

Rev. Jane Durham tel: 01458 223417 Mobile: 07421 700 242 email: rev.jane.durham@gmail.com

CHURCHWARDENS

Keinton Mandeville with Kingweston
Mrs Rachel Willcox (01458) 224644

Lydford on Fosse
Mr Ralph Berry (01963) 240164
Mrs Jennie Cooper (01963) 240236

Barton St David
Mrs Carolyn Browning (01458) 851617
Mrs Wendy Eitzen (01458) 850011

Lay Ministers: Jane Sedgman (01458) 223237 Jan Jones (01458) 851608

Benefice Administrator, Jonathan Beardsworth – Email: wheathillbenefice@gmail.com

Web Page : wheathill.org Parish Magazine Editor – Email: wheathillbeneficemagazine@gmail.com



Glastonbury Food Bank

Once again, Keinton Parish Church will be collecting donations for the Glastonbury Food Bank during January, February and March in 2023. There will be a box in the Church.

The Food Bank does not give out items past their use by date.

They would be particularly grateful for the following Requested donations of:

Tinned Meat	Tinned Stewed Meat	Meat Pies	Baked Beans	Ready Meals
Cereal	Rice	Pasta	Pasta Sauce	Biscuits
Tinned Fish	Sponge Puddings	Tinned Fruit	Fruit Juice	Peanut Butter
Custard	Tinned Puddings	Marmalade	Jam	
	Tea	Coffee	Sugar	

If anyone would like to give a financial donation, please could they call (01458) 223344

Feb/March 2023
Community Events

We Welcome
Everyone to join our
Church Services

(see page 3)

Barton St David History Club
(see page 11)

Keinton Wassail Event
(this page)

Keinton Table Top Games
(see page 5)

Keinton Food Bank Donations
(This page)

LDGC
(see page 8)

Lydford 3rd Tuesday Gp;
Lydford Moviola
(see page 9)

Lydford Welcome &
POPIn Cafe
(see page 10)

Wild Roots Wellbeing Group
(see page 10)

Plotgate Community Farm
(see page 11)

Keinton Knit & Natter
(see page 13)



Keinton Wassail

Saturday, 14th January saw the revival in Keinton of the ancient ceremony of Wassailing the apple tree. A group of about 80 Wassailers were lucky to catch a break in the rain and completed the outdoor part of the event - blessing the apple tree with cider and toast - in the dry.

The Wassail officials (King Queen and attendants) were provided courtesy of Keinton School.

Community singing was led by members of the Wheathill Benefice Choir and ticket holders enjoyed a discounted meal from the Frying Machine.

The Wassailers completed proceedings with a lively Barn Dance in the Village Hall led by local ceilidh band the Four Foot Four.

Thanks to –

Rod Newbury for letting us use his apple tree, to the Frying Machine and to members of the Wheathill Benefice Events Committee and the Keinton Mandeville PSA for running the event which raised over £400 for the Church and the PSA.



Entries for the APRIL 2023 magazine – By 09:00 am FRIDAY, 24th March
Items to the Editor – VIA EMAIL PLEASE: wheathillbeneficemagazine@gmail.com

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February/March 2023

I am writing this on a particularly cold day in January, the temperature has struggled to edge above freezing all day and the wind is biting, but the brightness of the sun is a welcome relief from several weeks of largely wet weather. By the time you read this we will be heading to spring with a double edition of the magazine taking us to April and Easter.

Ahead of us lies Lent, a six week penitential period in the church calendar in preparation for the solemnity of Good Friday and the joy of Easter, but on the fourth Sunday the tone changes, some call it Refreshment Sunday, but more commonly we know this as Mothering Sunday.

The traditions around this go back to the sixteenth century, when people were encouraged to return to their "Mother Church" probably the parish church where they were baptised and grew up, to worship with family and friends. By the nineteenth century this had evolved into a welcome and rare day off, especially for those in domestic service, to return home and see their mothers and other members of the family. Often the working conditions of many meant this was the one time in the year that families could actually meet up. A century later and we see the commercialism of Mothers' Day creep in and we now give cards, flowers or other gifts to our mothers on that fourth Sunday in Lent.

Our local churches will be marking both the beginning of Lent on Sunday, 26th February with a pancake celebration during Faith'n Fun at 4:00pm in Keinton Mandeville Church, we then have a joint celebration with our Methodist friends for Mothering Sunday on 19th March, 10:30am in Barton St David Church. Families are especially welcome to both events.

Meanwhile, winter is on the wane and we can look forward to those longer, brighter days ahead.

Jane Sedgman

Transport to Church

An understanding has been reached with (WPCT) **Wheathill Priory Community Transport** for those people who need lifts to Church Services.

WPCT will try to assist on Sunday mornings, so if this applies to you or someone you know, **please ring 07799 487 719**, preferably 48 hours in advance. Thank you WPCT!

Churches opening for private prayer

The churches of Barton St David, Keinton Mandeville and Kingweston are now all open daily. Lydford church will open at the weekends as before once local conditions allow.

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WE HAVE VARIOUS ROLES AVAILABLE AT PENNARD HOUSE

Pennard House host weddings and private events throughout the year. Due to an expanding business, we are looking for help in a variety of roles on a part-time basis, particularly in the spring/summer months. Roles include waiting staff at events, housekeeping and kitchen staff.

Shifts times and days can vary, and we can be flexible to work with your schedule.

So if you are reliable, looking for extra work and would enjoy working with a fun team please do get in touch with Harry Dearden at Pennard House, East Pennard, BA46TP.

Email: harry@pennardhouse.com , or Tel: 01749860700. Thank you!

Wheathill Benefice Worship

Date	08:30 am	10:30 am <i>(or as noted)</i>	Other Services
5th Feb.. 3 before Lent	–	Holy Communion Lydford on Fosse	–
12th Feb. 2 before Lent	–	Holy Communion Barton St David	–
19th Feb. 1 before Lent	–	Holy Communion Keinton Mandeville	–
22nd Feb. Ash Wednesday	–	Holy Communion 7:00pm Barton St David	–
26th Feb.. Lent 1	Morning Prayer Lydford on Fosse	Holy Communion Barton St David	Faith 'n Fun 4:00 pm Keinton
5th March Lent 2	Holy Communion Keinton Mandeville	Morning Prayer Lydford on Fosse	–
12th March Lent 3	–	Benefice Holy Communion Lydford on Fosse	–
19th March Lent 4	Holy Communion Lydford on Fosse	Mothering Sunday Barton St David	–
26th March Lent 5	Holy Communion Barton St David	Baptism Keinton Mandeville	Faith 'n Fun 4:00 pm Keinton

Keinton Mandeville Parish Church Openers – Feb/March 2023

Should you need to swap, please could you let Emma know as well as the person due to hand the key onto you.

Meanwhile, if anyone else would like to help with the locking and unlocking of the church, please call 223344.

Sunday 29 th Jan – Sunday 5 th Feb	Neil Bain	223314
Sunday 5 th Feb – Sunday 12 th	Sue Baker	223519
Sunday 12 th Feb – Sunday 19 th	Neill Thomas	223613
Sunday 19 th Feb – Sunday 26 th	Judith Sherwood	223834
Sunday 26 th Feb – Sunday 5 th Mar	John Walker	223617
March		
Sunday 5 th Mar – Sunday 12 th	Alan Lines	223441
Sunday 12 th Mar – Sunday 19 th	Chris & Sandra Weigh	07710951137
Sunday 19 th Mar – Sunday 26 th	Anthea Walton	223500
Sunday 26 th Mar – Sunday 2 nd Apr	Roger Locke	224287

Church Car Parks

In Keinton, Kingweston and Lydford it is now possible to give when you visit using the QR codes found on noticeboards or at the door.

If you use the churchyards or car park please do consider making occasional or regular donations towards their maintenance and their ongoing place in the lives of our communities.



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Shrove Tuesday this year it is on 21st February when people make Pancakes as it is the day before Ash Wednesday, which starts the 40 days of Lent.

Benefice Choir

"Singing is good for you. It makes you happy and live longer!"



To round off the services over the Christmas period, the Benefice Choir and guest artists gave an excellent and very well received *concert in Lydford Church on 30th December*. Together with carol singing in Barton and the Christmas Day collection, **funds given at the concert took the total raised for the Lord's Larder in Yeovil to at least £500, together with food donations.**

Thank you to everyone for their support.

Keinton Wassail

The New Year started in style with members of the choir leading the singing and a crowd of about one hundred at the village *Wassail, held on Saturday, 14th January*. Now the choir prepares to lead the Benefice Services in February and March and will also start rehearsing music for Easter.

Family Choir

There will be a Family Choir formed for the *Mothering Sunday service on 19th March in Barton Church*, so do please get in touch with Lynne Kirkman or any member of the choir if you and your children would like to join in.

The choir normally meets on a Thursday evening at 7:30pm in Kingweston Church, although in preparation for extra events some additional rehearsals will be included. Do talk to Lynne Kirkman, 01458 224158 – new voices are always very welcome!

Keinton Mandeville Table Top Games Group

It was lovely to welcome those that came to our first session held on January 11th. This new group is open to anyone... you don't even need to live in Keinton Mandeville to come! Bring a friend or simply come by yourself.

The aim is to play table top games like Scrabble, Boggle, Rummikub, dominoes, cards and lots more whilst chatting, drinking tea and coffee and all in a warm space.

There is no charge as Keinton Mandeville Parish Council are very kindly funding the hire of the hall and necessary insurance. We are extremely grateful for this support.

There is no need to book and no need to know any rules! Just come along to *Keinton Mandeville Village Hall between 10:00am and 12 noon on Wednesday, February 8th* and see if it's something you would enjoy.

Other sessions are already booked for *March 8th and April 19th*, it would be great to see you on February 8th!

Viv Lane and Claire Harding

Wheathill Priory Community Transport – WPCT

The scheme offers a volunteer driving service by and for the residents of Keinton Mandeville, Kingweston, Lydford and Barton St David.

If you reside in any of these villages, do not drive or have your own transport and have difficulty with public transport you may be eligible to use the scheme.

(Please see note on Page 3 regarding transport to Church on Sundays)

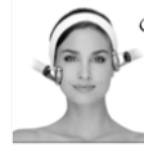
It can be used for, but not necessarily restricted to:

- Journeys to the doctor, hospital (if free transport is not available), postoffice, shopping.
- Visits to friends or relatives (including when in hospital)
- journeys to bus stops, bus stations, railway stations for onward journeys.

Should you find yourself in need of a lift please give us a call – preferably 48hrs in advance – and we will do what we can to help – **contact number is: 07799 487 719**

For further information visit the village web site or, alternatively, brochures are available from the coordinator. **4th Covid Jabs** – If you are a resident of Keinton Mandeville, Lydford-on-Fosse, Barton St David or Kingweston, your local Community Transport is able to provide FREE transport to Local Vaccination Centres. Interested? Please call 07799 487 719.

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Next Parish Council Meetings

The Parish Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, 7th February and Tuesday, 7th March 2023 both starting at 7:30 pm in the village hall. Public session will take place at 7:30 pm immediately before the formal meeting. All are welcome to attend.

Retrofit

The Parish Council have received details of a scheme being run by Bruton Town Council to improve the energy efficiency of older properties. If you are interested in having a £10 assessment (usual cost is £550-£700 + VAT per property), please follow this link and sign up. You will then be contacted to arrange a convenient time and date to complete it before the end of the project in April. **Where do I start? – Retrofit Bruton and Cary brutontown.com**

These assessments are carried out in conjunction with the Centre for Sustainable Energy through their Futureproof project. More information on exactly what is involved is available here: **(Full survey and retrofit plan - Futureproof)** For more information you can also contact Tom McGauran: - Tom.mcguaran@cse.org.uk

Carols around the Christmas Tree

Thank you for those who turned out on a very cold Friday night before Christmas. It was good to see the community having a good time together whilst preparing for Christmas. The parish council have thanked all those involved behind the scenes including the brilliant music, support from the shop including those who put the Christmas tree up and the servers of the refreshments.

Traffic Survey Commissioned

The parish council have commissioned a consultant to carryout a Traffic Survey. A part of the report will be to provide recommendations to try and make this a safer place. More details to follow.

Kaye Elston

Keinton Environment Group (KEG)

"Greening" the Village

We now have 5 volunteers who have nominated their verges as wildflower sites, but we are still looking for more! Please remember it does not matter how small the area is, nor do you have to use the whole area. Part of the churchyard will also be used for this project.

We are awaiting the decision on our application to the Queen's Green Canopy Project for 300 trees to be planted in the green space beyond the Village Hall. If we are successful, we'll need lots of volunteers to help with the planting – details to follow.

Next Meeting

KEG will meet next *on the 8th February* and anyone is welcome to attend. The meeting will be at Quarry Lodge, Lakeview

Save the Date – Saturday 25th March 2023

KEG is planning an all-day event for Saturday, 25th March to educate and inform residents about the wildlife and how you can help protect the environment around our village.

We'll use the Village Hall and we will have speakers on multiple themes including: *Wild Gardening; Honey production; The Plotgate Community Farm; Hedgehogs and how to attract them; attracting Birds and Bees and so much more.*

We're planning to have stalls, refreshments, activities for Kids and a nature trail. Details will be posted through your letter box.

Facebook: (5) Keinton Environment Group (KEG) Facebook
Email: info@keintonenvironmentgroup.org.uk

Time to get Walking Again!

With Spring on its way we start to think about getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Somerset <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/somerset> has loads of walks to download and print – free. The website also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group, all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (who maintains the website) said:

“There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Somerset (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you”.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris

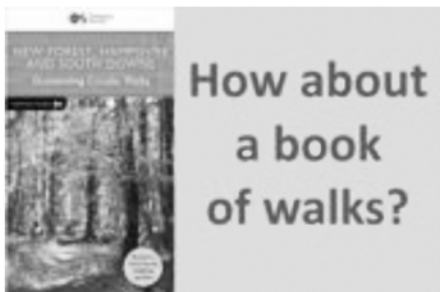
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Lydford and District Gardening Club

Mike almost certainly has a surname. He has probably had it for getting on for 50 years and lots of people will know it and use it. When he was at school his teachers may have used it quite a lot, depending on the type of school he attended and the overall nature of his general behaviour. As he appears to be a remarkably pleasant and well-adjusted person and presumably was a similarly orientated student, perhaps his surname was not shouted, loudly, across a playground in an attempt, potentially futile, to stop him from sticking the sharp end of a pair of compasses into a fellow student's buttock.

Whatever his past, Mike is now one of, if not the, major player in the Gardens Group management team and he is an old friend of the Gardening Club. He has been coming on a Tuesday evening on a fairly regular basis for at least 16 years and so his surname ought to be known. However, he is as already stated, a really nice person and therefore he may actually prefer to be known as Mike rather than Mr. Hydrangea or Mr. Rhododendron or even Mr. Smith if that is indeed his name.

Mike was giving a talk about sowing seeds and pricking out. This was especially useful at this time of year when the whole world is thinking of doing those very same things. Apart from in the southern hemisphere where they are only thinking about cricket, tennis and lager. His talk was entertaining, informative and involved warmly amusing interaction with the audience. Moreover, as an addition to the already plentiful nature of the raffle, including the best that Castle Cary market could offer, Mike donated a pre-sown tray of pansies and a gloriously potted-on foliage plant which will surely occupy a prime spot in the recipients house for years to come. The Parish Hall was full, the heating was doing what it should and a good time was had by all.

Future Meetings

The next two meetings of the Club are on *February 14th* when Nick Mann, a new name on the roster of speakers, will talk about *Wildlife Meadows* and then on March 14th, February having 28 days this year, Colin Higgins, another debutant, will enlighten the assembled audience on the topic of *'Nature as your Neighbour'*. Colin is reputed to be a wildlife gardener and photographer so that the meeting should be a visual feast.

Despite the fact that the Hall was bulging at the seams for January's meeting there is always room for more. The Club is a broad church, catholic with a very small 'c', catering for those who know their onions and those who know of onions; those who know the difference between chard and Chard and those who can recognise a snowdrop and those who can distinguish between *Galanthus atkinsii* and *Galanthus plicatus*. Everyone is very welcome and biscuits are really what it is all about. The January meeting featured a choice of two home-cooked dreamy, flapjack type creations and they were good. Perhaps there is room for a biscuit club?

As the year progresses gardening is going to happen. Sowing will be breaking out in villages throughout the county and as the soil warms, hardened horticulturalists will be presenting their bare buttocks to the soil in an effort to see if the time is right! Growing things is really where everyone needs to be.



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Lydford Ladies Third Tuesday Group

2023 Schedule

We are currently putting together the full schedule for 2023. Some events are still to be confirmed, but here are a few dates for your diary:

February 21st at 7:30pm: *Annual Review in the Parish Hall*

March 21st at 7:30pm: *Details to be confirmed.* Please see email to 3rd Tuesday members or contact Sarah or Lesley for further information.

April 18th at 7:30pm: *"Walking the Arctic Circle Trail" - A talk by Dave & Lizzie (Open Meeting*)*

May 16th at 7:30pm: *"Falling with Style" - A talk by skydiver Lottie Dale (Open Meeting).*

Everyone is welcome to attend our "Open Meetings" - men, women and children!

Please check our website if you are interested in joining the club or coming to any of our events - address: <https://thirtuesday.wixsite.com/thirtuesday>

Women Visitors are welcome to all our events held at 7:30 pm on the third Tuesday of most months in the Parish Hall, West Lydford. Please contact Sarah Gooder on 240698 or Lesley Ridgley on 240837 if you would like more information or if you would like to come along with someone.



Lydford Moviola

On Thursday, 9th March 2023 there will be a Moviola screening held at Lydford Parish Hall.

The doors open at 7:00pm and there will be a bar available until the film is shown at 7:30pm.

The film being screened is **Living**: -

"When Mr Williams (Bill Nighy) a buttoned up bureaucrat in 1950s London is diagnosed as terminally ill, he decides he would like to achieve something for once, instead of endlessly pushing paper.

A group of ladies has come into the public works office asking to have a hazardous area in their neighbourhood transformed into a children's playground. With nothing to show for his decades of service, the formerly ineffectual Mr Williams makes it his personal mission to push it through before he dies."

A heart-breaking performance by Bill Nighy and he sings. To reserve tickets or for more information please contact:

Linda Foote on 01963 240336



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St Peter's Church, Lydford on Fosse

The Services for February and March are on Page 3 of the magazine.

Gift Week – 16th to 23rd October 2022

The final total received is £765. Grateful thanks to people in the Lydfords who kindly donated which will be of help in maintaining the Church and surrounding area.

Dates for your Diary:

Easter Saturday, 8th April at 10:00am – *Planting of Easter Garden and making Easter Biscuits with the children.*

Patronal Service on Sunday, 2nd July, 10:30am followed by *Barbecue.*

The Walters and Pope Trust Fund (Lydford-on-Fosse)

- ❖ **HELP!** Do you know anyone in Lydford who needs help and/or support?
- ❖ It may be help with buying books for university.
- ❖ It may be help with buying tools or equipment for a new job.
- ❖ It may be support for someone who is ill, or who is caring for someone.

The Walters and Pope Trust Fund has a small annual income – the Trustees would like to spend this money, fairly and discreetly, for the benefit of anyone who lives in Lydford. If there is anyone who would like assistance, please contact the Trust in confidence:

Secretary, Caroline Seehra tel: (01963) 240735 or

The Treasurer, Ann Parkhouse tel: 01963 240268.

Welcome & POPin Cafe

The **Cafe** will once again be offering a '**Soup Lunch**' in February, hopefully the first one was well received. We will be providing the usual tea and coffee, as well as the book swap. Do please mark the date in your calendar. Everyone is welcome!

Tuesday, 28th February in the Parish Hall 11:30am - 1:30pm.

Next month's Cafe - Please Note: For the Cafe in March we will revert back to our usual time and offering our wonderful coffee and tasty biscuits! On **Tuesday, 28th March in the Parish Hall, 10:30am - 12 Midday.**

Lydford on Fosse Parish Council

The council meet on the second Wednesday of the month, 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall close to St. Peter's church, West Lydford. Details are published in the Agendas and Minutes posted on the village noticeboards in each settlement.

Next Meeting will be 15th February 2023.

lydfordonfosse.co.uk

Wild Roots Growing for Wellbeing Group

Mondays 10:30 am - 1pm at Catsham Nr Baltonsborough.

The Wild Roots Growing for Wellbeing Project welcomes people who are keen to get outdoors, learn new skills, share their skills or just have the opportunity to spend some time in a peaceful environment. Our main emphasis is on horticulture and rural craft activities which take place in our large vegetable, fruit and flower growing area. Maybe you need an excuse to get out of the house or you just want to dip your toe into being around other people again.

Whatever it is you're looking for we can always find gardening related activities to suit your mood and energy levels on the day. We are a Covid secure site and we will be working outdoors in a socially distanced way. With two covered open sided sheltered areas and a large poly-tunnel we can cater for whatever the British weather throws at us!

If you want to find out more please contact Ursula Casey at: ursula@wilderwoods.org - Booking essential and spaces will be limited to keep the group small.

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Barton St David History Club

Hopefully 2023 promises to be an interesting year with a wide variety of talks planned covering a range of subjects from Cider to Dairy Farming; Somerset rivers and canals; the World War Air Battles over Somerset; the Kings Alfred and Arthur; the Excavation and Re-imagining of a local Roman Villa and much more.

Annual membership

Membership starts from January and is still only £10 per person! Non-members a minimum of £2 at the door for each meeting. Cash only please!

Upcoming events (all in Barton Village Hall)

Thursday, 23rd February at 7:30pm –

Duncan Forbes “Dairy Farming - a hi-tech industry with a rich heritage”.

March 2023

Thursday, 9th March at 7:30pm – **Bernard Sellick & David Daggar “A Photographic Exploration of the Rivers and Canals of Somerset”.**

April 2023

Thursday 13th April at 7:30pm – **“The Battle of Britain over Somerset”.**

All are welcome.

Plotgate Community Farm

Plotgate Community Farm is co-operatively run by its members.

The growers and volunteers produce seasonal vegetables on a 9-acre site in Barton St David. Members can collect, or have delivered, a weekly or fortnightly share of the produce, each box containing at least 8 different types of vegetable.



There are events, activities and opportunities as well as fresh food all through the year.

Find out more at the Barton Inn on Friday evening, 4 – 6:30 pm when we're there with the veg boxes. If you'd like a share of the harvest:

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Other collection points are in Glastonbury on Mondays and Langport on Saturdays.

www.plotgatecommunityfarm.org



and on Facebook.



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February 2023 Services

Sunday, 5th Feb. 10:30 am Holy Communion Rev. Collin Moore

Sunday, 19th Feb. 10:30 am Morning Service Steve Derby

Our services for March have not yet been confirmed, but we will be joining the *Mothering Sunday* service at Barton Church on Sunday, March 19th at 10:30am.

Please check the noticeboard for March services at the Chapel.

Covenant Service

It was good to welcome so many of our friends from around the Benefice at our annual Covenant Service. The Chapel was almost full and it was such a treat to hear the organ again – thank you, Joyce!

Rev Collin Moore led the service and spoke eloquently about the true meaning of covenant – *promise and love...* Definitely food for thought!

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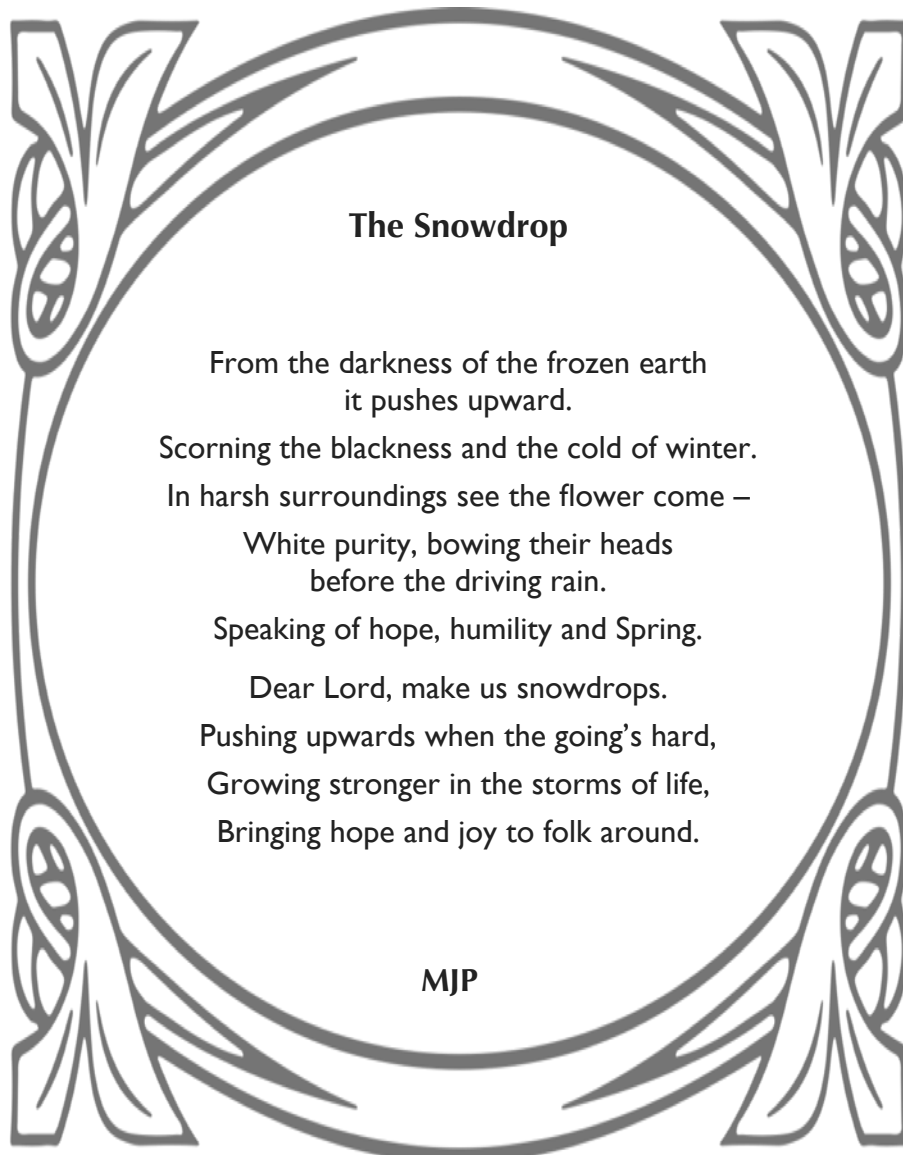
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The Snowdrop

From the darkness of the frozen earth
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Scorning the blackness and the cold of winter.

In harsh surroundings see the flower come –

White purity, bowing their heads
before the driving rain.

Speaking of hope, humility and Spring.

Dear Lord, make us snowdrops.

Pushing upwards when the going's hard,

Growing stronger in the storms of life,

Bringing hope and joy to folk around.

MJP



Lydford Neighbourhood Watch – lydfordnhw@gmail.com

Emergency Call 999 Non - Emergency Call 101

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Street Contacts

A37 – Jeremy Spencer 07517 771852

Lydford on Fosse - Cary Road – Lali Seehra 07530 121515

East Lydford - Church Lane (A37 side) – Ian Poynter 01963 240424

Church Lane (Castle Cary side) Lynne Mitchell 07773 345092

West Lydford

South of the Brue – Anne Parkhouse 01963 240268/Mike Pauley 01963 240469

North of the Brue – Linda Foote 01963 240336

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King o’ Mill – Maggi Hollands 07816 445597

Village Contact – Lynne Mitchell 07773 345092

lydfordnhw@gmail.com

NHW update

I'm hoping that some of you will have already noticed some changes to the information above!

New Street Contacts

Lydford NHW now has a Street Contact for each area! I'm very grateful to both Maggi and Jeremy for taking on the role. Those of you in their areas will be receiving a visit from them shortly so that they can introduce themselves.



Retirement of David Maren

Jeremy replaces **David Marten** who sadly has resigned due to health issues – *I'm sure you'll join me in thanking him for his help and support over the last few years.*

Keinton Mandeville Knit and Natter Group

Knit and Natter meets on Monday afternoons from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

New members, irrespective of ability are always welcome or even those who have never knitted before.

For further information please phone (01458) 223344.



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Mothers' UNION

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What a year! As we move through a once in a lifetime pandemic into a cost-of-living crisis, a war in Europe, a female uprising in Iran, a rise in gender-based violence and domestic abuse what we do know is that Mothers' Union has never been needed more.

From our work in prisons, in highlighting domestic abuse in our communities, offering support and fellowship to the vulnerable, providing much needed holidays to weary families and supporting programme overseas – the list goes on and the impact we have is profound.

Mothers' Union is reminiscent of the proverb about hiding lights under bushels, based on **Matthew 5:15**

Let your light so shine before men, that they see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven – so, instead, let's proudly exclaim our achievements.

Some of our work in 2022

Here are some highlights from our work in communities in Britain and Ireland and overseas in 2022. The links to read an article (*text in bold*) about what we have achieved can be accessed via (<https://www.mothersunion.org/sites/default/files/resources>):

"Racism

We have explored and reflected on white privilege and **racism**, looked at how we can tackle **gender-based violence**"

"At home, **supporting prisoners** and their families is an important part of our community outreach work. As is providing support packages to women's refuges and hospitals.

We have lovingly welcomed **refugees** into our homes and communities, extending our love and compassion to strangers in need."

Global Mothers' Union

Mothers' Union is a truly global organisation, with over 4 million members we actively help 750,000 people every year. Our network of branches take root all over the **world**, in diverse cultures and communities.

Mothers' Union – Charity

We are a charity, and all our brilliant work needs to be resourced. This year we kickstarted our transformational agenda, taking the best of what we do and developing new approaches that will increase membership, improve our outreach, and financially sustain us into the future. We are excited that a new programme of work, developed together, is ready to go in 2023. Find out more about what we are doing.

Mothers' Union

Annual Gathering 2023

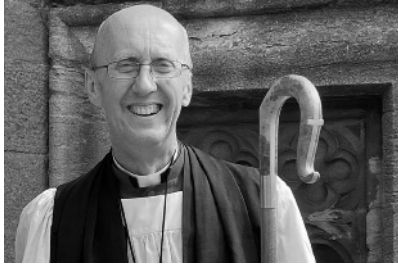
Tickets: (<https://www.mothersunion.org/annual-gathering-2023>)

are now on sale for **Mothers' Union's Annual Gathering in York on 22nd** .

Notes from Mothers' Union Website

<https://www.mothersunion.org>

February 2023
 Rt Revd Michael Beasley
 Bishop of Bath and Wells



A Better Way

Culture, it's said, is 'how things get done around here'. This suggests that our understanding of the world is largely formed by our experiences and what we're accustomed to. That's all fine until everything around us, as it does, keeps on changing.

Then we're then set on a collision course between how we think things should be, and how they actually are. Anybody aged over 40 who's had to ask a nine year old how to use their new phone will understand this dilemma perfectly.

Cultural collisions aren't just restricted to technology. They affect churches too. Many of us grew up with a model of church set up by the Victorians. This mostly meant that each parish had one church building with its own vicar, who took responsibility for most aspects of the ministry needed in a particular place. Yet even this was new in its day. Look much further back and things worked very differently. The New Testament speaks of churches where lots of different people played many different roles, each operating out of the particular skills and gifts given them by God. In Ephesians the writer describes a church where

'some [are] apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers'.

So what would be the right model of church for our day? The Victorians' assumption that the vicar would do almost everything would seem to be a crying waste of the gifts and passions that together we share. And as more of our clergy care for three, six or more parishes, the nineteenth century model is increasingly leaving our vicars tired, overstretched and liable to burn out.

We need a better way; one that draws on the rich talents, abilities and skills that our church members have. Here in Bath and Wells we're calling this *'shared local ministry'*. Examples of what that can look like exist in many places around our diocese. Neither first century nor nineteenth century, but an emerging twenty first century way of how we want *'to get things done around here'*.

A better way to inhabit well the faith we've inherited in our time and generation.

Bishop Michael



St Dunstan's and District Mothers' Union

Next Meeting

The meeting will be on Monday, 13th February at 2:30pm which will be held in Baltonsborough Church Room.

This will be a **Wave of Prayer Service** focusing on our MU Diocesan links abroad. A short AGM will follow the service.

All are welcome.

Enquiries to Eileen: (01458)850163 eandrheath@sky.com



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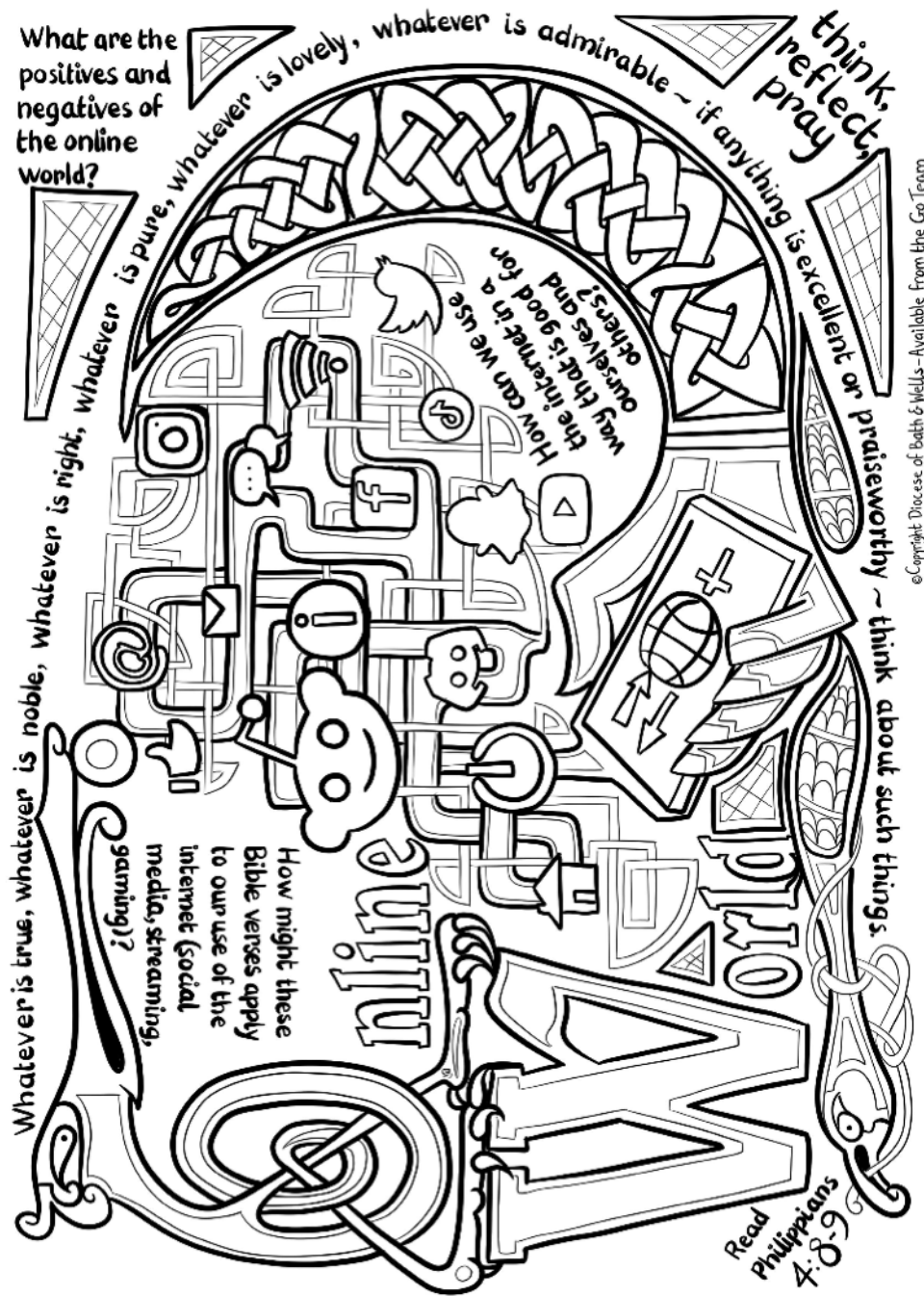
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The Parish Magazine continues in its printed form but will also be available on the Benefice Website: wheathill.org as well as on the village website bartonstdavid.org.uk plus kingweston.net keintonmandeville.com and linked via lydfordonfosse.co.uk plus the copies emailed to contacts on Facebook.

We are continuing to deliver a free copy to every house in the villages of Barton St David, Keinton Mandeville, Kingweston, Lydford on Fosse and Wheathill by our much valued volunteers.

Please tell any business you may use from adverts shown on pages 2 - 16 that you saw their advert in the Wheathill Benefice Parish Magazine