (Italy and France against the ‘Central Powers’). Then there was the Ocean Front (U-boats against Allied shipping), the only one where the Germans were winning.

Not surprisingly, in view of all that, the War became one of resources, human, military and economic; and by 1918 the Allies had a great advantage. Hard-pressed armies were being continuously refreshed by the arrival of well-trained and committed troops from many quarters, notably Canada, Australia and New Zealand, and decisively the United States, who were now being equipped with newly designed, modern equipment. At last the Allies outnumbered the Germans in tanks and aircraft – and the new planes were faster, better equipped and armed.

All of this was, of course, evident to the German High Command, and persuaded them to launch in July 1918 what one historian, Gary Sheffield, has described as perhaps the defining battle of the War, the second Battle of the Marne. It was a desperate attempt to inflict a heavy defeat on the Allies – not in the vain hope of winning the War, but of getting a better bargaining position in the peace negotiations that everyone expected. Launched on July 15th, it succeeded in driving the Allies back across the Marne. But they had been prepared for it, and three days later launched a massive counter-attack. Two French divisions captured 15,000 men and 500 tanks in a single morning, and then went on to drive the Germans back across the Marne. From now on the Allies knew they could win the War, and the Germans finally accepted that they could not.

Canon David Winter

Diamond Wedding Celebration

Bryan and June Pettifer would like to thank the members of St Andrews congregation for all their kind greetings, good wishes, cards and gifts on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding.

We have greatly appreciated your friendship, fellowship and support over the last 20 years while we have been living here in Chippenham.

With love and gratitude from both of us.

Bryan and June



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*...I don't care what your Sat-Nav's telling you - I'm telling you you are definitely **not** on the M6, nine miles south of Derby!!*

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY NOTICE BOARD

A day in the life of/The challenges and joys of.... a Traidcraft fair trader

As I start to write this, it occurs to me that this could be the first of a sequence of articles but not - I hasten to add - from my pen. There must definitely be a whole host of us who could share a little of the joys and challenges of our particular role(s) within the St Andrew's community. Just a thought.

In order to highlight a sample of the things I frequently encounter, I shall home in on a typical Wednesday morning: a portion of the week which I regularly dedicate to my Traidcraft activities. Before running the fair trade stall at the morning coffee shop, I usually need to finish off unpackaging and pricing up any recently ordered stock, amending stock lists and assembling the items I need to carry to church, at times - depending on bulk, quantity and fragility of the products - enlisting the services of Chris's very sturdy volleyball bag and quantities of bubble wrap to do so.



Once set up, in the very beautiful surrounds of St Andrew's church, the stall sometimes goes very well, sometimes less so. More on this presently. On occasion there is the opportunity to engage in some interesting conversations with potential or regular customers: answering questions about purchases from supermarkets as

opposed to fair trade stalls, use of fair trade palm oil in products, why fair trade products are so expensive etc. After clearing away at the end of coffee shop, adjusting my stock lists and noting any items which need to be topped up or reordered, I often head to the HSBC bank to deposit the takings. That then is just a brief - and, I agree, fairly uninspiring - outline of my regular activities. So, what of the joys and challenges?



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

The joys are, of course, the rationale behind these activities. I am not

infrequently moved to tears - of compassion-filled joy - when reading the stories of some of the producers of these fair trade goods; and I am often literally enraptured by the beauty of some of the craft items: the delicate embroidery, the rich colours, the skilled woodwork. I am never more humbled than when down on my knees opening a Traidcraft box, extracting the fruits of someone's hard labour, pricing the items ready for sale. This is the joy of faith in action, this is where I try - in my own small way - to be a part of a body of believers feeding the hungry (as they, in fact, provide us with food), clothing the naked (Matthew 25: v35-40) - in short, striving for a justice often sidelined in the busy, cut-throat world of global trade. As I recently told a wonderful crowd of primary school children during an assembly talk, the farmer/producer (as depicted in the Fairtrade logo) is waving joyfully because when we buy his product - at a fair price - he can put food on his table and his kids can go to school.

The challenges are all too often the things we notice first. I'm not good at planning or estimating the time that things will take, so even such seemingly straightforward activities as placing an order or unpacking and pricing items are always more time-consuming than I imagine. That's a challenge in our clock-driven world.

It's often difficult to estimate how much of a given product I will sell so ordering can be a mini ordeal, especially given that I'm not a naturally decisive person. Then there is, of course, the added challenge of sell by dates on food products - a necessary evil, I know, but one which can make managing and selling stock quite complicated. Incidentally, my boys have grown up eating all the past-sell-by-date Traidcraft products and even in recent years have been sent off to uni with boxes of Traidcraft dried fruit, biscuits etc. Not that they've ever complained much.

Finally, I did indicate earlier that I would return to the topic of variable sales, and I do mean variable. By way of example, my highest sales total so far this year from a Wednesday morning coffee shop stall is £40.70 - possibly an all-time high - and my lowest (this very week, in fact) is just £3. While it can, of course, feel frustrating to sell very little, this most recent stall was, on reflection, a useful reminder of the need to take the rough with the smooth, accept that there are good days and bad days (echoes of Ecclesiastes 3: v1-8 perhaps) and that we need to look for the bigger picture. Also, a reminder that however I may feel on a bad day, God does not quantify us: my value in his eyes is not equal to an exam mark, a number of 'likes' on Facebook, or – indeed - a sales total. While we need success to encourage us and lift us up, we can also use the need to overcome and rise above challenges and setbacks as a way of renewing our determination and our commitment, a way of remembering the value of continuity and perseverance.

Having said that, I am always there at Wednesday morning coffee shops (Fair trade stall from 10: 30 to 12:00) and generally after services on the first and third Sundays of the month, and will, of course, always welcome and value your custom. That is ultimately what keeps the fair trade farmer waving joyfully.

Yours in joy, despite the challenges,

Debbie Warren



Three coffees are good for you

Three cups of coffee a day can do you good. At least, scientists at the University of San Paulo have found that people who drink three cups of coffee a day have fewer calcium deposits in their arteries, which means you have a better blood flow, and hence less heart disease.

On the other hand, the European Food Safety Agency advises that no more than *four* cups of coffee should be drunk in a day. Too much caffeine may increase heart problems and overall anxiety .

Romsey Abbey Last few tickets left!

The outing to Romsey Abbey, Hampshire on **Thursday 2nd August 2018** is selling out fast. There are just a few tickets left.



It costs £25 which includes the cost of the coach, a one hour guided tour, and a tip for the coach driver. We will leave from the bus stop outside Morrisons @ 9.30 am. Cars can be parked in Morrisons, but car number plate numbers will be required. Departure from Romsey at 4.45 pm. We shall stop off at the Wilton Shopping Village at approx. 10.30 am for coffee. There are cafes and coffee shops in Romsey but if you prefer you can bring your own refreshments and have a picnic.

For further information contact Ros Harford, Tel. 01249-812190



Tea on the Farm

Sunday 8th July, 2pm—5pm

Park Farm, Yatton Keynell

Age UK Wiltshire would like to invite you to join us for high tea with live music and other activities at **Park Farm, Yatton Keynell, Chippenham, SN14 7LA**.

This is a **FREE** event open to people aged 50 and over, graciously funded by Park Farm.

If you would like to attend this event but have any accessibility or dietary requirements please let us know in advance so we can best accommodate you on the day.

Please RSVP by calling our office on 01380 727767

or email us at johanna.banks@ageukwiltshire.org.uk

Spaces are limited. Please RSVP by Weds 20th June if you would like to attend.

Registered Charity No. 800912

A Letter from Uncle Eustace

On the perils of the Ladies' Guild annual outing...

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren,

And so once again we start the annual round of parish treats. While the bell-ringers prefer public houses, and the choirboys want fast food outlets, the Ladies' Guild are centred on lavatories. The itinerary is unchangeable: Coach drive to coffee stop and lavatory. Coach drive to luncheon stop and lavatory. Coach drive to some arbitrary attraction – provided it has a tea shop and lavatory. Coach trip home with a lavatory (stop en route).

A sub-committee will have been hard at work for the previous six months deciding where to visit. The most disastrous course of action is to present the group with a choice; if two options are provided, they will attract almost equal numbers in favour, thus ensuring that half of the group will rejoice in saying throughout the day that the other option would have been preferable. When it comes to decision-making, Stalin had a lot going for him.

My predecessor in this parish left me a terrible legacy; he always accompanied the Guild on their day out, thus obliging me to do the same. I do, however, travel equipped with armaments. "The Times" crossword rules out any possibility of conversation for at least the first two hours. Three years ago, Mrs Phillips had the audacity to look over my shoulder and give me 12 across; she will not make that mistake again.

A brief nap after these intellectual exertions, assuring those around me that I am meditating on the theme for next Sunday's sermon, ensures a morning almost free from having to comment on the weather, other members of the party, or why I so rarely drop in on the Pram Service. The ideal destination is one where I have a clerical colleague, so while the ladies wander about, shop and analyse why I still wear the same suit I arrived in 30 years ago, we have an agreeable afternoon assassinating the characters of bishops and archdeacons and bemoaning the standards of a new generation of curates. After our different therapies, we all re-assemble at the coach for the return journey.

Naturally, there is the traditional wait for those who have forgotten where the coach park is. As far as I am concerned, a deficit of less than 10% should be entirely acceptable. I can think of several husbands who may be rather thankful that their wives may not be back as soon as they had feared.

Our ladies return, invigorated with the thought of all the bits of information about other members in the party that can be discreetly shared over the telephone, while I am exhausted from 12 hours of attempting to be polite. Meanwhile the sub-committee gets a date in the diary for planning next year's lavatorial sequence.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

Who is God?

The answer according to Amazon Echo.....

The following story appeared in a recent newspaper article

'One evening during prayer in our church homegroup, our Amazon Echo thought it was being addressed . As the group sat in contemplation, the device broke into the silence as a voice of still calm: 'I am sorry I cannot help you'. Startled, we looked up, with one participant saying: 'God just spoke - she's a woman and can't help us!'

Not covered by insurance

A recent letter that appeared in *The Independent* newspaper:

'Following the recent major flooding, I find myself out of pocket, due to what I am informed is an "act of God." To avoid future financial embarrassment, please could you recommend an atheist insurance company?'

Crossword Answers
(Based on NIV)

ACROSS:

1, Wife, 3, To battle, 8, Obal, 9, Discipline, 11, Bitterness, 14, Niacin, 15, Attain, 17, Passionate, 20, Tertiary, 21, Meet, 22, Weakness, 23, Deer.

DOWN:

1, Woodbine, 2, Feast day, 4, Orient, 5, Accusation, 6, Type, 7, Eyes, 10, Dedication, 12, Gadarene, 13, Ancestor, 16, Esdras, 18, Stew, 19, Area.

CHIPPENHAM OLDER PEOPLES FORUM

We need your help!

If you are aged over 55 and live in Chippenham and the surrounding areas, we need you to "Have Your Say" about the future of the Forum. How should we expand what we can offer in the way of new activities and events that older people will want to take part in.

So come along and meet us

Friday 22nd June 2018

11am to 1pm

Neeld Community & Arts Centre

Refreshments will be provided

Chippenham Older Peoples Forum was set up in June 2014 to:

Promote involvement, empower us and improve our quality of life

Provide a regular forum to have our say on issues that concern us

Present the views of our members to influence decision makers

Encourage social contact through our events



St Nicholas' Church

Tytherton Lucas



Service Times at St Nicholas'

Care of the Church

1 st	July	10.00 am	Morning Service	Mrs. E. Spencer	Sandy Hames
8 th	July	8.30 am	Holy Communion	Canon B. Pettifer	Sandy Hames
15 th	July	10.00 am	Matins	Rev. D. Copeland	Petrina Drewett
22 nd	July	8.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev. D. Copeland	Petrina Drewett
29 th	July	6.30pm	Evensong	Rev. D. Copeland	Petrina Drewett

You know you are living in 2018 when....

1. You accidentally enter your password on the microwave.
2. You haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.
3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of five.
4. You e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you.
5. You pull up in your own driveway and use your mobile to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the shopping.
6. Every TV advert has a Facebook link at the bottom of the screen.
7. Leaving the house without your mobile, which you didn't have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years of your life, is now a cause for total panic and you have to go back and get it.
8. You get up in the morning and go online before getting your coffee.

Who's Who

Parish Priest	Rod Key St Andrew's Vicarage 54a St Mary's Street, SN15 3JW keychippenham@gmail.com	652788
Lay Minister:	Eryl Spencer	651565
Lay Minister:	Margaret Gubbins	248757
Churchwardens:	Jenny Norris	812945
	Barry Hayward	653322
Deputy Churchwardens:	Margaret Harrison	652148
	Maurice Chadwick mauricechadwick25@gmail.com	
Organist & Music Leader:	Paul Fortune paulandmyra25@gmail.com	652643
Church Administrator:	Daphne Jefferies daphnejefferies657@btinternet.com	659820
Head Server:	Michael Sammes	654608
Sacristan:	Brian Elliott	463230
<i>at St Nicholas'</i>	Elizabeth Sexton	660235
PCC Secretary:	Becky Harding harding_rebecca@sky.com	656440
<i>at St Nicholas'</i>	Sheila Laurence	740687
PCC Treasurer:	Chris Norris chris_norris51@hotmail.co.uk	812945
Assistant Treasurer:	<i>Vacant</i>	
<i>at St Nicholas'</i>	Mike Holtham	740657
Weekly Notice Sheet:	Ros Harford Items to be with Ros by Wednesday evening	812190
Care Group Co-ordinator:	Eryl Spencer	651565
Gift Aid Officer:	Wendy Reeves	650622
Giving Officer	Ros Harford	812190
Electoral Roll Officer:	Ros Harford	812190
Health & Safety Officer:	Daphne Jefferies daphnejefferies657@btinternet.com	659820
Youth and Children:	Eryl Spencer	651565
PCC Sub-Committees		
Fabric Committee:	Keith Larkin	449114
Social Events:	Dorryta Hayward	653322
Social Responsibility:	Dick Spencer	651565

Bell-ringers:	Caroline Emerson	658708
Prayer Circle:	Eryl Spencer	651565
Mothers' Union:	Margaret Gubbins	248757
100 club:	Margaret Harrison	652148
Vineyard Card Sales:	Keith Larkin	449114
Traidcraft:	Debbie Warren debbie@cdjm.co.uk	
Flower Arrangers:	Dorryta Hayward	653322
Coffee Shop Co-ordinator:	Caroline Emerson	658708
Magazine Editor:	Jenny Norris norrisjm2@gmail.com	812945
Magazine Distribution:	Sue Haslop	323765

REGULAR EVENTS (contacts above)

Choir Practice	Friday, 7.30 pm	
Bell ringing	Practice night: Wednesdays 7.30 - 9.00 pm in the Tower	
Mothers' Union	First Thursday in month, 2.30 pm in St. Andrew's Lady Chapel	
Coffee Shop	Wednesdays 9.30 am - 12.00 noon in St Andrew's Church	
Christian Meditation		
Group	Thursdays 7.30 pm at 2 Baydon's Lane Contact Michael Sammes	654608

The Church Office

Market Place, SN15 3HT

Tel: (01249) 655947

with out of hours answering machine

For general enquiries e-mail:
st.andrewschurch@zen.co.uk

Mondays, 6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

to make arrangements for
Baptisms, Marriage, reading of
Banns, etc.

st.andrewschurch@zen.co.uk

Tuesdays, 9.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.

to book the Hall and church
(for concerts and events etc.)

st.andrewschurch@zen.co.uk

Church Services

at St Andrew's Parish Church

Sundays

- 8.00 am Holy Eucharist
- 10.00 am 1st Sunday All Age Eucharist (*with baptisms*)
2nd Sunday Parish Eucharist
3rd Sunday Family Worship (*followed by a shortened Eucharist in the chancel at 11.15*)
4th & 5th Sundays Parish Eucharist
(*Sunday Club - see Andy's & Nic's page*)
- 4.00 pm Andys@4 (*A Service for All the Family, followed by refreshments - 2nd Sunday*)
- 6.30 pm Sung Evensong, Ministry of Healing and Celtic Service
(*3rd Sunday of the month, in 3 month rotation - see Diary page*)

Monday, Tuesday, Friday, Saturday

- 8.30 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday

- 8.00 am Morning Prayer

Thursday

- 8.30 am Holy Eucharist

at St Nicholas' Church, Tytherton Lucas

Sundays

- 8.30 am Holy Communion (*2nd & 4th Sundays*)
10.00 am Morning Service (*1st Sundays*)
10.00 am Matins (*3rd Sundays*)
3.00 pm Evensong (*5th Sunday – Winter months*)
6.30 pm Evensong (*5th Sunday – Summer months*)

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