

THE

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

ST. ANDREW'S HERALD

St. Andrew's Church Chippenham with St. Nicholas' Tytherton Lucas



Two Questions

Autumn Fayre

A Passion Play

Upcoming Event
& Concert details

All of your
favourite regular
features and
updates

Photo: Gavin Macrae

www.standrewschippenham.org.uk

No. 70
October 2024

THE ST. ANDREW'S HERALD



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

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Tues, Weds and Fri mornings

Please contact the office for all
enquiries, including baptisms,
weddings and funerals. For hall
bookings and enquiries please
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Photo: Gavin Macrae

Two Questions

Two questions I have recently been asked: 1) what does a vicar actually do? And 2) what is it that St Andrew's actually believes?

Now, I am someone who can suffer from what might be called taxi-cab answers (I think of the better answer on the way home!) so I had to confess to God my feeble response to the first question and now I want to confess to you the response of my second.

This was, of course, an impossible question to answer in any concise way. Yes, there are the creeds. We have our parish statement of inclusivity, welcome and service. We are also a fair trade and eco church. Then under that, there will be a vast array of belief and understanding amongst individuals. For instance, some may have fully worked out the doctrines of trinitarian co-existence, whilst others are fully convinced that their faith is built on practical deeds of goodness and service. Still others may be content to come and enjoy the music and community, or even to worship here despite the tradition or ethos or with more doubt than belief. We all come to God in different ways, from different life-experiences and with different expectations.

But one belief we do have in common is that we are willing to openly confess Christ. Or at least be amongst a people who do. This is what sets apart the ecclesia - the Church - from the world: a people who are willing to discern the movement of God in - not only- their lives but in the life of humanity and of all of creation too.

And held dear to our parish with this common confession of Christ is a belief in the Good News of inclusivity of creativity and hospitality which, I believe, lay ourselves wide open to the work of the Spirit. A church that has as its only points of reference long established “truths” rather than THE Truth, THE Life and THE Way, is dangerously close to becoming static and irrelevant. It is important, especially in the current theological climate (which is worryingly veering towards binary, introspective preferences), that churches like ours cultivate a FIRM belief that is “open -” as the liberation theologian Gustavo Gutierrez puts it “in the protest against trampled human dignity... in liberating love, and in the building of a new, just, and comradely society - to the gift of the kingdom of God”. This is what I believe Jesus showed us in his incarnation, teaching, death and resurrection: that God, in Christ, liberates humanity - “I came that they may have life and have it abundantly” says Jesus in John 10:10.

So, I may have got us wrong, and for that I ask for forgiveness! But whether right or wrong, I can say that I am looking forward, with St Andrew’s and St Nicholas’ to believing, to confessing, to becoming a more Christ-shaped church that is truly inclusive, welcoming and serving, and that never stops being part of the process through which the whole world is transformed.

And maybe you can help me work on the answer to the first question!

Fr Benji





**GEORGE HAYWARD FROM
MELKSHAM OAK SCHOOL IS GOING
TO ECUADOR WITH CAMPS
INTERNATIONAL IN 2025 TO
UNDERTAKE ECOLOGICAL
& COMMUNITY PROJECTS**



**FLOWER ARRANGING CHARITY
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BY DORRYTA HAYWARD

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To help raise funds for her 16 yr old grandson George who
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**IN THE KING ALFRED HALL AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,
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SATURDAY 2ND NOVEMBER 2024 FROM 2 - 5 PM



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Christmas Day Meal

**At Sheldon Road Methodist Church, 2 Audley
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St Andrew's Parish Church
Chippenham

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AUTUMN FAYRE
12 OCTOBER | 10-2



GRAND DRAW
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PRIZES

AUTUMN FAYRE

FREE ADMISSION

SUPPORTING ST ANDREW'S

WHAT?

A FAMILY FUN TIME OF TRADITIONAL SHOPPING, FEASTING AND COMMUNITY IN AN HISTORIC SETTING

STALLS

- BOOKS & CARDS
- HANDICRAFTS
- GIFTS, PLANTS
- POSH FROCKS
- FLOWER BASKETS
- GAMES & PUZZLES
- BRIC-A-BRAC

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£75, £50 &
OTHER PRIZES

FOOD & DRINKS

- CAKES & BISCUITS
- TEA & COFFEE
- LUNCHES
- SWEETS
- JAMS & PICKLES

WHEN?

SATURDAY
12TH OCTOBER
2024
10AM-2PM

WHERE?

standrewschippenham.org.uk
St Andrew's Church
Market Place
Chippenhams
Wiltshire
SN15 3HT
Church Open Daily: 8am-5pm



ABOUT

ST Andrew's exists to inspire people to worship God and serve their neighbour. It is welcoming to all, no matter their race, gender, sexual orientation, belief, or stage on a faith journey. It promotes the Christian message through a variety of liturgies, preaching, teaching and living out the gospel of love. All are welcome.

North Wiltshire Symphony Orchestra

The North Wiltshire Symphony Orchestra will give its next concert in St. Andrew's church on **Saturday November 16th at 7.30 p.m.**

Tickets are £15 adult; £2 accompanied children.

Available from: www.wegotickets.com/northwiltisorchestra;
The Neeld Community & Arts Centre 01249 446699 or
neeld.co.uk; at the door and from orchestra members.

Refreshments will be available in the interval in the usual way.
Do enjoy them and thus support **WellBoring**

In this concert we take a different romantic theme from June with two great Russian works. We hope to see a large audience again for this trio of some of the most famous and popular orchestral pieces.

*This concert features soloist **Paul Bosworth**, principal trumpet of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. He studied at both Trinity Laban Conservatoire and the Royal Academy of Music. After graduating he has worked with the E.U. Baroque orchestra and performed with some of the leading symphony orchestras in Europe.*

November Concert Lineup

Tchaikovsky: Romeo & Juliet, Overture-Fantasy

Shakespeare's story of young love is vividly brought to life in this, almost symphonic, work. The three sections contrast first Friar Lawrence with his foreboding of doom. Then there is the battle of Capulets and Montagues and finally a dramatic catastrophe completes this descriptive work.

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No.6 Pathétique

This was Tchaikovsky's last major work, completed just before his death. He did first call it his "Passionate Symphony" and "A riddle to everyone". Early writers thought that meant it's either autobiography or a suicide note, but research suggests that it's neither. Its passionate nature has made it one of the most popular symphonies ever since. The first three movements follow standard forms and have memorable melodies. The "limping waltz" of the second and the playful scherzo of the 3rd are full of playful joy. The finale is the most unusual being both slow and darkly dramatic, dying away to a muted end very different from the usual bold symphonic climaxes.

Hummel: Trumpet Concerto

Hummel bridges the transition from Classical to Romantic composers and technically for the transition from Baroque to modern trumpet. It is thoroughly modern in style giving the soloist many opportunities for virtuoso display in the outer movements. The central, slow movement is, by contrast, both serious and dramatic.

The NWSO acknowledges with thanks the permission of the Clergy to perform at St. Andrew's church and the continuing help of the Rector, Church Wardens and other staff in staging our concerts.



Mothers' Union Update

Oberammergau Passion Play

Rev. Judith Lee gave us a very interesting presentation on the Oberammergau Passion Play. She began by explaining that the play was first performed in 1634 when an outbreak of bubonic plague devastated Bavaria during the Thirty Years War (1618-1648). Initially, Oberammergau managed to remain plague free by forbidding any movement into or out of the village. However, on 25th September 1633, a man named Kasper Schisler managed to return home after working in a neighbouring village. Needless to say, he brought the disease with him! Over the next 33 days, 81 villagers would die, half of Oberammergau's population. On 28th October 1633, the villagers vowed that if God spared them from the plague, they would perform a play every 10 years depicting the life and death of Jesus. Nobody died of the plague in Oberammergau after that vow, and the villagers have kept their word to God, performing the play for the first time in 1634 and then every 10 years till 1674 and each decadal year since 1680, with just a few exceptions.

Judith explained that the text of the play is a composite of four distinct manuscripts dating from the 15th and 16th centuries, performed on open-air stages in the village over a period of about 5 hours. It involves over 2,000 people: actors, musicians, stage technicians, and others, all residents of the village, whose total population today is just over 5,000. The play comprises spoken dramatic text, musical and choral accompaniment and *tableau vivants*, which are scenes from the Old Testament depicted for the audience by motionless actors accompanied by verbal description. Judith provided a CD of some of the music and a large number of slides to illustrate her talk, which made it a very entertaining afternoon.

Next month – a date for your diaries

Our October meeting will be of special interest to those, both gentlemen and ladies, who are of an age to remember the lovely **David Coleman**, Sports Presenter who appeared frequently on our television screens. His two daughters will be coming to tell us about 'Our Dad'. It would be lovely to give them a warm welcome to St. Andrew's so please everyone put the date in your diaries - **Monday, 14 October at 2.30 pm.**



A photo of some of our members including Fr Benji and Rosemary Daniel (seated left) who were both enrolled in to the Mothers' Union today at the Eucharist Service by the Diocesan President, Jackie Fredrickson (next to Fr Benji).

Denise Addison
Branch Leader

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families



TRIO PARADIS

Jacquelyn Bevan - piano Lisa Betteridge - violin Linda Stocks - cello

Friendship through music

TUESDAY 2nd JULY
Stage & Screen

TUESDAY 6th AUGUST
Scenes of Childhood

TUESDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER
Shall We Dance?

TUESDAY 1st OCTOBER
Vive la France!

TUESDAY 5th NOVEMBER
Money, Money, Money...

TUESDAY 3rd DECEMBER
A December Evening

Monthly Café Concerts

First Tuesday of
each month
at 11am

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH Chippenham SN15 3JN

Café serving home-made cakes open 10.30am. Concerts last c45 min.
Entrance by donation, with a retiring collection
www.trioparadis.com

Trio Paradis' Café Concerts continue on the first Tuesday of every month at 11am with café serving home-made cakes and 'real' coffee from c10.15am.

1st October: *Vive La France! Poulenc, Piaf and many more*

5th November: *Money, Money, Money...*

3rd December: *A December Evening*



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Mouse gets a shock!

Mouse was enjoying life at St Andrews. She had lots of friends, plenty of food and time to explore; in fact she could do almost exactly as she pleased whenever she felt like it. From time to time she'd check with the Mouse Elders or with Pink Pony just to make sure she didn't upset anyone (like trying to eat the Harvest Festival food) but life was easy. The truth was Mouse was beginning to get a little bit fed up. Life was dull and predictable.

Mouse liked the Children's Corner and enjoyed looking at the toys and books but there was no excitement or real danger; no having to hide from water rats or dodge sparrow hawks looking for their supper like her old life on the river bank. Mouse had become overconfident and bored. That is until one Sunday in October when everything changed.

Wandering around and not paying attention, she realised lots of people were coming in and that the 10.30 service was about to start. Mouse was far away from all her hidey holes and stranded. In desperation, she dashed under the big brass eagle and hoped that no-one would notice her!

The choir came down the centre of the church and to Mouse's surprise and terror, a LION walked past her into the choir stalls!! Mouse rubbed her eyes and looked across the church but then what did she see but a BLACK PANTHER lying on the floor under a chair!!!!

“Oh my nose and tail and whiskers” thought Mouse “What am I to do! I’ll just be really still and quiet until the service is over and then I can scamper off and warn Pink Pony and all the other Mice. I have to save everyone”.

As soon as the church was quiet again, Mouse rushed over to Pink Pony and the words all tumbled out about what she’d seen and how she knew all about Wild Animals because of the story books she’d seen in the Children’s Corner and that lions were golden coloured and Panthers were black and what should they do! They’d all have to leave St Andrew’s immediately and find safety!!

“Thank you Dear Mouse, this is very brave of you but all is well” said Pink Pony in a kind and gentle voice “those animals you saw aren’t wild and ferocious beasts but very clever and gentle Labrador dogs especially trained to help people. The ‘Lion’ is Ziggy who is a guide dog and she helps her owner find a safe path. The ‘Black Panther’ is Ted and he’s a PAT dog. He goes with his owners to places where people can stroke him and pat him and it makes all those people feel calmer and Ted makes them feel safe and loved”.

“Oh” said Mouse feeling very stupid “I’m so sorry Pink Pony for making such a fuss. I thought I knew everything and, of course, I don’t. I still have such a lot to learn. Will you and the other Mice please help me not to be so silly?”

“Of course” said Pink Pony - and smiled.

Sue Symonds & Sue Stearn

Parish Noticeboard

Services at St. Nicholas' Church, Tytherton Lucas

13th October *Evensong with Communion* 3.30 pm

27th October *Holy Communion* 3.30 pm

Please bring grocery packets and tins to donate to Doorway

Sheila Laurence

01249 740687

100 Club Draw for last month

£100: 42

£40: 33

£25: 67

Margaret Harrison

A successful quarter peal was rung...

Gloucester & Bristol Diocesan Association
St Andrew's Chippenham, Wiltshire

Sunday, 1 September 2024
1260 Plain Bob Minor

1 Morley Bray

2 Jane Ridgwell

3 Richard Iles

4 Carole Simpson

5 Richard Heath

6 Andrew K Woolley (C)

Rung for Evening Service

EVENTS AT ST ANDREW'S

Saturday 6 October **12noon – 4pm**
Chippenham Alternative Market (King Alfred Hall)

Saturday 12 October **10am – 2pm**
Autumn Fayre

Saturday 19 October **7.30pm**
Village Singers Concert

Saturday 2 November **2pm – 5pm**
Flower Demo & Afternoon Tea

Saturday 2 November **7.30pm**
Grief Opera

Saturday 16 November **7.30pm**
North Wilts Symphony Orchestra Concert

Saturday 30 November **7.30pm**
WCO Concert

Silent Prayer

All are welcome to join for Silent Prayer every Thursday at 7:30pm for 30 minutes at 2 Baydon's Lane, Chippenham.
Contact **Michael Sammes** (654608)

Who's Who?

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chippenhavicar@yahoo.com

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 Viv Prout & Laurinda Elliott.

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 Gavin Macrae 659922

Deputy Churchwardens

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Assistant Treasurers

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 Sue Wood 650478

Treasurer (St. Nicholas')

Wendy Reeves 650622

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Ros Harford 812190

Care Group Co-ordinator

Eryl Spencer 651565

Gift Aid Officer

Sue Wood

Giving Officer

Gavin Macrae 659922

Electoral Roll Officer

Ros Harford 812190

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Stephen Riley
standrews.safeguarding@outlook.com

100 Club

Margaret Harrison 652148

The Book and Cardstall

Sue Stearn 462593
 Sue Symonds 659293

Groups and Organisations at St. Andrew's

Robed Choir and Singers

Paul Fortune 652643
Paulandmyra25@gmail.com

Bell-ringers

Caroline Emerson 658708

Prayer Circle

Eryl Spencer 651565

Flower Arrangers

Dorryta Hayward 653322

Coffee Shop Co-ordinator

Caroline Emerson 658708

Mothers' Union

Denise Addison 814843
denise.addison@googlemail.com

Silent Prayer Group

Thursdays at 7.30 pm
 Michael Sammes 654608

PCC Sub-Committees

Fabric Committee

Gavin Macrae 659922

Social Events

Dorryta Hayward 653322

Social Responsibility

Dick Spencer 651565

Youth and Children

Eryl Spencer 651565

Communications Committee

Parish Hall Committee

Friends of St. Andrew's

Jenny Norris 812945

When You Pray

Our little lives, our big problems—these we place upon Your altar.

Pour out upon us whatever our spirits need, of shock, of life, of release

That we may find strength for these days - courage and hope for tomorrow.

In confidence we rest in Your sustaining grace

Which makes possible triumph in defeat, gain in loss, and love in hate.

We rejoice this day to say:

Our little lives, our big problems—these we place upon Your altar.



Howard Thurman
(1899-1981)

*Christian Mystic,
Civil Rights Leader*

A Final Word

I was pleased to edit the back page of this magazine to update the various service times, and I was particularly delighted to see a return to monthly BCP Choral Evensong, as I used to enjoy attending at St. Andrew's – followed by a good curry over the road – whenever this service used to take place.

My only regret is that with the extended timetable of services, there was less space to include the little drawing of our Church which I have always found so charming. Does anybody happen to know who drew this and when? I am determined to keep it a part of this magazine's design, so I need to find a new spot for it!



Remy Osman, Editor

Church Services

St. Andrew's Parish Church, Chippenham with St. Nicolas' Tytherton Lucas

St Andrew's Church Chippenham

9am Said Eucharist

A said service with traditional language.

10.30am Eucharist

The main Parish Eucharist with singing and congregational hymns. Led by our robed choir on the 1st, 3rd and some 5th Sundays and 'All Age Eucharist' led by the singing group on 2nd and 4th Sundays.

4pm Andy's@4

First Sunday of the month. An informal form of worship for families – includes discussions, play, craft, singing and prayer.

6.30pm BCP Choral Evensong

First Sunday of the Month. A beautiful, traditional sung service.

St Nicholas' Tytherton Lucas

BCP Evenson or Holy Communion

2nd & 4th Sunday, unless at Bowood House Chapel. At 3.30pm October to March and 6.30pm from April to September.

Please see inside on page 16 for the latest details.

