

NEWS TO THE MARKET PLACE

75 pence

November 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 December 2018 edition
Sunday morning 28th October 2018

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

A Time to Remember



The calendar for the beginning of November includes three particular times for remembrance – one fairly light-hearted, the other two, powerful and profound.

Bonfire Night on the 5th (Remember, remember...) is more about what we don't remember than what we do. I guess that, like me, most folk know it's about Guy Fawkes and gunpowder, but can't remember if he was a good guy or a bad guy, and if we're celebrating his defeat or his audacious attempt. Bags of fun, but not something we take too seriously.

By contrast, the time of remembering which we call "All Souls' Tide" is a deep and thoughtful time. We hold a special service in church when we can light a candle and remember our loved ones who have died. Mediterranean and Latin American countries have kept this remembrance for centuries, but in this country we've perhaps rediscovered its value more recently. A chance to be still, reflect and give thanks together for those whose lives have touched and enriched our own.

Where All Souls' is personal to each of us, Remembrance Sunday is our national expression of respect and thankfulness. I've been heartened over the 30 years I've been a priest to see that we have become *more* committed to remembering rather than less as time passes. A chance to come together and recall the huge sacrifice on which our freedom is founded, reflecting on the present struggle to bring peace and stability to our world and praying for those who continue to defend us from all manner of threats. And as we reach the 100th anniversary of the end of the 1st World War we can recall, and perhaps have a share in, the most powerful emotional mixture of all – the elation that comes with liberation, amidst the heart-breaking grief at such terrible cost.

Remembering can be painful – and the more we love someone, the costlier it is – yet our loss is enfolded in the great hope that God gives us. In Christ, he has shown for all time that his love is stronger than death, and that what awaits us in his love is a joy that nothing can take from us. What we treasure in memory, God enfolds and renews in the life of his kingdom.

So, whether our remembering is on the worldwide scale of Remembrance Sunday, or the deeply personal loss of someone we love, it is hope that sustains us. A hope that helps us see beyond the darkness of the present to the light of the kingdom to come, where all human suffering finds healing and God's love makes us whole.

Best wishes,
Rod

Norman Fox

Liz, Sue, Penny, Beryl and all the "boys" wish to thank all their friends of the St. Andrew's family for their prayers, love and support during the past five months and particularly these last few weeks. It has meant a great deal to us all.

Liz is very thankful to be back home and is looking forward to seeing you all again there, "by arrangement".

We particularly wish to thank Rod for his continuing ministry and friendship to us all during these very challenging times.

We make a living by what
we get.
We make a life by what we
give.

D Hulse

All in the month of November

- 300 years ago, on 3rd Nov 1718 that John Montagu, the 4th Earl of Sandwich, was born. He may have been Postmaster General and First Lord of the Admiralty, but we remember him today as the inventor of the sandwich, which he ordered from his chef to sustain him at the gambling table.
- 150 years ago, on 13th Nov 1868 that Gioachino Rossini, major Italian composer, died. Best known for his operas, including *The Barber of Seville*.
- 100 years ago, on 4th Nov 1918 that Wilfred Owen, British poet and soldier, was killed. One of the leading poets of WW1, he was noted for his shocking realistic poetry about the horrors of trench warfare. Killed in action a week before the war ended, aged 25.
- 70 years ago, on 14th Nov 1948 that Charles, Prince of Wales, was born.
- 65 years ago, on 9th Nov 1953 that Dylan Thomas, Welsh poet, playwright and short story writer, died. Best known for his play *Under Milk Wood*, and his hard-drinking lifestyle.

News from Bristol Diocese



Revd Canon Graham Archer, seconded as Acting Archdeacon of Malmesbury



Revd Canon Graham Archer, Director of Ministry at CPAS (Church Pastoral Aid Society), is being seconded as Acting Archdeacon of Malmesbury while we recruit for the permanent successor to Ven Christine Froude, who retired on 30th September 2018. Graham will continue to work one day a week at CPAS during the secondment which is expected to last until Easter 2019.

“He brings extensive experience of parochial ministry with its challenges and opportunities. Many of our clergy already know Graham from the work he has been doing with us through our programmes for ministerial development and in the new Mission Areas” said Rt Revd Dr Lee Rayfield, Bishop of Swindon .

Graham has been Director of Ministry at CPAS since 2012. Having qualified as a biochemist, he worked for a missionary society in Japan before training for ordination at St John's Nottingham. He then served his curacy at St Matthew's Ipswich before planting churches in the Ipswich and Felixstowe areas for the next 14 years. He then moved on to become vicar of Highfield Church in Southampton for 13 years, before starting his role at CPAS.

Graham looks forward to taking up this exciting role and meeting the communities in the Malmesbury archdeaconry.



Canon David Winter:
The Way I See It :
The future in safe hands?

The Advent calendars, complete with chocolate, are already in the shops. The season actually begins at the end of this month, four weeks when Christians are meant to think seriously about the future. It's always been a human dilemma.

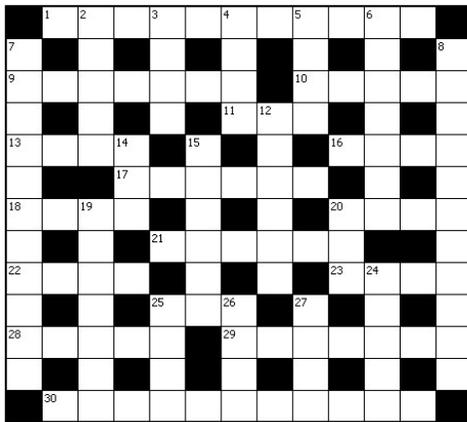
We know a lot about the past – ours and the history of our race. We know quite a lot about the present. But the fact is we know nothing about what might or will happen to us even five minutes ahead. In a few seconds our life can be turned upside down. We are introduced to a stranger who eventually becomes our life partner. The doctor tells us we are pregnant – or seriously ill. We get the sack or are offered a wonderful new job. Anything from a road traffic accident to a financial windfall to a leak in the kitchen ceiling can change everything in an instant.

So, it's not surprising that we are puzzled by the future. The past can be cherished – memories are precious. The present is to be lived to the best of our ability. But what can we do about the future? Our best laid plans are provisional, at best. No wonder soothsayers, fortune tellers and the rest have always done well.

For people who believe in God there is, however, a bit of help in his Name. In Hebrew it is 'Yahweh' (often wrongly transcribed as 'Jehovah'). It means, more or less, I AM. God simply *exists*, a kind of permanent present tense. So, while we see past, present and future, He is just the Existing One. Yes, I know that sounds baffling, but it makes sense that the Creator of everything can't be part of the time, space and matter that He created.

When I was a teenager we sang a gospel song that had a line I've never forgotten: 'We don't know what the future holds, but we know who holds the future'. It's a simple idea, but quite a profound thought for Advent!

November Crossword



Across

- 1 and 20 Down Lord of all ..., Lord of all..., whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy (11,3)
 9 Moses' question to a fighting Hebrew labourer: Why are you ... your fellow Hebrew? (Exodus 2:13) (7)
 10 Acclaimed cellist who contracted multiple sclerosis at the height of her fame, Jacqueline ... (2,3)
 11 At even ... the sun was set, the sick, O Lord, around thee lay (3)
 13 A descendant of Gad (Numbers 26:16) (4)
 16 Do not leave Jerusalem, but ... for the gift my Father promised (Acts 1:4) (4)
 17 Clambers (Jeremiah 48:44) (6)
 18 Peter's response to questioning by the Sanhedrin: We must ... God rather than men! (Acts 5:29) (4)
 20 Christian paraplegic author, artist and campaigner, ... Eareckson Tada (4)
 21 Bird partial to the nests of other birds (6)
 22 Such large crowds gathered round

- him that he got into a boat and sat ... (Matthew 13:2) (2,2)
 23 Infectious tropical disease (4)
 25 Tree (3)
 28 No fear of me should ... you, nor should my hand be heavy upon you (Job 33:7) (5)
 29 For example, to Titus, Timothy or Philemon (7)
 30 Week beginning with Pentecost Sunday, according to the Church's calendar (11)

Down

- 2 O Jerusalem, how ... I have longed to gather your children together (Matthew 23:37) (5)
 3 Way out (4)
 4 Exhort (Romans 12:1) (4)
 5 Done (anag.) (4)
 6 Highest of the four voice-parts in a choir (7)
 7 Concerning the study of God (11)
 8 Uniquely, it has Abbey, Cathedral and Chapel (11)
 12 Admonish (Matthew 16:22) (6)
 14 Frozen (3)
 15 Established form of religious ceremony (6)
 19 Inscription often found on grave-stones (7)
 20 See 1 Across
 24 Behaved (Joshua 7:1) (5)
 25 Time (anag.) (4)
 26 Lists choice of meals (4)
 27 For the wages of sin is death, but the ... of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus (Romans 6:23) (4)

Answers on Page 17



St Andrew

This month we are looking forward to St. Andrew's Day - 30th November. According to the gospel of Matthew, Andrew and his brother Simon Peter were the very first two disciples whom Jesus called. 'Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.' (Matt 4:18,19)

Without more ado, they obeyed. 'At once they left their nets and followed him.' The story is touching for the simple but total faith that they had in Jesus.

Whenever the gospels mention the disciples, Andrew's name is always in the first four. Rather than a boisterous leader of men (like Peter), he seems to have been an approachable person who wanted to help people.

It was Andrew who helped introduce a group of Greeks to Jesus (John 12:20-2) and Andrew who offered Jesus the five small barley loaves and two small fishes when Jesus challenged them to feed the five thousand. (John 6:8) His faith in Jesus over small things was richly rewarded, and this faithful, kindly Galilean fisherman turned disciple went on to become one of the 12 apostles of the Christian Church.

Andy's @ 4

November 11th

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

For more information phone

01249 651565

Andrew never settled back in Capernaum by Galilee. Instead, his 'fishing for men' seems to have taken him far. One ancient tradition links him with Greece, where both Scythia and Epirus claimed him as their apostle. Another place in Greece, Patras in Achaia, claimed to be the place where Andrew was eventually martyred.

Like Jesus, he was crucified, but the story goes that during the two days it took him to die, he preached earnestly to the people about Jesus. Andrew was not afraid of death on a cross – he had seen it before, and knew one thing for certain: because of Jesus, there was nothing but eternal life ahead of him.

In art Andrew is depicted with a normal Latin cross in the most ancient examples.

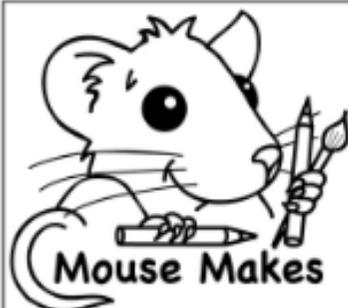


The saltire cross 'X', commonly called St Andrew's Cross, and which represents Scotland on the Union Jack, was associated with him from the 10th century.

Sunday Club Diary

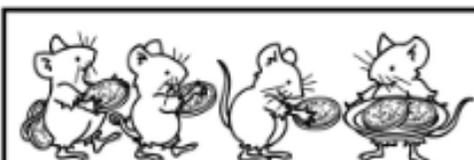
25th November

No Sunday Club on 11th November,
Remembrance Sunday



Remember
all the
commandments
of the Lord
and obey them

Colossians 3:25



Remember the words Jesus said:
*"It is more blessed to give
than to receive."*
Colossians 3:25

Jesus took bread,
gave thanks,
broke it and said,
*"This is my body
which I am giving
for you, do this to
remember me."*

Luke 22:19



Jesus said:
*"No one can have
greater love than
to give his life for
his friends."*



John 15:13

Remember to keep
the Sabbath day Holy

Exodus 20:8



Remember what you are taught,
and listen carefully to words
of knowledge.



Proverbs 23:12

 Cut out, colour and keep
these cards to help
you to remember
God's words to us.

**A POEM FOR
REMEMBRANCE DAY**
(Written by a 13-year-old boy)

“Please wear a poppy,” the lady said,
And held one out but I shook my
head.

Then I stopped and watched as she offered them there,
And her face was old and lined with
care;
But beneath the scars that the years had
made
There remained a smile that refused to
fade.

A boy came whistling down the street,
Bouncing along on carefree feet.
His smile was full of joy and fun.
“Lady,” he said, “Can I have one?”
When she’d pinned it on he turned to
say?
“Why do we wear a poppy today?”

The lady smiled in her wistful way
And answered, “This is Remembrance
Day ...
And the poppy there is a symbol for
The men and women who died in the
war;
And because they did, you and I are
free.
That’s why we wear a poppy, you see.

I had a boy about your size,
With golden hair
and big blue eyes;
He loved to play and jump and shout,
Free as a bird he would race about.
As the years went by he learned and
grew
And became a man as you will,
too!

He was fine and strong, with a cheeky
smile;

He seemed to be here such a little
while,
For when war broke out he went away;
I still remember his face that day,
When he smiled at me and
said ‘Goodbye!
I’ll be back soon, Mum please
don’t cry.’

But the war went on and he had to stay,
And all I could do was wait ... and
pray.
His letters told of the awful fight
(I still see it in my dreams at night)
The tanks and guns and cruel barbed
wire,
The mines and bullets, bombs and fire.
Until at last the war was won
That’s why we wear a poppy, son!”
The small boy turned, as if to go,
Then said, “Thanks, lady, I’m glad to
know.
That sure did sound an awful fight;
Your son did he come back al-
right?”

A tear rolled down the faded cheek;
She shook her head, but did not speak.
I crept away, feeling full of shame;
If you’d been me you’d have done the
same.
For our thanks, in giving, is often de-
layed
Though our freedom was bought ...
And thousands paid.

So, when you see a poppy worn
Try to think of the troubles borne
By those who gave their very all,
When asked to answer their Country’s
call;
That we at home in peace might live.

**SO, WEAR A POPPY ...
REMEMBER AND GIVE.**

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY NOTICE BOARD

Problems for fair trade

By the time you are reading this article, Traidcraft plc will have made one of the most difficult decisions they have ever had to face: whether or not to cease trading at the end of December 2018 after almost 40 years as pioneers of fair trade.

Many of my regular, loyal customers spoke to me today at the Fair Trade stall after the Harvest Festival service, expressing surprise and dismay at this latest news and asking me if I could explain how this situation has come about. Well, I did my best but though a passionate advocate of fair trade, I am no economist. In order to explain better the background and the options open to us, I am quoting in its entirety a personal response written by a fellow fair trade advocate - this was originally published online on the Joint Public Issues website (Churches working for Peace & Justice). With huge thanks to Ruth Murray for expressing her ideas so eloquently and effectively.

Traidcraft, the pioneering Fairtrade brand that brought us 'campaign coffee' and went on to develop huge range of Fairtrade products, has announced that it proposes to cease trading at the end of the year unless a solution can be found.

Along with many others I was deeply saddened, but sadly not that surprised. Two years ago, my own fair trade cotton fabric business was in exactly the same situation and I had to close it.

So why is the current environment so toxic for ethical traders?

Ethical businesses, and fair trade ones in particular, are motivated by growing their businesses to have the maximum possible impact. They want to keep the price they sell at as low as possible so that their wares are as accessible for as many people as possible. They need to cover their costs and pay the wages, but they aren't trying to maximise profit for its own sake. It's all about selling as much as possible so they can place more orders and support more people. Traidcraft, and my business, were structured to achieve exactly that.

The cost prices are of course higher than for other sellers. That's the whole point of fair trade – to make sure that the people you are buying from receive a fair price plus a premium to improve life in that community. And the purchase will usually take place in a currency that is secure for

the producer. A fair trade business doesn't want the producer to take on the risk of currency fluctuation. That wouldn't be fair.

In addition, fair trade businesses try to provide contracts that cover a long period, giving income security to the partners they work with. They leave themselves little wriggle room.

But a fair trade business model has become increasingly untenable. After the Brexit referendum there was an immediate change in the value of the pound. I had ordered fabric in May that was delivered in July. When I came to pay for it, the cost had increased by an unsustainable 15% solely due to the currency fluctuation. I couldn't see how this situation would change and, in the spirit of behaving fairly, I gave notice to my suppliers, and set about selling through the remaining stocks and paying all my bills to make sure that no-one was left out of pocket.

I was miserable. My business had been a completely viable going concern pouring thousands of pounds into disadvantaged communities in India, and yet it all came to an end so quickly.

The same drivers are at play with the Traidcraft scenario, and they must be miserable too. Collaborative and powerful relationships developed over decades with talented and now thriving communities are at risk of coming to an abrupt end and it all feels so unnecessary.

So, what can we do?

Shopping – *I would urge everyone with the means, to bring forward their Christmas shopping and spend at [traidcraftshop.co.uk](https://www.fairtrade.org.uk), and to have a look at <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/Buying-Fairtrade> for other places that you can still buy fairly traded products. All the businesses that specialise in Fairtrade will be facing the same pressures as Traidcraft. They all need our support if we want them to survive.*

Holding businesses to account – *There are other businesses that aren't ethical from the ground up. They sell a range of products, some of which are Fairtrade and some aren't. We need to keep up pressure on these businesses to maintain their Fairtrade ranges. They will also be feeling the pinch, but they are in a better position to be able to keep these ranges, especially if they know that we love them. Keep telling them, by whatever means you find convenient – letters to customer services, Twitter, Facebook...*

Fair trade is too important to lose! – *The current co-chairs of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Fairtrade are Holly Lynch MP (Labour) and Will Quince MP (Conservative). Why not contact them to let them know that we think fair trade is still important.*

For those of us committed to thoughtful consumption, the options are narrowing. Many of the foods, textiles and homewares we buy originate in communities that are often exploited. I am mourning that we now have fewer routes to use our pounds to create a change. We must speak up while we have the chance.

What does this all mean for us as the community of St Andrew's Church?

First and foremost, please be assured that we shall remain committed to fair trade. When I took on the Traidcraft stall from my predecessor, Mary Watts, we obviously could not have foreseen the current situation. If the unbearable becomes inevitable though and Traidcraft plc does indeed cease to trade in its existing form, I shall continue to source fairly traded products through alternative channels to ensure that St Andrew's will still be in a position to host a Fair Trade stall. We shall also remain loyal to the charity arm of Traidcraft (Traidcraft Exchange) by continuing to donate a percentage of our sales totals to support fledgling fair trade entrepreneurs in remote areas of the globe.

Many thanks for your ongoing support. I shall definitely keep you posted.

Yours prayerfully,
Debbie Warren

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO LISTEN TO CHILDREN READ IN LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Can you spare an hour or two a week to listen to children read in a local primary school? Schoolreaders has recently launched into Wiltshire and is looking for volunteers to carry out this important role.



Reading time for many children at home and at school is often insufficient and one in four children are now leaving primary school unable to read to the required standard. This can have lifelong consequences. No qualifications are necessary, just a good command of spoken and written English.

Schoolreaders is flexible and will match your availability to an appropriate, local school. Our volunteers find the scheme incredibly rewarding, knowing that a few hours helping a child learn to read each week can have such a great impact on their life chances.

Please visit the website www.schoolreaders.org to join or call 01234 924111 for further information.

Charity Reg. No. 1159157

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



Sunday, 16th September 2018

1280 Grandsire Triples
Composed by Will Willans

1 Lin Drummond-Harris
2 Jane Ridgwell
3 Sara Bye
4 Morley Bray

5 Andrew Woolley ©
6 John Stott
7 Richard Iles
8 Rodney Brown

*For evening service, and in memory of Norman Fox, whose Thanksgiving Service
was held at St. Andrew's on Monday 10th September*

From the Registers

Christian Burial and Cremation



10 th Sept	Norman Alan Fox
24 th Sept	Anthony John Winterton
26 th Sept	Pauline Mary Buckley
27 th Sept	Janet Miriam Elsie Sheppard

'I am the resurrection and the life'

St John 11.25

Carols around the Piano

Thursday 6th December
7.30pm

Please come and join us



Diary for November

Thursday 1	<i>All Saints Day</i>	
	2.30pm	Mother's Union, Lady Chapel, St. Andrew's Church
Sunday 4	<i>Fourth Sunday before Advent</i>	
	8.00 am	Said Eucharist, traditional language, St. Andrew's Church
	10.00 am	All Age Eucharist, St. Andrew's Church
	4.00 pm	All Souls' Service, St. Andrew's Church
Monday 5	1.30 pm	Art Group, St. Andrew's Church
Tuesday 6	1.30 pm	Andy's Tots, St. Andrew's Church
Sunday 11	<i>Third Sunday before Advent, Remembrance Sunday</i>	
	8.00 am	Said Eucharist, traditional language, St. Andrew's Church
	10.15 am	Remembrance Service, St. Andrew's Church
	4.00 pm	Andy's at 4, St. Andrew's Church
Monday 12	1.30 pm	Art Group, St. Andrew's Church
Tuesday 13	1.30 pm	Andy's Tots, St. Andrew's Church
Saturday 17	7.30 pm	NWSO Concert, St. Andrew's Church
Sunday 18	<i>Second Sunday before Advent</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	Evensong, St. Andrew's Church
Monday 19	1.30 pm	Art Group, St. Andrew's Church
Tuesday 20	1.30 pm	Andy's Tots, St. Andrew's Church
Sunday 25	<i>Christ the King</i>	
	8.00 am	Said Eucharist, traditional language, St. Andrew's Church
	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist, St. Andrew's Church
Monday 26	1.30 pm	Art Group, St. Andrew's Church
Tuesday 27	1.30 pm	Andy's Tots, St. Andrew's Church
Thursday 29	6.00 pm	Patronal service, St. Andrew's Church

A Letter from Uncle Eustace

On the perils of the PCC

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren,

I am truly furious. I know that God has given clergy church councils, so they can have a better understanding of hell, but last night's meeting really was too much. The traps are always sprung under "any other business". Several hundred thousand pounds can be committed to repairing the tower without the slightest murmur, but if someone should suggest mending the tea urn under AOB, the meeting will close with blood on the carpets.

So it was yesterday evening. We had negotiated the tricky subject of not mentioning the verger when it was recorded that the cupboard containing the Communion wine will be kept locked in future. We had ever-so-gently sat on Mr Onions when he questioned whether it was biblical to hold raffles at our social evenings. We even smiled with equanimity when Lady Faversham grumbled about the damp Communion wafers.

But when our treasurer, after a long preamble about soaring house prices in the village, suggested that the 12 bedroomed Queen Anne Rectory be sold and I be housed in one of the "more convenient" potting sheds being built on the green, I did not expect near universal agreement from council members.

That the new Rectory would have all the aesthetic charm of a suburban bus shelter seemed to be irrelevant; that I would have to learn to have all my meals in one dining room, rather than rotate round the present three seemed to be of no concern; that my dog would lose his own private suite passed them by entirely. This may be a case for calling in the Canine Protection Society.

The thought that I would have to get used to a warm, dry house with 21st century plumbing does not bear contemplation. It is only the cold, damp accommodation with Victorian water closets that keeps parishioners and visiting clergy at bay.

It was a close struggle; here was an opportunity for council members to settle a few old scores. You could sense the gleam in Colonel Mitch-

ell's eyes as he recalled losing the hiding place for his whisky when we removed his box pew 30 years ago; he has been obliged to listen to the sermon ever since. And as for Miss Throckmore, who was allocated to decorate the porch rather than the great east window for last year's Harvest, she leapt at the opportunity of condemning me to life in a cardboard box. You could also sense a certain satisfaction when parishioners realised they would then be able to keep an eye on my movements, since there would no longer be several acres of ground and privet hedges to maintain my privacy.

Fortunately, I negotiated some time when I mentioned that possible legal obstacles must be cleared first. In the meantime, I shall be writing to apply for grants to build a substantial moat round my present Rectory – provided it has a working drawbridge.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace



Forthcoming Events

Thursday November 1st, 2.30pm

Lady Chapel, St. Andrew's Church

Pam Mills,

'My Life Experiences'

Please bring contributions for the Asylum Seekers and Refugees Rice Collection. Tinned vegetables, fish and toiletries are also very welcome

Thursday December 6th, 12.00 for 12.30pm

North wilts Bowls Club

Pre-Christmas Lunch

St. Andrew's Coffee Shop



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

Talk, Friendship, Refreshment

Crossword Answers
(Based on NIV)

ACROSS:
1, Hopefulness. 9, Hitting. 10, du
Pre. 11, Ere. 13, Ozni.
16, Wait. 17, Climbs. 18, Obey. 20,
Joni. 21, Cuckoo. 22, In it. 23,
Yaws. 25, Elm. 28, Alarm. 29, Epis-
the. 30, Whitsuntide.

DOWN:
2, Often. 3, Exit. 4, Urge. 5, Node.
6, Soprano. 7,
Theological. 8, Westminster. 12,
Rebuke. 14, Icy. 15, Ritual. 19,
Epitaph. 20, Joy. 24, Acted. 25,
Emit. 26, Menu. 27, Gift.

Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

1 Corinthians 16:13

Alfred was unusual among Saxon royal children in as much as he was educated and remained with his family throughout his childhood. This was not usual with noble families who normally sent their children to relatives for a number of years at a young age. This, of course, would have had the effect of Alfred being exposed to and observing the workings of the royal court and the political, religious and military realities of the time. Throughout his entire childhood and adult life Alfred would not know a time when Wessex was not in armed conflict with the Heathen intruders or expecting it.

The majority of Alfred's siblings were much older than him, something in excess of 20 years between his eldest brother Aethelstan and himself, similarly his brothers' Aethelbald and Aethelberht and his sister Aethelswith were also in this age group. They were in fact half brothers and sisters having been born of the King's first wife.

Alfred and his elder brother Aethelred were born after the King had remarried to the Saxon noblewoman Osburh following the death of his first wife.

Alone among the Anglo Saxon dynasties Wessex did not bestow the title of Queen on the King's wife.

Osburh died when the boys were infants and the King married yet again to a Frankish Princess, Judith, many years his junior. It was indeed a hard fact of life in medieval times that life expectancy was around 35 years for women, if they were lucky, due to many factors not least the perils of child birth. Men were considered to be in ripe old age at 50. Parents had always to be prepared for tragedy as infant child mortality was high.

Alfred lost his mother at the age of four, his eldest brother a couple of years later and his father at the age of nine. In 865 Aethelred inherited the throne of Wessex from their brother Aethelberht, Alfred was six-

teen years old, his brother the King a couple of years or so older. The destiny and survival of the kingdom was now in the hands of the two teenagers. They decided that now was the time to marry, both chose Mercian Noble women. The King's wife's name was Wulfthryth and Alfred's Ealswith.

Aethelred has come to the throne 72 years after the much despised raids on Lindisfarne and Jarrow, much Christian and Heathen blood had been spilt and the military situation from the Anglo Saxon point of view is grim. The Kingdoms of East Anglia and Northumbria are lost, Mercia is under pressure and the eyes of the great Heathen armies are now turning towards Wessex.



King Burgred of Mercia appeals to Aethelred and his young brother for help against the invading Vikings who had seized Nottingham and they respond by raising a large force and marching north. The Vikings had fortified the settlement and it was winter during which they generally avoided combat and refused to come out. The Christian army was not willing or able to assault the fortress and so Burgred was forced to do a deal with the Norsemen. These deals were commonplace to be able to buy time, and consisted of "paying off" the Vikings with substantial sums so they will swear an oath to leave the Kingdom, which they would do for a time but consistently reneged on their oaths and returned to threaten again when it suited them.

The brothers returned to Wessex which was under threat by the Viking King Halfdan who commanded the great Heathen army in the south. He crossed the Thames and attacked Reading taking it and fortifying it. Aethelred and Alfred immediately marched to meet the threat, initially successful inflicting a defeat they were forced in to a withdrawal when the Vikings counter attacked. The Norsemen pressed to exploit their advantage and moved onwards towards the crossing

on the Thames at Wallingford probably looking towards the monastery at Abingdon and the rich estate. The two armies collided at Ashdown, the Saxons dividing into two groups, one commanded by Alfred and the other by the King. The ensuing fierce battle resulted in a resounding victory for the Saxons who drove the Vikings back to the fortress at Reading.



Both sides exhausted, the Vikings remained in Reading to regroup and lick their wounds and the Saxons regrouped to discuss what to do in the weeks ahead. Within a couple of weeks the Vikings were in the field again and the Saxons brought them to Battle at Basingstoke. It was not on the scale of Ashdown but the Saxons left the field first and conceded victory to the Norsemen. In a short time the two armies would meet yet again this time at Wilton, a very close run thing with heavy losses to both sides, the Vikings were victorious with Saxons leaving the field first. Both sides were now ready for respite from the gruelling winter war that they had embarked upon and withdrew at least for the time being to their safe areas.

Four weeks after the battle at Wilton the Saxons received a severe setback, King Aethelred died, probably from an infection in a wound received at Wilton. Aethelred's two sons were still children who could not be contemplated as King in the present emergency and so the most unlikely event had come to pass, Alfred the fifth son of King Aethelwulf was crowned King of Wessex.

The first news the new King was to receive in his new court was alarming. A new Viking King, Guthrum, had arrived in the Thames estuary with a new summer great Heathen army to join forces with Halfdan's army standing inside Alfred's kingdom.

The two kings were to become inextricably entwined in their destiny.

To be continued-----

Barry Hayward

News from St. Andrew's PCC

(Parochial Church Council)

11th September 2018



- 1) It was noted that this was Mike Holtham's, (Tytherton Lucas St Nicholas Treasurer and representative) last meeting.
- 2) Becky Harding, St Andrew's PCC Secretary was also attending in this capacity.
- 3) Many thanks were expressed for all their input.
- 4) Remy offered to take over as minute secretary, this was gratefully accepted.
- 5) Although the hall complex is known as St Andrew's Hall, it was agreed that the hall should have an interior name – 'King Alfred's Hall'.
- 6) Geoff Oldnall gave a comprehensive presentation about the church organ, and a special PCC meeting in October was arranged to deal with this matter.
- 7) It was agreed that Daphne undertake the duties of Safeguarding Officer, vice Elizabeth Blum to whom sincere thanks were expressed.
- 8) A request from the Diocese to increase our Parish Share for 2019 was noted, this will be debated at the November PCC.
- 9) Jenny gave notice that she was resigning her position as Editor of the magazine at the end of the year, Remy's offer to become editor was gratefully accepted.
- 10) Sam Shepherd will give the address at the Patronal Service on the 29th November.
- 11) The 2019 Retreat has been arranged 22nd – 24th March.
- 12) Barry reported on the anticipated completion date for the renovation of the Hall.
- 13) Noting that complicated jobs were undertaken by church members, it was thought that 'job descriptions' be compiled.

Daphne Jefferies



THE GREAT WAR
1914 - 1918

Diary of a Momentous Year: November 1918: When the boys came home

By Autumn 1918 it was obvious that the war was coming to an end, Germany was clearly beaten, but no one had actually won. The front line was more or less as it had been for years, but after Amiens the Germans knew that this was a conflict they could never win. High level discussions took place, while in

Britain the public mood was surprisingly optimistic. ‘There’s a silver lining’, the songs said. ‘Keep the home fires burning till the boys come home’. When an ‘Armistice’ was announced, there was euphoria. No more killing, the guns silenced. Peace at last!

‘Armistice’ was a new word for most people – not a peace treaty or settlement (that would follow a conference in Paris the following January), but simply a laying down of arms, but for many that was enough for now. ‘No more killing’, they declared. Most of the boys did come home, but tens of thousands didn’t. We have tended to judge the first World War by the numbers involved – and they are appalling, but each casualty was someone’s personal loss, as I learnt in my first parish.

It was a rural village near Oxford. Each month I took Communion to an elderly woman known to everyone as Kim. She was in her nineties and had been a teenager during the Great War. Her two brothers were serving on the Western Front. A few days before the Armistice the post office motor-cyclist delivered the telegram they had been dreading, one of the boys had been killed in action. A week or so later, after the fighting had stopped, the same messenger returned, with the same message about her other brother. As she told me of it, 70 years after the event, her eyes filled with tears. That was the true price of war, and when I share the silence on Remembrance Day it is her and those two young men I think of, not the million others from many nations who fell in that terrible conflict.

My father enlisted to join in ‘the war to end all wars’. It didn’t, of course. Twenty-one years later it all started again. War doesn’t end wars. True peace does.

Canon David Winter

TENTH Annual Knitted Crib Pilgrimage! Where has the time gone?



Our Tenth anniversary of the Knitted Crib Pilgrimages will soon be upon us! My cupboards are once again bursting open with bags of wonderful striped sheep. As usual, my flocks arrived early and there were sheep on display in the Easter Garden! More than ever in an Anniversary Year, I should like to encourage all our church families,

All Age Service families, Andy's@4, Andy's Tots families and households with no children under 18 to sign up to host one of the THREE Knitted Crib sets sent out last year.

Each set has the knitted figures of Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus, 2 shepherds, 3 Kings and a donkey & tiny angels etc. Households will host for one night during Advent from Sunday 2nd December until December 23rd – potentially 66 hosts required to accommodate all three knitted sets! As the cribs leave each home we ask each child to choose and keep a sheep as a memento of hosting the set. Households where there are no children under 18 are asked to keep just ONE sheep. The Cribs for families, minus most of the stripy sheep, will return to church in time for the Crib & Christingle service on December 23rd. As in previous years, I am confident that the journals which accompany the cribs will be full of photos, drawings and reflections on the experience. Each journal has contained prayers for the wider St Andrew's congregation at Christmas along with thanks to the knitters and organisers and over the past nine years there has been a real sense of community and continuity amongst the hosts.

By the time this has gone to print, signing up forms will have been sent/handed out and many of you will be looking forward to hosting a crib for one night. I try to be very flexible so please do not be shy about asking me to fit you onto a rota – my notion of Advent has often been quite fluid in the last ten years!

Eryl Spencer

651565/ emwspencer143@btinternet.com

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St Nicholas' Church

Tytherton Lucas



Service Times at St Nicholas'

Care of the Church

4 th	Nov	10.00 am	Morning Service	Mrs. E. Spencer	Mary Hobbs
11 th	Nov	11.00 am	Remembrance Service		
			at the Moravian Church		Mary Hobbs
18 th	Nov	10.00 am	Matins	Rev. D. Copeland	Robbie Tooney
25 th	Nov	8.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev. R. Key	Robbie Tooney

Michael Rigby 17/11/1929 - 9/9/2018

East Tytherton

Michael had a very wide and varied life. He started as a cabinet makers apprentice, then a monk in Prinknash Abbey, national service in the RAF, which led to an officers commission and his wings in 1952. He flew Canberra's, Valiants and V-bombers before becoming a flight instructor.

After moving to British Airways he then worked in the Middle East for Gulf Air. He was ordained in 1990 and was dedicated to much charity work in India, specifically Mother Theresa's orphanages in Bombay.

After retiring he returned to his woodwork and his faith was stronger than ever. He passed suddenly on his way to church.

He was completely at peace within himself but will be sorely missed by his family and many others. His huge generosity of spirit and his kindness will remain in our hearts.

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
at St Nicholas'	Elizabeth Sexton	660235
PCC Secretary:	Remy Osman remyworldpeace@hotmail.com	
at St Nicholas'	Sheila Laurence	740687
PCC Treasurer:	Chris Norris chris_norris51@hotmail.co.uk	812945
Assistant Treasurer:	Brian Elliott	463230
at St Nicholas'	Wendy Reeves	650622
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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