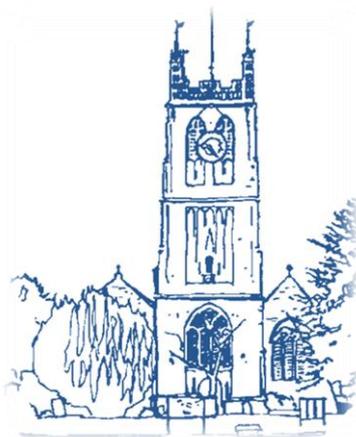


**St. James's, Dursley &
St. Mark's, Woodmancote**



**The
Messenger
SEPTEMBER
2020**

**Price 60p each
£6 Annually**

The Ewelme Benefice

The parish of Dursley and the parish of Uley with Owlpen and Nympsfield
Web Site – www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk

RECTOR

Revd Canon Michael Cozens

Tel: 546459

E-mail: mgcozens86@btinternet.com

**Please note Michael cannot be contacted on Fridays
this is his day off – please contact Parish Office**

ASSOCIATE PRIESTS

Revd Ian Gardner,

E-mail: chestal@hotmail.com

Tel: 546895

Revd Jane Wood

E-mail: revjanewood@yahoo.com

READER

Mr Tony King,

E-mail: tonyking@gmx.co.uk

Tel: 298897

CHURCHWARDENS.

Mr Austin Meares,

Tel: 544677

Mrs Caroline Marrow,

Tel: 544221

BENEFICE ADMINISTRATOR – Clive Orchard

The Parish Office is closed at the moment.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE A WEEKLY PEW LEAFLET PLEASE CONTACT
THE PARISH OFFICE VIA THE EMAIL ADDRESS BELOW.**

Address letters to: The Rectory, Broadwell, Dursley, Glos, GL11 4JE

E-mail: ewelmeeparishoffice@gmail.com

Tel: 549280

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC.

Mr Nigel Davies, M.A., B Mus., F.R.C.O,

Tel: 01454 416867

PCC: VICE CHAIRMAN – Mr Austin Meares,

Tel: 544677

PCC SECRETARY –

Mrs Edwina Walton

Tel: 890588

E-mail: edwinawalton@hotmail.co.uk

PCC TREASURER -

Dr Sally Pearson

Tel: 542106

E-mail: v6sep@aol.com



SEPTEMBER

CONTENTS

Letter from Tony King.....	2,3
Ride + Stride and Walk.....	5
Poppies and Fundraising from Caroline.....	6,7
Virtual Music Notes and Zoom Plus.....	8,9
Junior Church.....	12,13
In memory of Tom Preater.....	14,15
St Mark's.....	16
September Diary and pictures from Pop-up Café.....	18,19
Mouse diary	22
Bells.....	28
Culture and Me.....	30,31
Diocesan letter, a message from Bishop Robert.....	32
Flower Rota and 100 Club.....	36

Editors:

Marlene Powell Tel: 01453 545706

Valerie Meares Tel: 01453 544677

Jenni Norris Tel: 01453 543996

Advertising please contact

Philip Staddon Tel: 01453 544312

e.mail address judith.staddon@gmail.com

PLEASE SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

Marlene Powell

Tel: 01453 545706

or Valerie Meares

Tel: 01453 544677

or Judith Staddon Tel: 01453 544312 e.mail judith.staddon@gmail.com

and Jenni Norris

e.mail jenorris@talk21.com

Message from the editors:

Any opinions expressed in the magazine are personal views only...

Marlene, Judith Valerie and Jenni

**DEADLINE FOR THE OCTOBER 2020 ISSUE IS
SUNDAY 13th SEPTEMBER**



Dear friends

Until Ann and I moved to Dursley, I don't think I was consciously aware of any churches dedicated to Holy Cross. Not really surprising since there are, apparently, only 94 churches which include the words 'Holy Cross' in their dedication, according to an analysis, conducted by the Sean Blanchflower, based on the 'A Church Near You' website. The list includes the complicated 'Collegiate Church of the Holy Cross and the Mother of Him who hung thereon', in Crediton.

There are 3 Festival Days in the Church in September - St Matthew on the 21st, Michael and All Angels on the 29th, but more interestingly Holy Cross Day on the 14th. Most festivals commemorate people; some commemorate events - but this one is (I think) the only festival commemorating an object. It takes us back to the early church.

After the end of the persecution era, early in the fourth century, pilgrims began to travel to Jerusalem to visit and pray at the places associated with the life of Jesus. Helena, the mother of the emperor, was a Christian and, whilst overseeing excavations in the city, is said to have uncovered a cross, which many believed to be the actual Cross of Christ. A basilica was built on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and dedicated on this day in the year AD 335.

But maybe it seems unnecessary to have another day celebrating the Cross - most of the Good Friday liturgy concentrates on little else. Perhaps some of the titles for the day used elsewhere give a clue. The RC Church refers to it as the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, or the Triumph of the Holy Cross, while in Eastern Orthodox churches it is known by the rather unwieldy Universal Exaltation (or Elevation) of the Precious and Life-creating Cross.

Good Friday is about the Passion of our Lord and the Crucifixion - Holy Cross Day is a more celebratory festival. Of course it has its darker aspects. The Old Testament lesson appointed for Holy Communion on this day is the passage from Numbers about the serpents killing the wanderers in the desert and

Moses raising a bronze image of a serpent, so that those bitten could look at it and live. The Epistle from Paul's letter to the Philippians says that Jesus '... humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death -- even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him...'

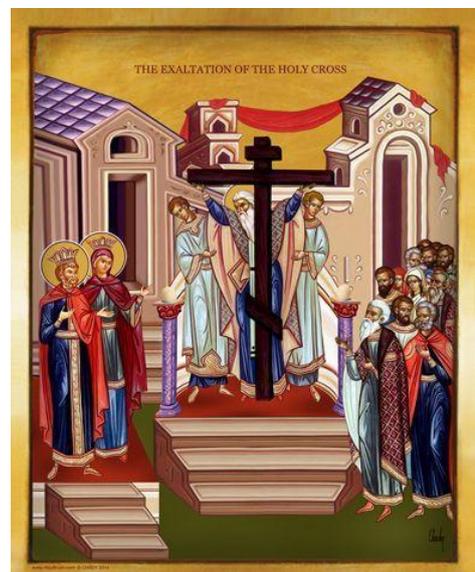
And in the Gospel from John Jesus teaches '... just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.'

The three readings take us from the misery of those wanderers suffering in the desert to the statement that God so loved the world that he gave his only Son - a journey that is indeed a cause for celebration.

The acclamation for Holy Cross Day sums it up:-

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;
by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.
God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
We preach Christ crucified,
the power of God and the wisdom of God.
By your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.
God forbid that I should glory,
save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;
by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Tony King



**The 5 Churches Walk will take place
on Saturday 10 October 2020.**

We meet at St James church at 10.00. The first stop is St. Mark's Church. We then use a section of the Cotswold Way, then other paths to St Giles Church, Uley for a stop for hot drinks. We continue over the fields to Owlpen Church then up the valley to St Bartholomew's Church, Nympsfield. The walk finishes at Nympsfield Village Hall where we will be served with cakes and hot drinks. Thanks in advance to our friends in Uley and Nympsfield. We would welcome offers of transport to return the walkers to Dursley. The walk arrangements are subject to any Covid restrictions at the time.

From David Smith

THANK YOU!

My dear Friends,

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone for their good wishes, love and prayers for me and my family for my surgery at the end of July. It is hard to believe as I write this that I am already two weeks into the magical six-week post-op healing and every day I notice small improvements. There is a way to go yet and I must learn to be a patient, patient!

I hope to be back at church on Zoom soon and look forward to seeing you then.

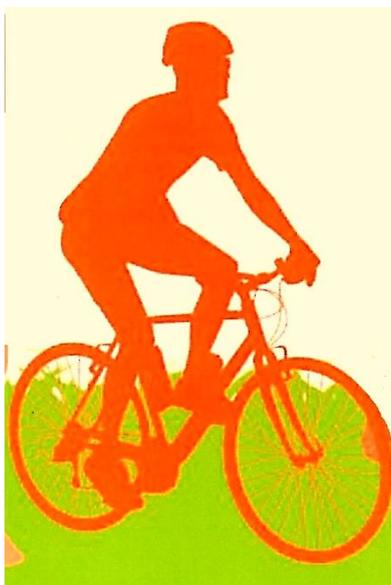
Please continue to hold us in your prayers.

With love,

Chris Raffle xxx

Believe me, being a patient, patient is the hardest part of recovery!
(*Judith*)

Acrostic



Ride + Stride
Is arranged for the
Day Saturday 12th September; it is
Every year around this time
+
Sponsor
Those who are taking part
Riding, striding and driving to as many churches
It is important to
Do what you can for our
Ewelme Benefice

By Sally Hayward

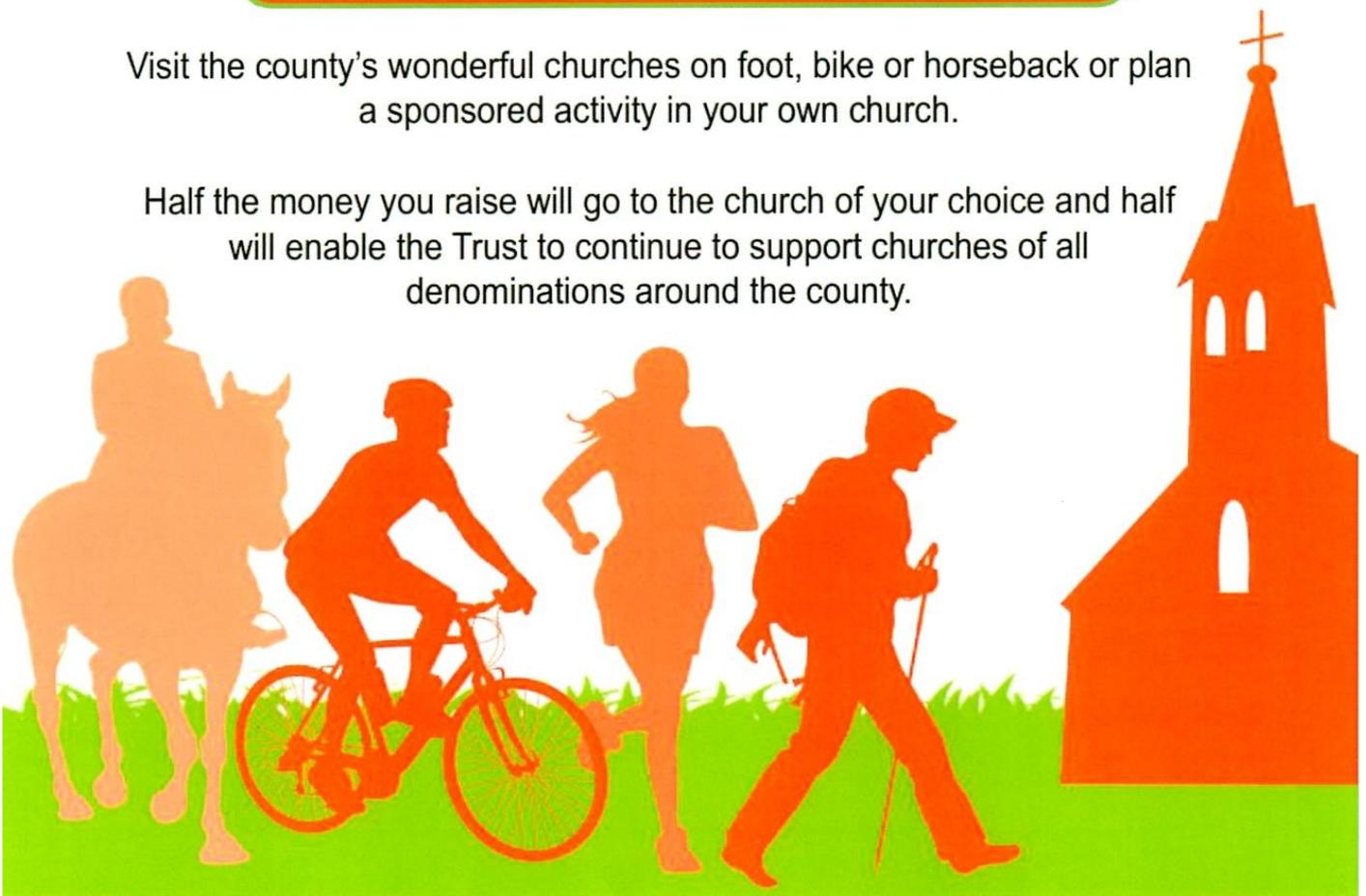
GLOUCESTERSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST



12th SEPTEMBER 2020

Visit the county's wonderful churches on foot, bike or horseback or plan a sponsored activity in your own church.

Half the money you raise will go to the church of your choice and half will enable the Trust to continue to support churches of all denominations around the county.



Ride and Stride sponsorship forms are available from Austin Meares at St James, email v.meares@btinternet.com

Prayer Group...

Jacquelin Hill says that if anyone would like to join in, especially during these lockdown days, you can join on the phone Tel No: 03330110616 and Access code 9086615 at 2.30pm on the first Wednesday of the month. The next one will be 2nd September.

Remembrance Poppies

PLEASE HELP!



This year the current poppies that we have need to be rearranged so that they hang better and consequently store more easily. The ones that, for the past two years, have hung on ribbons over the balcony need removing from the ribbon and sewing onto netting. The windowsill ones would also look better sewn onto strips of netting.

The additional display for this year will be around the statue of Mary in the Lady chapel and for this we will need an additional 500+ poppies. We will probably need some new poppies knitted to ensure an even cover across the whole balcony as well.

Due to the COVID restrictions the renewing of the poppies will need be done in your own home. I will cut the netting into pieces that will fit between the posts of the balcony or windowsills and so these will be manageable sizes. If you are able to help with this please catch me one Sunday, pop into the shop or phone me at home and I will arrange to drop a pack to you.

If you are able to knit poppies then please do so as these can be added to the netting strips that way there is no last minute fixing.

The poppies can be knitted or crocheted using any pattern, and in any shade of red. Please **do not** fasten a button for the centre as this adds to the weight for hanging and makes attachment more tricky. Instead of a button simply knit the last two rows and cast off in black and if crocheting start with 1 or 2 black rows.

Many thanks for you help with this,

Caroline Marrow

Fundraising for Longfield



This year is being a tough one for seven of my friends, all of whom are on a cancer journey and very sadly one of them has just moved on to symptomatic control. The other six are enduring the rigours of chemotherapy and radiotherapy. It made me realised how lucky I am to firstly not have that diagnosis and secondly what a privilege it is to support them as they go through this difficult time. Prayer is such an important scaffolding to all support.

Longfield is our local service and although not all of my friends fall within their support area I wanted to give something to this amazing service for people with life limiting illness and their families, which wasn't available at the time my dad died, when I was just 16. In those days you just had to rely on friends and family to get you through the before and after.

To this end I have signed up to do a 10,000ft free fall parachute jump on September 20th 2020 in aid of Longfield. I am actually quite a wimp when it comes to heights and you will never get me on a roller coaster or other theme park 'fall' rides, but terrifying as it sounds and I am sure it will be I have decided that it cannot be a scary as being told that you have a cancer diagnosis. So I am taking the plunge in both senses!

You may see me with a sponsor form after services but if anyone would like to sponsor me it is preferable to use my just giving page.

<https://www.justgiving.com/Caroline-Marrow>

If any of you fancy joining me then I believe that Longfield are still looking for others to do the jump.

Many thanks Caroline Marrow

The Lizard in 2005

To view the ocean wide and clear
The Lizard Point is a place so bleak.
Splashing waves on grey brown rocks
Large liners, tankers and little yachts.

The blue horizon stretches for miles
The nice warm sun, the view beguiles.
We sit and watch the folk go by and
when we get home we'll remember with a sigh!

We love the Lizard and all its views
A special place that beckons anew.
The bronze and greens upon its cliffs
A noisy surf, all God's own gifts.



By David Burton - submitted by Jane Bilous (nee Burton)



VIRTUAL MUSIC NOTES

September 2020

For many years we have been told that singing is good for you, and, even before Gareth Malone "invented" choirs, membership of a singing group was thought to be beneficial. Sadly that has changed thanks to Covid 19, and all sorts of choirs from church to concert hall are on hold, many of whom will sadly disappear completely.

Whilst fully appreciating that some worshippers enjoy a "no frills" said service (like the 8.00am Communion), I find a church service without music rather lacking. Music has the power to express all manner of feelings and emotions in a way that words alone cannot. Take, for example, the opening words of the "Gloria". However it is spoken, "Glory be to God on High" is just one dimensional, yet set the words to music (with a tune and accompaniment) and it becomes alive. I imagine it is this same premise which gives the composers of film music such a prominent place in the credits, as music can underpin the atmosphere of any screen action in a totally unique way, often without the viewer realising! At the cinema, pictures and dialogue need the extra dimension of music to be complete, and so does our worship.

Currently we get conflicting safe-guarding advice from the decision makers, and while it has been good to be back in our church building our worship is rather different to that which we previously partook. Looking from the organ loft at the 10.00am Eucharist, the spaced out, face-masked people make up what could well be a convention of bandits rather than a group of !

The way we are instructed to conduct our services means that no singing is allowed, although I heard of one church not too far from here where the Vicar encouraged the spaced out congregation to sing behind their masks! Another important aspect of our corporate worship is the fellowship we normally enjoy, but social distancing and deep cleansing have effectively stopped all of that, so no coffee and chat after the service! Despite the valiant efforts of the President/Celebrant at our recent 10.00am services in church, I rather feel that the Zoom service was more "involving", possibly because we could all see each other (without being bandits) and we were able to join in various musical items. But until we get more guidance regarding participation through

singing, there is nothing we can do except pray that this crisis is brought under control as soon as possible. I doubt we'll be singing Christmas carols this year, but I would be very happy to be proved wrong.

Big Brother (or in this case, Big Sister) was at work in Wales when a Congregationalist chapel in rural Carmarthenshire opened its doors on 9th August for some thirty members with the first service since the lockdown. The duty steward was pleased to welcome a stranger, but rather surprised when she went to sit in a non designated place in the 700 seat building. He went to ask her to move, which she willingly did and told him she was there to check that the social distancing rule was being obeyed. I hope she put a generous amount on the offertory plate! It's easy to check thirty people in a church or chapel, but what about our beaches and pubs?
Nigel Davies

Church in the time of Zoom PLUS

When I last wrote about this subject, we were still very much feeling our way with the Zoom technology. As the Sundays passed, we became more experienced and were better at using video clips and pre-recorded music – getting Nigel a microphone delivered to the depths of rural Wales helped considerably!



But it always felt, at best, a poor replacement. Yes, we were meeting Sunday by Sunday and yes, we were worshipping together, after a fashion. On the plus side it provided a weekly link for all those of us who were shielding or in self-imposed isolation. We were still a church, if not able to be in church.

Finally, we were given permission to start worshipping in our church buildings again – but not like before! No singing was, perhaps the worst initial disappointment, but the need to maintain social distance and wear face masks, with the additional restriction of Communion in one kind only, made many wonder if it was actually worth going back.

And then there was the problem that many, especially older members of our congregations, were not happy or willing, or in some cases not able, to come out and mix anyway.

I had for some time been thinking about the possibility of live streaming services from St James. It would not be possible from St Giles, with its lack of even a mobile phone signal, but from Dursley it looked like it might be viable.

Several things fell into place. I had a camcorder (bought in about 2003 but not used recently) with the ability to connect to a computer; my phone could provide a WIFI signal and the balcony would make a suitable location to set up the equipment. But hooking it all together, getting the necessary apps, and actually learning how to do it, all seemed daunting. Finally, it dawned on me that we could actually use Zoom to do this.

And so, on 26th July, we celebrated our Patronal Festival in St James under the new rules. The Zoom Studio was relocated from my dining table to the gallery and we were set to stream.

It all went pretty well – picture and sound were acceptable, although since the sound came through the sound system the organ didn't come over very well.

But since Zoom was designed for meetings it still had limitations. Encouraged by the initial success, I looked further into streaming direct via Youtube.

Our first attempt to run a live stream was on the 9th August – and was pretty much a disaster! The video component was OK – my little camcorder gave us a reasonable image. But the sound was terrible – almost inaudible except for some whispered comments that were not intended for public consumption anyway.

I know what I was doing wrong and I'm pretty confident that we'll do better in future. We are also no longer reliant on my mobile phone – we now have a 'mifi' gadget, giving a better WIFI link using mobile phone technology.

We also hope to link the service to Zoom to allow those who were joining us by phone to continue doing so – but this is also proving difficult and may not be a viable option in future.

As always with new technology there is a learning curve – we will improve!



Tony King

EXTEND FOR YOU

est. 2009

**Movement to Music for the over 60's
and less able of any age aims to improve
strength, mobility, co-ordination and balance.**



EXTEND

Barbara Weldon

St. James Parish Centre, Bursley

**CANCELLED DUE
TO THE
CORNAVIRUS
OUTBREAK.**

**You can
Refresh
social time
forwards**

For more information call

Barbara Weldon

01453 766421



email: bandbweldon1@gmail.com

Junior Church at home Wonderzone Online Holiday Club.

Junior Church at Home branched out in July. We ran an Online Holiday Club from Monday 27th -Friday 31st July, using the WonderZone resources from Scripture union. This was a first for us and for the area as a whole and we were definitely stepping into the unknown.

The week was researched, planned, resourced, and recorded in less than 4 weeks!! It was a learning curve for all of us involved. Professor Knowitall (looked a bit like me) and Professor Michael (sounded a bit like Canon Michael). Doctor Abstract provided the creative input for the week, (whoever she was).

It was available to be seen from 11:30am each day on the Ewelme Benefice Family Facebook page and on the Ewelme Benefice Youth channel on YouTube. The episodes were between 10 and 15 minutes long and included Bible stories, science experiments and crafts.

Twenty five resource packs were given to families who had registered before it started with everything they needed for the crafts over the week but anyone watching could still join in if they didn't have one as there were alternative crafts they could do using things they may have had at home.

It was watched by many people on the Facebook page, and when I last looked, we had had 100 views on YouTube. (Apparently this is good!!) Some of our audience were even as far away as Switzerland!

Families were kind enough to post photos of their crafts and it lovely to see what they had done. A few also had a go at the experiments at home.

If you missed it, In fact, you can watch all 5 sessions whenever you like as they are still available on the Facebook group or on YouTube here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXYMjgtXrvpaZswLOGAYMeQ>

Much Love,
Diane





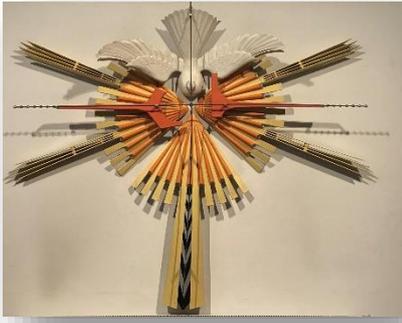
Doctor Abstract



Professor Knowitall



In Memory of Tom Preater.....by Revd Ian Gardner



It was with great sadness that we heard that Tom Preater had died in August. He was 82 years old. Tom was a local lad, growing up in Dursley with his family. He was one of six children and now just Keith his older brother and Margaret his younger sister, survive him.

Speaking with Keith about Tom, it was clear that they were a very close family. Tom, like Keith, was very involved in church life at St James and St Mark's. They were both members of the choir under Cecil Adams and Tom carried on into the men's choir, whereas Keith became a server, when his voice broke. Tom was also a member of the 3rd Dursley Scout troop, which was attached to St James church. No longer in existence, it was from his experience in 3rd Dursley that he went on to be the first scout in the troop to receive the Queen's Scout Award.

Tom contracted TB in his youth and whilst in Standish hospital did some mural painting in the corridors there, which so impressed a consultant doctor, that he suggested Tom get some training to develop his obvious talent. Tom eventually went to art college in Liverpool and from there went to teacher training college and took up a career teaching art in schools. Over the many years since, numerous students have benefited from Tom's guidance and talent, to develop their own love of arts.

Living in Taunton with Pat and their family, Tom invited students into his home to teach. The passion for creating beautiful things never left him. There are examples of his work in many places around the country. In his home town of Taunton, the catholic church has beautiful carved Stations of the Cross and in London, Keith tell me, a twice life-sized image of Christ on the cross, is a centre piece of a church there. Much of Tom's sculpture work adorns churches around the country and of course here in Dursley, we are blessed to always have a reminder of his remarkable talent in the sculptures that we see every day.

In the Lady chapel at St James the Great, the much loved and much touched Madonna and child with the little bird in hand, has drawn people and children to its beauty for generations. At Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, the life size wooden, sculpted nativity figures focus our attention on the birth of the baby Jesus, surrounded by His mother Mary, Joseph, the three kings, shepherds and lamb. At the High Altar Tom's



work can be seen in the contemporary reredos shaped as a cross in metal and wood, reflecting the manufacturing industry, so important to this community over many generations.

In 2011 Tom's last major work was installed in the Tanner Chapel at St James and blessed by Michael Perham, Bishop of Gloucester. The scene depicts Mary anointing Jesus' feet with oil, as Martha looks on and as Judas leaves (*see John 12,1-8 & the attached photos*). Commissioned to mark the completion of works to redesign and refurbish the west end of the church, the wooden sculpted reredos beautifully enhances that space and wonderfully demonstrates the creative talent that Tom possessed. It is true testimony to a local lad, whose renown as an artist goes well beyond this community in which he grew up. We will always be reminded of Tom Preater. In the wood and in the figures that we know so well, he lives on.

Tanner Chapel reredos being carved for us by Tom Preater. Janet, Clive and Ann went to see progress in August 2011. This is the last item in the re-ordering of St James



Photograph by Clive and Ann Orchard.

Bishop Michael Blesses the new Reredos in the Tanner Chapel on 7th October 2011 at the Choral Dedication Evensong service at 3pm.

Rest in peace Tom and rise in glory.



St Mark's News



Dear Friends

There's good news and bad news this month. Bad news was that one of our old friends Pat Kent has died. She spent her final years, first in Henlow Court and then moved, several years ago, to Cheltenham to be nearer her daughter Jane. Our condolences to Jane and her family.

Now the good news we are scheduled to have a service, Morning Prayer, here in St Mark's on September 20th at the earlier time of 10.30am, so fingers crossed all will go well.

I've also had Valerie Meares to help put this edition, of the magazine together, so we are gradually getting back to 'normal'. My thanks as always to the people who have contributed so many lovely articles to fill the magazine each month and enabled the Messenger to keep running, and in good shape, during the pandemic.

With all Best wishes

Judith

Church News from Canon Michael

Services in September

We are continuing to follow a 'Coronavirus Service Pattern' across the churches of the Ewelme Benefice which means that we continue to have a reduced number of Sunday services. A number of restrictions still apply, including the requirement to wear face masks, to follow social distancing rules and limit the number of people who can attend services and we are still not able to sing any hymns. Recent changes relating to choirs still have restrictions attached which make it very difficult to have the choir participating in the service. For those who are not able, for various reasons, to attend services in church, we continue to aim to live stream a service on Sunday and record it so that it can be watched later on the Youtube channel. Thanks to Tony for persevering with the technology!

The pattern of services across the Ewelme Benefice for September are in the diary on page 18. *Please note the proposed Service of the Word in St Mark's on 20th September. The start time will be 10.30am.....*

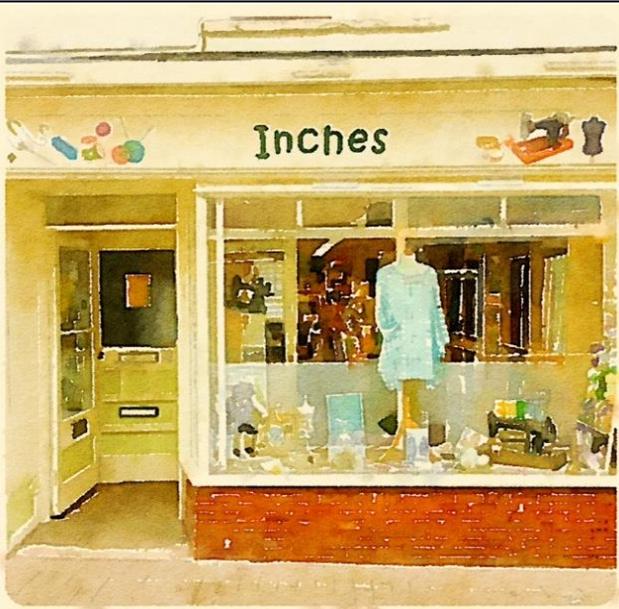
J BROOMHALL (Butchers) Ltd

32 PARSONAGE STREET DURSLEY

**HAVE BEEN SUPPLYING CUSTOMERS FROM DURSLEY
AND SURROUNDING AREAS
FOR THE PAST 50 YEARS AND HOPE TO DO SO
FOR MANY YEARS TO COME.....**

Tel: 01453 542097

e.mail: dursley@jbbroomhalltd.com



*Fabrics, Wools and
haberdashery*

*Buttons, ribbons and
patterns*

Knitting and sewing lessons

**39 Parsonage Street,
Dursley, Glos, GL11 4BP**

www.inchesfabrics.co.uk

NEWSCENTRE: OFF LICENCE

NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES DELIVERED 7 DAYS A WEEK

BEER AND WINE AT COMPETITIVE PRICES

GROCERIES, CONFECTIONERY, CARDS, STATIONERY, & TOYS

28 SILVER STREET DURSLEY (Opposite St James' Church)

TEL: (01453) 542036

NATIONAL LOTTERY

PAYPOINT – (FOR MOBILE TOP UP & BILL PAYMENTS)

COLLECT + - (SEND AND COLLECT PARCELS FROM HERE)

Diary for September 2020

Sunday 6th September - Trinity 13

10am St James Holy Communion *recorded or live streamed*
10am St Giles Holy Communion CW (Patronal Festival)

Sunday 13th September - Trinity 14

10am St James Holy Communion *recorded or live streamed*
10am Holy Cross Holy Communion CW (Patronal Festival)

Sunday 20th September - Trinity 15

8am St James Holy Communion
10.30am St Mark's Service of the Word
3.30pm St Bartholomew's Informal Service for Harvest
hopefully outdoors and followed by picnic tea

Sunday 27th September - Trinity 16

10am St James Holy Communion *recorded or live streamed*
10am St Giles Holy Communion CW
Followed by Uley APCM 11.30am in St Giles

POP UP CAFÉ

These were held at the Tab, in the garden of Rest, for Junior School Children, during the summer holidays. For four of the five weeks the sun shone but nevertheless it was very popular. There were cakes and drinks to take away for a picnic and then a craft pack to make at home. Here we see the children and some items they had made also some pictures of the helpers as well. Thanks to Emma Irvine for the lovely pictures.





EMMA SAYS.....We've thoroughly enjoyed bringing the pop-up café to the town - it has been really well received & hopefully we've brought craft activities into local children's Summer holidays.



wsp
solicitors

Here to help
make things easier.
At WSP Solicitors, we listen,
we understand and we advise.
So if you need business or
personal legal support we're
here to make life less complicated.

Stroud | Dursley | Gloucester | Nailsworth

Tel: 01453 847200

Web: wspsolicitors.com



Life. Less complicated



**Bennett
Jones**
PARTNERSHIP

- **ESTATE AGENTS**
- **LETTING AGENTS**
- **VALUERS**

*“Moving home need not
be a stressful experience!
A good estate agent should
help smooth the process”*

T: 01453 544500

M: 01453 544800

www.bennettjones.co.uk

Wangari Maathai, by Jan Vonburgh.....was a Kenyan biologist and environmental activist, who saw the connection between environmental degradation and poverty and conflict. "Poor people will cut the last tree to cook the last meal", she once said. In 1977 she founded the Green Belt Movement, mobilising Kenyans, particularly women, to plant more than 30 million trees and inspiring the UN to launch a campaign that has resulted in the planting of 11 billion trees worldwide. More than 900,000 women benefited from Maathai's campaign by selling seedlings for reforestation.



In 2004, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, the first black African woman to win a Nobel Prize. In her acceptance speech, Maathai said: "[The Green Belt Movement] participants discover that they must be part of the solutions. They realize their hidden potential and are empowered to overcome inertia and take action. They come to recognize that they are the primary custodians and beneficiaries of the environment that sustains them...."

Although initially the Green Belt Movement's tree planting activities did not address issues of democracy and peace, it soon became clear that responsible governance of the environment was impossible without democratic space. Therefore, the tree became a symbol for the democratic struggle in Kenya. Citizens were mobilized to challenge widespread abuses of power, corruption and environmental mismanagement.

Through the Green Belt Movement, thousands of ordinary citizens were mobilised and empowered to take action and effect change.

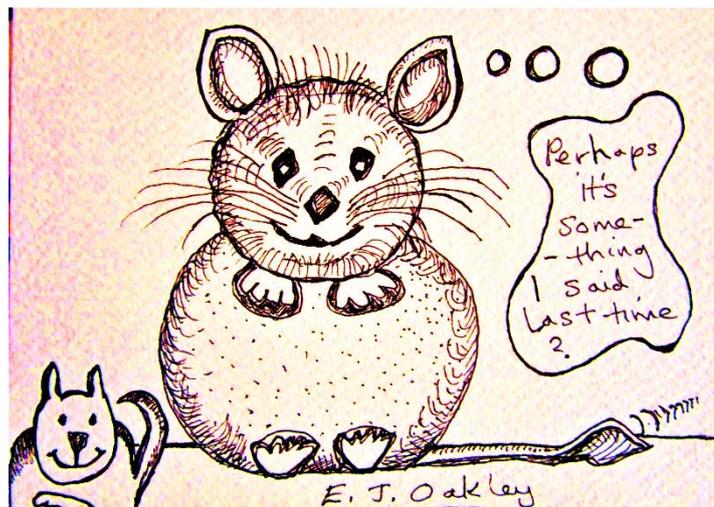
They learned to overcome fear and a sense of helplessness and moved to defend democratic rights.

In time, the tree also became a symbol for peace and conflict resolution

Today we are faced with a challenge that calls for a shift in our thinking, so that humanity stops threatening its life-support system. We are called to assist the Earth to heal her wounds and, in the process, heal our own, indeed, to embrace the whole creation in all its diversity, beauty and wonder. This will happen if we see the need to revive our sense of belonging to a larger family of life, with which we have shared our evolutionary process."

Mouse Diary....

Well, I have to report that I was in my quiet corner minding my own



business when the phone rang. And how is my favourite furloughed mouse and has anything exciting happened? said MBFTLP. As it happens, I said, the latter definitely applies. Because the other day there was a ring on the doorbell and a big box arrived by special delivery addressed to me. It said on the side in red letters: THIS WAY UP,

and FRAGILE, and HANDLE WITH CARE. I have left the box where it was because I was not sure what it was. Well, said MBFTLP, perhaps it's from a kind benefactor who thinks you are in need of entertainment other than watching those old series of Strictly Come Dancing on Utube. Why don't you climb up to have a closer look? Accordingly then of course, I did, scrambling up to the top to see what was what. I noticed something written in small letters on the label: "Artificial Intelligence Mouse (Integrated Electrics Entirely)". Well I never, said MBFTLP, that's Aimee. You had better unpack. I did my best. I dug around in all the sawdust and then found another box inside the big one. Suddenly though, I was pre-empted by a dramatic event. Whirr, wwhirr...whoaahhh...something shot out of the box vertically upwards and was completely gone from sight. I relayed this problem to MBTLP down the phone line who was consoling: I expect she is stuck up on the rafters. Her spring was a little over sprung. It's a problem with these new-fangled things until you get the hang of The Works. You had better climb up the bell ropes to have a look see. So there I was swinging from the ropes trying to strike up a conversation and you know how it is with first impressions. You never get a second chance. After a short interval there was a squeaking noise of sorts: *Je m'appelle Aimee, I suis arrivee dans le lorry grande, et pres Amazon.* I think, I said to MBFTLP, I have another problem. Other than being up on the rafters she only speaks French. MBFTLP came up with a solution as always. Well, by the time she comes down from the rafters you will have had time to go to evening class and learn the rudiments. Ok, I said, I think I can live with that. Now dear reader, I hope that is enough of a cliff hanger for you and you don't mind me doing a Dickens on you and making you wait until the next instalment (next month) to see what happens.

Mouse was helped in the writing by Elizabeth Oakley



Dursley Garden Machinery

21 Uley Road, Dursley, GL11 4NH
Tel: 01453 543847

Website: www.dursleyfgm.co.uk

Personalised, friendly & professional.

Sales, Service and Repair

Main Honda, Stihl, EGO and Mitox dealers.

Wide range of machinery stocked in our newly refurbished showroom.

Range of Ride On Mowers now in stock.

Please call in. We are always happy to discuss your needs.



IN STORE OFFERS ALWAYS AVAILABLE

Looking forward to your continued and new custom.

L. W. Clutterbuck

Ltd

**Independent Family
Funeral Director**

- 24 Hour Service
- Tailored Funerals
- Prepaid Funeral Plans
- Home Visits
- Woodland Burials

**Independent
Hardware Retailer**

- Home & Gardening
- DIY & Tools
- Key cutting
- Dry Cleaning



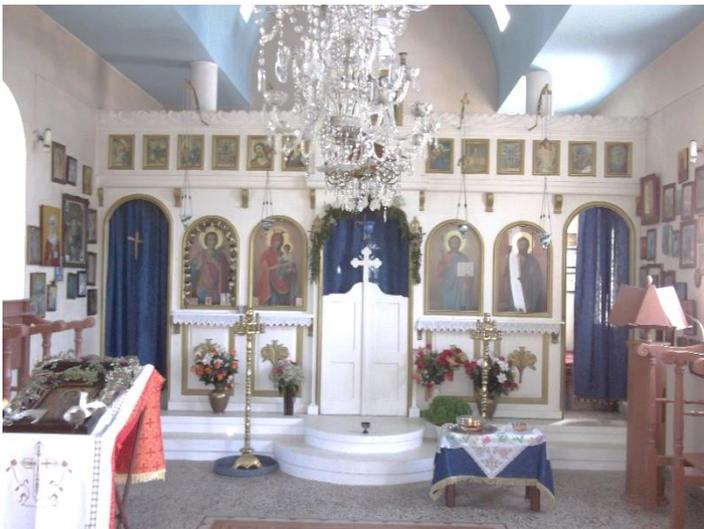
www.LWClutterbuck.co.uk

Dursley: (01453) 54 27 54 Thornbury: (01454) 66 00 88

24-26 High Street, Cam, Dursley

Reading a Greek Orthodox Church

Greek Orthodox church interiors may seem dramatically different and unfamiliar to us. There are no pews though the larger churches may have rows of chairs and what we would call misericords (i.e. places to perch a bottom) around the walls. In a way they are more informal places as most of the furniture is moveable. On the island of Skiathos there are hundreds of little churches each tended by its little coterie of (usually) female acolytes and each enjoying its moment of glory when its particular saint's day comes around. Most of them are not churches used for weekly services although people regularly visit them, light candles, pray and leave tamata (ταμματα) tucked into the frames around the icons (see photo below). These small metal plaques bear images of whatever the suppliant is praying for help with or may be a 'thank you' for answered prayer. They may bear images of body parts (asking for cures) or depictions of people or things (e.g. boats for safe journeying). When you add all that to the universal and very beautiful chandeliers and the pristine linen, the differences may feel alien.



This photo of the interior of the church of S. Fanorios (Άγιος Φανοριος) is a rather beautiful example. The iconostasis

here is white (more often they are dark wood) but you can clearly see the steps up to the Royal doors which symbolise stepping up to heaven and the doors themselves leading into the holy area where only the priest may go as the representative of the people. This is very reminiscent of the Jewish Temple layout and one has to remember that the Greek Orthodox church reckons it is the oldest and therefore most accurate representation of a Christian church. The doors are flanked by an icon of the Virgin holding an infant Jesus on one side (i.e. the beginning of our salvation) and Χριστός Παντοκράτορας or Christ Pantocratos or Almighty (the fulfilment) on the other. John the Baptist appears next to Christ and in the niche beside the Virgin you will find the saint to whom the church is dedicated. To the left in the forefront is a stand bearing another icon of the saint, adorned with fresh flowers and ribbons. The main body of the church is accessed via a vestibule where

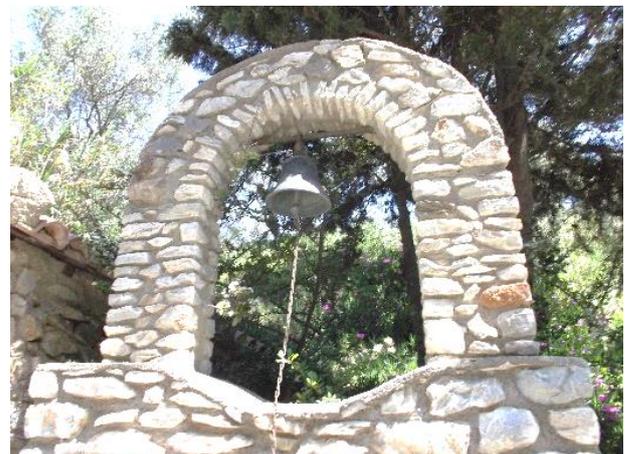
there will be a stand filled with sand where lighted candles may be safely placed.

The services themselves are equally disorientating to anyone accustomed to the Church of England. For a start, anyone can wander in or out at any time during the service, more often than not crossing to kiss the glass covering one of the many icons (and these days little old ladies stand by ready to sterilise the glass) before finding a place to sit or stand. There are no choirs and the chanted plainsong is unaccompanied. One service I attended on S Nicholas's day lasted three hours and one solitary cantor sang for virtually the entirety, unaccompanied and standing by a lectern on which his words were placed. Unsurprisingly, his pitch was a little iffy by the end of the service. The church in question was tiny and half of the congregation was scattered around outside, perched on walls and sitting on the ground. In the larger churches where regular weekly services are held, there may be a group of men singing but I never heard any congregational singing and definitely no women. In fact, the congregation has little participation at all. The priest sings and speaks from the Royal doorway rarely venturing into the church itself and periodically disappearing into the holy area behind the screen.

The layout of a Greek Orthodox church is the same regardless of the scale of the building. One particularly tiny one I came across which was little more than an overgrown roadside shrine to a family member was charming. Every aspect was reproduced, even down to the bell hung outside, although the actual building would barely hold two people. .

Patricia Main

July 2020



Some thoughts from Revd Richard Morgan.....September includes Holy Cross day. The meanings of Christ's cross are so wide that no one can know or express them all. But here's a hymn that tries to include the main historical understandings and explore the breadth of what Jesus' cross does for us and creation as widely as I can.

God's love shines out from Jesus' cross,
where, for all evil, pain and loss,
God took responsibility
in loving solidarity.

There on the cross we now can see
the truth of ancient prophecy:
God's promises of love fulfilled
in love, just as the Father willed.

There was fulfilled the Father's will,
there Christ defeated hate and ill,
there evil's price was fully paid,
there God's inspiring love displayed.

There pardon for our sin was giv'n,
there Christ flung wide the gate of heaven,
there we were made God's family
now and for all eternity.

* In giving up his mortal breath,
Christ shared in all creation's death,
the whole creation to restore
to share God's life for evermore.

So, by his cross and dying pains,
Jesus the Christ for ever reigns,
the ris'n, ascended King of Love,
who pours God's Spirit from above.

To you, Most Holy Trinity,
all praise and thanks for ever be,
for by the cross of Christ you won
our union with you through the Son.

And here's a prayer for Holy Cross day:

Almighty God,
through the darkness of Christ's crucifixion,
you have brought us light:
the light of judgment that shows up our sin,
the light of forgiveness that illuminates our darkness,
the light of life through the resurrection.
Shine by Christ's Spirit
in our hearts and minds, our wills and lives,
to banish the darkness of pride or despair,
the darkness of greed or guilt or any evil,
that we may live in the light of your love in Jesus,
and praise and glorify you now and for ever.
Amen.

ULEY PLANT AND CAKE SALE for church funds

**5th September 10.30 – 12.30 and 2 – 4pm
in Uley Churchyard**



Please support this!

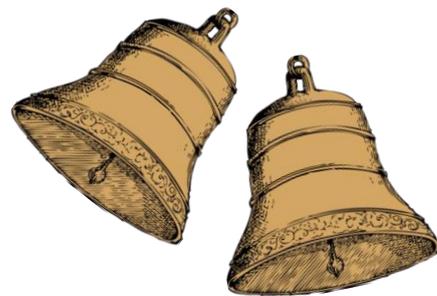
We have grown on a good selection of
perennial flowers and shrubs and would
welcome more contributions.

*(The red rose, above, is Tess of the d'Urbervilles – cuttings
available from Prue!!)*

We hope to provide teas and coffees in compostable mugs and
would be grateful for donations of cakes and biscuits for this and
to sell.

There is lots of space and fresh air so it should all be very safe.

Bellringing



Some good news

The first open ringing allowed since Sunday 15 March took place for the Sunday Service at St James' on 26 July for the Patronal Festival. Face masks were worn (making ringing more difficult) and to comply with social distancing restrictions only 4 bells were able to be rung for 15 minutes by:

Stedman Singles

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 Anne Pope | 5 - |
| 2 - | 6 Elizabeth Byrne (Conductor) |
| 3 - | 7 - |
| 4 Philip Pope | 8 Frank Byrne (Conductor) |
- The method rung was Stedman Singles, the first for all.

On Sunday 9th August the same four people rang the same bells and **included Reverse Plain hunt on 3** bells in the repertoire as well as **Stedman Singles**.

On Sunday 16 August 3 ringing couples were available, allowing 6 bells to be rung whilst remaining within safe distancing rules. They were:

120 Changes each of Grandsire Doubles and Plain Bob Minor

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 Helen Binstead | 5 Philip Pope |
| 2 Andy Binstead | 6 - |
| 3 - | 7 Elizabeth Byrne (Conductor) |
| 4 Anne Pope | 8 Frank Byrne (Conductor) |

Frank Byrne

Food Bank

The Food Bank is now operating again at St James' and donations are welcome.

Uley village shop and both Tesco's and Sainsbury's have food donating points which can be used. Please continue to donate.



Planning a Party?
**Take the stress out of it and hire the Hummingbird Café to do
 the Catering**
We are available for

- **Birthday Parties**
 - **Wedding Anniversaries**
 - **Christenings**
 - **Engagement Parties**
 - **Hen Nights/Stag Nights**
- And Much more**

**For More information or to make a booking please speak to
 Suzi or Michelle**
01453 299276

43 Parsonage Street, Dursley, Gloucestershire, GL11 4BP
Tel: 01453 299276 Email: hummingbird31@gmail.com



**The Dursley
 Pet Shop**

**17 Parsonage Street,
 Dursley,
 Gloucestershire**

Telephone (01453) 542798

*Pet foods & Accessories,
 Animal Feeding stuffs,
 Seeds, Bulbs & Plants,
 Garden sundries*

**Large Range of Wild Bird
 Products**



The Laurels Studio

Bespoke picture framing

A complete personalised, friendly framing service. Using the best materials available, at sensible prices.

Highly experienced in all types of framing. From photographs and prints to paintings of all mediums, needle work and objet d'art. Specializing in frame restoration and gold leaf frames.

Studio open: Mon-Fri 10am-4pm
(Any other time or day by arrangement)

Free Parking, Free in-house quotes

Claire Russell, The Laurels Studio,
 Stone, Berkeley, Gloucestershire
 GL13 9LD. Tel: 01454 269268

E: info@russellfineartservices.co.uk
www.russellfineartservices.co.uk



Culture and me.....

With thanks to **Liz Byrne** who shares her thoughts.

Do you have a favourite author or book?

P.G.Wodehouse, because he includes very amusing turns of phrase, his plots are so complex and yet always they work out. Jane Austen, again well worked out plots, set in a very genteel picture of society

What are you reading at present?

I read very little. For relaxation and brain exercise I like number puzzles, Sudoku etc. The I newspaper has four pages of puzzles every day at the moment, which keeps me busy

Is there a song or piece of music you turn to, to cheer you up?

Dudley Moore playing Colonel Bogey in the style of Beethoven. It is hilarious. I love pastiches of pieces of music which are well known

Do you have a favourite piece of music?

Anything by Elgar or The Beatles. Elgar's music I have come to love through singing. My favourite piece is 'The Music Makers' which contains fragments of most of his other pieces. The Beatles, particularly their later songs, are so beautifully put together, with quite unique harmonic sequences,

Do you play a musical instrument?

I managed Grade 5 piano and learnt the recorder and taught myself to accompany simple songs on the guitar, very useful in my Primary School teaching days. Bell ringing is a real love. When you are ringing, and you come upon a musical change which is well known, the ringers often smile.

What is your favourite film?

The King's Speech: The story of how King George VI was taught to overcome his stammer. He was played by Colin Firth who received a well-deserved Oscar.

Do you have a favourite play?

Anything by Alan Ayckbourn. How does he work out such complex plots? Brilliant lines and stories.

What about a favourite television series?

Anything by Lucy Worsley. She produces history programmes on BBC 4 and often dresses up to play the part. I have learnt much my history from Lucy.

If there was one painting you could own, what would it be and what is special for you about it?

One of Canaletto's paintings of Venice. There is so much detail in his works, I can spend hours just looking at one of his pictures in the National Gallery.

Do you have special building which means a lot to you and if so why?

St John the Evangelist, Stanmore. This was my home church, where I was confirmed, and married and started bell ringing. There are lots of memories connected with the church, including the rumour that on a Sunday afternoon in summer one member would sunbathe at the top of the tower – naked!

Is there a place (town, village, a county?) where you have felt happiest?

Here at home in Cam, or the Lake District where we had many family holidays around Grassmere, or on a European river cruise where I only have to unpack once and yet see many great places.

You are having a fantasy dinner party for five – who would you invite?

Antonio Papano – the conductor of the Royal Opera House; Stephen Fry – he can talk on anything; Thomas Tallis – his music, particularly, Spem in Alium, which is complex and beautiful; Monty Don – we could talk gardening which is one of my loves; Brian Redhead - the interviewer who used to put politicians on the spot.

To catch up on your literature, in case David Vonburgh approaches you for your views, Clive's Books are back on the Church Lawn, weather permitting. Please keep praying for sunshine on Saturdays!

Thank you Clive for all your hard work.



September 2020

Communications Office at Church House,
College Green, Gloucester, GL1 2LY. It is
available on www.gloucester.anglican.org



September 2020



Message from Bishop Robert

At the heart of the Confirmation service is a simple but moving dialogue. The candidate says to the Bishop, 'My name is...' and the Bishop replies using the candidate's name, 'God has called you by name and made you his own'. An affirmation by the candidate and the Bishop of the unique identity of each

individual as one created, know, loved and valued by God. This relationship is then sealed in the act of confirmation as the Bishop places her or his hands on the head of the candidate and confirms them with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

As Bishop Rachel wrote in the last Bulletin, these last few months have indeed been ones in which people have been pondering their identity, the nature of who we are and what we are called to be, set in the wider context not just of us as individuals but the vocation and calling of the Church and the purpose of creation. The pandemic has been a wake-up call for us to take a long hard look at ourselves, our Church and our world all of which are rooted in our relationship with our creator.

Bishop Rachel and I are very much looking forward to resuming confirmation services this autumn. They will of course be different in style, simpler, and with limited numbers but their essence of course is unchanged with perhaps a greater clarity for that simplicity, that affirmation of who we are, our value and purpose, our confidence and hope in an uncertain world. We have already been in touch with all those who we knew were expecting to present candidates but the invitation to Confirmation is of course, as always, one that is open to all.

This month, where the pace is, I hope, a little slower, with a little more time to reflect, there is the opportunity to ponder this invitation, to know it for ourselves and to be ready to share it with those who long to hear it, the extraordinary truth that God has called each one of us by name, and we have indeed been made God's own people.

With Bishop Rachel I continue to give thanks the clergy, people and communities of this Diocese and for the privilege of sharing in ministry with you.

HARVEST PRAYER OF HOPE AND THANKSGIVING. 2020.

Jennifer Kendrick.

Dear God,

We thank you for the riches that our gardens and orchards, fields and farms have produced this year and ask that they be used wisely and shared well.

Remembering that all good gifts around us are sent from heaven above,

May we never take it for granted and always be faithful stewards of your generous bounty.

We rejoice that you have made the earth so rich in natural resources And pray that they be used responsibly.

Mindful of the current global pandemic

We ask that you show those with resources, political will and determination how to make a difference, leading by example,

Believing, encouraging and enabling the way forward to a better future.

A prayer for ourselves.

Help us here together, and separately, to live each day gently and in peace, with resolution and purpose,

Especially when it is hard as loneliness and boredom take over And fear of the future looms large.

Help us to remember you are always there sharing the load

And supporting us with your loving arms and positive words.

Help us to begin tomorrow with cheerfulness

And thankfulness for the blessings of your love.

We pray that you give to us and all people,

In times of anxiety, strength,

In times of hardship, courage,

And at all times, a quiet trust

In your wisdom and love.

Together, assured of your constant presence, and steadfast support we will stand firm in the face of change, new beginnings and narrow openings.

And know that

All will be well.

*****❤*****

Elizabeth says 'I was asked to write an autobiography recently, so I thought I would have a go; it's very short and something different':

Origins

My father was evacuated in the war. A boy's terror. Two up and two down, lavatory at the end of the yard, newspaper cuttings. The master of the house came home in rolled up shirtsleeves and ate uncooked beans straight out of the can. There was bombing in Coventry and the church went. The maiden aunts lived by the sea in Essex. Later in life they had a joyous reunion in later years, living in a low ceilinged room above the shop. It was perfect. |It was a sweet shop to the delight of us children who spent summers on the beach at trying to hold back the tide and ended the last day with a special visit. Our inquisitive noses just about reached the height of the wooden counter. The aunts always laughed as we eyed the sweets in the glass jars at the back. People risked the busy traffic outside and parked up briefly to call in for a card, birthday's usually or maybe wedding anniversaries. The aunts handed over the cards to the customers and laughed again as we stared at the brightly coloured sweets. We always had some to take home. We sat brown limbed and sandy footed in the back of Dad's car, gazing out thoughtfully over the low lying realm of Canvey Island on the way. We wriggled our feet as sand accumulated and engaged in complicated discussions with Dad for the rest of the way home. "It was due to the war you know. They never married. The men were lost". Alison and I contemplated this sadness and absorbed some of it. Who knew what the future would hold and how we could make it last. But whatever had happened, the aunts always laughed and smiled and did not mind us visiting. "It's time to hand over to the next generation", my mother said but much later in life, and not long before she died.

*Elizabeth Oakley
A Dursley Writer*

Francis Jones

Domestic and Commercial Electrician

01453 546 950 or 07777 688 582

francis@fjelectrician.co.uk www.fjelectrician.co.uk



National
Association
Professional
Inspectors and
Testers

All types of Domestic and Commercial work

including:

RCD Testing - Landlord & PAT Testing

Small jobs to Rewires

Electrical Installation fault finding

D A HILL

Plumbing, Building, Roofing,
Decorating, Plastering.

Tel: 01453 543249

e.mail: dahillbuilding@sky.com



Want to know more about your ancestors in the First World War?
Have you found their burial record but don't know how to interpret it?
Have you heard family stories you would like to know more about?



My Soldier Research Service can help!

By Kathryn's History Blog

Receive a personal report detailing your relative's war service and pre-war life, based on personal records, war diaries and local newspapers. Prices start from just £7.

(please note the new address below)

<http://www.kathrynshistoryblog.com>

FLOWER ROTA IS BACK!.....

6th and 13th September

High Altar – Glena Neale

Tanner Chapel – Kate Sant

Lady Chapel - Anne Shipton

20th and 27th September

High Altar – Ann Orchard

Tanner Chapel – Marion Paisey

Lady Chapel - Maureen Wood



100 CLUB

August draw is as follow

1st - 212 - Corrine Unsworth

2nd - 129 - Jo Downing

3rd - 204 - Richard Lane

Due to the current crisis the draws will continue but there may be some delay in giving out prizes.

Many thanks to all who subscribe & thank you for your patience at this time. Sarah

YOUR LOCAL FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Taking the greatest care

DURSLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

35e Parsonage Street, Dursley GL11 4BP
01453 547 727

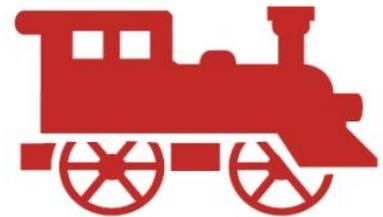
- Local experts creating traditional, colourful and natural funerals to meet all personal requirements
- Available 24 hours a day providing the highest levels of service with compassion and respect
- Our caring, respectful and professional services start from just £1,995

For further information please visit:
dignityfunerals.co.uk/local

Part of Dignity Plc. A British Company.



DURSLEY C_{of}E
PRIMARY ACADEMY



Paul Daniels – Principal

Dursley CofE Academy,
School Road,
Dursley,
GL11 4NZ

t: 01453 542304 e: admin@dursley.gloucs.sch.uk

e: www.dursleycofeprimaryschool.org.uk

Diocese of Gloucester Academies Trust.

Registered in England Company Number
08149299

**THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES THE GREAT
WITH ST MARK'S WOODMANCOTE**

St James Church open

Mondays and Thursdays 10.00am – 3.00pm

For private prayer.

FOR SUNDAY SERVICES

Please see the Diary on page 18.

Useful Telephone Numbers

TO BOOK THE PARISH CENTRE.

Clive Orchard Tel: 549280

E-mail: ewelmeparishoffice@gmail.com

BELLRINGERS

Elizabeth Byrne Tel: 543536.

100 CLUB

Sarah Hodge Tel: 545155

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Diane Ansell Tel: 546169



Follow us on Twitter: @ParishofDursley



Visit us on Facebook: Ewelme Benefice Family