





The Parish of Tidenham Contacts

St Mary & St Peter Tidenham	St Michael & All Angels Tidenham Chase	ase Tutshill			
Sunday: 9:00am Sunday: 6:00pm Sunday: 11.00am www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk					
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Church Warden	Brian Duerden	01291 623310			
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PCC Treasurer	Ewen Hamilton	01291 626158			
Bell Ringers	Cate Phillips	01291 624260			
Tidenham Choir	Roger Martin	01291 627800			
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OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

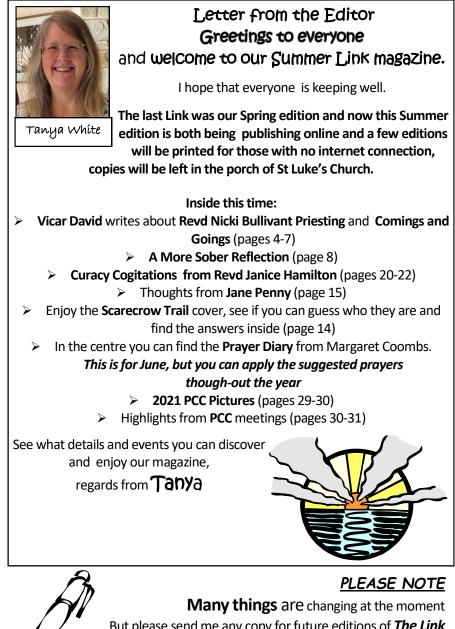
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CAP (Debt Help David Price davidprice@capuk.org	07539 477286	Wives & Friends Group	01291 625551
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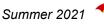
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But please send me any copy for future editions of *The Link* to Tanya White at **tanya.rockymead@gmail.com** or posted to: Tanya White, Rockymead, Coleford Road, Tutshill, Chepstow, NP16 7BU (01291 623169)





Vicar

Vícar Davíd Wrítes... Revd Níckí Bullívant Príesting On Saturday 26th June 2021 our curate Nicki will be ordained priest at Gloucester Cathedral. Nicki was ordained deacon last September and has

had a rather unique first year as a curate! Whilst this year has had its challenges Nicki has been a fantastic deacon combining ministry here in the Parish with



hospital chaplaincy and working as a nurse.

In being priested this June Nicki will then be able to lead the people of God in presiding at the Eucharist, i.e. leading a service of Holy Communion. She will also be able to bless and absolve. The particular words and practical actions in and of themselves may not seem very difficult or demanding. However, as I wrote a few years ago when Janice was priested it is all that goes with them and all that these words and actions stand for that is demanding and challenging.

Demanding and challenging

An online reflection by Marcus Halley in 2016 puts it like this...

"Entering this ministry will be one of the hardest things you will ever do.... You will encounter incredibly difficult personalities who will project onto you every grievance they have towards God. You will have your strength and patience tested far beyond anything you have faced. You will have the button of your deepest insecurity pressed over and over again. You'll be made to feel insignificant by the sheer size of it all. You will feel a deep sense of loneliness sometimes. You will disappoint people. You will disappoint yourself. You will feel constrained by the vows you take upon yourself. You will give your life to it and wonder if it makes any difference at all. You will encounter unspeakable pain and you will cry many tears.

If you're considering ordination as a pastor, think again... ...and then, for the love of God, say "yes."

We may see humanity, even ourselves, at our worst, but we also get to see God at God's absolute best. Sure, there are great difficulties ahead



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..., but... you will be entering a vocation where the very foundation of your calling is to rely on the strength of God to navigate difficult relationships, heart-breaking pastoral encounters, strainedbudgets, general angst and anxiety, and your very own weary soul. Just when you have reached the end of your strength, God's strength takes over."

It is within this context that a ministerial priest (after all we're all priests) takes bread and breaks it, declares absolution and blesses people. The priest presides over a community where the full spectrum of human brokenness, hope, joy and potential is displayed. This is very humbling privilege.

Pray for Nicki

Please pray for Nicki as she takes on this shepherding role, that she may find the grace of God sufficient in all circumstances and that the Lord Jesus will be her constant example and companion. Pray also that all of us might be faithful to the call of Christ on our lives.

Nicki will preside at the Eucharist for the first time on Sunday 27th June 9.30am in Tidenham and 11am in Tutshill. There will then be a community celebratory 'bring your own' lunch at 12.30am in the grounds of St Luke's. Do come along and join the celebration!

Comings and Goings

We have the joy of Nicki being priested but at the same time we have the sadness of seeing some of our church family move on to pastures new.

Janice, Ewen and Jane

Over the summer Janice and Ewen Hamilton will be packing up their belongings and moving to the Parish of West Cheltenham where Janice will be their new Community Pioneer Minister. Janice and Ewen have been in the Parish of Tidenham for 30 years so this is a big change for them and for us. Whilst Janice has service in licensed ministry for several years now, latterly as a Pioneer Curate Ewen has also played a big role in the

The Link Parish Magazine



life of the local church as Treasurer and musician.

Also leaving us at the end of this summer is Jane Penny, our Children and Families Minister. Jane has been with us for 7 years and served our families and the community with enthusiasm and commitment.

Thank you!

I am sure you will want to join me in saying a heartfelt big, big thank you to Janice, Ewen and Jane for all they have done for us and with us, and for the faith, love and dedication they have shown to God's kingdom in this place. We wish them all the very best for the future knowing that the bond of affection they have and we have will always remain even though they are moving elsewhere.

There will be a chance to say thank you and goodbye over the summer. See the dates below...

Dates for your díary

> Saturday 26th June at 3pm
Revd Nicki Bullivant will be ordained priest at Gloucester Cathedral
> Sunday 27th June
Revd Nicki will celebrate her first Eucharist
Celebration lunch at St Luke's Tutshill at 12.30pm
> Sunday 4th July : National 'thank you' day.
> Sunday 18th July at 12.30pm
Leaving lunch for Revd Janice and Ewen at St Luke's, Tutshill
> Sunday 25th July: Revd Janice's last Sunday in the Parish of Tidenham
> Sunday 29th August: Jane's last Sunday in the Parish of Tidenham

God bless

Your Priest and Vicar Revd David Treharne Vicar of Tidenham with Beachley and Lancaut and Priest in Charge of St Briavels with Hewelsfield & Brockweir David

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Visits



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Revd Nicki Bullivant

Curate to the Parish of Tidenham, St Briavels, Hewelsfield and Brockweir

'Top Tips' for supporting a Curate

- 1. Pray for Nicki and her husband Nick.
- 2. Allow Nicki to make mistakes. Mistakes are vital to learning. If Nicki never makes a mistake she will never learn!
- 3. Encourage Nicki by telling her when she's got things right and why.
- 4. Invite Nicki to your home... when it is safe to do so!
- 5. Respect Nicki's time in different places her parish day is Thursday.
- 6. Take risks in ministry with Nicki. Support her and share your wisdom.
- 7. Be ready to learn yourself, as an individual and as part of the congregation.
- 8. Don't compare Nicki to anyone else.
- 9. Allow Nicki to show you new things she brings a whole host of riches to share.
- 10. Enjoy having Nicki as our curate.

A prayer for Curacy

God of all wisdom, whose Son, Jesus Christ, calls us to be his disciples; form and teach us through the places and people

to whom you call us.

Help us to learn from one another and from you, that we may grow in discipleship, serve your Church,

and ever be renewed as ministers of your kingdom. we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Teacher, Shepherd and Lord. Amen.

A More Sober Reflection from the Vicar... What do we want to be? Having been detached from one another for so long due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, we are now living in a season that is bringing lots of challenges including a particularly important one for us as a Christian community in this locality. Two things I would like to highlight.

1. What kind of country do we want? A Political and Religious Question. Firstly, it feels as though the country might be at a bit of a crossroads. What kind of UK do we want? My observations are that we have some of the population looking to play their part in making society and their communities good places to live in. They are ready to contribute time, energy, ideas and money to making things work through their businesses, community action, volunteering or charitable giving. Christian and non-Christian alike they see that we are connected to one another and we have a social responsibility one towards another.

On the other hand, my observations are that we have another philosophy amongst the population that does not see the connections we have one to another and does not see any kind of role for themselves in contributing to the greater good. There is an individualism that we are all potentially susceptible to where we only look to our own interests and what's best for ourselves. The very idea of contributing time, energy, ideas or money to one's community is just not on the radar. There is an expectation of entitlement that the community, the church, the council, the local economy, the health service, the Government etc... will provide ALL that we want, but no expectation that we contribute to that.

I would worry if the latter philosophy wins out. There is a lot of politics in here, and I'm not making party political points in saying that we can't expect pensions, quality education, quality health care and community provision without being prepared to contribute to it!

2. Learning to be God's People once again

We have been unable to gather together in person to worship as we once did and even though regular worship in person has resumed and we are able to meet to pray, worship and search the Scriptures together there are lots of people yet to fully reengage with church and community life since the last lockdown began to ease.

As I wrote in my concluding remarks for the 2020 Annual Report...

We have been scattered and detached from one another for much of the year and when we come back together we must have eyes to see and ears to hear one another; to notice who is not among us, who is new and who is hurting, and notice where God is at work. I hope that much of that coming back together will be a joy, but I think it will also be a challenge to discern and learn to be God's people once again.

My hope and prayer is that you, me and lots and lots of people discover and/or rediscover what it is to be the Body of Christ once again knowing our identity and our part to play in this extraordinarily wonderful things called the church. God bless



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11, King Alfred's Road, Sedbury NP16 7AG. e-mail: info@sedburyspace.org.uk

NEWS FROM SEDBURY SPACE

I am delighted to say that we have been able to open our doors again at long last! Our Tuesday morning One Stop café re-opened on 18th May and although we have had to restrict our numbers, all those who have attended have been really pleased to be back in Sedbury Space.

The Shared Reading group has recommenced and plans are well underway for the Memory Café and Gentle Exercise class to start up in July, subject to the Village Hall re-opening.



Two more Holiday hunger events took place over the Easter Holidays, one at Beachley Camp and one in the field at the back of Sedbury Space. These have been organized by the Forest Youth Association in conjunction with FVAF. They provided and supervised some great energetic

outdoor games and activities for the children and they enjoyed a snack and homemade brownies too which were delicious.

Thanks to some generous donations of books we have been able to restock, revitalize and relocate our library at Sedbury space and you are more than welcome to choose from our shelves.

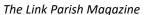


We are very much looking forward to getting more of

our groups and activities back up and running. If you are interested in finding out more please take a look at our website www.sedburyspace.org.uk or on Facebook.

Contact Susan on 07522 178639 to book for the One Stop Café.

managersedburyspace@gmail.com



Summer 2021



Bullet Point News

Are You New to the Parish? ...

A warm welcome to you if you have moved to the Parish during these strange times. If you would like to find out

more about what's goes on we'd be delighted to welcome you and talk about how you might be involved or how we as a church family can support you. Please feel free to make contact with any of the relevant individuals on the website or church notice boards.

Thinking about Baptism/Christening or a Wedding in church?

Many congratulations if you're at this stage of life! As things stand Weddings and Baptisms/Christenings are able to take place. Please do get in touch with Vicar David or one of the team if you are interested.



For weddings visit <u>https://www.yourchurchwedding.org/</u> For baptisms/christenings visit

https://churchofenglandchristenings.org/

令 <u>Illness</u>

We would like to remind parishioners (church and non-church folks) that they should not hesitate to contact us in the event of illness and hospitalisation. If nothing else vital prayers can be offered for those in need.

✤ Is God calling you?

All of us reflect on the purpose of our lives at some point. Part of this reflection can lead us to having a sense of being called to do something particular in or with our lives. May the Holy Spirit lead you to respond to what the Lord may require of you? Please do not hesitate to speak with someone at church about this. It is quite normal and remember, God can use any of us he chooses!

Financial Support for the Parish

If you would like to make a gift to the Church and also consider ongoing regular financial giving into 2021.



Bank details are Tidenham Parochial Church,

Sort Code 30-91-89 & Account number 00304754. Standing order and Gift Aid forms are available to download from the website. PCC wishes to thank all who have continued to give generously.



Wakes - Anniversaries - Christenings Birthdays – Club & Society Lunches/Dinners – Any Excuse!! At Home, Village/Church Hall or any Venue of your choice

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Summer 2021



We were humbled and most grateful to have received a legacy donation last year. Perhaps we could all think about leaving a financial gift when we die which can help towards the costs of

mission and ministry for the future, particularly at this challenging time.

Churchvards: A reminder to all those who tend and care for churchvard plots.

Our churchyards are very special spaces for remembering loved ones who have died. Therefore out of respect for *all* mourners please remember that grave-areas should conform to the churchyard regulations. This allows for peaceful use and trouble-free maintenance throughout the churchyard. The Parochial Church Council kindly asks that no extraneous additions (stones, plastic flowers, ornaments and statuary, plants, trees, vases, kerb-edging, etc.) are placed in or around graves. Thank you.

✤ Want to be confirmed?

Sadly the September 2020 confirmation service in the Parish was unable to happen. However, we are looking at being able to confirm people again in 2021. If you would like to be confirmed then please contact Vicar David as soon as possible. DTRevd@aol.com

If you don't know what confirmation is then you are not alone. Briefly and simply it is when someone owns and takes on for themselves (confirms) the baptismal promises that were made for them when they were too young to make them for themselves.



✤ Parish Contact Website Address

Parish Website: This has information, documents and

links to other sites. https://www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk

Parish Facebook Page: for communicating news & info to the wider community. Please 'follow' or 'like'.

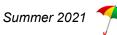
https://facebook.com/tidenhamparishchurch

Parish Facebook Group: all welcome to join this private group and post comments.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/114300818701466/

YouTube channel: 'Tidenham Parish Online Church' with videos to assist your devotions. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkRiOlyDBT9M9usfhp2722w St Briavels & Hewelsfield website: www.stbandhchurches.org.uk







Tanya's Link Prize Challenge Welcome to everyone to this Wordsearch puzzle.

This Wordsearch time we are taking a summer time trip to the seaside and finding words that call for us to be prepared with our **SUNHAT, SUNSCREEN** and **TOWEL**

There are 38 words to locate. See what you can find. Once you have completed this, gather the remaining letters in order to spell out the answer to the puzzle, please send this to me: Tanya White, at Rockymead, Coleford Road, Tutshill, NP16 7BU (e-mail: 'tanya.rockymead@gmail.com) to be in with a chance winning the prize!

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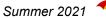
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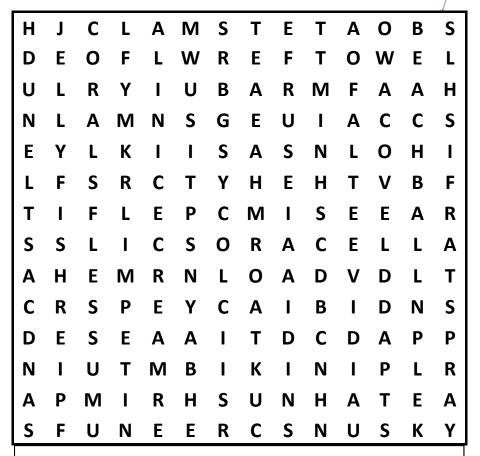
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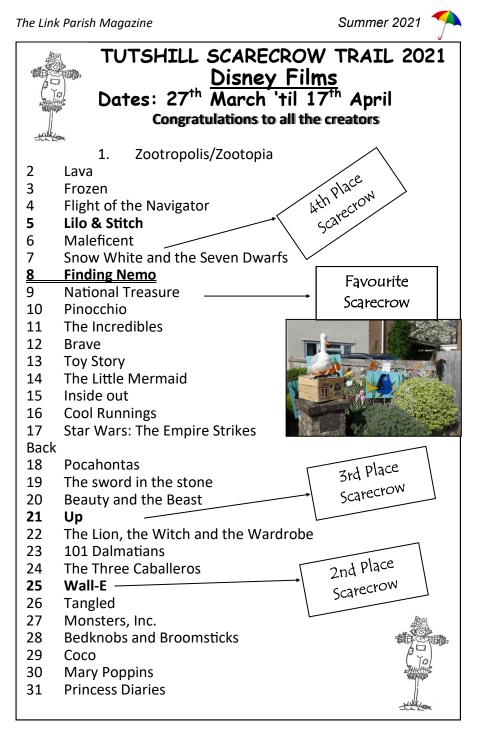
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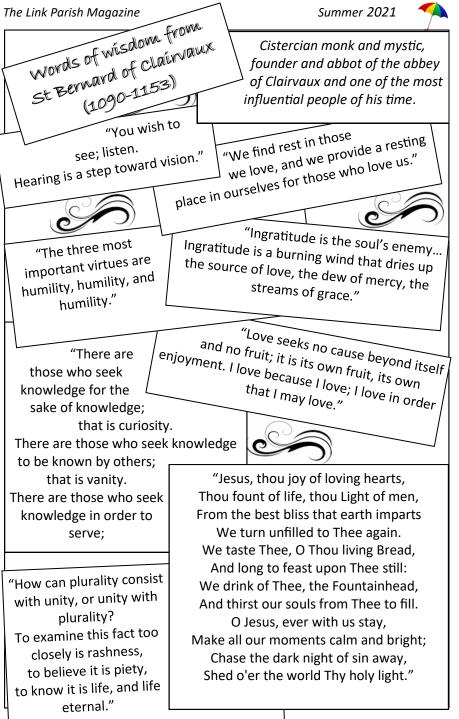


- Returning to a Summer Link magazine, here is some **SUMMER TIME JOY** and **FUN** in a Word Search Puzzle,
- > When we go to the seaside we may enjoy looking for SHELLS, building a SANDCASTLE or climbing a DUNE.
- > After we have been energetic with a **BEACHBALL** or a FRISBEE an ICE CREAM may be enjoyed.

In the Spring Link magazine at Easter time, once all words were discovered, the letters remaining gave the answer: "THE WAY TRUTH LIFE". The winner was Kathryn Payne of Tutshill. Well done!









tidenham historical group

Evening meetings from September to April are normally held on the last Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in Sedbury Village Hall on King Alfred's Road, Sedbury, NP16 7AQ. Visitors are always welcome. Annual membership includes discount on our publications. For more information about the group's

varied activities contact Liz on 01291 621694, Carol on 01291 623736, or e-mail info@tidenhamhistory.co.uk.

Update on meetings

We are hoping to resume our monthly evening meetings from September 2021 and will issue a list of dates and speakers as soon as everything is confirmed. This is all subject to the Government Covid guidelines at the time so we are all keeping our fingers crossed!

News

Tidenham station, looking north taken from a mineral train heading for Tintern Quarry on 22nd September 1964. The goods shed is on the left and the station building and platform on the right.

Mr Geoff Mead, who lived in Church Cottage at Tidenham and was an early member of this Group , sadly, passed away some years ago. After

retirement he was an avid Family History researcher and also studied for two Masters degrees through the Open University. The Group is pleased to have acquired a substantial collection of his research material and the copies of two theses which include detailed information on the 19th and early 20th century population of this parish.



Dear Fríends,

On a sunny summer evening in June 2014 Vicar David rang and asked if I would accept the position of Children and Families' Minister in the Parish of Tidenham. My response was, "It will be a pleasure and a privilege."

Throughout the past 7 years it has been a pleasure (most of the time!) to minister and worship in the community and to share in the joys of family and church life. It has also been a true privilege to walk alongside so many of you and share in the sorrows and trials that you have experienced. Thank you for the trust that you have placed in me.

However, the time has come for me to move on from this place. God has made this clear to me in many ways and I am happy to discuss this discernment process with anyone who'd like to know more.

When I was asked to write about 'What Next?' I thought, "This will be a short article!" as the truth is: I don't know! But I am trusting God for those next steps and know that He will provide for me, as He always does.

I believe that I shall continue to work with children and families, but I do not know what form that will take and whether I will earn a wage through this ministry, or whether it shall be done in a volunteer capacity.

It would have been incredibly easy to remain in my role here, especially as I have so many dear friends in the area, however, I cannot do that, as I would be ignoring God's call on my life and disobeying His way for me, which is never a good plan.

God says, "I know the plans I have for you, plans to PROSPER you and not to harm you, plans to give you HOPE and a FUTURE." Jeremiah 29:11

It is no coincidence that my home is named Prosper House and this verse was significant when I purchased this property in 2011 and it continues to be a guiding Scripture for me today.

I plan to write again for the Autumn Link when I will be able to share all that God has done in my life since this time.

God bless you all. Love Jame x





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Aspire together, achieve together adfecere pariter, perfecere pariter

& Sixth Form College The Spring Term of 2021 has been notable for myriad reasons but it is

the remarkable resilience demonstrated by all in our school community that should be most celebrated.

Both students and staff adapted exceptionally well to learning via online platforms. I am incredibly proud that with less than a week's notice, during the Christmas holidays, staff worked miracles to move to an entirely online model of delivery from January 4th.

With much thanks to parents, students were ready to hit the ground running. That first day set the tone for the next 8 weeks. When barriers to learning were identified we worked to overcome them.

As a community we successfully raised funds to buy laptops, supported one another, visited students at home who were struggling, provided key worker care and continued to deliver the full curriculum.

The reward for this herculean effort is evident for all to witness. Please take some time out of your day to enjoy our students' achievements and reflect on all that we have achieved together over the last three months.



Wyedean School – 01291 636180

Gwennan Jeremiah Principal



What will your legacy be? It's a question that Nick Thrower, Head teacher, regularly ask the Year 8 children in particular as they move steadily through their final year. Admittedly most have never even considered that they might even have a legacy to leave, let alone what it

might be. It is posed for a good reason to really try and consider how they can make a difference in their school and how they can positively impact on the lives of those around them.



CHASE **GARDENING CLUB**

It seems a very long time since our last meeting in February 2020 but as life

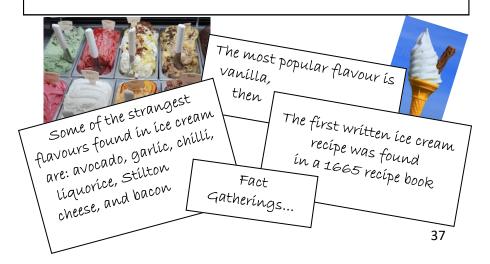


that formal meetings with speakers may reappear before too long.

Meanwhile Juliet and Mike Peet have generously offered their garden at Woodside for an informal gathering in June. Under the Covid rules, numbers are restricted to 30 and the list has been guickly filled – everyone is very keen to meet up again and catch up on all the news, horticultural and otherwise. Weather permitting, there will be tea and cakes, a plant exchange and donations are invited for the Great Oaks Hospice. We are very grateful to Juliet and Mike for this chance to socialise!

The long wet cold and windy Spring has not done many favours to the garden but at least the grass is gloriously green and the nettles are thriving which should please the butterflies. Compared to last year, everything seems a long way behind which at least proves gardening is never dull, always a challenge!

Any gueries, please contact Bob Elliott on 01291 625659 or Bill Kerr on 01291 621100



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Chase WI

hardy lot and the committee



Members of Chase are a

Summer 2021

equipped with deck chairs, rain gear

arranged a gathering on the Rec

where a good few members

and umbrellas enjoyed seeing each other after a nearly a year. Our next event is a walk in Lydney Park.

It is nice to get away from Zoom, useful during lock down but we hope it won't go on forever. The County Federation have various events planned: walks; croquet; and a big gathering in Cirencester Park later on in the year. These of course are open to all the membership in Gloucestershire. We hope to be meeting in Chase School in the garden soon where we will be having a picnic.

We welcome visitors to our meetings at any time so please if you want to have any information please ring Poppy Moss 01291 628739.



Tidenham Wives and Friends

We in Wives like everyone else have not been able to meet during the past year and are looking forward to attending our very interesting meetings soon. We are hoping the first on will take place in July.

We have no details yet but will be in touch with our members.

Pauline, our chairman, has been keeping us in touch during the lockdown with the details of church services for which we thank her.

We welcome visitors at our small friendly meetings at any time.

Please ring Pauline Civil 01291 624479 for any information.

The Link Parish Magazine



Tutshill Church of England Primary School

The children will have the privilege of spending two days with their new class teacher on June 29^{th} and June 30^{th} .

These transition days will provide the children with opportunities to meet their new teacher and become familiar with their new classroom, ready to start in September. Children will enter school as usual on these days and, once the register has been taken, they will move to their new classrooms for the day. Children will then return to their current class and exit school from their current gate. At present, we have no further guidance regarding the way we will operate in September, with reference to Covid-19. What we do know is that for at least the remainder of the Summer Term, we will continue to operate within the procedures that have been in place all year. I would like to express my continued gratitude to all parents, children, staff and governors for the support that you have shown our school Have a relaxing and sunny half term! *Miss Jenny Lane*

Request for Help

St Luke's Church have very kindly offered to donate a piano to Tutshill School. This will benefit the school and pupils greatly once we are able to hold whole school assemblies again. However, we are struggling to move the piano from the church to the school. If you are able to help we would be grateful, please contact

the school office.

Tutshill School – 01291 622593

The question for all of us is an interesting one – does it really matter what I'm like, how I behave or what others think of me? Our culture often depicts an individualistic route through life... think about and

really consider this idea of legacy, it becomes clear that there is a great deal to the idea. We can, each of us, remember individuals who have positively influenced our own lives. Their kindness, their attitudes, their words, have struck a chord with us and planted a seed in how we behave or the paths that we followed.



Dean Close St John's School 01291 622045



War Memorial Hall, Coleford Road, Tutshill, Chepstow, NP16 7BN 01291 629134

Tutshill Community Pre-School We are enjoying welcoming children to Pre-School every day and this term we are full. The children are enjoying being back together after lockdown and are learning the vital skills of sharing, asking each other to join their

Summer 2021

play and being kind to each other. The children choose to play outside most of the time and especially enjoy our Nature School trips where everyone is getting better at climbing trees. We take children from 2 years old and have spaces in

September 2021.

Please ring for details on 01291 629134 or look at our website http://www.tutshillpreschool.org/

Nature Tots our outdoor toddler group has been so popular since being allowed to open at Easter that it now runs 2 sessions on Thursday and Friday mornings. Please see Tutshill Nature Tots Page for up to date details. This group is open to everyone with children under 5 years accompanied by their parents or carers. Here is the link with booking details https://www.facebook.com/Tutshill-Nature-Tots-597957043663558

This is a lovely group where children can explore outside, and has been very valuable for children who have hardly met any other children during lockdown.

Making the most of a new skill Asking for help or hobby

Perhaps the extra time at home has need to struggle alone. When a given you the chance to take up a new hobby or learn a new skill. It may be easy to fall back into old habits when you return to your usual routine, but hold tight to the benefits you got from this new activity, like having time to relax, feeling productive, and the joy of doing something for yourself. You could even turn it into a way to earn some cash – see diseasecalleddebt.com/frugalhobbies-to-make-money for inspiration.

Being thankful

Until the pandemic hit, many of us didn't realise how much we'd been taking for granted, like seeing family, spending time with friends, and being free to go out amongst other things. The restrictions in our daily lives have taught us to cherish what we have, slow down and appreciate the simple things. What did you miss most, and how might you continue to cherish these things in the future?

We've also learned that we don't crisis hits, sometimes the help we need can be right on our doorsteps. During the pandemic, we've seen incredible displays of community spirit as friends and neighbours have helped each other with picking up shopping and delivering medicine.

Similarly, help is available if you're facing money worries. Despite the pandemic, thousands of people became debt free through debt help charity Christians Against Poverty (CAP) over the last 18 months. And it started with them asking for help. There are many organisations including CAP, StepChange, Citizens Advice and The Money Advice Service where you can get free advice and support right now.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) is a UK charity with over 580 services across the country delivering debt counseling, money management, job clubs, life skills groups, and support for people breaking life-controlling dependencies. Visit capuk.org to find out more.



Lessons to learn from lockdown David Price

(07539 477286) As the world has battled on through the COVID-19 pandemic, we've all faced our own challenges. However, there are positives to be found in every situation, and with lockdown restrictions continuing to ease, it's time to start thinking about what we've learned and how we can use this in the future.

The importance of savings

You may have found that building up savings has been easier during the pandemic, with working from home and traveling less having cut have faced increased pressure costs. Perhaps you've been fortunate enough to be able to pay down debts with the cash you've saved. The pandemic has shown us all the importance of having a buffer to fall back on and we can take this lesson with us into the future. Thinking ahead to when life returns to 'normal', where could you realistically cut costs to allow you to build up or increase your savings pot?

With retailers like B&Q having reported 'exceptional demand' during the pandemic, it's clear that many of us have caught the DIY bug while spending more time at home. You may have noticed that rearranging a room, painting, or even putting up a shelf can help to boost self-confidence and mental wellbeing. That's because even small achievements are worth celebrating. This is definitely a lesson we can take from lockdown – and maybe some new DIY skills too!

Celebrating small wins

Handling pressure

During the pandemic, many of us from things like reduced income, juggling work and childcare, and health concerns. What ways have you found to help you de-stress during this time? Perhaps you've benefited from going for a daily walk, having healthy snacks or scheduling in time to call a friend. These are useful tips to take with us going forwards as we continue to face the pressures of everyday life.

Children and Families" Ministry: Happenings:



New baby group ... so many people want to come that we have 2 sessions each Tuesday!

Splash met for the first time in person at St Luke's. We learned about Pentecost and had fun together.



Messy church restarted at Beachley Barracks (led by Chepstow Methodist Church) We began with an overview of the Bible and are now journeying through Genesis. The 2nd session was fully booked

Sedbury Stay and Play continues to meet outside on a Wednesday morning, providing for Schools. Online assemblies have been produced and shared for the major Christian festivals.

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who serve our children and families in the local community.

For information on any of these activities please contact Jane Penny

at cfmtidenham@btinternet.com or visit https://www.facebook.com/groups/1130508917404741

Jane Penny, Children and Families" Minister



Well, it's been a three years since I

wrote a series of musings for the magazine! My earlier contributions were reflections on God's call to pioneering, the discernment process to becoming ordained and those early days of ministry to the point of being 'priested' and what that meant for me.

Now here I am with my time, not only as a curate, but in this parish, drawing to a close and Tanya asked me to write one last missive.

It's still hard to grasp the reality of what's happening. Every time I think on it my eyes widen with awe and wonder at the graciousness of God and I shake my head in amazement that he would choose me to have been part of the remarkable story that has unfolded here over the past 7 years and that he would have such a perfect plan for my future.

For those who don't know the background to this story, I first discerned God's call to be a 'pioneer' in February 2013. I followed the C. of E. discernment process to be accepted for ordination and was then trained as a Pioneer Minister with CMS for



three years. I was ordained in July 2017 and have since been a curate in this parish serving as a Community Minister with a particular focus on Sedbury.

Summer 2021

The main endeavour of that ministry has been working with local residents to develop a community centre known as 'Sedbury Space' to encourage participation and volunteering thereby contributing to community and individual wellbeing.



latter stages of my curacy, with a small team of people I launched a fresh expression of church, called 'The Well'. This was a monthly drop -in style of church based in Sedbury Space. Sadly before it

had a chance to grow and flourish we were thrown into turmoil by the pandemic and the ensuing national lockdown.

For the past 18





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As well as services there are various opportunities for Christians to meet together in small groups to grow in faith & support one another. At the moment these are known meetings. All welcome.

LIFE GROUP	DAY and TIME	NAME	CONTACT NO'S	DETAILS OF GROUP
Meeting for Men!	SUNDAY Evening 7.30pm	James Parsons	James 622163	Men's Group Online
Life Group Meeting At St Luke's	TUES Afternoon 12.45pm start at 1.00pm	Julia Parsons and Beryl Healey	01291 622163 and 01291 625551	Meet for Prayer, Bible Study and encouragement
SEDBURY SPACE	WED Evening 7.30-9.00 pm	Janice Hamilton	Janice 01291 626158	Online
REFRESHMENT ROOM online	WED Evening 7.30pm for 8.00pm start	Fiona Gardiner Elm House Woodcroft	Fiona 01291 624868	We will aim to go deeper with God, to support one another in prayer and in practice and to have fun.
WELCOME at St Luke's	THUR 1.00- 2.30pm	Jane Penny	Jane 07856 679387 or Tanya 01291 623169	Exploring faith through worship, prayer and discussion. Spirit- led, Bible based time of fellowship



MUSICAL DIRECTOR: GRAHAM BULL CCS is affiliated to Ty Cerdd & Making Music, and is a Registered Charity (no. 112798) www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk

CHEPSTOW CHORAL SOCIETY 2021 -**MOVING FORWARD**

Like every other choral society or singing group, CCS has inevitably been out of action singing-wise since mid-March 2020.

For ALL choral groups and active music makers, the last 15 months have presented major challenges and this is particularly the case for "small-town" groups. Committees have not been idle – far from it! – and compared with the traumas faced by so many, choral singing has hardly been the national priority, but we are in a position to look ahead:

At long last, a light is now shining towards more positive times. Chepstow Choral Society (which is, of course, Welsh-based) is now planning limited reconvening - albeit in accordance with current Welsh Government regulations which differ to English ones in certain aspects.

At the time of writing (late May), Choral groups can now plan to reconvene with up to 30 members -including MD, Accompanist and Covid Officer - in a venue with full compliance facilities and protocol. CCS is currently working with Chepstow Leisure Centre and Monmouthshire CC to return for three sessions, with the aim of reconnecting to "just get back to singing some short items" before breaking for late July/August and - hopefully - resuming in more earnest in September. Members will initially work on a rota but the hope is that for most members they will at least have the chance for 2 sessions out of 3 before mid-July.

A "CHRISTMAS MUSIC CELEBRATION" IS ALREADY IN THE DIARY FOR SUNDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 12th AT ST MARY'S PRIORY CHURCH, CHEPSTOW.

FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON CCS WEBSITE. On behalf of CCS, many thanks!

For information, log into our website (see above) or telephone Marjorie Duerden, Asst MD,CCS on 01291 623310



of my curacy, I've been thinking of of Trustees which is a role that succession planning. Experience shows that pioneer projects and fresh expressions often collapse when the founder leader moves on. I have always been concerned that the ministry continue beyond my time here and not be wholly dependent on me. This has been a has stepped up and main focus of my prayers, that God would raise up others to take on this role from the next AGM. on the different aspects of ministry that I've started.

On reflection I was conscious that there were three 'hats' that I've been wearing, each of which require a different plan to secure the future.

First of all, a key part of my role has been in setting up and then managing Sedbury Space. This had become increasingly time consuming and for the charity to grow and become established would require more dedicated management. With a lottery grant we were able

to recruit a Centre Manager and last year Susan



Riordan took up this post – just as COVID lockdown was enforced!

months, aware of the finite nature The second 'hat' has been as Chair keeps sight of the big picture, holding the vision and values and

> holding the team together. I'm really pleased that Lee Durbin, a teacher at Wyedean School, is preparing to take



The third and final 'hat' is that of Chaplain, to Sedbury Space and to the wider community. Although Sedbury Space is a community centre serving people of all faiths and none, I have been able to offer a listening ear and prayerful support at times of crisis and celebration which has been valued by many, regardless of faith. We are keen to see this role continue and the PCC are currently considering the possibility of employing a part-time community Wellbeing Chaplain to wear this 'hat' as well as serve the wider parish.

So, plans are in place for me to be relieved of these 'hats'. And at just the right time a new 'hat' was flung into the ring for me to pick up! (excuse my mixed metaphors!!)



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Agreed that the Scarecrow Trail should start on 27 March – it was great to see families out on the streets again!

Approved the Job Specification for the new post of full-time Children, Youth and Families (CYF) Missioner starting in September, and the

part time community Wellbeing Chaplain.

> Thanked Jane Penny for all her work over the past 7 years as our Parish Children and Families Minister. Jane has decided not to apply for the new CYF Missioner post.

Marked the death of HRH Prince Philip, by tolling the bell at Tidenham church 99 times

> Debated how to progress the repairs to Tidenham Tower in the light of the Conservation Engineer's detailed report Agreed to open our church buildings for the annual Ride n' Stride event on Saturday 11 September.



Coffee Farmers Switch to Clean Energy powered by Coffee Husks

Switching to alternative energy sources in order to slow down climate change is often put forward as one thing we can do to help tackle the climate crisis. For some of

us, this is as simple as a few clicks and a form to fill in. But in places where you find all your household fuel yourself, it's not that straightforward.

There is however a solution that's clean, green and powered by caffeine! With support from Fairtrade, coffee farmers in Kenya have been able to choose environmentally friendly energy sources in the form of 1,000 improved cook stoves. Rather than the traditional woodfired set-ups, these energy-efficient stoves burn charcoal or briquettes and use less fuel in doing so. And it gets better. The farmers are now using waste husks from the coffee drying process to make briquettes. This project has seen a 60 percent reduction in the tonnage of firewood used among coffee farming households, plus a saving of time for women involved in searching for firewood.

For more information go to https://www.fairtrade.org.uk

A job advert for a 'Community' Pioneer Minister' based in West Cheltenham appeared in February. Perfect timing, perfect remit, perfect place! I could hardly believe it possible and yet after a long drawn out process, on 22nd April I was offered the post.

The licensing service will be at St Barnabas, Rowanfield, on Wednesday 11th August. although I won't move there until a couple of weeks later and begin my ministry at the beginning of September.

This is an exciting role for which the past 7 years' pioneer training and curacy, and indeed my previous experience in youth and children's ministry, have been preparing me. I shall be building relationships and serving the established communities of Hester's Way and Springbank and seeking ways to live out and demonstrate the good news of Jesus Christ, in the

hope of drawing together new communities of faith that are 'buzzing with the extraordinary presence of Jesus' (the vision statement of West Cheltenham Parish).

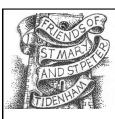
There is also a planned development of 4000 new homes and a Cyber Park which is due to be built in the next couple of years on my patch. Part of my remit, therefore, is to connect with developers, Borough Council and housing associations and to bless, serve and help build a sense of community on this new housing development. This may well

involve another house move in a few years time so I can minister incarnationally on the estate.

I'm really excited about this new adventure, though it's with mixed emotions that Ewen and I will be leaving Tutshill and the Parish of Tidenham. We've lived here for almost thirty years, have brought up our family here and put down deep roots in the community and with our church family. We'll miss you xxx







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The Friends of Tidenham Church Friends Update



First a big thanks to those who have given donations during COVID and especially to those who specifically donated towards the trees for the car park which were planted in the spring. We are most grateful for the support we have continued to be given, despite not being able to do anything else visible over the past year.

In Trustee news, we were sad that Anne and Roger Martin have decided to stand down as Trustees and we are hugely grateful for everything they have done over the past 6 years. They will be sadly missed but Anne has generously said that she will continue to help with local fundraising and is organising both Christmas Trees and the arrangements for Go2Theatre performance for this year. The Christmas Trees will be put up on 16th Dec, the GO2Theatre performances on the 17th & 18th December followed by the Carol Service on the 19th December.

We are recruiting new Trustees and so if there are any volunteers who would like to put their name forward, please can you contact Sarah-Jane at <u>secretary.friends@icloud.com</u>.

The good news is that we seem to be making progress on getting the clearance to start the work on the North Aisle. After many changes of personnel at the Diocese we now have new blood who seem keen to help us. It will still be some time but we hope to be able to give an update on progress at our AGM which will be held in July.

The Association of Friends of the Church of England Church of St Mary and St Peter Tidenham

Registered Charity No. 1159658



> re Híghlíghts from PCC meetings in March, April & May 2021

A very short [5 minutes long due to COVID restrictions] Annual Church meeting was held at Tidenham church on Sunday 25 April at 10.30 to

conduct only those items necessary to keep the PCC functioning: -

- > Nicholette Flatman and Brian Duerden were re-elected churchwardens
- > Revd David commended the 52-page Annual Parish Report for 2020 – hard copy and electronic copies are available from the Parish Administrator
- > John-Ross Henderson, Polly Morgan, Andrew Palmer and Ethan Richards were elected / re-elected to the PCC
- > Revd David congratulated Revd Janice Hamilton on her forthcoming move to Cheltenham and thanked Ewen Hamilton for all his hard work as Treasurer over a number of years
- > Our Independent examiner Douglas Elliott is retiring, so the meeting thanked him for his work, but the PCC was unable at this stage to announce a successor
- Approved the Annual Parish Report for 2020
- Approved the Trustees Report and Annual Accounts for 2020 and commended it to the Annual Church meeting

Agreed that face to face church services should restart on Easter Sunday 4 April with indoor services at Tidenham and Chase, and an outdoor service at Tutshill.....>>>



Found in another church's notices:

"A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow."



From the Registers

Funerals & Burials

Betty Winifred Birchall (aged 88) Tuesday 1st June 2021 St Michael and All Angels' Churchyard, Tidenham Chase (Interment of Ashes)

Winifred Audrey Thomas (aged 97) Thursday 6th May 2021 Funeral Service at St Michael & All Angels' Church, Tidenham Chase, followed by Churchyard Burial

Catriona Elizabeth Bowen (aged 45) Tuesday 13th April 2021 Burial of Ashes at St Michael & All Angels Church, Tidenham Chase

> Kenneth Ernest Protheroe (aged 88) Wednesday 24th March 2021 Funeral Service Langstone Vale Crematorium

Joan Bruce (aged 91) Thursday 23rd March 2021 Funeral Service at St Michael & All Angels Church, Tidenham Chase, followed by Churchyard Burial

Kenneth John Davies (aged 61) Wednesday 10th March 2021 Funeral Service at St Mary and St Peter's Church, Tidenham, followed by **Churchyard Burial**

Paul Granville Knapton (aged 84) Tuesday 9th March 2021 Funeral Service at St Michael & All Angels Church, Tidenham Chase, followed by Churchyard Burial

> Further register entries will appear in the next 2021 edition of the Link





lain Gardiner PCC Secretary



Ethan Richards Youth Worker & PCC Member



Melanie Walton PCC Member



Robin Riordan PCC Member



Ewen Hamilton Treasurer & PCC Member

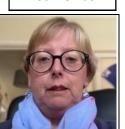




Andrew Palmer Stewardship & PCC Member



Chantelle Wynn PCC Member



Polly Morgan PCC Member



PCC Member



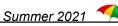


John-Ross

Henderson PCC Member

Peter Jones PCC Member

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Parish of Tidenham Appointments 2021



Revd David Treharne Vicar





Jane Penny **Children & Families** Minister



Fiona Gardiner Lay Reader





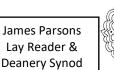
Revd Janice Hamilton Pioneer Curate



Prof Brian Duerden Churchwarden



Molly Mayo **Deanery Synod**





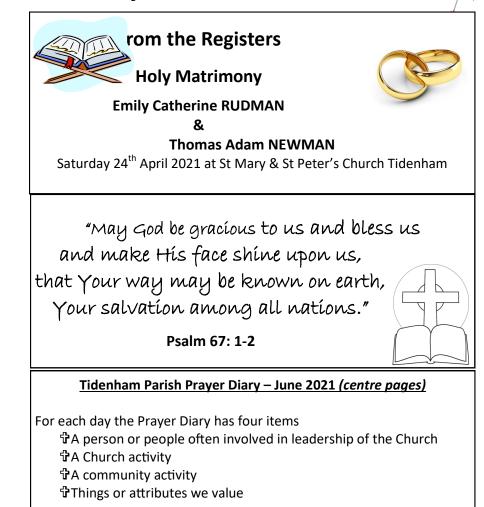
Who's Who



Nicholette Flatman Churchwarden



The Link Parish Magazine



The aim of the **Prayer Diary** is to encourage us to pray for our local Church and community.

It is our Prayer Diary, so please let me know of items you would like included. If you have a favourite prayer, thought, poem or joke please send it to me. Contributions from a variety of people will add to diversity, and therefore it should appeal to more people. Any contributions or ideas please to coombsmargaret@ymail.com (01291 629098)

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	Tidenham Parish	Prayer Diary			June 2021	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 May Trinity Rev Janice & Ewen West Cheltenham, Parish where Janice will be working Any suffering from Long Covid Patience	31 May Bank Holiday Vicar David & family Any Covid church casualties Parish Toddler Groups Safety	01 June Readers Fiona, James & families Fundraising for CYFM Missioner Farms Environmental care	02 June Church Wardens Church Activities Postponed due to Covid Tutshill School Education	03 June Rev Janice & Ewen Mission partner, Heather Johnstone (Tanzania) Emergency Services & SARA Discernment	04 June Jane, Ethan & teams Communications briefing, Link, diary, Website & all online activities Riverside Nursery Excellent childcare	05 June PCC Members Fundraising for church buildings Housing Associations Decent housing for all
06 June Rev David Rees St Briavels & Hewelsfield Churches Children's Uniformed organisations Families	07 June Pastoral Assistants & Visiting Team Castleford Nursing Home, staff & clients III, Ionely & housebound people Compassionate care	08 June Rev Janice, Ewen, her team & Sedbury Space Rev Nicki, preparing for priesting Parish Toddler Groups Kindness	09 June Vicar David & family St Luke's congregation Boris Johnson PM & all involved in decisions regarding Covid lockdown Honesty	10 June Readers Fiona, James & their families Tidenham Church Christians against Poverty (CAP) Enough for all	11 June Rev Nicki & family preparing for her priesting Tidenham Friends Memorial Hall & it's users Justice	12 June Jane, Ethan, their Teams & families All our children's & Youth activities Chase Old School Generosity
13 June Vicar David & family All who clean, beautify, open & close our churches, making Services possible Beachley Barracks Deepening our faith	14 June Churchwardens Church Musicians, Choirs, & Bellringers St Johns School & Nursery Repentance	15 June Rev Janice, Teams & family PCC members Sedbury Village Hall & clubs Honesty	16 June Readers, Fiona, James & families Life Groups Parish & District Councillors Accountability	17 June Vicar David & family Sedbury Space & all who work there Chepstow Hospital Prayer	18 June Jane, Ethan, their Teams & families Meeting Parishes financial commitment Local GPs & dentists Generosity	19 June Archbishops Justin, Stephen & Pope Francis PCC members Police & Street Wardens World peace
20 June Vicar David & family Children, Youth & Families Ministry (CYFM) activities Leisure facilities we use Joy	21 June Churchwardens, PCC Secretary, Treasurer & affiliated Teams Pastoral Visiting Team All with long Covid Hopefulness	22 June Rev Nicki & family preparing for her priesting Men's Life Group Offa's Mead Academy & Penguins Altruism	23 June Chase Church & congregation Life Groups Social workers & carers Gentleness	24 June Readers Fiona, James & families Funeral Ministries Funeral Directors Good bereavement & end of life care	25 June Jane, Ethan & Teams. All contemplating Baptism/confirmation or ordination Wyedean School Mission	26 June Rev. Nicki & family On her ordination Tidenham Friends Emergency Services & SARA Vocations
27 June Vicar David & family Churches Together Sedbury Mission & Stroat Churches Local Women's Institutes Ecumenism	28 June Pastoral Assistants & Visiting Team Tidenham Church & congregation Local shops Christian Unity	29 June Rev Janice & Ewen Accountant to replace Ewen Foodbanks & Fare share A living wage	30 June Readers Fiona, James & families Jane, Ethan & teams Homeless people Dignity and respect for all people	01 July Heather Johnstone (CMS Link) New CYFM Missioner All with mental health problems Full employment	02 July Rev Nicki & family Churchwardens St John's School & Little Trees (was Hedgehogs) Environmental care	03 July Vicar David & family Resumption of Church activities postponed due to Covid Riding Centre Relaxation