



Some of the Christmas Trees displayed at Tidenham and some of the visitors



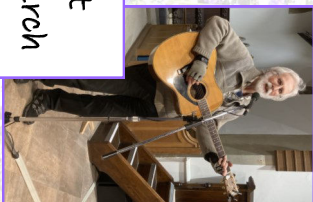
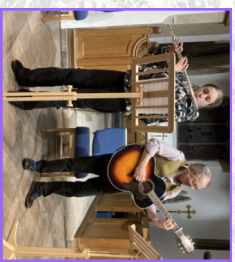
"where the river flows everything will live"

THE PARISH OF TIDENHAM
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Tidenham Parish Magazine
Spring 2023



Folke Club at St Luke's Church



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
DIOCESE OF GLOUCESTER

Link Magazine
The Parish of Tidenham
Spring 2023

£1.50

Inside this month...

Easter Greetings to all

... Vicar David writes about coming to God as you are

... Parish News of all sorts!





THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

The Parish of Tidenham Contacts

St Mary & St Peter

Tidenham

Sunday: 9:00am

St Michael & All Angels

Tidenham Chase

Sunday: 4:00pm

St Luke's
Tutshill

Sunday: 11.00am

www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk

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Revd David Treharne

01291 760034

Tidenham Vicarage, Gloucester Road, Tutshill, Chepstow NP16 7DH

dtrevd@aol.com

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Revd Brother Tom Clammer OC

01722 504938

Curate

Revd Nicki Bullivant

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Fiona Gardiner

01291 624868

Reader

James Parsons

01291 446300

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Roger Martin

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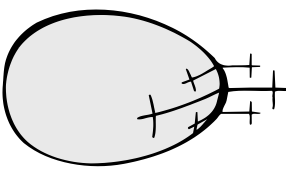
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Tanya White

SPRING

Letter from the Editor
Spring Greetings to everyone
and welcome to our Link magazine

I hope that everyone is keeping well.

Inside this month:

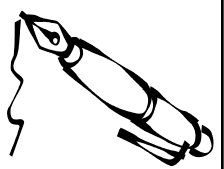
- Vicar David speaks of coming to God as you are (pages 4-6)
 - Holy Week Details (page 7)
 - Sedbury Space (page 8-9 & 11)
 - St Luke's Coffee Morning (page 14)
- Scarecrow Trail from Sunday, 26th March-15th April (page 19)
- Tidenham Christmas Trees (page20-21)

If not paid already, annual subscription of £5 is due

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

Love from **Tanya**



PLEASE NOTE

All copy for the **Summer Link** (June—August 2023) must be with **Tanya by Friday, 5th May 2023**
 Email: tanya.rockymead@gmail.com
 or posted to: Tanya White, Rockymead, Coleford Road, Tutshill, Chepstow, NP16 7BU (01291 623169)



Vicar
Revd David Treharne

*Vicar David writes...
"Forgiveness is the key that unlocks
the door of resentment and the
handcuffs of hatred."*

*"To forgive, is to set a prisoner free and
discover the prisoner was you."*

Corrie Ten Boon

Does Christianity Promise and Deliver Change?

At the heart of the Good News Gospel is the message that when a person becomes a Christian they begin a new life... and with the help and work of God's Holy Spirit within us we can begin to change and be transformed from a self-centred sinful life to a God-centred holy life. However, whilst the Christian faith does offer the real opportunity of a new and transformed life, this side of physical death all of us will come up against something really challenging that doesn't seem to change in our lives. Most of us will recognise a nemesis, a battle, the Achilles heel within us! Christians may think they've been transformed in some areas of life only to find an old enemy resurface at a later date. Even with all the fantastic spiritual, psychological and physical practices and support, many Christians express that they can find it really hard for some things to change, even a little! Indeed, some people give up on faith because of it. Does this resonate with you? If so, you're not alone!!

Transformation in our Relationships

One of the areas of our lives where change can seem the most difficult yet would be most transformative for us is in the area of relationship.

Many Christians can find that their relationship with God can become stale, very distant or shallow. The season of Lent beginning on Ash Wednesday (22 February 2023) is a 40-day opportunity for some freshness, closeness and depth in that most important of relationships. Some freshness, closeness and depth with the Lord might lead to the transformation in life you and I need and are hoping for.



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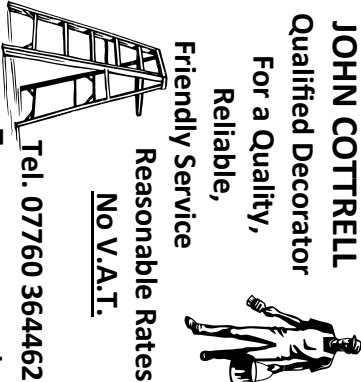
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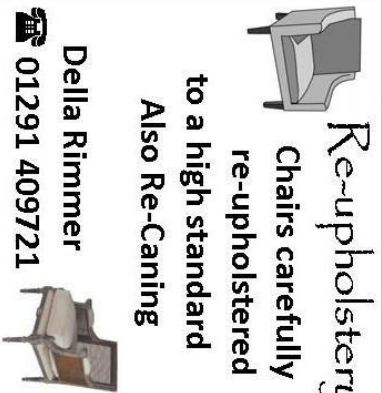
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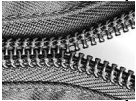
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I invite all who profess to be Christians to engage with the 40 days of Lent, which begin on Ash Wednesday 22 February. It might change your life with God!

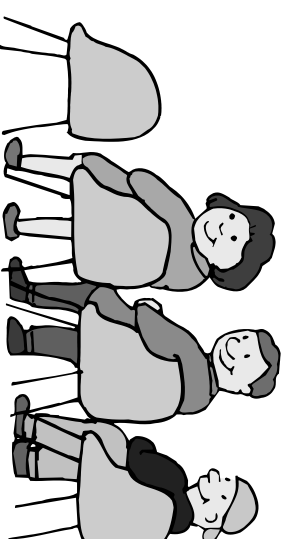
Forgiveness

An area of life and relationship where we can get really stuck is in the arena of forgiveness. It is not uncommon for someone to be unable to find the change and transformation they crave for in their lives because of a matter related to forgiveness. I wrote a Parish Magazine article on the subject of forgiveness several years ago and it has probably been the single biggest response to an article I have written.

For whatever reason, consciously or unconsciously we may be haunted by guilt and shame and cannot move on in our lives because of it. It may be that we need to know God's forgiveness in our lives. Others may have a problem with themselves and cannot let themselves off the hook. It is possible for some people to say, "I know God has forgiven me but I cannot forgive myself."

Finally, possibly the biggest area of forgiveness is when we have a massive wound in our lives that never seems to go away because of someone and/or something that has happened that has seemingly imprisoned us. It may be that we need to know the forgiveness from another person and be released by them, or we may need to forgive another person and release them and ourselves from what may have happened.

It can be a very delicate area of life and glib solutions are not helpful. Entering into the mystery of the Cross and resurrection at a deep(er) level can be a transformative healing experience which involves forgiveness and it is a journey we are all invited on again this year. Many have found a way through and a way forward via the Cross of Christ.





Come to God as you are

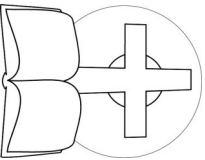
Finally, I rejoice that the Christian faith proclaims that God comes to us and we can come to God as we are... unchanged! We don't have to sort ourselves out in order to be able to come to God. We come to God as we are and then he can do the work of change and transformation in our lives. So may you and I come humbly to God as we are this Lent, Holy Week and Easter and find more and more the new life promised in and through Jesus Christ!

God bless you

David

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

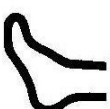
³⁰ As for God, his way is perfect:
 The Lord's word is flawless;
 he shields all who take refuge in him.
³¹ For who is God besides the Lord?
 And who is the Rooker except our God?
³² It is God who arms me with strength
 and keeps my way secure.
³³ He makes my feet like the feet of a deer;
 he causes me to stand on the heights.
³⁴ He trains my hands for battle;
 my arms can bend a bow of bronze.
³⁵ You wake your saving help my shield,
 and your right hand sustains me;
 your help has made me great.
³⁶ You provide a broad path for my feet,
 so that my ankles do not give way.



Psalm 18: 30-36



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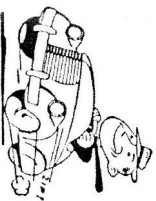
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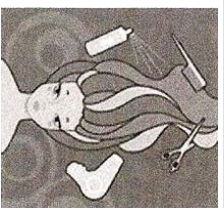
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HOLY WEEK. Advance notice Do check details closer to the time

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- Palm Sunday 2 April at 9.00am Tidenham

Holy Communion and Dramatic reading of the Passion

- Palm Sunday 2 April 11am. Palm Sunday Procession

Meet at 10.30am at Tidenham War Memorial Hall for procession to St Luke's, Tutshill.

We're really hoping Breeze the donkey will join us!

A service with a Dramatic reading of the Passion follows together with SPLASH.

- Wednesday in Holy Week 5 April at 12noon

St Luke's, Tutshill. Holy Communion

- Wednesday in Holy Week 5 April at 7.30pm

Tidenham Chase. Service for the bereaved - to be confirmed

- Maundy (Holy) Thursday 6 April at 7.30pm

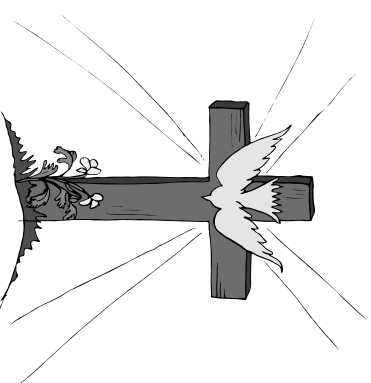
Traditional Holy Eucharist hopefully with washing of feet, stripping the altar and then the Watch of the Passion at St. Luke's, Tutshill

- Good Friday 7 April 10am. Children's service at St Luke's, Tutshill. 2pm Grown up's service at St Luke's Tutshill

- Holy Saturday 8 April 9pm. Easter Vigil service at Tidenham including the lighting of the Easter Fire and Renewal of Baptismal Vows.

Easter Sunday 9 April 2023

- 9.00am Tidenham. Holy Communion
- 11am Tutshill. Family Communion possibly outside (depending on the weather)
- 6pm Tidenham Chase. BCP Holy Communion





11, King Alfred's Road,
Sedbury
NP16 7AG,
e-mail: in-fo@sedburyspace.org.uk
Centre Manager Susan on
07522 178639

SEDBURY SPACE News

Our memory café meets monthly at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall and take place on the first Wednesday of every month from 2 – 3.30pm.

We aim to provide a variety of activities as well as a friendly chat over a cuppa for those with dementia, their carers and anyone who wants to keep their brains active and healthy. Each month we take a theme, often to reflect the calendar, and plan activities designed to prompt reminiscence and stimulate conversation.

Dates & Themes:

- 1st March - Spring planting
- 5th April - Easter Make and Bake
- 3rd May - tbc
- 7th June - Music time, making instruments and sing-along

Our Happy Crafters meet fortnightly and enjoy a range of crafting. Pictured here is our entry for the Christmas Tree Festival at Tidenham Church. This is a wonderful opportunity for Sedbury Space to be involved in the wider community



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Could you give some of your time to support us?
 We are always grateful for volunteers coming forward whether to offer time on a regular basis or ad-hoc, all help is appreciated. If you would like to start up a new activity or group, we would certainly welcome new ideas or suggestions. Please contact Susan, Centre Manager on 07522 178639



On Christmas Day, thanks to a strong team of volunteers, Sedbury Space were able to provide a Christmas Lunch in the Community for 50 people.

It really does take an army to make an event like this happen and this was no exception! On Christmas Day 18 volunteers helped to take

orders, serve drinks and make sure everyone was well looked after. Many of these volunteers came forward specifically to support the Community Lunch and we couldn't have done it without them. There was plenty of food for everyone and even plenty to take. We had music and singing courtesy of Mike Scott, Alistair and Janice Lightly which was a joyful bonus too. We were able to provide this lunch, which catered for all dietary requirements, thanks to monetary donations from within the community, chocolate treats, Christmas cake, mince pies and crackers donated from Moon and Co in Chepstow, a grant from Tidenham Parish Council and a free Turkey crown from A and H Jones, Tutshill. A huge thank you to all the volunteers and those who donated in so many different ways, to support a very worthwhile community event. Thanks to you we were able to provide a delicious meal shared with friends old and new at what is often a very difficult and lonely time for many



NEWS FLASH!

Bullet Point News

✚ Are You New to the Parish? WELCOME!

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.

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

It has been lovely to have people getting in touch once 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.

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!

✚ Illness

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.

✚ 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.



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Our approach to childcare is simple: to provide a loving, nurturing & safe environment filled with warmth and promise where individuals' talents are encouraged to flourish and grow.



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DEAN CLOSE
LITTLE TREES
DAY NURSERY
TUTSHILL

NEWS FLASH!

✚ 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 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/UCkRiOlvDBT9M9u5fnp2722w>

St Briavel's & Hewelsfield website: www.stbandchurches.org.uk

Sedbury Space Snippet

From Lee Durbin



I love the idea of doing nothing. I have very little capacity for doing more than one thing at a time and so I am always looking forward to when I can stop, be still, find the sofa and switch off. When I was young this led to a tendency to say No to things. Are you coming out? Do you want to go on that trip? Have you thought about what you could be doing tomorrow? No, was the answer. The trouble is, you miss out, and afterwards you think I wish I had... For me I realise it takes an act of WILL to say Yes I will do that, I will go there, I will help out. Nearly always, I am glad I did. There are lots of opportunities to get involved in the community and Sedbury Space particularly is always looking for volunteers. How about looking into it and giving it a go? Give our Centre Manager a ring on 07522 178639



**Tanya's Link
Spring Prize Challenge**

In this Wordsearch we are considering the time of new beginnings and growth.

May your Springtime and Easter be joyful.

There are 40 words to locate.

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!

BUDS	GLORY	RESURRECTION
BULBS	GROWTH	SALVATION
CELEBRATION	HOPE	SEASON
CHRIST	JUSTIFIED	SON
CROCUS	KINGDOM	SOW
CROSS	LAMB	SPRING
DAFFODIL	LIFE	SUN
EASTER	LORD	THRONE
EGG	LOVE	TOMB
EMPTY	MERCY	TRIUMPHANT
ETERNAL	NEW	WAY
FAITH	PASSOVER	WORD
FEAST	PLANT	
GIFT	RENEWAL	



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hope and aid for the persecuted church

Christian News Our Faith in Today's World



+ Turkey/Syria Earthquakes February 2023: The death toll in Turkey is already nearly 3,400 and in Syria more than 1,400 – and likely to rise. Thousands of buildings are destroyed, it is bitterly cold with snow on the ground, and the needs are enormous. Tents, blankets, clothes, drinking water and hot food are some of the most urgent.

+ **Barnabas builds first 50 homes for Christian families left destitute by Pakistan floods:** One of the new Barnabas-funded houses under construction, showing the brick-built pillars supporting the mud walls. Some of the iron girders that will support the mud roof are in place.

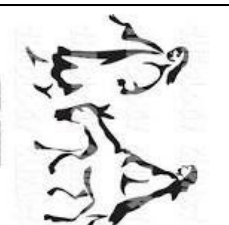


+ **African hospitals give thanks for PPE delivery:** Christian hospitals in Africa have given heartfelt thanks for a huge consignment of personal protective equipment (PPE) shipped by Barnabas Aid's medical programme.

+ **In a Karen village, the Myanmar military came shooting big guns:** "They burned down our entire village. Besides this, they also attacked us by air with war planes shooting and bombing our areas." The villagers fled from their ruined village into the jungle. The attack happened in 2022, but violence against the mainly Christian ethnic minorities of Myanmar has been ongoing for most of the last six decades. There are over 1.4 million people displaced within the country; some observers predict this number could double during 2023.



C N M D E I F I T S U J L C
 Y E O E G N I R P S W L I R
 R M L I R M L H T I A F D O
 O P B E T C C O A S M Y E O S
 L T U P B C Y D B U D S F S
 G Y L O G R E P G I F T F A
 T S B H G U A R E N E W A L
 N O S A E S S T R D I G D V
 C H R I S T T B I U R K S A
 S U C O R C E M D O S O O T
 L O V E P P R O W R N E W I
 E E L A N R E T E R O U R O
 R E F I L T H R O N E L S N
 T R I U M P H A N T N A L P



In our Winter Link magazine, Wordsearch we were finding words from the great carol
"O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL"
 by John Mason Neale (1818-66)
 There were 41 words to locate and well done if you managed to avoid my error in misspelling
DAYSPRING as **DAYSPING**!

You were locating **"CELEBRATION TIMES"**
*The winner, this time, was
 Kathryn Payne of Tutshill. Well done!*



TIDENHAM PARISH COFFEE MORNING

The PCC voted unanimously in support of re-launching the Parish Coffee morning.

The first coffee morning took place on the last Monday of June 2023 and proved to be well received and because of the response, coffee morning is now held Monthly on the last Monday of each Month.



We have had couple of themed coffee mornings, with quizzes and raffles and Carols at Christmas. It has been really encouraging to see so many people from all over the Parish and beyond coming together to chat, drink coffee, eat cake, rekindle old friendships, and make new ones. Please feel free to come along to experience fun and friendship and meet up with friends old and new.

Reverend Nicki and Polly, Pastoral Assistant, would like to say a big thank you for your support and encouragement in making this event such a resounding success.



St Luke's Coffee Morning

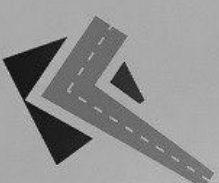
Welcome tea/coffee and cake morning

This will be held 10.00-12.00

on the LAST MONDAY of each month.

Contact Polly paulinemorgan23@gmail.com or

Revd Nicki nicki1002@hotmail.co.uk for more information.



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Gloucestershire

Gloucestershire Older Drivers Forum

Contact Bill White for details

email: bill.rockymead@gmail.com Tel. 01291 623 169



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.
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.



VILLAGE HALL MEETINGS 2023

Tuesday
21st March
7.30

"The Tides of Chepstow and the Severn" John Burrows
The river Severn has the second highest tides in the world

Tuesday
25th April
7.30

"The Grove House Dig at Piercefield" Dick Finch
Learn about this extraordinary building, recently uncovered by Chepstow Archaeological Society, and its possible links to our own windmill/folly in Tutshill.

Saturday
13th May
2.00

Guided walk around the Grove House site
led by Dick Finch. Meet at the entrance to the footpath through the Piercefield estate, located near the Leisure Centre. Details to follow.

2nd - 18th
June

Paddle steamer Waverley on the Bristol Channel.
Following a recent talk about the paddle steamers which regularly came to Chepstow, we hope members will join us on a trip under the Severn Bridge to view our parish from the water!

The paddle steamer Cambria at Chepstow, opening the new landing stage on May 1907.



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.



Thanks for Your Support!

How much?
Before any projects such as Wellbeing or Children, it costs around £8,000 a month to run the Parish! Direct giving amounts to about £6,500 a month!

As 2023 unfolds, with exciting things going on within the church here, please consider afresh your 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
Parish Treasurer — Paul Coombes

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



News from our Parish Schools



Wyedean

Wyedean School – 01291 636180

School and Sixth Form Centre
Aspire together, achieve together
adecere pariter, perficere pariter

Our school is a vibrant, caring and supportive community that equips students with the best possible preparation for their future lives. Our students experience learning beyond the classroom in choosing from an extensive range of extra and super-curricular opportunities:

- The Duke of Edinburgh Award (Bronze, Silver and Gold),
 - Cyber Club,
 - Gospel Choir,
 - the Debating Club,
 - annual school Performing Arts Productions,
 - Sporting fixtures
- are to name but a few. These experiences develop new skills and help our young people to become resilient and flexible and of course form lasting friendships, support academic success and healthy well-being.



Gwennah Jeremiah, Principal

Tutshill School – 01291 622593



This term we were delighted to welcome the iSingPopstars into our school!

iSingPop is a Christian charity that plays an important part in our class worship.

Our children had the opportunity to work with members of the iSingPop team to learn and perform a range of songs based on the Christian faith.

This then led to two very special concerts in St Luke's Church which were a fantastic hit with the children and their families!



CHASE GARDENING CLUB

Our meeting in November took place on a dark and dingy day so it was very encouraging to listen to Katherine Crouch's talk on "Bulbs that should be better known" and admire the lovely slides of Spring bulbs in full bloom. It gave us hope for the future!



Katherine was BBC Gardener of the Year in 1999 and BBC Gardener of the Decade in 2008 and won a Gold Medal at Chelsea in 2013 but despite this daunting pedigree proved very down to earth. One bit of advice from an old gardener of her acquaintance "Don't go into the garden from Bonfire Night to Valentine's Day; sit indoors with your seed and bulb catalogues and a nice glass of wine!" Other gems – to defeat squirrels, plant bulbs deep and cover in chicken wire and try chilli powder to deter slugs from eating hostas.

In December we managed to meet for a Christmas social event for the first time since 2019. All members contributed to the feast and mulled wine was provided to ensure the festive spirit. Allen Lloyd put on an excellent film presentation and there was a quiz and the usual grand raffle.



The Club took part in the Tidenham Church Christmas Tree Festival. Our entry "The Snowman" was masterminded by Mary Kerr as usual and thanks also go to Pat Knight and Denise Tozer who dealt with the installation as Mary was not available.

There is no meeting of the Club in January but February's speaker is Ian Sandler on "Pruning: Formative or Renovative" and in March Alun and Jill Whitehead will talk on "Rises for the natural garden".

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.



Chase WI

We celebrated our Christmas with a wonderful meal at the Abbey mill restaurant which our members thoroughly enjoyed and they thanked the staff, together with Shelley and Christopher Rastell our hosts, for such a wonderful lunch and venue. Sheila



Bynon announced that our committee would be happy to stand again in 2023 but with a change of roles for some members of the committee. Carols were then sung, with our President leading everyone in the 12 days of Christmas (a real tradition for Chase WI). Christmas cards and "secret santa" presents were exchanged and everyone left with a lovely feeling of a 'good start to Christmas'.

In our November meeting we created the decorations for our Christmas Tree in Tidenham church, which was decorated in December by 2 of our members. Our choice was the Snow Queen.

Our January meeting was well attended and the members were told of the change of officers. Helen Watkins is going to be our president, Mary Kerr our secretary. Helen at the start of her presidency thanked Sheila Bynon (retiring president) and Lyn Harper (secretary) for all their dedication and hard work. They were presented with a gift to say thank you from the members especially keeping us altogether through Covid.

Our speaker was then introduced, Dr Sue Kinsey an environmentalist, who is carrying out research at Slimbridge into their wetlands, especially looking at the decline in flood plains, eels, curlews and ponds. She explained that over years through climate change, agricultural practices and over fishing our wetlands are being eroded and how important they are to all of us, especially with their capacity to store carbon. Ponds, even garden ones, are also of great benefit to wildlife especially as unfortunately lots of ponds have been lost, specifically village ones, so she is encouraging us all to have one in our gardens if we can. She then finished with a question-and-answer session with the members which was thoroughly enjoyed. She was thanked by Lin Chidwick. Our February meeting is a "members" afternoon where we plan to enjoy a beetle drive and playing bedlam. A chance to mingle and catch up, for all of our members.

Our meetings are held at Chase Hall on the second Monday of the month at 2.15pm, new members would be very welcome. If anyone would like to attend and see if it is "for them" we love to see you.



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DEAN CLOSE
ST JOHN'S
CHEPSTOW
School offers exceptional co-educational schooling for children aged 3 - 13. The St John's Journey begins at Kindergarten, where we provide an intimate, nurturing environment where your child can become 'school ready' - gaining the skills they need so that they can start Reception raring to go. Meet our staff and pupils at our Spring Open Mornings on 10th March and 12th May.



Science Fair Spectacular (February 2023)
Our Year 3 & 4 Science Fair went with a bang, with some excellent experiments and impressive research on display. Here's just a sneak peek at some of the children's work.
Contact admissions@deanclosestjohns.org.uk 01291 635382
www.deanclosestjohns.org.uk



Offa's Mead - 01291 622932

We are extremely proud of the remarkable children here at OMA and work hard to ensure we provide them with the very best academic, social and emotional learning opportunities every single day. We are a vibrant Primary Academy, proud to serve the Sedbury, Beachley and Chepstow communities. Our children are encouraged to participate fully in school life and to be responsible for contributing to an ethos where every member feels valued, respected and has a sense of purpose. The school recognises the importance of partnership and wants parents to play an active role in their child's development throughout their primary years.



Tutshill Community Pre-School

At Tutshill Community

Pre-School we have been exploring the

chilly but fabulous outdoors!

We have built fantastic cars, trucks and lorries using a range of

resources.



We have played with ice, snow and even frozen pink jelly!

We have really

enjoyed exploring during this

chilly weather and are looking forward to the warmer

spring when we can start planting!



Share responsibility

In many relationships, one partner may hold more responsibility or control over the household finances. Perhaps one partner earns more money, one person is more financially assertive or one person just loves creating budget

spreadsheets! Whilst this isn't a bad thing, it can create problems if the power over your shared finances leans too far towards one person. A balance of power is essential to any healthy relationship. For relationships where one partner is always making financial decisions, can you come up with a system where each person has an equal say?

Involve your children

Lots of parents and carers will naturally want to protect their children from being exposed to the anxiety and worry that debt and money problems can create, and therefore keep every detail of their financial challenges a secret. Whilst we're not suggesting you place every fact and issue you're facing on the table, involving your children into some of the decision-making process, like deciding what to spend your budget on, can actually draw you together as a family through working

together. In fact, parents who've involved their children in creating budgets have said it's been a great way of teaching their children money management skills.

Get support

Debt help charity Christians Against Poverty (CAP) reports that nearly half (43%) of their clients said they put off getting free debt help because they didn't think anyone could help. It's important to know that support is available and in the UK, there are several free debt help organisations.

Have you shared your money worries with your partner? Having someone to talk to or check in with can really put things into perspective. CAP offers a number of free help services, like money management, developing life skills, or free expert debt help, along with personal and holistic support. Find out what free CAP services are available near you by visiting capuk.org or calling 0800 328 0006.

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



How to preserve your relationship through money



worries **David Price**

(07539 477286)

Money is commonly identified as one of the main reasons for conflict within relationships, and rising costs are making things even more difficult. We spend our money on what we value, but what we value is often different to the person next to us – including our nearest and dearest. If you've ever experienced financial challenges and have had to change your spending habits or budgeting approach, you will most likely have experienced friction in your relationships.

Legal firm Slater & Gordon say that family finances are cited as the main reason for relationships falling apart. With the cost of living crisis soaring into its second year, more relationships are at risk of suffering under the pressure of money worries. We're offering some small actions you can take today to help prevent friction and foster healthier and stronger relationships to weather those storms.

Learn your differences

What do you do when you want to save but your partner likes to spend? A gentle way to open up a conversation could be through suggesting you take an online money personality quiz. These quick quizzes won't offer expert financial advice, but can help you identify your different attitudes toward money, describe the strengths and challenges of each, and offer tips on how to best manage your money traits.

Take about solutions

Couples often argue over money worries because there's been a lack of communication over household finances. By having regular conversations about where you're at financially as a couple, you can begin to consider different solutions to the problem. Try to focus less on the problem itself and laying the blame, but instead focus on practical solutions to your situation and work together to create an effective budget and maximise your income. Seek free, expert help if you've fallen into unmanageable debt.



Children, Youth and Families' Missioner - Emma Durbin



As the Snowdrops, Crocus and Daffodils start poking their heads out of the ground, giving us splashes of colour amidst the subdued colours of winter, I don't know about you, but it brings a smile to my face and happy memories of warmer, sunnier days to come.

Something else that I always look forward to is the Tutshill Annual **Scarecrow Trail**. It's become an extended family occasion for us though has become MORE expensive as we can no longer tempt the kids around the route with a bag of Smarties. Instead the 'now' teenagers are delighted that we start at Lifestyle Express, pass A&H Jones Deli (oooh, the Sausage rolls!!) AND Cafe on the Hill!!

This years trail runs from **Sunday, 26th March- Saturday, 15th April**, with the theme being '**Musicals, Stage or Screen**', with all monies going to local charities and Tidenham Parish Churches.

So, in advance, Thankyou for donning your walking shoes, opening your pockets and giving this wonderful event a go!!

And an even bigger **Thankyou to Lifestyle Express** for selling the forms, and to all of the volunteers who are probably at this point, regretting that they offered to make a scarecrow (it's only Artists block!!).

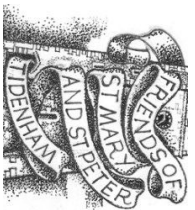
Thankyou for your time and effort- without you all, this anticipated and enjoyable splash of colour in Tutshill, would not happen!!!

If you would like to know more? Contact me by email Emmad.cyfm@gmail.com

Fact Gatherings...

Spring officially begins on 20th March: the first **Spring flowers** are **open** daffodils, dandelions, lilies, tulips and lilac

In the UK, May is **National Smile Month** dedicated to **encouraging excellent oral health** and **boosting the nation's smiles.**



Friends of St Mary & St Peter, Tidenham

Registered Charity no 1159658

What a Pantomime!

Our Christmas Tree Festival 2022

was a tremendous success and this is due to all the hard work from the contributors and volunteers, without whom, such an event would not be possible.

Thank you to Marje and Brian Duerden for organizing the launch event. It was a great evening of music and recitation. Thank you also to those who entertained us so well and to those who attended and supported the event.



The festival was well attended and there were lots of lovely comments about how wonderful the trees looked.

There were a record number of Quiz sheets completed and George and Beryl had their work cut out marking all 58! There were four completed quizzes with all answers correct which meant the tiebreak question came in to effect. The tiebreak question required the name of a character from Cinderella and George had pre-selected DRESELDA, one of the Ugly Sisters. Two of the finalists had put Greselda and another had hedged their bets by putting the names of both Ugly Sisters! The winning entry had the correct Ugly Sister's full name; Dreselda Tremaine. Congratulations to ROBERT PRITCHARD and CLAN.

The money raised from the launch concert, entry fees, Quizzes and donations was over £460 which is fantastic.

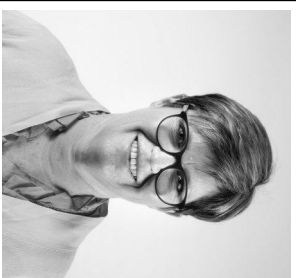
As yet, a theme for the Flower Festival has not been decided but it will be advertised and soon as it has been chosen.

Thank you for your continued support. Friends of St Mary and St Peter's Church.



News from Heather Johnstone Church Mission Society

I looked at the girl's motionless body on the floor. Is she alive?, my friend whispered, darning to utter what I was thinking. I'm not sure, I said as I quickly bent down to take her pulse; it was weak, barely there.



My friend (a visitor from the UK) and I had spent a fun morning in the company of the children at the nursery school. They were put through their paces by their teacher, demonstrating their numeracy and literacy abilities. After the visit we were invited to lunch with a local lady.

On the way to lunch we stopped at Cesi's house to greet her and the family, which was where we found Eliza, Cesi's 12-year-old daughter, lying inert on the floor.

Cesi had taken Eliza to hospital the previous day and she'd been diagnosed with malaria. She'd been given meds but had been vomiting all night. I told Cesi that Eliza needed urgent medical attention and she said she would take her back to the hospital on the back of her bicycle. Clearly that was not an option.

I don't have a car, the village of Nyambeshi is at least 30 minutes away from town by car, and time was of the essence. I was frantically sorting through my mind, who could I call to come to the rescue?

The first two calls drew blanks, then I called my taxi driver, but he was 100 miles away. He connected me with another driver and implored him to come as quickly as he could.

The admittance and triage process to hospital can be long and onerous and everyone must wait their turn, so I called a German nurse friend of mine who works at the private AICT church hospital in Bweri, explained the urgency of the situation and asked her to expedite admittance and treatment. I also asked that they not request payment from Cesi and I would settle the bill when I went to the hospital later. She was happy to oblige.

When we arrived at the hospital, Eliza was on a drip and looking slightly perkier. She had no recollection of leaving home, travelling by car or being admitted to hospital.

Praise/prayer point: Praise the Lord that he put us in Eliza's presence when her need was great, and that he gave us the necessary resources to act quickly in response to her plight. We thank God that Eliza has recovered, and we pray for his protection over her and other children for whom malaria is a regular but unfortunate reality. Pray too that we can find a sponsor to cover the cost of medical insurance for Cesi and her girls



Fairtrade by Traidcraft

Thank you to all of you who have bought fair and so supported the work of Traidcraft with producers. Sadly Traidcraft has gone into administration having struggled to pick up sales in time since the pandemic.

Traidcraft staff worked hard with producers of the things we love, like tea, coffee, sugar and chocolate. They helped them to form co-operatives and share training in sustainable farming methods, and so to grow their produce to Fairtrade standards. This meant they qualified for fair pay, enabling them to provide for the needs of their families and to invest in environmental farming methods and protect their land from Climate Change. Traidcraft went above and beyond many other organisations working with these products, e.g. Rainforest Alliance who help with training but do not ensure fair pay.

Nationally, Fairtrade sales are growing despite the economic situation and there are many organisations who sell Fairtrade as well as help producers, e.g. Zaytoon who work with Palestinian farmers producing almonds and olive oil. These are also available in some Oxfam shops.

I am looking into other sources of Fairtrade produce and may in time have a small stock but in the meantime, I can order Fairtrade chocolate Easter Eggs from Embrace. The order deadline for these is Sunday 12th March, and they will cost £4.75 including postage.

Please continue to be fair and buy Fairtrade. Supermarkets and local shops stock a range of Fairtrade products. It is justice in action, people and planet friendly. Thank you for helping to make the world a fairer place. *Julia*

There is an opportunity to discover some of the range of Fairtrade produce available in Chepstow during Fairtrade Fortnight which runs from

27th February – Sunday 12th March

There will be a Fairtrade Trail with direction and clue sheets available from Toytastic and Coffee #1 free of charge. Completed entries can be handed in for the prize draw for a Fairtrade hamper.

Fairtrade hamper.

For more information, please speak to Tanya, Julia, Cate or



Christmas Tree Festival 2022

GROUP	PANTOMIME
1 Bellringers	Goldilocks & the 3 Bears
2 Chase Gardening Club	The Snowman
3 Chase Church	George & the Dragon
4 Chase WI	The Snow Queen
5 County Marquees	Sleeping Beauty
6 Martin Singers	Wizard of Oz
7 Bishton Belles	Snow White & the 7 Dwarves
8 Lydney & Severnside	The Queen of Hearts
9 Sedbury & Tidenham	Aladdin
Sedbury & Tidenham 10 Scouts & Beavers	The Pied Piper
11 Splash!	Robin Hood
12 Sedbury Space	Dick Whittington
13 FOD Community Walks	Mother Goose
14 Ann, Heather and Molly	Babes in the Wood
15 Tidenham Historical	Treasure Island
16 Tutshill School	Puss in Boots
17 Vauxhall Practice	Hansel and Gretel
18 Tutshill WI	Rapunzel



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

CCS is affiliated to Ty Cerdd-Music Centre Wales and Making Music – The National Federation of Music Societies

THE SEASON'S CONCERT PROGRAMME

SATURDAY 25th MARCH 2023 –a beautiful Passiontide Concert, including Haydn's Insanae et Vanae Curae, Mozart's Coronation Mass, and Pergolesi's Stabat Mater –with professional orchestra and soloists – St Mary's Priory Church, Chepstow

WEDNESDAY 5th JULY 2023—An entertaining Summer Celebration Concert, including Horowitz's Captain Noah, and other popular choral items –with light refreshments included – Chepstow Leisure Centre Arts Hall.

Societies have different chapters of their lives – and CCS is now approaching a new chapter. In our fifth decade, we now need to move forward, rebuild a choir for different times and, in the phrase of current times, "move on" and look ahead, seek new members – with fresh approaches. Nothing thrives by staying the same, but that does not mean we cancel everything from the past or forget our choral roots – but we will be adding lovely new choral music.

View our website, follow us on Twitter to find out about us and PLEASE come and join us to look towards the next chapter of Chepstow Choral Society!

For more information about how to join CCS as a singing member, please contact Marjorie Duerden or view our website. We have no formal audition policy. We particularly welcome tenors and basses, but equally love to see sopranos and altos! We also will be delighted to enlist new patrons and supporters! Marjorie Duerden, Asst MD, CCS on 01291 6233310



Please Notice This

Found in another church's notices:
'Would the congregation kindly remember that the box marked 'For the Sick' is for financial contributions only'



The man had put out his hand to shake hers, to which she prayed: "Jesus help me! I can lift my hand. I can do that much. You supply the feeling!"

As Corrie put out her hand, she remembers: "(I felt) a current started in my shoulder, raced down my arm and sprang into our joined hands. And then this healing warmth seemed to flood my whole being, bringing tears to my eyes." "I forgive you brother!" Corrie cried. "With all my heart." "I had never known God's love so intensely as I did then." She wrote, "I realized it was not my love. I had tried, and did not have the power. It was the power of the Holy Spirit."

There's a saying that the forgiveness Jesus talks about in the Bible seems like a nice idea - until we have something to forgive.

"To forgive," wrote Corrie, "is to set a prisoner free and discover the prisoner was you."

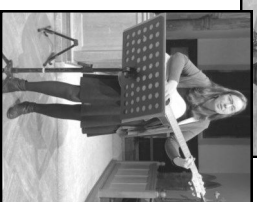
Folk Club



St Luke's Church
Saturday, 11th March 2023
NO APRIL FOLK CLUB
Saturday, 13th May 2023
 6 - 8.30pm

(doors open 5.30pm.)

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



Contact Bill & Tawya White
 (01291 623169) or
 Steven & Jenny Shaw
 (07474 608797)
NB No April Folk Club



Forgiveness: How do you forgive what seems to be unforgivable?

(from the [Wycliffe Bible Translators UK and Ireland](#))

Corrie Ten Boom, born 15 April 1892; asked the same question when she had to face a former Nazi soldier asking for her forgiveness. This man was one of the soldiers who had been responsible for running the Ravensbrück concentration camp which Corrie and her family had lived in. It was an unimaginable place of suffering where many died from starvation in unbearable living conditions.

During this time, Corrie had watched her sister Betsie slowly deteriorate and eventually die from the lack of food. Twelve days later, Corrie was released from the concentration camp and after the war she began to share her story around the world in her most well-known book 'The Hiding Place'.

In 1947, Corrie spoke about God's forgiveness at a church service in Munich. Little did she expect this would be the same place where she would encounter a former Nazi soldier.

The man approached her after the service saying, "How good is it to know that, as you say, all our sins are at the bottom of the sea! You mentioned Ravensbrück in your talk. I was a guard there, but since that time I have become a Christian. I know that God has forgiven me for the cruel things I did there, but I would like to hear it from your lips as well - will you forgive me?"

How could Corrie extend forgiveness after seeing her sister die at the hands of such cruel injustice? But after preaching about God's forgiveness - how could she not? Corrie records the experience in her book 'Tramp For The Lord'. She writes:

"I stood there - I whose sins had again and again to be forgiven - and could not forgive. Betsie had died in that place - could he erase her slow terrible death simply for the asking? I wrestled with the most difficult thing I ever had to do. For I had to do it - I knew that. The message that God forgives has a prior condition: that we forgive those who have injured us."



CHEPSTOW CHORAL SOCIETY

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: GRAHAM BULL

CCS is affiliated to Ty Cerdid – Music Centre Wales and Making Music.
Registered Charity no. 1127098

*CHEPSTOW CHORAL SOCIETY present its 2023 Spring Concert,
with professional orchestra and soloists*

'MUSIC FIT FOR A KING'

SATURDAY 25th MARCH 2023

7.30pm

ST MARY'S PRIORY CHURCH, CHEPSTOW

Mozart: *Coronation Mass*

Handel: *Zadok the Priest*

**plus choral music by J. Haydn, F. Schubert
and G.F. Pergolesi**

CCS Orchestra (leader Elliot Kempton)

and soloists from RWCMD

Tickets available from Chepstow Bookshop, choir members
or online via Eventbrite: bit.ly/MusicForKing
£15 incl programme, u/18s and students free

For further information, please see our website
-- www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk



ChepstowChoral



@ChepstowChoral



Some words from David Johnson's

Eulogy - 20th January 2022



Part of David's "Rich Tapestry of life" ... Like any good tapestry, the weaver does not always see the pattern when up close. It's only on reflection, looking from a little distance that the true picture begins to emerge.

A crucial beginning of any tapestry is getting the first few threads in the right places. David was lucky enough to have parents who indeed started off this work with love, care and tenderness. He chose his parents carefully.

One really important thread, started by his parents, was the love of God that ran throughout his life and it is this that has remained a constant theme in David's tapestry. It has never knotted, come undone or snapped throughout this work. This golden thread has been strong and constant. I have focused on this thread in particular. This helped to form one of the patterns that became really apparent when viewing and reflecting upon the completed work...

David was the Second of 2 children being little brother to Elizabeth. Born in New Barnett.. David never saw himself as a scholar as both his parents had been: his real passion and enthusiasm was in more practical matters such as carpentry and the work of a parish priest. Despite David's assertions that he was not academic, he also went up to Oxford where he studied geography, then on to Westcott house in Cambridge to study theology...He excelled at Westcott and was offered a curacy in Coventry.

David prided himself on his practical skills and was up for having a go at anything. His expertise in the workshop were well known and his reputation for having a go, included dabbling with knocking down the odd wall and even home electrics. Mind blowing and sometimes truly shocking!!!!

Latterly in retirement he continued to make wonderful holding crosses....

Now, in those days....National Service was compulsory for young men and David did a 2 year stint, after Oxford and before attending Westcott House in Cambridge. David's experience of national service reinforced 2 things:

- first: that he was a pacifist
- second: He had a dislike for hierarchy, seeing all men as equal

Either of these attributes would have made a career in the army a bit tricky.

He would often say that his experience of doing national service taught him a lot about his fellow man which served him well in his future work as a minister of the



Life Groups

Parish Life Group Meetings meeting most weeks
Please contact relevant people if you'd like to join in

- **Sunday** 7.30pm Life Group for Men!
Online - James Parsons - jamesdparsons727@gmail.com
- **Monday** 2-3.30pm Bible Study at Sedbury Space
– Nicki nicki1002@hotmail.co.uk
- **Monday** 7.30pm Lent Life Group at Luke's Church
ONLY 27/Feb, 13/Mar, 20/Mar & 27/Mar
- 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 and/or Wendy
fiona.m.gardiner@btinternet.com
- **Wednesday** 7.30pm Life Group Emma emmad.cvfm@gmail.com
- **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.cvfm@gmail.com

The Parish Lunch ...

Usually 1st Thursday of month -
No April Parish Lunch

Thursday, 2nd March 2023
Thursday, 30th March 2023 ✕
Thursday, 4th May 2023

12.15pm

Woodcroft Centre



For info and lifts
phone
George or Beryl
on 01291 625551



Highlights from PCC meetings in December 2022 & February 2023

There was no PCC meeting in January.

PCC members: -



- Welcomed the opportunity to hear Peter Gilchrist's presentation about the proposals for Tidenham Church north aisle and the purchase and conversion of Tidenham Church cottage building.
- Endorsed the plan as presented to re-order the North Aisle of Tidenham Church and supported Tidenham Friends in the purchase of, and their plans for the conversion of, Tidenham Church Cottage building
- Wholeheartedly thanked Peter Gilchrist for his enthusiasm and determination to drive the various Tidenham church projects forward.
- Agreed to keep the fees for advertising in the Link parish magazine unchanged for 2023
- Agreed to keep the fees for hiring out Tutshill church unchanged for 2023.
- Agreed the date of our annual church meeting: 12:00 noon in Tutshill church on Sunday 23 April after the morning service, followed by a parish bring and share lunch.
- Following a very successful 6-month trial, agreed to make the monthly coffee morning at Tutshill church a permanent fixture in the church calendar and thanked all those involved
- Agreed to apply for a faculty for a new bench in Tutshill churchyard.
- Noted that the Quinquennial inspections of 2022 had been successfully accompanied by a drone survey for the first time in our parish. This provides a better set of information and is much safer than the previous practice of climbing ladders!
- Expressed serious disappointment and frustration that Royal Mail had failed to deliver any of the parish Christmas cards, and agreed to make alternative arrangements for the parish Easter Card.

At dinner after church on Palm Sunday little Maria began chattering away about learning a new song in Sunday school about a cross-eyed bear named Gladly.

It took her parents a while before realizing that the hymn Maria had been singing was really: "Gladly The Cross I'd Bear."



Gospel and later with the Samaritans ...

Over time David was Curate in Coventry, he later served in Whitley, Bramcote, Ravenstone and then Crewe where he discovered his talent for acting... David became the theatre chaplain which led him into all sorts of interesting places and conversations with young would be thespians. God always central ... he became involved and influential in members' spiritual journeys. Crewe was also where David furthered his involvement with the Samaritans. A course in Clinical Theology helped him to better listen to people in distress and ask more meaningful questions. He was pretty good at that!

All was good, and this was the parish where he stayed the longest. It was while living in Allertorp that David got involved in RADJUS (the Religious Drama Society of Great Britain) and he was appointed diocesan adviser to religious drama...

Another thread was David's healing ministry, more transformations with God's love. David had a gift of healing both physical and emotional needs, truly being able to empathise with both. Unspoken words and communication using the power of the holy spirit in a living faith. Transforming many lives!

Tutshill helped to compensate for his missing of Yorkshire by being such a welcoming and inclusive church family, moving to this parish in 2013. Although they were here for a few short years they immersed themselves in parish life and God's work and made some good friends - as witnessed by the church family here today. This tapestry would not be complete without including a mention of his sporting achievements. David represented his college at Oxford for rugger and boxing and excelled in both. Add a little cricket and rowing into the mix and it is a wonder he had any time for studying. For a pacifist he was a very successful boxer during his stint of national service. David was a modest man who never recognised or talked about his many achievements.

David's love of gardening and ability to grow vegetables and cultivate beautiful herbaceous borders. Cricket on the lawn with Bishop Morris in his purple robes...

David would have a go at anything, nothing was impossible... there was always a way. Many other colourful threads.

More pastoral coloured threads... Jesus in the community was a thread in this tapestry that David aspired to achieve throughout his life before, during and after ordination. Serving God and man from the start .. love and with God's help, many lives were healed and transformed.

A tapestry that may look understated at first glance, but often has threads of warp and weft assembled with expert design and craftsmanship unnoticed by a casual observer. Stand too close and we can sometimes see what appear to be flaws but stand back a little and the truer glory of the work becomes more apparent.



Lent 2023 in Practice in the Parish of Tidenham

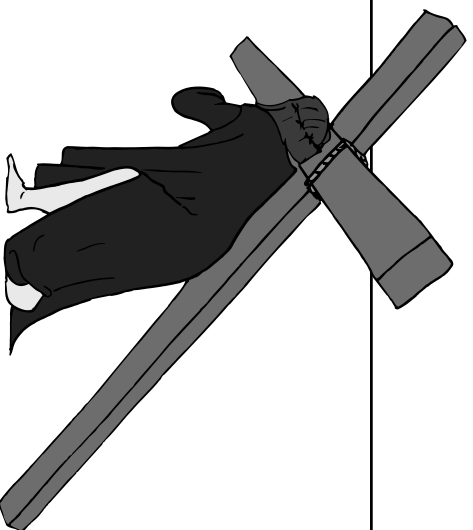
Seriously think about what you are called to be and/or do this Lent. Lent can be a time of transformation.

In this Year of Discipleship and season of Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, we are once again invited on a journey of deepening our relationship with the Lord. The theme for Lent is 'Living the Christian Life' and we will look at 5 areas of Christian life

1. Living God's Way: God's commandments, ethics and lifestyle
2. Serving the Lord: Christian ministry and calling
3. Your money and your life: Christian attitudes to money and possessions
4. Learning to Love: Relationships and matters of forgiveness and reconciliation
5. Sharing the Faith: Sharing our story

All of the Parish Life Groups will be invited to engage with this material and there will be an additional Lent Life Group for 5 Monday evenings... 27 Feb, 6 Mar, 13 Mar, 20 Mar and 27 Mar meeting at 7.30pm until 9.00pm in St Luke's Church, Tutshill.

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.
God bless
David



Under five and flourishing is a day conference aimed at anyone who has contact with under fives, or any churches that want to learn more about ministry among this age group. The day offers bite-sized theory and a handful of ideas to take away to use within your setting.

Everyday mindfulness day of practice

18 March, 11am to 4.30pm

The Glebe Cottages, Church Road, Leckhampton, Cheltenham GL53 0QJ

A quiet day of mindfulness practices for those who are on a course or have done a mindfulness course before. The day is largely in silence with very little verbal teaching or discussion – allowing you to fine tune your skills of noticing and being present in the moment.
gloucester.anglican.org/everday-mindfulness-day-of-practice

Drop-in café session for Children, Family and Youth Ministry

8 March, 12.30pm to 2.30pm

The Bank Cafe, 80 Parsonage Street, Dursley GL11 4AA

Chat over a cuppa about what's going on in your ministry with Jo Wetherall and the Youth Connect Team. For anyone involved in children's and families' ministry.
<https://bit.ly/CFMcafeDursley>

Growing young leaders

22 March, 7pm to 9pm

Is your PCC talking about getting young people involved? Would you love to see young people engaged in the full life of the church in meaningful ways? In this workshop we'll look at how we recruit, encourage and grow young people as leaders – and how we need to create a church culture of standing aside to let them have a go.
gloucester.anglican.org/growing-young-leaders

Raising awareness of domestic abuse

16 March, 7pm to 9.30pm

Online or face-to-face

The aim of the module is designed to equip participants to engage thoughtfully and proactively with the issue of domestic abuse and those affected.
gloucester.anglican.org/raising-awareness-of-domestic-abuse-mar23/



One Diocese blog: “All children should have access to Jesus.”

Ahead of the ‘Under five and flourishing’ conference on 18 March, Sarah Major, Education Administrator for Jumping Fish Ltd at the Diocese of Gloucester, shares her calling to work with schools and churches to support children in their spiritual growth and development.

“Looking at Matthew 19:14, Jesus says, ‘let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.’ He said let the little children come to me, determining all children. He didn’t invite only those that excelled in their Early Years Foundation Stage neurological markers, he said all.

“My career started in the education field. I chose to dedicate my time working with families and their young people to assist them with accessing an education – that was often tailor-made for them and their needs. It was through this work that the family as a ‘whole unit’ was highlighted, alongside how this ‘unit’ was unable to ‘unite’ themselves with pre-determined sociological and environmental markers.

“I felt a passion burning inside me to learn more about our young people who experience neurological uniqueness and I developed in this area at postgraduate level. With this wider learning, I felt empowered to apply myself within this field, ensuring that all children under my care could access education in a safe and appropriate manner.

“I was able to transfer these skills, powered by the desire to encourage all children to have access to Jesus and the remarkable work that we hear about in the Bible.

“I feel churches often struggle with knowing where to start with welcoming a family which includes diversity. Our brains are as unique as our fingertips and the task of incorporating this uniqueness into our churches is vast.”



From the Registers Funerals & Burials

Winifred Mary WATKINS (90)

Tuesday, 22nd November 2022
St Michael & All Angels, Tidenham Chase

Gillian Margaret JONES (77)

Thursday, 15th December 2022
Langstone Crematorium

Michael James LINES (85)

Friday, 16th December 2022

Albert Thomas JONES (Tom) (93)

Thursday, 29th December 2022
Langstone Crematorium

Renate Irma Helene DOUGLAS (84)

Tuesday, 17th January 2023
St John’s, Beachley

Reverend David Francis JOHNSON (90)

Friday, 20th January 2023
St Luke’s Church Tutshill & Forest of Dean Crematorium

Charles Henry Seys LEWISONES (93)

Monday, 27th January 2023
St Luke’s Church Tutshill & Forest of Dean Crematorium

John Gregory Newdigate POYNZ (96)

Tuesday, 28th January 2023
St Michel & All Angels, Tidenham Chase Church
& Forest of Dean Crematorium

Further register entries will appear in Summer 2023 edition of the Link



Tidenham Parish Prayer Diary

where the new flowers overblow will live?

March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>26 February</p> <p>Emma, her team, their families & clients Churchwardens & PCC WyeDean School Good Parenting</p>	<p>27 February</p> <p>Vicar David & family Church cleaners, flower arrangers & Refreshment servers Gyms we use Forgiveness</p>	<p>28 February</p> <p>Pastoral & Visiting Teams Churchwardens & PCC USA Groups we attend Socialising</p>	<p>01 March</p> <p>Readers Fiona & James & their families Funeral ministry Funeral Directors Excellent bereavement & end of life care</p>	<p>02 March</p> <p>Beryl, George & other volunteers for Parish Lunch Susan, Rev. Nicki & their families Police & Street wardens Accountability</p>	<p>03 March</p> <p>Vicar David & family Tutshill School Just outcome for striking & unhappy workers Negotiating</p>	<p>04 March</p> <p>Associate Priests Rev Brother Tom Rev Anna & Rev Tudor Deepening our faith All in poverty Altruism</p>
<p>05 March</p> <p>Vicar David & family Emma, her team, their families & clients Tidenham Congregation Discipleship</p>	<p>06 March</p> <p>Vicar David & family Our involvement in schools Our political leaders Joy & Peace within, in spite of circumstances</p>	<p>07 March</p> <p>Pastoral & Visiting Teams Baby & Toddler Groups Local Wf's Integrity</p>	<p>08 March</p> <p>Readers, Fiona & James & their families Men's Life group Man Thing Beachley Camp Tolerance</p>	<p>09 March</p> <p>Sedbury Space Life Groups Public cycle paths & footpaths Physical activities</p>	<p>10 March</p> <p>Musical instrument for worship at Chase Vicar David & family Foodbanks & all helping to meet our needs Humour</p>	<p>11 March</p> <p>Associate Priests Churchwardens & PCC For those in debt Healthy nutrition</p>
<p>12 March</p> <p>Vicar David & family Our in Church & online services & all who take part All struggling to make ends meet Worship</p>	<p>13 March</p> <p>Vicar David & family Confirmation course Our Post Offices & Banks Good housing</p>	<p>14 March</p> <p>Pastoral & Visiting Teams Archbishop Welby & Archbishop Cottrell Pope Francis Castleford Nursing Home Compassion</p>	<p>15 March</p> <p>Readers, Fiona & James & their families Life Groups All facing extreme emotional & financial problems Our mental health</p>	<p>16 March</p> <p>Sedbury Space Susan (Manager) Rev Nicki, volunteers & their families Vicar David & family Sedbury Village Hall Love, joy & peace</p>	<p>17 March</p> <p>Confirmation class Churchwardens & PCC buildings: team Tutshill Memorial Hall Harmonious homes</p>	<p>18 March</p> <p>Associate Priests. Rev Brother Tom Rev Anna & Rev Tudor Life Groups Hanley's Farm Discipleship</p>
<p>19 March</p> <p>Mothing Sunday Emma, her team, their families & clients Chase congregation People with Covid or long Covid Medical research</p>	<p>20 March</p> <p>Vicar David & family Emma, her team, their families & clients All on waiting lists for health appointments Freedom from pain</p>	<p>21 March</p> <p>Life Groups Musicians, choir, bell-ringers, congregational Singers & organists Foodbanks A healthy diet</p>	<p>22 March</p> <p>Readers, Fiona & James & their families Mission partners Heather (Tanzania) & Rhona (Uganda) Offa's Mead Academy Education</p>	<p>23 March</p> <p>Sedbury Space Susan (Manager) Rev Nicki, volunteers & their families Churchwardens & PCC Café on the Hill Nutritious diet</p>	<p>24 March</p> <p>Churches Together Life Groups Good interfaith & ecumenical relationships Diversity</p>	<p>25 March</p> <p>Associate Priests Churchwardens & PCC Tidenham Historical Group Laughter</p>
<p>26 March</p> <p>Emma, her team, their families & clients St Luke's congregation Scarecrow trail Freedom from stress</p>	<p>27 March</p> <p>Vicar David & family Ability to meet the parish's financial commitments Hospitals we use Generosity</p>	<p>28 March</p> <p>Pastoral & Visiting Teams Home Communion King Charles & our Royal Family Good neighbours</p>	<p>29 March</p> <p>Readers Fiona & James & their families Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Vulnerable people Discernment</p>	<p>30 March</p> <p>Sedbury Space Susan, Rev Nicki, volunteers & their families PCC finance team Pubs we use Adequate rest & sleep</p>	<p>31 March</p> <p>Bishop Rachel & Bishop Robert Building work being undertaken in each Church Riding stables Leisure</p>	<p>01 April</p> <p>Associate Priests Annabelle (admin) All housebound, ill & lonely people Justice</p>



Tidenham Parish Prayer Diary

"before the river flows overland with love"

April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 April Emma, her team, their families & clients Tidenham Congregation Those in poverty Negotiations						01 April Associate Priests Annabelle (admin) All housebound, ill & lonely people Justice
02 April Palm Sunday Our online & in church services & all who take part, stream them & their congregations Chase congregation Local Pubs & restaurants Discipleship	03 April Vicar David & family Mission Partners Heather (Tanzania) & Rhona (Uganda) Future of local business Pleasure	04 April Pastoral & Visiting Teams Associate Priests Rev. Brother Tom Rev Tudor & Rev. Anna & families Local Post Offices & Banks Worship	05 April Readers Fiona & James & families Home communions ill, lonely & housebound people wellbeing	06 April Maundy Thursday Sedbury Space Susan & Rev Nicki, their team & families Offa's Mead Academy Cohesion	07 April Good Friday Vicar David & family Today's services & devotions Children's play areas & sports fields Mercy	08 April Holy Saturday Church Wardens & PCC Life Groups Federation of Wye and Forest Edge schools Vulnerable people Socialising
09 April Easter Sunday Emma, her team, their families & clients Vicar David & family Tutshill congregation Christ has Risen Joyful Eastertide	10 April Vicar David & family Musicians, choirs, bell- ringers, congregational singers, organists Local shops Music	11 April Pastoral & Visiting Teams Funeral & Bereavement Ministry Funeral directors A good death	12 April Readers Fiona & James & families Today's devotions & services Sedbury Toddlers Meditation	13 April Sedbury Space Susan, Rev Nicki, Archbishop Welby Archbishop Cottrell Pope Francis Tutshill School Generosity	14 April Associate Priests Rev. Brother Tom Rev Tudor & Rev Anna Churches' School involvement Libraries we use Worldwide literacy	15 April Life Groups Church Wardens & PCC Community social workers Nurses, doctors & all care- workers Carers
16 April Emma, her team, their families & clients Vicar David & family Children's uniformed organisations Good Parenting	17 April Vicar David & family All considering baptism, confirmation or vocations Public cycle paths & footpaths Keeping fit	18 April Pastoral & Visiting Teams Volunteers & donors, working quietly, often un-acknowledged those in poverty Hope	19 April Readers Fiona, James & families Associate Priests Hanley's Farm, shop & all their activities Environmental care	20 April Sedbury Space Susan & Rev Nicki their team & families Parish communications Wydean School Education	21 April Associate Priests Rev. Brother Tom Rev Tudor & Rev Anna & families School Assemblies Castleford Nursing Home. Altruism	22 April Church Wardens & PCC Treasurer & Secretary Friendly sides-people in all our churches Good Neighbours Friendships
23 April Emma, her team, Their families & clients Our online & in church services & all involved CAP (Christians against Poverty) Debt relief	24 April Vicar David & family Life Groups All on waiting lists for Health appointments, diagnoses & treatment Freedom from pain	25 April Pastoral & Visiting Teams Churches Together Tutshill Babies & Toddler Group Good ecumenical & interfaith relationships	26 April Readers Fiona & James & families Ability to meet the Parish's financial commitments St John's School Generosity	27 April Sedbury Space Susan & Rev Nicki, their team & families The Link & Tanya Our economic future Happiness	28 April Associate Priests Rev. Brother Tom Rev Tudor & Rev. Anna & families Future of our parish, benefice & Deanery Laughter	29 April Rev David Reece & Reader Mandy Parishes of Hewelsheld St Briavels & Brockweir Local Farms Conservation of energy



Tidenham Parish Prayer Diary

"Love the river flows overhung with love"

May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 April Emma, her team, their families & clients Tidenham Congregation Those in poverty Negotiations	01 May Vicar David & family Church cleaners, refreshment servers & flower arrangers Gyms we use Forgiveness	02 May Pastoral & Visiting Teams Ability to meet the Parish's financial commitments	03 May Readers, Fiona & James & families School Assemblies All our schools Hopefulness	04 May Parish Lunch Sedbury Space Susan & Rev Nicki & their families Life groups Love	05 May Rev. David Rees Parishes of St Briavels, Hewelsfield & Brockweir Local shops Discipleship	06 May Pastoral & Visiting Teams Churchwardens & PCC members All in financial need Joy
07 May Emma, her volunteers, their families & clients. St Luke's Congregation St John's School & Little Trees Family	08 May Vicar David & family Churchwardens & PCC members Our political Leaders Good Housing	09 May Pastoral & Visiting Teams Confirmation class Local WIs Generosity	10 May Readers, Fiona & James & families School Assemblies Riverside Nursery Accountability	11 May Sedbury Space Susan & Rev Nicki & their families Offa's Mead Academy Chepstow Hospital Compassion	12 May Associate Priests Campanologists (bell-ringers) Local Pubs Repentance	13 May Deepening our faith Bishop Rachel Bishop Robert & Cathedral staff Folk Club Family
14 May Emma, her volunteers, their families & clients. Chase Congregation Offa's Mead Academy All age learning	15 May Pastoral & Visiting Teams Tutshill Babies & Toddlers Castleford Care Home Compassion	16 May Emma, her volunteers, their families & clients Pastoral & Visiting Teams Wydean School Doctor's Surgeries Freedom	17 May Readers, Fiona & James & families Funeral ministry Funeral Directors Excellent bereavement & end of life care	18 May Sedbury Space Susan & Rev Nicki & their families Life groups Chepstow Hospital Love	19 May Associate Priests Rev Brother Tom Rev Tudor & Rev Anna Life groups Striking organisations & unhappy workers Justice	20 May Annabelle (admin) Churchwardens & PCC members All housebound, ill & lonely people Freedom from pain
21 May Vicar David & family Our in Church & on-line services, Streamers, participants & attendees Music	22 May Vicar David & family Confirmation class Emergency Services including SARA Healthy diet	23 May Pastoral Visiting Team Life Groups Foodbanks & similar organisations Neighbourliness	24 May Readers Fiona & James & families Life groups Housing Associations Healing	25 May Sedbury Space Susan & Rev Nicki & their families Our involvement in schools St John's School Education	26 May Associate Priests Chase congregation All in poverty Basic human rights for all worldwide	27 May Lifegroup for men The Man Thing Churchwardens & PCC members Our Post Offices & Banks Integrity
28 May Emma, her volunteers, their families & clients Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Hospitals we use Freedom from stress	29 May Vicar David & family PCC Finance Team All whose health appointments have been postponed Hope	30 May Archbishop Welby Archbishop Cottrell Pope Francis Mission Partners Heather (Tanzania) & Rhona (Uganda) U3A Learning	31 May Readers Fiona & James & families Church wardens & PCC members Police & Street Wardens Love	01 June Sedbury Space Susan & Rev Nicki & their families Home Communions Tutshill School Friendship	02 June Associate Priests Tutshill Congregation Churches Together Good ecumenical +& interfaith relationships Peace	03 June Churchwardens & PCC members Ability to meet the Parish's financial commitments Our economy Cohesion