





Sedbury & Tidenham Scouts

Martin Singers

Tidenham Parish Magazine March, April & May 2022

Some of the Christmas Tree Festival... answers inside

Tutshill School

Wedding of Hannah & Ben

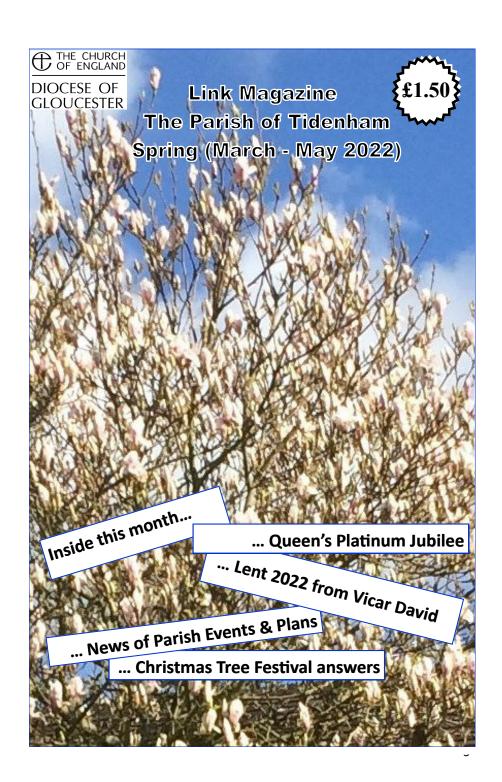




Candlemas Service at St Luke's Church: Together making many connections

Folk Club at St Luke's in February 2022 Come along next time

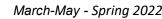






St Mary & St Peter	St Michael & All Angels	St Luke's				
Tidenham	Tidenham Chase	Tutshill				
Sunday: 9:00am	Sunday: 6:00pm	Sunday: 11.00am				
www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk						
<u>Vicar</u>	Revd David Treharne	01291 760034				
Tidenham Vicarage, Glo	ucester Road, Tutshill, Chepsto dtrevd@aol.com	w NP16 7DH				
Associate Priest	Revd Brother Tom Clammer OC	01722 504938				
7.5500.000 7.7.650	Nesta Broanci Form diamine.	01711 00 1000				
Curate	Revd Nicki Bullivant	07936 787409				
Reader	Fiona Gardiner	01291 624868				
Reader	James Parsons	01291 622163				
<u>Children & Families</u> Missioner	Emma Durbin	07488 373817				
<u> </u>	mad.cyfm@gmail.com					
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Church Warden	Brian Duerden	01291 623310				
Deputy Warden Tidenham	Cate Phillips	01291 624260				
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The Link Parish Magazine







OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

	HER USEFU	L CONTACTS	
Churches To	<u>gether</u>	Church Acti	<u>vities</u>
Foodbank	07507 468396	Life Groups	01291 622163
CAP (Debt Help) David Price davidprice@capuk.org Christian Aid	07539 477286	Fairtrade	01291 622163
Care Home Services	01291 624572		
Other Local (Churches_		
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Methodist	01291 627014	Roman Catholic	01291 622649
Sedbury Church	01594 529209	The Bridge Church Chepstow	07563 644860
Children & Y	outh_		
Pre-School in Sedbury PATA@Pengins	01291 638665	Tutshill Community Pre-School	01291 629134
Offa's Mead School	01291 622932	St Briavels School	01594 530428
Tutshill C of E School	01291 622593	St John's School	01291 622045
Toddler Groups		Wyedean School	01291 625340
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Chepstow Hospital	01291 636636	Royal Gwent Hospital	01633 234234
NHS Direct	0845 4647	NHS Dentist	0845 4647
Chemist Sedbury	01291 622532	Merrick's Chemist	01291 622387
Chepstow Library	01291 635730	Chepstow Leisure Centre	01291 635745
Forest of Dean Council	01594 810000	Gloucester Council	01452 425000
Police (non emergency)	101	Neighbourhood Watch	101







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The Link Parish Magazine

Tanya White

Letter from the Editor Spring Greetings to everyone and welcome to our March/April/May Link magazine.

I hope that everyone is keeping well.

Thank you for annual subscriptions paid

There are still some subs outstanding so please ensure that these are paid soon. Thank you.

Inside this month:

- Vicar David writes about Lent (page 4-5)
 - > Holy Week potential plans (page 6)
 - > **Sedbury Space** news (page 8-9)
 - Scarecrow Trail (page 15)
- > Farewell from Ethan Richards (page 19)
- Christmas Tree Festival at Tidenham answers (page 22-23)
 - > PCC Highlights (page 34)
 - > Community Agent's report (page 40-41

See what details and events you can discover and enjoy our magazine, regards from Tanya





PLEASE NOTE Link Deadline—

All copy for the June-August 2022 edition of **The Link** must be with me, Tanya White, by 7th May 2022. Copy may be sent to tanya.rockymead@gmail.com or posted to: Tanya White, Rockymead, Coleford Road, Tutshill, Chepstow, NP16 7BU (01291 623169)

From the Vicar

Vicar David Writes...

Lent 2022

Revd David Treharne

In Lent we hear the call to return to the Lord and learn/relearn to be his people once again. For us, particularly after 2 years of Pandemic with it's detachment, disengagement, isolation and uncertainty, the oft dreaded call to engage with Lent should be seen as a welcome call, not something to fear and dread. Lent is a call to wholeness, deeper relationship and engagement

with Life... with the opportunity to be transformed as we journey together with Jesus.

In seeking to hear and follow the call of Jesus Christ and be his people, individually and corporately, throughout Lent as a Parish we will explore

Walking Through Lent with one another

some of the 'one another's' of Scripture, with a 'broad' focus on being:

- 1. A community of Peace. Be at peace with one another. Mark 9:50, 1 Thess 5:13, Romans 12:16 -18, Hebrews 12:14.
- 2. A community of Prayer. Pray for one another. Ephesians 6:18, Matthew 18:20, James 5:16, 1 Timothy 2:1, Colossians 1:9, Matthew 5:44, Romans 8:26.
- 3. A community of Hospitality (& Honouring). Be hospitable to one another. 1 Peter 4:9, Romans 12:13, Hebrews 13:2, Romans 12:10, Ephesians 5:21.
- 4. A community of Accountability. Bear one another's burdens. Galatians 6:1&2, James 5:16, Hebrews 10:24, Matthew 18:15-17.
- 5. A community of Gifts (and Fruits). Use gifts for one another. 1 Peter 4:10-11, 1 Thess 5:11, Romans 12:6-8, 1 Cor 12 & 14, Ephesians 4:12, John 15:1-8, Galatians 5:22-23, Matthew 5:14-16.





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We will explore the 'one another's' with a focus on:

- a) Us and God (an upward focus Christ as head of the Body),
- b) a focus on our relationships with one another in the church (a body focus),
- c) and a focus on how this works out day to day in the places God has placed us (an outward focus).

In Holy Week we will up make our way to the Last Supper of Maundy Thursday with Jesus' command to 'love one another' (John 13:34)

Seriously think about what you are called to be and/or do this Lent.

Lent can be a time of transformation.

I invite you all to join me in taking the Lenten call seriously and make an extra special individual and corporate Lenten effort. All of the Parish Life Groups will be invited to engage with the same material and there will be an additional Lent Life Group for 5 Tuesday evenings meeting at 7.30pm in St Luke's. When the time comes material will be available at the churches and also available to download on the website and/or Parish Facebook Group.

I wish us all a renewing Lent. As we journey Lent may we learn and relearn to live life together in the flow of God's amazing love.

Your Priest and Vicar Revd David Treharne

Vicar of Tidenham with Beachley and Lancaut and Priest in Charge of St Briavels with Hewelsfield & Brockweir God bless

David

Some wise quotes and prayers

"To abandon yourself to love is to begin to live.

To fail to love is to close one's heart and begin to die."

Unsure of source



HOLY WEEK.

Advance notice. Do check details closer to the time.

www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk/

- Palm Sunday 10 April. 9.30am. Tidenham. Holy Communion and Dramatic reading of the Passion.
- Palm Sunday 10 April 11am.

The Link Parish Magazine

Palm Sunday Procession. Meet at 10.30am at Tidenham War Memorial Hall for procession to St Luke's, Tutshill. We're really hoping we will have a donkey to join us! A service with a Dramatic reading of the Passion follows together with SPLASH.

- Wednesday in Holy Week 13 April at 12noon. St Luke's, Tutshill. Holy Communion
- Wednesday in Holy Week 13 April at 7.30pm. Tidenham Chase. Service for the bereaved.
- Maundy (Holy) Thursday 14 April. 7.30pm. Traditional Holy Eucharist hopefully with washing of feet, stripping the altar and then the Watch of the Passion at St Luke's, Tutshill
- Good Friday 15 April 10am. Children's service at St Luke's, Tutshill.
 - **2pm** Grown up's service at St Luke's Tutshill.
- Holy Saturday 16 April. 9pm. Easter Vigil service at Tidenham including the lighting of the Easter Fire and Renewal of Baptismal Vows.
- Easter Sunday 17 April 2022.
- 9.30am Tidenham. Holy Communion
- 11am Tutshill. Family Communion (possibly outside, depending on the weather)
- 6pm Tidenham Chase. BCP Holy Communion

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Some Wise Quotes and Prayers

"Above all, don't lie to yourself. The man who lies to himself and listens to his own lie comes to a point that he cannot distinguish the truth within him, or around him, and so loses all respect for himself and for others. And having no respect he ceases to love."

Fyodor Dostoevsky

"The more you succeed in loving, the more you'll be convinced at the existence of God and the immortality of your soul.

Fyodor Dostoevsky

"What we all want is pretty simple, really. We want to be alive. To feel alive. Not just to exist but to thrive, to live out loud, walk tall, breathe free. We want to be less lonely, less exhausted, less conflicted or afraid . . . more awake, more grateful, more energized and purposeful. We capture this kind of mindful, over brimming life in terms like well-being, shalom, blessedness, wholeness, harmony, life to the full, and aliveness. . . .

The quest for aliveness is the best thing about religion, I think. It's what we're hoping for when we pray. It's why we gather, celebrate, eat, abstain, attend, practice, sing, and contemplate. When people say "I'm spiritual," what they mean, I think, is simple: "I'm seeking aliveness."

Brian D. McLaren

"What is hell? I maintain that

"What is hell? I maintain that is hell? I maintain that

"What is hell? I maintain that is hell? I maintain th



"Oh, would that there was truth in the intercourse between men! One man defends Christianity, another attacks it and in the end, if one examines their lives, neither of them bothers very much about it."

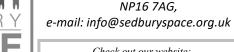
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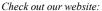
"O Christ, our Morning Star,
Splendour of Light Eternal,
shining with the glory of the rainbow,
come and waken us from the greyness
of our apathy, and renew in us your
gift of hope. Amen."
(The Venerable Bede)

lub









11, King Alfred's Road, Sedbury

www.sedburvspace.ora.uk

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Our regular activity list has been growing recently as well as the number of participants.

The Life Skills course presented by Christians Against Poverty started on 12th January and this week we enjoyed an opportunity to explore cooking on a budget. We made egg fried rice as well as learning about meal planning and top tips for shopping economically too.





Following on from the success of our Christmas Lunch we have been able to offer a Sunday lunchtime light meal at Sedbury Space and so far we have enjoyed homemade soup and jacket potatoes with fillings. Our team of volunteers is growing and we all love being able to share a meal together. If you are interested in joining us please contact info@sedburyspace.org.uk or

call 07522 17863, we meet on the first Sunday of the month from $12.30 - 2.00 \, \text{pm}$.

Our monthly Memory Café meets on the first Wednesday of every month at Sedbury Village Hall and we have a full Programme of activities planned for the next few months, details below:-

Dates & Themes:

February 2nd – Biscuit decorating and quiz March 2nd – Spring flowers theme April 6th – Easter crafting May 4th – Outdoor games (with ice cream) June 1st - Queens Jubilee party afternoon tea Susan, Centre Manager on 07522 178639





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Sedbury Space Snippet 3 From Lee Durbin

Hello again,

There has been lots going on at and around Sedbury Space recently and I would draw your attention to our website "sedburyspace.org.uk" and our Facebook page to get a sense of what's happening.

One thing we have done is buy a Soup Kettle. It's a very nice-looking piece of kit, one of those black ones that looks like a cauldron. It's Health and Safety compliant, essential, and it provides hot soup. It doesn't do ice cream though, nor will it bake a cake or cook chips.

As a small charity with limited space, we can only do so much but as we have been doing with our Sunday Lunches both metaphorically and actually, we can do really good soup.

Press release Sedbury Space Christmas Day Lunch Project

A hugely successful three-course Christmas Day Lunch was organised by Sedbury Space and held in Sedbury Village Hall. Many people are unable to meet up with family or friends for a variety of reasons and Christmas Day can be an especially lonely or difficult experience for some in our community. The aim of the event was to offer a social gathering to overcome this and although the last minute demands of



the Omicrom virus unfortunately reduced the final numbers attending by over a quarter, 31 people between the ages of 8 and 80+ selected their choices from the menu offered before-hand and sat down to enjoyed the delicious three-course meal at elegantly laid out place settings in the festively transformed Village Hall. There then followed an afternoon of entertainment and treats.





Bullet Point News

† Parish Website Address http://www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk/

† Are You New to the Parish? WELCOME!

March-May - Spring 2022

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 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 inside cover of this magazine, the Parish website or the church notice boards.

† Wellbeing Project

In September 2021 Revd Nicki Bullivant started her role as Wellbeing Chaplain in the Parish. The role involves post Covid recovery, enabling St Luke's to become a hub for wellbeing and to nurture faith. Many connections have already begun to be made and already there is a strong argument for looking to continue the project beyond a pilot year. Thank you to those who have supported Nicki and this initiative.

† The Parish Church of St Mary & St Peter's Tidenham

It is our firm hope and desire that in 2022 we will see some significant progress on the restoration and reordering of our Parish Church. Plans are moving forward with restoring the church tower. With God's help it will happen!

† Thinking about Baptism/Christening or a Wedding in church?

It has been lovely to have people getting in touch again about getting their baby christened or perhaps having a wedding in church. Many congratulations if you're at this stage of life! Please do get in touch with Vicar David or one of the team if you are interested.

For weddings visit https://www.yourchurchwedding.org/
For baptisms/christenings visit https://churchofenglandchristenings.org/

† 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!



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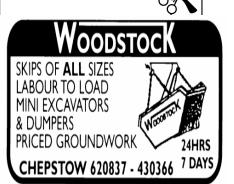
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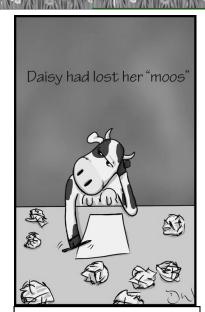
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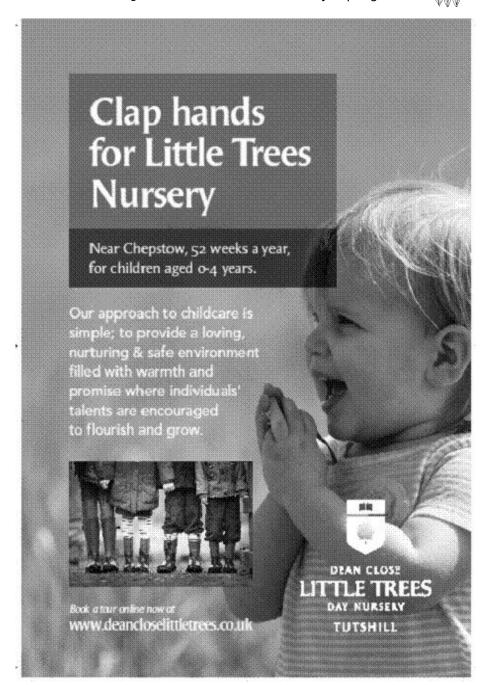
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Cartoon from Dom White





† Illness

We would like to remind parishioners (church and non-FLASH/ 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.

† Churchyards

Our churchyards are very special spaces for remembering departed loved ones. 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. *The planting of* trees is a particular issue which may cause damage to other graves and prevent a grave space being reopened in the future. Thank you.

† Financial Support for the Parish

If you would like to make a gift to the Church and also consider ongoing regular financial giving into 2022: 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.

† Legacy

We have been humbled and most grateful to have received legacy donations in the past. 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.

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 vour devotions.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkRjOlvDBT9M9usfhp2722w

St Briavels & Hewelsfield website www.stbandhchurches.org.uk





Tanya's Link Prize Challenge Spring Cleaning

Here is our Spring Wordsearch competition with words concerning many different things connected with cleaning...

There are particular places that we may **CLEAN**, like the **SKIRTING BOARD**, **CEILING** or light **SWITCHES**. We may be **SORTING** or removing **COBWEBS**. We may need to TEST for safety or even sort FILES and TOYS.

There are 34 different words to find and once you have completed this, gather the remaining letters in order to spell out 2 more words involved in a **SPRING CLEAN** as the answer to the puzzle, please send this to me:

Tanya White, Rockymead, Coleford Road, Tutshill, NP16 7BU

(e-mail: tanya.rockymead@gmail.com)

BLINDS	DUSTING	SORTING
CEILING	FANS	SWEEP
CLEAN	FILES	SWITCHES
COBWEBS	FRIDGE	TEST
CORNERS	HANDLES	TOYS
CRUMBS	номе	VACUUM
CUPBOARDS	OVEN	WALLS
CURTAINS	POLISH	WASH
CUSHIONS	RUG	WINDOWSILLS
DEFROST	SCRUB	WIPE
DISINFECT	SINK	
DOORKNOBS	SKIRTING BOARD	





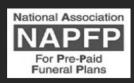
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- Respect & dignity are at the heart of everything we do
- Memorials & Funeral Plans

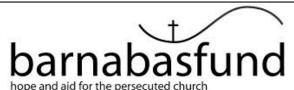
01291 420972 • 07977 092935 www.ianwattsandson.com











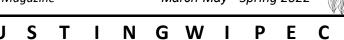
<u>Christian Newsline</u> Our Faith in Today's World



- † .Pakistani human rights group calls for end to discrimination against religious minorities: A human rights body has launched a campaign to raise awareness of discriminatory advertisements for the recruitment of sanitary workers in Pakistan
- † Iranian Christians protest against denial of right to education to converts and children: .A group of Iranian Christians previously imprisoned for their faith have released a statement protesting against the denial of the right to education to Farsi-speaking Christians in Iran.



- † Boko Haram kills four and abducts at least 24 in fresh attacks on Christian community in Chibok, Nigeria: Boko Haram militants abducted at least 24 Christians 22 women and girls along with two men and killed four men in three separate attacks in Chibok Local Government Area (LGA), Borno State, Nigeria.
- † Indian politician Margaret Alva calls on government to do more to protect religious minorities: A Christian Indian politician has called on the government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to do more to protect Christians and other religious minorities from extremist groups



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In our Winter 2021/2 Link Magazine you were collecting 39 words from the great Christmas carol

"O come, O come, Emmanuel".

When the remaining letters were collected in order you could discover

"O COME, O COME ADONAI".



There were some challenges as **"SON"** was a listed word to find and this appeared twice in different places, giving different solution options! Well done to the **Tucker family** of Tutshill who noticed the options and handed in the correct answer.

So please enjoy the puzzle and even enter the competition!



Accession Day

Accession Day marks the anniversary of the reigning monarch taking the throne, which in the case of Her Majesty the Queen is 6 February 1952. It was particularly fitting to have marked this anniversary in 2022 as it

marked the beginning of The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. As a Parish we will hopefully find ways to join together to celebrate the Jubilee. Whatever we end up doing as a Christian community we will continue to pray for the Queen and all in authority under her.

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, bless our Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth, and all who are in authority under her; that they may order all things in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace, to the honour and glory of your name and the good of your Church and people; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Lord Jesus I give you my hands to do your work
I give you my feet to go your way
I give you my eyes to see as you do
I give you my tongue to speak your words
I give you my mind that you may think in me
I give you my spirit that you may pray in me
Above all, I give you my heart
that you may love in me
your Father and all mankind
I give you my whole self that you may grow in me
so that it is you Lord Jesus
who live and work and pray in me. Amen

(The Grail Prayer)

My sense of purpose in life, my why, has always been to help people have the space and time to grow in emotional, physical, relational, spiritual, and intellectual capital and ultimately to be able to become leaders themselves.

In running Grace Network for 7 years, I have discerned some basic principles for this work:

- Change needs to be done in community. No one can do it on their own.
- Change can't be controlled from the top down. It needs to be a shared endeavour.
- Change needs to include all aspects of life. It is not just a "work thing".
- Change needs to happen little by little. It is not a quick fix.

"I don't know where my journey for meaning and hope will end up but working with the Diocese and 100s of people now involved in our site in Brimscombe, I am excited to share with others and meander forward to a more hopeful reality through the power of social enterprise and the ancient rhythms of monasticism.

Will is working with the diocese to develop local social enterprises in our communities. For more info contact Lucy Taylor, ltaylor@glosdioc.org.uk

'Plenty!' – Joy in Enough Lent Course

A six-week online course exploring Christian responses to sustainability, consumerism and the environmental crisis.

Do you want to have a better understanding of the economic drivers of the climate and environmental emergency? Are you wondering what actions you could take to make a difference?

Wednesdays in Lent, starting 9 March 2022, led by the Revd Dr Julie Nelson, a retired priest and Eco Ambassador for Cirencester Deanery.

Book at gloucester.anglican.org/event/ plenty-joy-in-enough-lent-course Spaces are limited, but you can also download the resources for personal use.

Praying together for LIFE Together 28 March,

10.30 am to 11 am
Bishop Rachel would like to
invite you, to pray with her
on Zoom. The focus for this
half hour session is growing
in our everyday faith.

Everyone is invited, no matter how familiar you are with prayer. All you need is to join in with what God is doing, as we bring our thanks and desires to God. (You don't need to speak if you don't want to!)

Contact Tanya for details



messenger **

From the Diocese of Gloucester

The Messenger, produced monthly by the diocesan communications office, to see the whole bulletin www.aloucester.anglican.org

One Diocese blog: Will Mansell shares his 'why'

Will Mansell, Pioneer Minister and Founder of the GRACE Network Social Enterprise shares his passion for creating social change through faith and action.

"As I grew into adulthood, I realized that my sense of being was motivated by a feeling of discontent between what the world could be, compared to what it currently is.

"Every manifesto that was written seemed to be a nod to the problem that quickly returned to the safe ground of compromise. Yet those who feel lost, lonely, hopeless or poor don't want compromise, they want power and agency to change.

"I began to help lead a small local church and as time went on I would pray, go to church on a Sunday and then try to encourage people to be better citizens individually and collectively. The problem was although some people grew, the wider community kept on existing in its broken state and the world just rolled on, seemingly crushing people into despair and trouble.

"I began to be convinced that to create the conditions for change in the world, we needed to change our economy as that was the seat for so much power. If people have a job with a social purpose, it can give them meaning. A good workplace can give you community. A good employer invests in its staff to see them grow in skills, confidence, and leadership. I started to dabble in social enterprise, founding a couple myself, and rapidly ended up with a network of social enterprises based in a local warehouse.

My day job now is leading The Grace Network and co-leading a new monastic community called Wayfarers Monastery. The Grace Network aspires to create a network of place-based enterprise hubs that can spawn 100s of social enterprises over the next 50 years. Whilst Grace Network itself is not a religious organization, we are pioneering a model of all-encompassing community building centred around monastic models of living.



The Link Parish Magazine

Children, Youth and Families' Missioner - Emma Durbin

Thankyou to everyone who has supported me over the last 5 months in my new role as Children, Youth & Families Missioner. I can honestly say that there is no

way I would have survived without folk volunteering to support all of the groups that are being run AND without the kind words of support & encouragement.

More recently it has been great to have Tutshill Primary School children back in Church (due to COVID this has not happened for a couple of years). Whilst preparing for these visits, we realised that some of the children may never have been in Church so we have been asking them 'What is Church for?'. We've had some wonderful answers but one that tickled me most is that "Church is for Princess's." Of course, to little people St. Luke's must look like a Palace and when you step inside, well, just look at the high ceilings and beautiful windows. A building fit for Royalty.

Life is so busy and when my head is whizzing around I can walk the dogs and not hear a Robin belting out his song. I can miss the golden sunlight highlighting the green of a tree. I lose the awe and wonder of a child. That's why my role/ job is such a privilege. I'm going to be learning from the best!!

Contact me on: emmad.cyfm@gmail.com or 07488 373817





March-May - Spring 2022 News from our Parish Scho Wyedean-

School and Sixth Form Centre

Aspire together, achieve together adfecere pariter, perfecere pariter

Eco Club

Change requires active engagement and Wyedean School has set up an **Eco Club** in

order to promote understanding, engage with the local community and develop initiates within school to encourage biodiversity.

Our logo drawn by Maddie Skidmore encompasses our beliefs and passions in terms of reforestation, ensuring clean water is accessible to everyone and keeping the planet tidy and litter free.

Eco club is run by Miss Barabto and Mrs Coggins. Eco club also has a twitter page:

@WyeEco https://twitter.com/ WyeEco

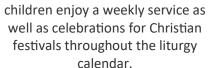


Wyedean School - 01291 636180

Tutshill Church of England Primary School

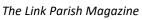
Each week there is a celebration worship where all members of the school community come together to celebrate success and achievement. This is a great opportunity to see our Christian values in action as children explain how they have used values in their daily life.

The school has a close link with the local church, St Luke's, where the



The ministry team work closely with staff to ensure the worship is inspiring by planning and evaluating the impact of worship for the children.





MEMORY CAFES

As well as the new, and very successful Musical Memory Café we have Woolaston Memory Café, which meets every Thursday at 2.00 - and is picking up from the hard winter of Lockdown etc., and always has interesting activities; and Sedbury Memory Café, held in the village hall, but run by Sedbury Space, which is coming back with renewed vigour.

HEALTHWALKS/COMMUNTY WALKS

The renamed Community Walks – which take place on Tuesday afternoon in St Briavels – 2.00 from The Assembly Rooms and Sedbury, Thursday mornings, 10.00, Sheila's Shop are now thriving after the long winter of Covid and lockdowns. Both end with a pleasant café – St Briavels at The Assembly Rooms, Sedbury at Sedbury Space. The Sedbury walk is now reaching the kind of turnout we were achieving before the 1st Lockdown – 17 to 20; and we are also having regular attendance from locals with dementia and learning difficulties, which is excellent.

There are also a lot more activities going on in the area now – we are finally getting back to the kind of activity we had reached before the 1st Lockdown.

COMMUNTY WELLBEING TEAM and COMMUNITY BUILDERS TEAM

I am now in 2 teams of colleagues in the Forest council - Community Wellbeing Team and Community Builders Team.

I've mentioned the 1st of these in the past – they mainly consist of my Social Prescriber colleagues. The Community Builder team includes 6 colleagues – 3 of whom – Charis, Chloe and Emma, have already done some work in this area. Charis is starting a community newspaper for the area – and if anybody has any positive, inspiring stories about what's going on, or even a poem, a piece of writing, or some artwork, please let me know, and I can pass it on, or give you Charis's details. The Social Prescribing staff member for the area is Erica Sheppard, who has already done a lot of work in the area.

RICHARD SKINNER, COMMUNITY WELLBEING AGENT

Tel. 07927 051328

(or 01594 812447] Email: richard.skinner@fdean.gov.uk



"COMMUNTY WELLBEING AGENT'S REPORT (Former Village Agent)

March-May - Spring 2022

ST. BRIAVEL'S MUSICAL MEMORY CAFÉ

On 16th February, I attended my 1st Musical Memory Café at The Assembly Rooms, St Briavels. (10.30 for 11.00).

I was bowled over by the sheer enjoyment and enthusiasm. I was expecting hopefully up to a dozen people. There was a Welsh harpist, a Welsh singer from Llanelly, and well over 60 people –

People with Dementia, carers, friends, neighbours, volunteers. We had lovely Welsh songs and tunes, 2 Elvis (!), Amazing Grace, and more, ending with You'll Never Walk Alone. The high spirits and enjoyment were palpable. Great credit is due to the organisers, especially Alice and Joanna, for working so hard to make it a success and working so assiduously and thoughtfully on the project. This was only the 2nd session – they happen on the 3rd Wednesday of the month - so to have such a turnout and success at such an early stage is remarkable.

The Assembly Rooms is now back and running with its 2 afternoon community café sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays, & the St Briavels Healthwalk [now officially Forest of Dean Community Walks] setting off at 2.00 from there on a Tuesday.

SEDBURY SPACE

Goes from strength to strength – it now runs and holds – Sedbury Memory Café [monthly], Sedbury Community Café, every Tuesday morning – regularly getting turnout now of between 30 and 40 attendees, with lots of fine work being done supporting people, Bereavement Support Group, Craft Group – Fridays, Exercise Classes, Guitar Group, Homework clubs, Drug & Alcohol Advice, Sedbury Walkers Thursday mornings, Chaplaincy Chatroom, a base for Emily the new youth worker for the parish, and Nicki the new, and already very active, community chaplain, and more.

TIDENHAM PARISH COMMUNITY AWARDS

This Spring residents of the parish will be invited to make nominations for people who have put something into the community – categories like: Lifelong Contribution to the Community, Project of the Year. The Parish Council will be providing more information on this.



From their website:

Here at Offa's Mead, the sky is the limit. Our potential will soar above the clouds.

A flock of birds, gliding amongst the helicopters. Pristine, purple and proud.

Our smiles connect our friendships like the Severn Bridge itself. Beneath it, the barracks stand strong. The ideas, and the years,

are flowing like the river: a symbol of the community where we belong.



Offa's Mead - 01291 622932



ST JOHN'S Dean Close

Announce that they have a new Deputy Headmaster in place. Mr Philip Richardson will be joining St John's from The Elms School in Herefordshire.

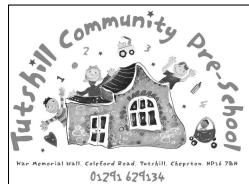
Philip has been there for the last four years as Head of Safeguarding, Head of History and Head of Boys' Games.

Prior to that, he taught for a number of years at a prep school in Kenya, where he was the Deputy Head of Co-Curricular Activities, alongside being Director of Sport and the Houseparent of a junior boys' boarding house. Phil comes with a huge amount of experience, both inside and outside of the classroom. He is a talented sportsman, having played both

hockey and cricket to an excellent standard. He has taught across the prep school age range, managing the History department at The Elms, as well as teaching to scholarship level. He also completed a Masters in Educational Leadership in 2020.

St John's Dean Close School 01291 622045





Tutshill Community Pre-School

Nature Tots is our outdoor toddler session which takes place on a Wednesday morning from 9.15 - 10.45am. It's a chance for families to play together in an outdoor environment, allowing children time and space to

explore, investigate and take risks while learning.

A practitioner from pre-school and a practitioner from Deans Close St John's are at the sessions as facilitators to support children in choosing the direction their learning takes.

The main principles of our sessions are to promote self-esteem by allowing children freedom without interference, to promote confidence by allowing children to develop a belief in themselves and their abilities, and to promote independence by providing a feeling of pride in themselves and their achievements.

In cold weather wrap up in lots of layers and a coat and waterproof trousers with wellies, bring a hot drink for you and your child/children and a snack that doesn't contain nuts or sesame seeds and join us for a play. If it's warm long sleeves, long trousers and wellies are best to protect from scratches, insect bites and to provide protection when climbing and building. A sun hat and suncream will also be needed.

So please come and join us for the chance to play, meet other local families and have lots of outdoor fun.

Sian Griffith





TIDENHAM HISTORICAL GROUP

Evening meetings from September to April are normally held on the LAST Tuesday of the month at 7.30 in Sedbury Village Hall, on King Alfred's Road, Sedbury NP16 7AQ. Visitors are always welcome. For more information contact Liz on 01291 621694, Carol on 01291 623736, or e-mail info@tidenhamhistory.co.uk.

tíoenham historical group

Wishes everyone a very Happy & Peaceful Christmas and New Year
VILLAGE HALL MEETINGS 2022

Tuesday 22nd February 7.30 "The Wye Valley Greenway Project" J Bryant

Tuesday 29th March 7.30 "Brockweir's Ships" by John Norman

Tuesday 26th April 7.30 "Chepstow in World War 2" by Naylor Firth

Recent research of the Mead Collection shows that the Tidenham stationmaster, Mr Hugh Balfour, is recorded as living on Sedbury Lane from about 1876, then the 1891 census shows him at Church Cottage next to the parish church at Tidenham. The parish Curate was also a boarder in the house. His railway career began in 1869 in the Welsh valleys, then moved to Monmouth, where they were married in 1871, and continued at Tidenham in 1876 until his ill-health retirement in 1909. He died in 1924 aged 79 and he and Elizabeth are buried in Tutshill churchyard.



This picture probably shows (R to L) Mr Balfour, his wife Elizabeth, their daughter and husband and four grandchildren.





CHASE **GARDENING CLUB**

At last our long planned and frequently postponed visit from Gardeners World presenter, Nick Bailey, took place at the Drill Hall in Chepstow in



March-May - Spring 2022

November – entirely down to the patience and perseverance of Pat Knight, Bill Kerr and the very helpful volunteer staff at the Drill Hall.



It was worth the wait – the garden designer, TV presenter & best-selling author gave a lively and interesting talk on "365 Days of Colour in Your Garden", something most of us aspire to if never quite achieving. Good advice and ideas were mixed with amusing anecdotes from his TV work – only a pity he had no books to sell, most of the audience would have been tempted!

We were less fortunate in December when the new Omicron variant of covid reared its ugly head and we were obliged to cancel the Christmas social which was disappointing. There is no meeting in January but, all being well, we have a full schedule for February, March and April with speakers on such diverse topics as Early Spring Perennials, Defensive Gardening at a Time of Climate Change and The Self-Seeding Garden. Plans are also proceeding for the Plant & Cake Sale on the 7th May and the Summer Supper on the 2nd July. Fingers crossed!

All are welcome. Meetings are held at Chase School in Rosemary Lane on the third Friday of the month at 2.30pm. For further information, please contact Bob Elliott on 01291 625659 or Bill Kerr on 01291 621100.



If the police arrest a mime artist, does he or she still have the right to remain silent?



From Ethan Richards

Thank you all for your prayers, support and kindness over the last 3 years, it has been so appreciated. You all welcomed me into the roll so warmly, and it's been a real joy and to work in privilege to work in the Parish and with you all.

I am so proud of the young people we have in our Parish, and they are a real credit to our churches. Its not often you find such a wonderful group such as them. I know God has so much in store for them, and they all have such bright futures ahead of them, please keep supporting, praying for, and involving them in Church life as much as possible.

I am also thankful for many people over my time. Vicar David, staff past and present, the youth and the families, and so many of you for making my time so special. And of course, for God for bringing me to you.

A huge special shout out to our wonderful volunteers who really made youth happen - Non and JR. What a gift they have been, and I am forever in your debt. So thank you!

I have started working as a Wellbeing Youth Worker for the boys and girls club of Wales. Without the lessons, experiences and support from working at the Parish, I wouldn't have been able to do this.

The plan is to stick around for a while longer (So my apologies for those trying to get rid of me), so I will see you all around.

Finally, how exciting that we have our Emma! I am excited for her to lead the ministry, so please show her the same love, support and kindness you did to me.

Thank you and God bless, Ethan



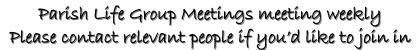
Thank you to everyone who helps with the Foodbank. Current needs:

- > UHT Fruit Juice
- > Tinned Tomatoes
- > Tinned fish
- > Small Instant Coffee
- > Jam
- > Toiletries

chepstowfoodbank@gmail.com



Life Groups



7.30pm Life Group for Men! > Sunday Online - James Parsons - James.darsie@gmail.com

- Monday 2-3.30pm Bible Study at Sedbury Space - Nicki nicki1002@hotmail.co.uk
- Monday 7.30pm Life Group at Luke's Church Vicar David dtrevd@aol.com
- Tuesday 1.00pm Life Group Julia Parsons, venue varies juliaparsons727@gmail.com
- Wednesday 10.15am Food for Thought Life Group, Café on the Hill -Vicar David - dtrevd@aol.com
- Wednesday 7.30pm Life Group Fiona 624868 or Wendy 623642 for venue & topic
 - Thursday 1.30pm Life Group Tanya White at Rockymead tanya.rockymead@gmail.com
- Contact Emma Durbin for details of meetings for the young people. emmad.cyfm@gmail.com
 - > There will also be a specific Lenten Life Group meeting on Tuesdays during Lent: 8/3, 15/3, 22/3, 29/3 & 5/4 7.30pm-9pm at St Luke's Church, Tutshill. Contact Vicar David for more details. dtrevd@aol.com

Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. I I rise on the wings of the dawn, If I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, Your right hand will hold me fast.

Psalm 139: 7-10



Institute

Chase WI

The Chase was definitely back in action at the January meeting with a superb speaker who had us all lost in admiration when she spoke to us. Christine Green told us the

story of how, aged 70, she decided to ride from

Land's End to John o'Groats on her electric powered bike on her own. It is a route known as Lejog, a demanding mix of urban and rural riding challenging even the most experienced cyclists, not to mention the British weather. Christine overcame every obstacle raising money for Women v Cancer along the way.

Having down-loaded the maps she used on her ride on to her phone, two panniers for clothes and other items, she was ready to go when her husband, Hugh, drove her to her Cornish destination to start her long journey to John o'Groats.



In February our speaker was from the Charity Upcycle, the greenest cross border charity based in the Forest of Dean and Chepstow. Vicky told us of the remarkable collection of activities: affordable house moves; an up cycle bike project

with used bikes serviced and for sale; evening workshops and expert training; eco refill station to help reduce plastic and providing jobs and opportunities for people. As a registered charity they use the model of collecting and selling donated furniture to employ those who are marginalised in society. Members also much enjoyed this interesting talk and asked many questions.

Our hardworking events Secretary, Ann Webster, has planned some interesting outings for us this year starting with a Skittles match with St Briavels WI and a taster day for bowls at Chepstow. The first county walk of the year will take place at Wyck Rissington in April: this being a

Chase Women's Institute meet on 2nd Monday of the month at 2.15pm Chase Old School Rosemary Lane

great opportunity to meet other members from Gloucestershire and have a delicious lunch.

For further in formation please call Poppy Moss, 01291 628739.





Fairtrade Fortnight, 21st February - 6th March 2022



It's time to go bananas again for Fairtrade!

Fairtrade is more than fair for farmers it is fair for the environment. Fairtrade is supporting farmers in building resilience to climate change. Every time we buy Fairtrade we are enabling farmers to invest in climate-friendly farming techniques.

For example, a banana growing co-operative in

Columbia have been helped to set up a bio-fertiliser plant. The fertiliser they produce enhances the energy and nutrients in the soil, and boosts the micro-organism population which acts as repellents and protectors against pests and diseases eliminating the need for chemical fertilisers and pesticides. All this helps the farmers to reduce their carbon footprint, and ours too when we buy Fairtrade. So into Fairtrade Fortnight and beyond, let's give the planet the healthy boost it needs and be fair to farmers by buying Fairtrade. For more information see

https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/what-is-fairtrade/

Thank you

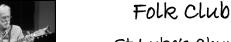
Back in the Autumn, many of you placed orders for gifts and produce from Traidcraft. Thank you all very much, we made it a fair Christmas for many producers around the world. The winner of the prize draw was Linda Wilson and the runner-up prize went to Jean Burgum.



Traidcraft sell all year round and have new spring/summer catalogues out now so please ask Julia or Cate for a copy to look at. Maybe you can choose some hand crafted birthday gifts for your loved ones, or some tasty fair treats for yourself, or order Fairtrade Easter Eggs. God asks us to do justice and love mercy, and buying fairly traded produce is one way of doing that.

Happy fair shopping!

Julía Parsons (01291 622163)



St Luke's Church Saturday, 12th March 2022 g Saturday Jth May 2022 6 - 8.30pm (doors open 5.30pm)



Coffee & Tea will now be provided. But please bring any further Refreshments...

Contact Bill & Tanya White (01291 623169) or Steven & Jenny Shaw (07474 608797)



WANTED.....

With people being able to gather in church again, we are starting to rethink our church music. We would like to be able to offer new music, encourage new singers, welcome new instrumentalists.

Do you like to sing or play? Would you like to join in the discussion or, better still, join us.

If you would like to find out more please contact me Wendy Moppett. I would love to talk to you.

8

wendy.moppett@btinternet.com





01291 623642







CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2021

	GROUP	GAME
1	Art Group	Guess Who
2	Bellringers	Monopoly
3	Chase Gardening Club	Othello
4	Chase WI	Quirkle
5	County Marquees	Noughts & Crosses
6	Forest South Trefoil Guild	Pictionary
7	Martin Singers	Chinese Checkers
8	Nataline	Connect 4
9	Rainbows	The Tooth Fairy
10	Sedbury & Tidenham Scouts	Cluedo
11	Sedbury & Tidenham Beavers	Buckaroo
12	Sedbury Walking for Health	Musical Chairs
13	Splash	Roadblock/Minecraft/Animal Crossing
14	Tidenham Flower Arrangers	Scrabble
15	Tidenham Historical Group	Carcassone
16	Pauline & Robert Civil	Jenga
17	Tutshill School	Pigs in Pants
18	Tutshill WI	Pass the Parcel

Winners with the most correct answers: Alex & Laura White & Family



Your Financial Giving to God's Church

THANK YOU to everyone who has given financially to the Parish over this last year!!! Your significant financial support has been essential. Much of our ministry and mission in the Parish is FREE..., but it is costly and challenging in these times of increasing costs! The vicar, our buildings, our work with Children, Youth, and



families, wellbeing and pastoral care is largely paid for by our local Christian giving.

As 2022 unfolds I invite us all to consider afresh our financial commitment to God's church in this Parish. The former Bishop of Sheffield Jack Nicholls said, "Our generosity is measured not by what we give, but by what we have left when we have given."

We invite all members to give regularly and electronically if possible. Here are some giving options -

Bank Account - Tidenham Parochial Church Sort Code 30-91-89 Account Number 00304754

Standing Order & Gift Aid Forms available to download from Website Website - http://easydonate.org/COLLECT

Text / SMS donations - To donate £5, text COLLECT to 70970 or to donate £10, text COLLECT to 70191

Parish Treasurer - John Dempsey, tidenhamtreasurer@gmail.com

And don't forget that we now have a card reader at St Luke's. With less of us carrying cash around the opportunity to give by credit card is really important

Once again thank you to all those of you who have given generously and regularly over the last year to help make things happen. Thank you!!

Vicar David



Highlights from PCC meeting in December & February 2022 (no January meeting)

PCC members:-

- ₩ Welcomed Annabelle Stephens as our new Administration Assistant from 01 December.
- Thanked Revd Nicki Bullivant for her first three months' work as Wellbeing Chaplain to the whole parish, and Ethan Richards at the conclusion of his 3-year stint as Youth Coordinator for Tidenham parish
- ♣ Agreed to propose Andy Royle as our new Independent Examiner he will examine our 2021 accounts. This was advised to all our congregations in January.
- Previewed and revised our General Fund Reserves Policy; agreed our 2021 annual distribution to local and national charities, and our local fees and budget for 2022; much thanks are due to our new Treasurer John Dempsey for a major piece of work
- ♣ Agreed to engage a conservation engineer and architect to revise our application for a faculty for repairing Tidenham Church Tower
- ♣ Agreed to apply for a faculty for new benches in Chase and Tidenham churchyards. This will provide a much-needed seat in front of Tidenham church.
- ♣ Agreed a new policy for hiring out Tutshill church, with contribution levels to offset the costs of running the church.
- Thanked Marilyn Henderson for updating members on the latest Church of England safeguarding guidance, which means additional online awareness training about domestic abuse for all PCC members.

Please Notice This

Found in another church's notices:

"Maundy Thursday service: The ladies of the altar guild will be stripping on the altar."



Friends of Tidenham Church (Registered Charity no 1159658)

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2021 OPENING CONCERT 17th DECEMBER

"Will this concert happen or won't it?" "Is it still going ahead?" "What do we do about refreshments – should we cancel them?" "Do I need a Covid Pass to attend?" Just a handful of the questions asked about the Opening Christmas Trees Festival Music Evening scheduled for Friday, 17th December. It really was a case of hoping everything would happen, but being prepared to cancel at very short notice if circumstances changed.

When the four participants (Alison, Roger, Marje and Fiona) all registered negative in tests on Friday morning, we thought "Yippee!"

We had an amazing audience of enthusiastic and loyal people and although we also had some cancellations and some "clashed dates", it was a joy to be able to make music for any audience at all —and particularly with Christmas Trees — making things feel that normality was at least beginning again.

With a mix of solos and duets, some beautiful serious Christmas items (e.g. Holy Boy, O Holy Night, The First Mercy), there was lovely contrast. We had two duets specially arranged for us by a friend of Marje's, and the finale Twelve Days of Christmas duet was even more enjoyable to sing and play than it may have been to listen to and appreciate all the variety of vocal actions! Along with 3 equally contrasting "fun" readings, the 70 minutes of entertainment just slipped away.

Massive thanks are due to Alison Wray – whose willingness to return to Tidenham Church and give us some brilliant singing warmed everyone's hearts; to Roger (Martin) whose love of singing will never leave him and who never fails to "come up trumps"; and to Marje (Duerden) who returned to the piano/ keyboard for a first full concert since 2017, and emerged from the experience pretty well unscathed! Fiona and Brian contributed brilliant readings: Fiona with a wonderful report of a Chairman's Opening Remarks; Brian representing his beloved Burnley Football Club as he issued a very important "edict" for all; and Alison contributed a rendering of a Yorkshire Christmas Eve that struggled to go to plan! Even the mince pies were allowed, and available for people to pick up on leaving although drinks were sadly not possible this time. However, there are whispers that the trio may return later in the year for another event – so watch this space! Many thanks again to all ---not least the audience!



Eulogy for Judith Wells from daughter Helen Lanning

My mum was someone I loved but, more than that, I admired her and she was an example to me throughout my life of:

> How to live life to the fullest

Adversity is also part of life but it is there to be defeated i.e. "There is no such word as can't!" as my mum used to say to us when we were children

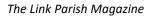
Be kind and treat people how you would like to be treated

One of my earliest memories was of my mum cooking in our small kitchen at home. Yes, we all know that mum was a fabulous cook and produced lovely meals every single day of our childhood. What you may not know is the kitchen was small and cramped, we didn't have a fridge until I was 10, my mum had £5 per week housekeeping in order to feed us and the Gas Cooker was terrifying....One day, I was in the kitchen talking to mum as she stuck her head in the oven to light it, she came out with a large flame coming from her hair. I screamed the place down. My mum told me to "stop making that noise", put the flames out and carried on cooking our dinner. .

- Don't make a drama out of a crisis
- Look the best you can but don't worry about what people think about you

She later joined the Gourmet Club and cooked themed evenings with her great friend Pam for 50 people. She still had a small kitchen but the oven was normal and she had a fridge freezer...Her childhood dream was to be a chef and I honestly think this was the closest she got to that dream.

She also suffered from dyslexia. This meant that, though she went to grammar school, she struggled to keep up and compared herself to her brilliant friend sitting next to her. Therefore, she left school and decided not to take any O levels as she felt she would fail them all anyway. When she started work, this meant her pay was low. She overheard her boss saying that Judith was her best employee. This made my mum think maybe she did have some potential after all. When I was a child, I remember her going out in the evenings to Night School. She got an English and Math's O level and retired as Salary Manager of The University of Luton. Yet another valuable lesson learnt. Don't make



reminded:

> Eat enough fruit and vegetables >Try to eat foods which are high in fibre

➤ Include dairy products or alternatives that provide protein, calcium and vitamins

➤ Watch our sugar, salt and fat intake

➤ Drink plenty of fluids

Help is at hand

It can be a struggle to change our habits, but there are lots of trustworthy resources to help. The NHS Eatwell Guide tells us how much of what we eat overall should come from each food group to achieve a healthy, balanced diet. This doesn't have to be with every meal – although it is recommended that we try to get the balance over a day or week.

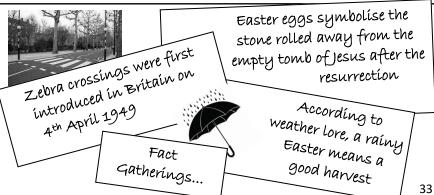
Take a look at nhs.uk/ live-well/eat -well to find out more.



It's good to be reminded

about the importance of good nutrition for our health and wellbeing. While it can be harder to implement, there's lots of advice and guidance available. There are also some great, healthy recipes, for example, at bbc.co.uk/food. Why not try something new this month?

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) is a UK charity with over 580 services across the country delivering debt counselling, money management education, job clubs, life skills groups and more. Visit capuk.org to find out more.







How poor nutrition can impact us all

David Price (07539 477286)

Did you know it's Nutrition and Hydration Week this month? This is a worthwhile campaign and most of us could benefit from advice on eating better.

Nutrition and poverty

For some, poor nutrition is a choice. Others, though, including many of those who seek help from Christians Against Poverty (CAP), feel they have no choice but to skip meals and are not getting a nutritious diet – not through choice, but because of necessity. 6% of CAP clients say that debt meant they had to sacrifice meals on a daily basis. A much higher proportion of clients – over one in three (37%) – report skipping meals on, at least, a monthly basis. In many cases, parents will ensure their children eat first, even if they themselves then have to go without.

The spiral of poor nutrition

The NHS website says that a lack of proper nutrition can lead to

someone feeling tired all the time, feeling weak, getting ill more often and taking longer to recover from illness. This can make it difficult for someone in this position to go to work, or work productively, which can lead to them not being able to earn and falling further into debt, particularly if their work hours are unpredictable.

March-May - Spring 2022

Many food banks, like those operated by Trussell Trust, do amazing work across the UK to provide food to so many who find themselves in need of urgent assistance. We at CAP work closely with local food banks. What they do is great and we should, where we can, support this work – check out trusselltrust.org.

A balanced diet

More generally for all of us, good nutrition is so important for how we live, work, play and, hopefully, thrive. We should ensure that our diet is balanced and regularly includes at least some of the food groups necessary to give our bodies what they need.

Some of these are well known to us all, but it's good to be

excuses, just achieve the best you can....

Apart from working, she loved being "Outside" and wasn't keen on watching T.V. She would rather live life rather than watch life. She loved the countryside and walked the Coast to Coast, Thames Path, Offa's Dyke and weekly with her ramblers club — which was an all day event. She walked up Snowdon with us in spite of a knee that needed replacing and her other knee "collapsing" without warning. She then achieved her lifetime dream of walking up Macchu Picchu.....

When I was visiting mum for "support" during her cancer journey, mum decided we should go for a walk. 10 miles later, I was exhausted and noticed that she was charging up a hill while I seemed to be puffing a lot but still going backwards. I asked her how she did that. She told me "You have to walk faster and swing your arms in an exaggerated fashion". Thanks mum, it worked and you'll always be with me when I go for a ramble and I'm sure you'll give me a little push to go up hill.

My Mum's other great love was music. She played the organ at church from the Age of 10 until her illness. She was in the choir and played the recorder and piano. She took me to piano lessons throughout my childhood when I expressed an interest after listening to her play. Recently, when I expressed an interest in learning the guitar, she bought me one. It was her last gift to me and Matthew – who also follows the family tradition of now playing both the piano and guitar.

Mums kindness and sociability has always been part of her. Many of you have come up to me and told me of her kindness to you personally. The lovely meals she has cooked for you, the lifts she has given you, the shopping she has done for you, the sewing, the bridge parties and just time she has given you even if it's only to listen.

My mum has been part of CRUSE for bereavement counseling as she lost her father when she was 10; our sister, Katina (Chris' twin) at 2 days old and another sister as a late miscarriage but felt she could use these tragedies to help others. She has also been part of the Samaritans. It was never about herself and what she had, personally, been through. It was always about how life's harsh lessons made her more compassionate and empathetic to others.

We will all miss you but will continue to live how you would want us to as you have been such a wonderful example of a life well lived.





From the Registers

March-May - Spring 2022

Funerals & Burials

Freda May SMITH (aged 84)

Wednesday, 24th November 2021

Interment of ashes at St Michael & All Angels, Tidenham Chase

Roy William BIRCH (aged 88)

Thursday, 25th November 2021

Service & Burial at St Michael & All Angels, Tidenham Chase

Oswald Herman ALVISSE (aged 88)

Thursday, 25th November 2021

Interment of ashes at St Michael & All Angels, Tidenham Chase

Judith Ann WELLS (aged 82)

Monday. 29th November 2021

Forest of Dean Crematorium & Service at St Luke's, Tutshill Thursday, 20th January 2022: Burial of Ashes

Edwin Robert RIMMER 'Ted' (aged 85)

Thursday, 2nd December 2021 Forest of Dean Crematorium

Peter Edward Joseph HORWOOD (aged 84)

Thursday, 16th December 2021 Service at St Luke's, Tutshill

Martin John SMITH (aged 48)

Wednesday, 22nd December 2021

Service & interment of ashes, St Michael & All Angels, Tidenham Chase

Denise POWELL (aged 87)

Monday, 17th January 2022

Forest of Dean Crematorium

Steven Andrew NYLAND (aged 60)

Thursday, 3rd February 2022 Service at St Luke's, Tutshill Forest of Dean Crematorium

Gerda Ann Marie Cox (aged 99)

Monday, 7th February 2022 Forest of Dean Crematorium

Further register entries will appear in the June 2022 edition of the Link

There are no guarantees in life and there are many heartbreaking moments to counter happy times. The good news is, however, that when times are bad, we know we can turn our eyes from our problems to our Saviour Jesus Christ and know he will help us carry the load.

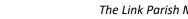
The Rehema women, as usual, rallied around and were there to support Mama Esta. Helping to cook, clean, sing hymns and pray with her, and just generally lift her spirits at a difficult time. The ladies are a fine example of mercy and compassion, which is what Rehema represents.

A big thank you to my friends and supporters, for your encouragement, financial and prayerful support, and love throughout the year. 2021 has been challenging in a way that none of us could have anticipated or expected. Our lives have been turned upside down and placed on hold. For over a year, I was in a state of limbo, stuck in South Africa, longing to be able to return to Tanzania and my friends and colleagues at the Diocese of Mara and the Rehema Project.

Eventually, a decision was made after consultation with CMS and the diocese – it seemed unlikely that my paperwork would be approved. It was time to return to Musoma to say my farewells and move on to a new placement.... Benjamin, my new neighbour on our compound, after finding out that I had come to pack up and say goodbye championed my cause and spoke to various people in senior government. He has told me to resubmit my documents, and everything will be approved.

My secondment agreement to the Diocese of Mara expires in January 2022. I spoke to CMS and they have agreed to extend it in my current location. I met with Bishop George, and he is delighted with the prospect that I can remain. God does indeed work in mysterious ways, and, after all this time, it seems I am no longer packing up. I do need to return to South Africa though and by God's grace will return to Tanzania, probably at the end of January 2022.

Find out more on CMS website: https://churchmissionsociety.org









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News from Heather Johnstone Church Mission Society

Recently, I bought a cow, 60kg of rice, 30kg of beans, 15 cabbages and a coffin for the equivalent of £225. All before six am and while I was still in bed.

Elias, the beloved 20-year-old son of one of the Rehema women, had died in a tragic

accident the day before. Funerals and grieving are a very important part of Tanzanian life and culture, and if someone close to you passes away, family, friends, neighbours and the community at large will arrive en-masse at your home to pay their respects to the deceased and to grieve. It is expected that you will provide chai and food, plates, cups, somewhere to sit, etc for all the visitors, and not to do so would be considered very shameful and disrespectful.

Mama Esta was despairing. A couple of weeks prior to the accident, the structural walls of her house had collapsed, and she and the family were struggling to cope. Temporarily living outside, subject to the elements, mosquitoes and other nocturnal creatures. Things were dire; they couldn't afford to rebuild the house. Elias took a loan from the group formed by his fellow



Visiting Mama Joy in the village

motorbike taxi drivers to help his mother and the family, and building work started, but unfortunately they didn't have enough money to complete the job. Not only was the house not fully repaired, but now she had to pay for the funeral costs, and there was that matter of Elias's loan which must be repaid.

A concerned colleague rang me very early that morning and explained the situation. Rehema Assistance aims to benefit women and children who are struggling, so of course we were more than willing to assist Mama Esta in her hour of need and Elias was buried with dignity.



Holy Matrimony

Elinor Victoria ARTER

Peter AYELLO-WRIGHT

Saturday 4th December 2021 at St Luke's, Tutshill

Hannah Jane BELLIS

Benjamin David KERSEY

Saturday, 11th December 2021 at St Luke's, Tutshill



Holy Baptism

Lorenzo Keith David

28th November 2021 ST Luke's Tutshill

Prayer Diary

See overleaf for March prayers and loose page in centre for April & May 2022 prayers...

For each day the Prayer Diary has four items > A person or people often involved in leadership of the Church

- > A Church activity
- > A community activity
- > Things or attributes we value

A Prayer Diary is not everyone's cup of tea. There are as many different ways of praying as there are different types of people. This Prayer Diary is just one way of reminding us to pray for different aspects of our church parish and community and it is not exhaustive, so please let me have feedback, negative as well as positive

Any contributions or ideas please to coombsmargaret@ymail.com 01291 629098

Tidenham Parish Prayer Diary March 2022							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Saturday				
		O1 March Vicar David & family Churchwardens Unemployed people Accountability	O2 March Ash Wednesday Readers Fiona, James & families Funeral ministry Funeral Directors Good bereavement care	O3 March Sedbury Space Susan (Manager) & Rev Nicki (Wellbeing Chaplain) Sheltered Housing residents Forgiveness	O4 March Annabelle (Admin) Parish Communications Leisure facilities we use Loyalty	05 March Musicians, Bellringers, choirs Organists, Instrumentalists & Congregational Singers Libraries Music	
06 March Lent 1 Emma, her team & their families Families, babies, children & teens with whom they work Wyedean School Education	07 March Vicar David & family This evening's PCC meeting Diving Centre Keeping fit	08 March Brother Tom & assisting clergy Life Groups Local Pubs Hope & Joy	O9 March Readers Fiona, James & families Our Lenten observances St John's School & Little Trees Volunteering	10 March Sedbury Space Susan (Manager) & Rev Nicki (Wellbeing Chaplain) Our mental health Healing	11 March Archbishop Welby Archbishop Cottrell & Pope Francis School Assembles Parish & District Counsellors Education	12 March St Luke's Folk Club Rev David Rees, Reader Mandy & Parishes of St Briavels & Hewelsfield Cohesion	
13 March Lent 2 Emma, her team & their families Families, babies, children & teens with whom they work Offa's Mead Academy All Age learning	14 March Vicar David & family All considering baptism, confirmation or vocations Public cycle paths Healthy diet	15 March Pastoral & Visiting Teams A good Lent Woodcroft Centre Kate & Gareth (Managers) Riding School Generosity	16 March Readers Fiona, James & families Mission partners, Heather (Tanzania) & Rhona (Uganda) Vulnerable people Discernment	17 March Sedbury Space Susan (Manager) & Rev Nicki (Wellbeing Chaplain) Protection from illness Worship	18 March Bishops Rachel & Robert & their families Future of our Benefice & Deanery Good neighbours Mercy	19 March All our children & youn people Churchwardens & PCC Members All lonely, ill & housebound people Worship	
20 March Lent 3 Vicar David & family Our Online and in church Services & all who take part & their congregations Hospitals we use Worship	21 March Vicar David & family PCC finance team All whose hospital appointments, diagnoses and treatment have been postponed Hope	22 March St Luke's congregation PCC Members Toddler groups Hope	23 March Readers Fiona, James & families Chase congregation All facing extreme emotional and financial problems Healing	24 March Sedbury Space Susan (Manager) & Rev Nicki. (Wellbeing Chaplain) Protection from illness Family	25 March St John's School Service Our politicians, as they guide us through difficult times Rising Sun Pub Socialising	26 March Tidenham Friends Fundraising for Church maintenance & reordering Local post offices and banks Discipleship	
27 March Lent 4 Mothering Sunday Emma, her team & their families All families, babies, children & teens Churches Together Mums & Dads Good parenting	28 March Vicar David & family Church cleaners, flower arrangers, refreshment providers Riding Centre Forgiveness	29 March Pastoral & Visiting Teams Ability to meet the Parish's financial Commitments Local WI's Generosity	30 March Readers Fiona, James & families Churchwardens & PCC members Tutshill School Peace	31 March Sedbury space Susan (Manager) & Rev Nicki. (Wellbeing Chaplain) Stay & Play Accountability	O1 April Life Groups Churchwardens Local farms Care of environment	O2 April Vicar David & family Woodcroft Centre Residents of Silleys Clo Hanover Court & Buttington Bungalows Justice	