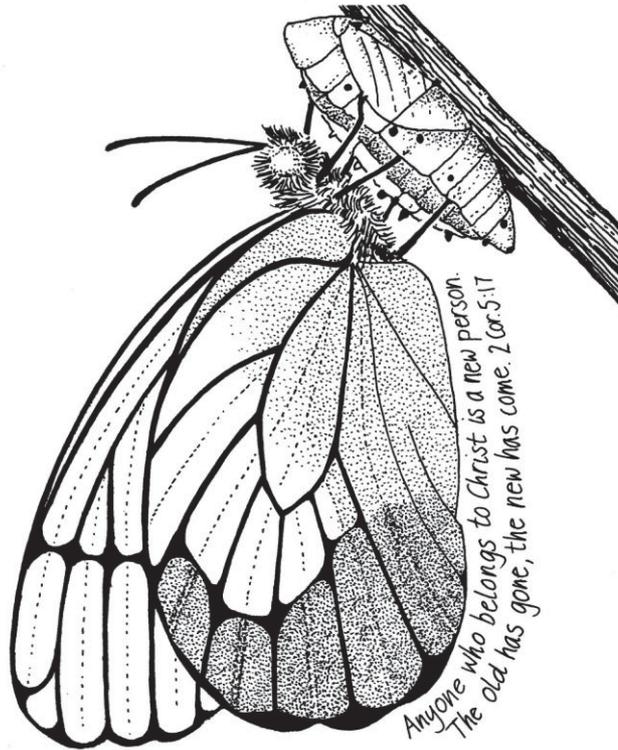


# FOREST FIERE



June 2015



## MAGAZINE

for the

Mid-Wyedean Churches



All Saints, Newland; All Saints, Staunton; Good Shepherd, Broadwell;  
St John, Coleford; St Peter, Clearwell & St Saviour, Redbrook

### Normal Service times:

St John's @ St Margaret Mary, Coleford	9:30 am most Sundays
All Saints, Newland	9:30 am most Sundays
All Saints, Staunton	9:30 am most Sundays
Good Shepherd, Broadwell	11:00 am most Sundays
St Peter's, Clearwell	11:00 am most Sundays
St Saviour's, Redbrook	16:00 all age worship 21 June 2015

Times may vary, please refer to the pew sheet or the Mid-Wyedean website  
'[www.mid-wyedeanchurches.co.uk](http://www.mid-wyedeanchurches.co.uk)' for further details

# DEAR FRIENDS.

## Marriage and Weddings

Following on from words about Baptism last month it's time to have a look at what is a major feature of our ministry here in Mid-Wyedean, particularly but not exclusively at St Peter, Clearwell and often involving couples with no previous relationship with our Parish. To put this in context this year we have 30 weddings. 25 are at St Peter's, 3 are at The Good Shepherd and there is one each at St Saviour's and All Saints Newland. Exactly half of all our weddings are for local couples who qualify to marry here through residence or family connections. I imagine everybody is delighted that so many predominantly young people from our Parish still feel the desire to marry in Church in these more openly secular days. The other half are almost exclusively couples who are using Clearwell Castle for their reception and want to marry in Church so let me explain what happens in such a case.

When a couple with no relationship with the Parish ask to marry here we could be either helpful or obstructive; some thoughtless people suggest that having so many weddings is very helpful financially to us as a Parish but when you look at the time and effort which goes into them it is an argument for which I have little time. However, much more importantly we see their wish to marry in Church as a wonderful opportunity for us to serve and to engage with a couple and their wedding guests on one of the few occasions on which they may experience the Church at work. The couple have to establish, by law (that's the law of the land, not of the Church), what is called a "Qualifying Connection" with the Parish and this normally involves them in attending worship regularly for at least six months prior to their wedding. We try to welcome them and make them feel part of the Church, even though we realise that in many cases they live too far away to remain part of our worshipping community. We could simply say that if they want to marry in Church they should get married where they live and we shouldn't put ourselves out for them. We fundamentally disagree - for how will they perceive a Church which doesn't want them when they want the Church?

All couples are met with three or four times during the preparation for their marriage. This ensures that the ceremony is suited to them and is uniquely individual and also gives us a chance to discuss why they want a Church wedding and their expectations and hopes for their marriage. We look carefully at the vows they are about to take and we have a rehearsal to put them at their ease for the big day (usually the following day). Of course, this takes a lot of time but it is a joy and a privilege to be involved with couples at such a positive and exciting time of their lives.

All this means that the congregation at St Peter's in particular can vary between half a dozen and over thirty, which keeps the worship leaders on their toes if nothing else. The most important point about this, I feel, is the opportunity which it gives us all to show the welcoming, accepting and understanding face of the Church to couples who come to us looking for our help. We are prepared to welcome the remarriage of divorcees (except in one or two unusual circumstances) because we believe and accept that we are all imperfect and things go wrong in our lives. We are all both sinned against and sinning. We don't insist on a certain level of Christian commitment before we agree to marry people; the final line of the vows is, "In the presence of God I make this vow.", and if this is meaningful to them it seems right to welcome them into "our" Church (well, God's Church actually) for their marriage. To do so gives us an opportunity to work on behalf of the entire Church to connect with those for whom Jesus came every bit as much as for we who are already convinced. We welcome this chance to share love with his people.

# COLEFORD CHURCHES

(the News Sheet of Coleford Churches)

## COMING EVENTS

If you have any exciting events planned and would like them mentioned on these pages please contact me either by phone or e-mail. Information below.

### May

Sunday 31 Mid Wyedean Benefice Service at Clearwell, open air service in Jane's garden + bring and share lunch.

### June

- Tuesday 2 CAMEO meet at Good Shepherd from 2.30 pm, all welcome.
- Wednesday 3 Walk for Health Initiative, 10.30 am from Main Place, approx 1 hour, more details contact Chris Howell 836813.
- Thursday 4 Craft Club meets at Good Shepherd, 1.30 - 3.30 pm.
- Saturday 6 The Mallards Pike Walk for Heart Health (open to all fitness levels) - first Saturday of the month, 10.15 am, for more details contact Chris Howell, 836813.
- Wednesday 10 Walk for Health Initiative, 10.30 am from Main Place, approx 1 hour, more details contact Chris Howell 836813.
- Thursday 14 Craft Club meets at Good Shepherd, 1.30 - 3.30 pm.
- Friday 12 Christian Aid "Thank You" party at Rachel Whittington's home, Acorn Cottage, Coalway, 7.00 pm. All who care about Christian Aid are welcome.
- Saturday 13 Parish Outing - to Tyntesfield, near Bristol. Coach £10 per person.
- Saturday 13 Bishop Michael's farewell celebration service at the Cathedral, 4.30 pm.
- Monday 15 Coleford Baptist Church, Coffee Break, 10.30-12 noon, need a lift then contact Maureen Etherington on 836303. (3rd Monday)
- Tuesday 16 CAMEO meet at Good Shepherd from 2.30 pm, all welcome.
- Wednesday 17 Walk for Health Initiative, 10.30 am from Main Place, approx 1 hour, more details contact Chris Howell 836813.
- Thursday 18 Craft Club meets at Good Shepherd, 1.30 - 3.30 pm.
- Thursday 18 "Hot Potato" Night at White Horse at Staunton, 7.30 pm.
- Saturday 20 "Coffee and Chat" get together at St Margaret Mary Church Hall, hosted by "St John's" congregation, open to everyone, not a fund raiser just a chance for a drink and a chat, giving more time than on a Sunday morning. Hopefully members of the Catholic congregation especially will come along and join us but everyone is welcome, 10.00 - 12 noon.
- Saturday 20 Summer Table Top Sale. @ 12.00 noon.  
*If you would like to donate items, please call 01594 822734 will collect.*  
*Mount of Olives church wants to raise money for a new kitchen for us to continue serving the community. MOUNT OF OLIVES, EASTBORNE CRESCENT, COLEFORD*
- Saturday 20 Great Oaks Hospice Summer Fete 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm, come and support this amazing resource.
- Wednesday 23 Walk for Health Initiative, 10.30 am from Main Place, approx 1 hour, more details contact Chris Howell 836813.
- Wednesday 24 Coleford Churches Together meeting, at Salvation Army, Broadwell, 7.00 pm.
- Thursday 21 Craft Club meets at Good Shepherd, 1.30 - 3.30 pm.
- Saturday 27 Coffee Morning at Christchurch Church, 10.00 am - 12 noon.
- Saturday 27 Charity Coffee morning at Coalway Methodist Church, 10.30 am.
- Sunday 28 Mid Wyedean Benefice Service at St Peters, Clearwell, Patronal day service, 10.30 am.
- Wednesday 30 Walk for Health Initiative, 10.30 am from Main Place, approx 1 hour, more details contact Chris Howell 836813.



## Re - PATRICK SEMPLE - Note from Gilly

"I am giving a green altar frontal and chasuble to St Arvans Church in memory of Patrick and it's being dedicated at the main Eucharist on 19th July. I'd be so pleased if some of you Coleford friends would come, and so would Patrick."

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### Broadwell cookery club



**Oh what a shame!** The May meeting of the cookery club had to be cancelled due to a faulty cooker at "the Pub". Not very easy to cook without a cooker! Sorry to all those that were looking forward to exploring vegetarian cookery.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> June, when hopefully, we will be cooking with Fish.

If you fancy coming along to our sessions, we meet at The Salvation Army, North Rd, Broadwell, (what was

the Bird in Hand pub) from 6.30 p.m. and aim to be out by 9.00, depending on how much mess we have made! The cost is £3.50 per session, with all ingredients provided, and you can take home any food not consumed on the night (so bring a container).

More info from Anne Harley 01594 832918, or if you would like to join our mailing list, email Anne on [annedave123456@gmail.com](mailto:annedave123456@gmail.com)

### New Ideas

It looks like the cookery club might be taking a new direction during the summer. Last month we floated the idea of starting a community café, and that idea has now developed somewhat. We would like to run a series of family fun and food afternoons during the school holidays, providing activities for children and young people, and food for all afterwards. We would like to run as many as possible during the holidays, but obviously, this will depend on Man (or woman) power. First thoughts are that this could be on a Thursday afternoon between about 3p.m. and 6p.m. If you would like to get involved, please get in touch with me, or Viv at the Pub.

Anne



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### **Archbishop of Canterbury's concern for the immigrant crisis**

The Archbishop of Canterbury has said that European countries must play their part in a continent-wide settlement programme rather than treating the crisis as the responsibility of Italy and its immediate neighbours.

He recently told the BBC: "Of course we have to be aware of the impact of immigration in our own communities, but when people are drowning in the Mediterranean, the need, the misery that has driven them out of their own countries is so extreme, so appalling that Europe as a whole must rise up and seek to do what's right."



St. Julian's Church,  
Norwich



## Anchorite Circle.

This month, we will continue to explore some of the ideas in the "Try Praying" booklet.

### Week 1. 7<sup>th</sup> June - Smiling

Make a note of the things that have made you smile during this week. In your quiet time, bring them before God, and give thanks to him for them.



### Week 2. 14<sup>th</sup> June - Prayerful giving



We are used to seeing images of people in Africa and the third world starving, but what is not so easy to see are the people going hungry just round the corner. It's often hard to understand why, in a country that is as rich as ours, there are still some people who do not have enough to eat.

Prayerfully, think about what you may be able to do to help, whether it is giving to a foodbank, giving your time and energy to publicise the problems, or whether it is checking on a neighbour to see all is well. Ask God for guidance on how to respond.

### Week 3. 21<sup>st</sup> June - Being Still

In our busy world, being still can seem like a waste of valuable time, after all, there is so much to get done in a day, but making time to be still can re-energise us, and if that still time is spent with God, then how can that be a waste? Make a space in each day this week to sit quietly for a while and be still in mind and body.



### Week 4. 24<sup>th</sup> May - Seeking God in Creation



Springtime is a wonderful time of the year, when everything is bursting with new life and energy. Make some time each day this week to be out in the fresh air, and take in the wonders of the universe, from the delicate scent and colours of spring flowers, to the wonders of the universe above us in the night sky. Take a moment to thank God for the amazing world in which we live.

## UNITED PARISH FLOWER FESTIVAL AT ST PETER'S CHURCH CLEARWELL ON SUNDAY/MONDAY 3/4TH MAY

The theme this year was "Wedding Anniversaries". Many thanks to all those who created the beautiful flower arrangements, donated prizes, baked, cooked, helped in the kitchen, manned a stall over the weekend and who visited the Flower Festival. The weekend was a great success and raised £1,350 towards Parish Funds. (Special thanks to Wendy Williams who organised the delicious food that was available at the Village Hall.)

RECIPE FOR A CAKE WHICH WAS ON SALE AT CLEARWELL FLOWER FESTIVAL and Wendy Williams was asked for the recipe. (It is a recipe that she acquired and has been used for cakes at Coleford Baptist Church so is a tested recipe.)

### Chocolate olive oil cake (makes 8=12 slices)

150 ml. regular olive oil (more for greasing)  
50gms cocoa powder  
125 ml boiling water  
2 tsp. vanilla extract  
150gms. ground almonds  
1/2 tsp bicarb  
Pinch salt  
200gms caster sugar  
3 eggs

**Preheat oven** to 170 or gas mark 5. Grease and line a spring form tin

**Sift** cocoa into jug and add extract and boiling water and whisk until smooth.

In another bowl mix almonds, bicarb and salt.

Put sugar, olive oil and eggs in a bowl of electric mixer with paddle and beat vigorously until pale primrose and thickened like cream. Pour in the cocoa mix and turn down speed then add the almond mix.

Scrape down and pour into prepared tin. Bake for 40=45 mins until set at sides but centre is still a little soft. Cool for about 10 mins before releasing the spring and gently easing the sides from the tin.

### CHURCHES TOGETHER - MOVEABLE FEAST, THURSDAY 14TH MAY

Sadly I was unable to attend as I was away but evidently this proved to be a very enjoyable evening with good food and good company. About 30+ people attended and moved their way between the Salvation Army for starters, the Baptist Church for mains and St Margaret Mary for desserts (a table full I am told!). Thank you to all those who worked so hard with the organising and cooking - it was a lovely evening. (I know the Mount of Olives had an event booked for that night so members from there were also unable to attend.) Jean Hewlett

ALL SAINTS' NEWLAND - CATHEDRAL OF THE FOREST - SUNDAY 12TH JULY - 5.30 PM - Outdoor production of "Twelfth Night" given by Jenny Wickes Theatre Productions.

### COFFEE AND CHAT

On 3rd Saturday of each month there will be a coffee and chat morning at the church hall of St Margaret Mary in Coleford, from 10 until 12, for the two congregations that share the Church especially but everyone is welcome. A chance for fellowship in our community - this is NOT a fund raiser.

# **Friends of Christchurch**

**Saturday 27th June**  
**10am-12 noon, Christchurch**

## **Coffee Morning**

Delicious home-made cakes and biscuits,  
Fairtrade tea and coffee. Everyone welcome.

**Saturday & Sunday 4th & 5th July**

## **Christchurch** **A Celebration of Mining**

Friends of Christchurch will be supporting this weekend event celebrating and commemorating the culture and tradition of mining in and around the Christchurch Parish.

Includes:

- Display of mining memorabilia throughout the weekend with refreshments available
- Miners' lunch (Sat 12noon - 2pm)
- Talk on the history of mining (Sat 7pm)
- Service of celebration and commemoration (Sun 4pm)

Tickets for Saturday evening £3  
Contact Maggie Fisher (01594 837834)  
or email [friendsofccfod@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofccfod@gmail.com)

## **The Life and Times of the Church of the Good Shepherd**

### **Part Six – The Last Years of the War.**

By the beginning of 1943 the war had turned in the Allies favour. We had driven the Italians from North Africa and Rommel's Afrika Corps was also on the retreat.

In January 1943 Churchill and President Roosevelt met in Casablanca to decide their next moves as Stalin wanted a 'Second Front' in Europe to divert German forces from the east. Churchill and Roosevelt's issued a communiqué stating they were willing to fight until Italy, Germany and Japan had surrendered unconditionally though it was known that, if offered an armistice, the Italians would be prepared to change sides.

Meantime the government had accepted the Beveridge Report proposing the creation of a National Health Service and a Welfare State and the people of Gloucestershire, the City of Gloucester and the Forest of Dean were once again urged to 'Dig for for Victory'. 'Wings for Victory' was also launched where each county or city was urged to buy enough government bonds to pay for an aeroplane. The plan was very successful and each aeroplane so financed, carried the name of the county or city which raised the money for its manufacture. The April Budget then raised the price of drinks and placed a 100% tax on all luxury goods.

The first race meeting since the start of the war was held at Ascot and it was announced that church bells would now be allowed to ring regularly so some degree of normality was being restored to life in Britain and the Forest of Dean. About that time it was recorded in the Coleford PCC minutes that Mr Geiles, a Czechoslovakian candidate for the priesthood was coming to replace the Reverend Jukes.

In May the Allies entered Tunis and the 17<sup>th</sup> saw the great Dambusters Raid on the Ruhr dams when the RAF's 617 Squadron gained its immortality. By then the U Boat war also turning in our favour and it was announced that sixty of these underwater menaces had been destroyed in the previous three months, all of which provided a further boost to the nation's morale.

Then, and as the Allies landed in Sicily and with the overthrow of Mussolini, Marshall Badoglio asked for peace terms. With Italy now effectively out of the conflict, the impetus of the war in Europe was now well and truly in the Allies favour. By August, Soviet forces were in the Ukraine and in September the Allies landed on Italy's mainland so Stalin now had his second front.

Pay as You Earn (PAYE) was then proposed to improve the flow of government taxation on wages and salaries and it was announced that Penicillin, the new 'wonder drug', was being used to save soldiers' lives.

At the Teheran Conference in November, when Stalin insisted on changes to the German and Polish frontiers favourable to Russia, Churchill unlike his friend Roosevelt, began to sense what was likely to happen in eastern Europe after the cessation of hostilities. Churchill and Roosevelt then met Chiang Kai-shek in North Africa to discuss the further prosecution of the war against the Japanese in the east.

The year ended with the Bevin Boys being ordered to work down the mines rather than do military service and as Gracie Fields sang 'Sally, Sally Pride of our Alley' and George Formby wowed the troops overseas with 'When I'm Cleaning Windows', more women were now being drafted into war work and oddly, 'Lily Marlene' became a favourite song of people on both sides of the conflict. What a strange thing war is!

In January 1944, as Soviet forces entered Poland, Russia broke the siege of Leningrad and the Marshall Islands were invaded by the Allies, the RAF announced its new jet fighter – the Meteor which was built in Gloucester. Together with the Hawker Tempest it was to go on to play an important part in the fight against Hitler's first 'wonder weapon' - the V1 when it was launched against us later in the year.

In February the great battle of Monte Casino took place where the Germans, who had now taken over from the Italians fought like tigers to prevent the Allies progressing up the 'Wellington Boot' that is Italy. By the time the battle was over the famous Monastery on the top of the hill was in ruins

but the Allies were now within sight of Rome. At home the King and Queen sat down for a one shilling lunch with the miners and lemons were made available for the pancakes on Shrove Tuesday.

In March, as the miners in Wales went on strike, the House of Lords approved the National Health Service Bill and the United Kingdom closed its borders with the Irish Republic – 'for security reasons'. The whiff of invasion of Europe was in the air.

As United States forces landed in New Guinea and the Soviets crossed into Romania, the London bus drivers went on strike - so troops drove the buses. The synthesis of Quinine, so important in the fight against malaria in the Far East was announced and as the first pre-fabricated houses were erected, the Labour Party called for the nationalisation of the coal, gas and electricity industries.

Strikes and party politics were also in the air and shades of things to come.

On 'D-Day' - the 6<sup>th</sup> of June, British, American and Canadian forces established a bridgehead in Normandy and the liberation of Western Europe began. By the middle of June and as the first V bombs began to fall on London, the Russians were in control of the Crimea - as they are again today! The German forces were now being squeezed like a lemon – by the British, Americans and French in the west and south and the Soviets in the east. The United States also began fire bombing the Japanese mainland. The V Bomb attacks now caused another wave of evacuees from London to the more rural parts of the country including the Forest of Dean – how cruel war is and on children, in particular.

In July, an attempt by senior members of the Wehrmacht to assassinate Hitler failed. The man seemed to lead a charmed life. Before he committed suicide in April 1945, there were no less than five attempts to kill him and he survived them all. In August, the prickly De Gaulle was allowed to lead a Free French Army parade through Paris and in September, as the first V2 landed on London Brussels was retaken by the Allies. There was now a general German retreat in Europe and in Germany, the civilian population was rationed to half a kilogram of bread per week.

In the last quarter of 1944 United States forces landed in the Philippines fulfilling General MacArthur's promise made three years earlier of, 'I shall return'.

Following his implication in the failed assassination attempt on Hitler's life in July, Rommel was forced to commit suicide though the 'official' version was that he was killed when Allied aircraft attacked his car. The British occupied Athens and were promptly sucked into what was to become a civil war as the communists attempted to take over the running of the country.

In the middle of December, under the cover of bad weather, the Germans launched one last great effort in the Ardennes forest of Belgium, which caught the Americans defending the area completely by surprise but by January of 1945, with the return of fair weather and Allied superiority in the air, the Germans had been driven back again. They had spent their reserves and Allied progress into the German heartland was assured.

In October of 1944 Archbishop Temple of Canterbury died and in January of 1945 was replaced by Archbishop Geoffrey Fisher, later to revise much of the canon law still in force in Great Britain at the time and of course, to officiate at the coronation of our present Queen in 1953.

In February the RAF and USAAF devastated Dresden and the Yalta conference was held, convincing Churchill even more of what was to come in Eastern Europe after the cessation of hostilities. There was then a rush by virtually all the countries which had 'sat on the fence' during the bad days, to declare war on Germany. Fourteen in all from Argentina to Uruguay! The Americans then occupied Iwo Jima and that famous photograph showing United States Marines raising the flag over the island, still resonates today.

By March the Russians had occupied Danzig (Hitler's occupation in 1939 started the war) and the Western Allies were across the river Rhine. After April the full horrors of Bergen Belsen, Buchenwald, Dachau and the other German Concentration camps and killing places were revealed. As the Allies took Venice and Milan, Italian partisans killed Mussolini and his mistress and the Germans surrendered in Italy.

The war in Europe was now approaching its close. Roosevelt died in April to be replaced by Truman, who was a very different sort of man, so Churchill's 'special relationship' had come to an end.

After marrying Eva Braun, Hitler committed suicide on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Admiral Doenitz was named as his successor to govern what little remained of the Third Reich. Here in Britain and significantly, Clement Attlee, the leader of the Labour Party and Deputy Prime Minister in the Government of National Unity, was warning the British people of the austerity to come. What he was really saying was that Britain was broke!

Field Marshall Keitel signed the final German capitulation in Berlin on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May signifying the unconditional surrender that Churchill had always wanted. The British then took Rangoon and the hated and derided Lord Haw Haw, William Joyce was arrested.

Street parties started in Broadwell, Coleford, indeed throughout Britain and on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May the Coalition Government of the United Kingdom resigned. Everything was happening at breakneck speed and by the middle of June 1945, as it was announced that Germany was to be divided into four zones, British, French, Russian and American, Great Britain had returned to party politics.

In July, as the Allies staged a victory parade in Berlin, the first atomic bomb was tested in the New Mexico desert and the Labour Party won a landslide general election victory. By the 14<sup>th</sup> of August, after the Americans had dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan had signed an unconditional surrender and the Second Great War was at an end.

The human cost had been horrendous. It is estimated that something like fifty five million people died in the conflict – twenty one and a half million of whom were Russian, followed by China – thirteen and a half million, Germany – just over seven million, Poland – five and a half million, Japan – just over two million, Yugoskavia – one point six million. France lost just over six hundred thousand and Britain and the Commonwealth just over half a million. The United States which had joined the conflict in 1942 lost three hundred thousand, very few of whom were civilian, whereas significant numbers of civilians had been killed in all the other countries.

And Broadwell had not escaped the carnage. The memorial in the Church of the Good Shepherd records that six men - J Ambury, K Bozworth, C Bozworth, F Baynham, N Darby and H Williams of the St John's Men and Lads Union died in the conflict.

The Second World war now at an end leaving some eight million stateless and refugees in Western and Eastern Europe and shortly after all the euphoria of the celebrations and parties was over, I remember my father – a man of great perception - saying to me, 'The bullets might have stopped flying but we are now entering a second war – the war against starvation.'

Next - The early post-war years.

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## **STAUNTON AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB**

Twenty one members and friends have been on a visit to The Old Corn Mill at Aston Crews , welcomed by Jill Hunter to her "oasis" in the Herefordshire countryside. Walks through the natural glades with a stream and pond, some hidden sculptures and seats positioned so that you can sit and admire - especially the tulip area - a feast for the eyes. The wild orchids should be out in the next two weeks too.

With our AGM now behind us and many interesting visits ahead during the Summer and speakers to entertain us in the latter part of the year why don't you join us. We welcome visitors. If you would like a copy of our new programme do give me a call on 01594 837840



### **The Bishop of Tewkesbury, the Rt Revd Martyn Snow**

The Church is one of the largest voluntary organisations in the country. Like a tree which only flourishes because of its hidden but vast root system, so the Church can only flourish when every root and branch is healthy.

I once attended a voluntary sector training course in which we were each given a picture of a tree and asked to decide where we would place ourselves on the tree. Am I a root who resources others and supports those in more visible places? Or am I right at the top of the tree, surveying the landscape and telling others what changes I see coming? Or am I sitting at the main junction of trunk and branches helping others to find their place in the tree?

Jesus spoke of the kingdom of God being like a tree which provides shelter and food for many people. However finding our place on that tree is not always easy. We need to have a clear and honest understanding of our own gifts and abilities. We need to understand our preferred style of working (team or individual; task or relationship). And we need some insight into what motivates us (am I passionate about social justice or about church buildings?).

And once we have answered these questions (usually in conversation with others), we then need to know about specific roles and 'job opportunities' within our church or community, so that we find our place in the tree. Volunteering can be one of the most rewarding experiences in life. The Church is truly blessed with so many faithful volunteers. But is it time you assessed your place on the tree?

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#### **Safer recruitment for volunteers**

Volunteers are a huge part of church life—without your many hours of dedication, we would not be able to keep our church food banks, toddlers groups and fundraisers alive.

If your church is thinking of taking on new volunteers, make sure that you are following the Safer Recruitment processes and recommendations. Safer Recruitment covers the areas of personnel, volunteers and safeguarding. See the safeguarding pages of the diocesan website for details.

If you need more information, contact [jknight@glosdioc.org.uk](mailto:jknight@glosdioc.org.uk) or [bfaal@glosdioc.org.uk](mailto:bfaal@glosdioc.org.uk)

## **On Your Doorstep: Faithfully responding to your local community**

**Wednesday 30 September 2015**

Wall's Club, Hammond Way, Barnwood, Gloucester, GL4 3HG

All communities have challenges and all communities are blessed with people who want to share their time and efforts for the good of others. This September, we are bringing together people who want to make a real difference in the lives of those around them, in the hope that we can inspire, enthuse and equip.

You are invited to an all-day event, which offers practical help and guidance as well as a time for reflection, around the topic of engaging with your community. The programme includes a variety of workshops on listening, identifying needs, communicating, fundraising and more. There will also be chance to hear from those who have enabled community projects, including keynote speaker the Revd Dr Sam Wells, vicar of St Martin in the Fields, London. He will help you to deepen your understanding of the place of this kind of work in God's mission.

There will also be workshops and a marketplace with offerings from local and national organisations who can offer practical support to churches wanting to get started.

This will be a day to share experiences, meet new contacts and care for God's kingdom. Book by contacting Natasha Kent on 01452 835544 or email [nkent@glosdioc.org.uk](mailto:nkent@glosdioc.org.uk)

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### **Have your say: Why is volunteering important to you?**

**Laura Risdale, Cheltenham**



I volunteer each summer with the Salvation Army Fellowship of Endeavour drama and music school. It supports people with disabilities and runs for a week at the National Star College. There are so many talented people in the group and this is a wonderful and safe place for them to shine. To me, it isn't hard work – it is about being with friends and watching them as they are given the chance to develop their gifts. The beauty of volunteering is that I have learned so much about myself too; I have grown in my own personal walk and drawn closer to God through it.

**Nikki Knight, Lydney**

I recently set up a Rainbows Unit with Girlguiding UK in Holy Trinity Church, Lydney. I felt it was important to set up a unit as there is very little for young girls to do in our area and Guiding is such a valuable girls only experience. It's a place where five and six year old girls can make friends, try new challenges and learn about the world. I love seeing the excitement on the girls' faces as they realise they can achieve something they found tough. It's a great way to meet people and be part of something bigger.



**Next month:** What has God called you to recently?

Have your say at [www.facebook.com/Diocese.of.Gloucester](http://www.facebook.com/Diocese.of.Gloucester) or email Katherine at [kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk](mailto:kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk). Follow us on Twitter at [@glosdioc](https://twitter.com/glosdioc), or see our website: [www.gloucester.anglican.org](http://www.gloucester.anglican.org)





## DADDY?

You know how sometimes we mishear things? A little boy that I know said that they had sung 'Away in a Manger' in the Nativity play at his preschool. He was convinced from singing this carol that Jesus had another name because he had heard it as 'little George Jesus asleep in the hay'.

In the same way a little girl said that she knew God's name because every time people said the Lord's Prayer she heard it as 'Harold be thy name'.

When Jesus gave us the prayer we call The Lord's Prayer he told us what to call God – you can read about it in Matthew's Gospel, chapter 6, verses 5-15.

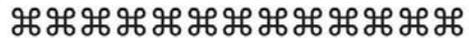
The word that Jesus used for 'Our Father' was 'Abba' which is the way that children then spoke to their father, like we use the word Daddy now. Every time we say the prayer we remember that God is our loving father.



## FOUR OF A KIND



Can you find a common English word of 8 letters which contains 4 Gs? Here is a clue... it's a laughing matter. Answer at the bottom of the page.



**What do they call ministers in Germany?**

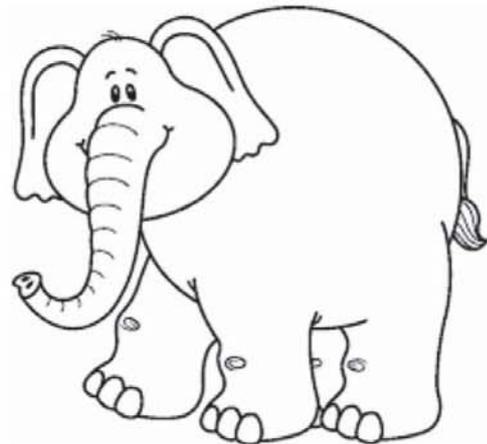
German Shepherds.

**Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?**

Samson. He brought the house down.

**Who was the first person in the Bible?**

Chap One.

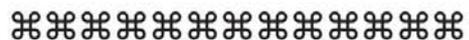


**Why does an elephant use his trunk as a bookmark?**

That way he always nose where he stopped reading.

**What do you call someone with an elephant on their head?**

Squashed!



Answer: giggling

# Mid-Wyedean Churches

All Saints, Newland; All Saints, Staunton;  
Good Shepherd, Broadwell; St John, Coleford;  
St Peter, Clearwell & St Saviour, Redbrook

Benefice Website - [www.mid-wyedeanchurches.co.uk](http://www.mid-wyedeanchurches.co.uk)

## Ministry Team:

Revd. Sarah Bick, The Vicarage, 40 Boxbush Road, Coleford, GL16 8DN (Dean 835476)  
([sarah@thebickerage.org.uk](mailto:sarah@thebickerage.org.uk))

The Revd. Alan Wearmouth, "Windhover", Broadwell Bridge, Broadwell. (Dean 832660)  
([alanw22uk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alanw22uk@yahoo.co.uk))

## Licensed Readers:

Mrs. Anne Harley & Mr. Chris Howell

Arrangements for Baptisms, weddings etc. should be made in the first instance to Rev Sarah Bick.

## Parish Wardens

St John's, Coleford

Penny Rayner 837386  
[mrspennyrayner@btinternet.com](mailto:mrspennyrayner@btinternet.com)

All Saints, Newland

Bea Erskine 835744  
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## Assistant Wardens

All Saints, Staunton

Doug Stephenson 836417  
[doug-stephenson@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:doug-stephenson@hotmail.co.uk)

Good Shepherd, Broadwell

Sarah Codd 836968

St Saviours, Redbrook

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St Peters, Clearwell

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Terry Bovill 837447

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