

Charlton St. Peter, Rushall & Upavon

TOGETHER

Church & Village News



February



2022

Useful Numbers

Doctors.... Avon Valley

Upavon 630221 Durrington 653378
Cross Plains 652221

Salisbury Hospital 01722 336262
NHS Help Line 111 Police 101

Gas 0800 111999 Electricity 0800 0727282
Environmental Agency 0800 807060
Flood Line 0345 9881188

Plainwatch 01980 674700.
PLAINWATCH@landmarc.mod.uk

Upavon Link 07501004349
Durrington Link 01980 594857

Schools

Rushall C of E Primary 01980 630360
Avon Valley College 01980 652467
Pewsey Vale Secondary School
01672 565000

Upavon Village Store & Post Office
01980 630268

WHO TO CONTACT:

Revd. Mark Windsor Acting Team Rector from 6.12.21 (Day off Thursday): Tel: 01672 564265 markwindsor923@btinternet.com, The Vicarage, Wilcot, Pewsey, SN9 5NS
Revd. Canon Deborah Larkey former Team Rector now Team Vicar and moving to Blackburn Diocese after Easter 2022 (Day off Friday): Tel: 01672 851746 deborahlarkey@btinternet.com The Rectory, Woodborough, Pewsey, SN9 5PH
Team Vicar, Associate Priest and Rural Dean: Revd. Canon Gerald Osborne, Tel: 01672 563459 email: gerald.osborne@lawnfarm.co.uk

Licensed Lay Ministers: Anne Mantle and Linda Fleming

PEWSEY TEAM OFFICE: Bouverie Hall, Pewsey 01672 562221
Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 11am to 3pm; Wednesday 12noon to 3pm.
EMAIL: team.office@valeofpewsey.org website: <http://www.valeofpewsey.org>

CHURCHWARDENS

Upavon	Dr Bill Coker	01980 630803
	Dr Virginia Thorne	630830
Rushall	Vacancies	
Charlton St Peter	Mrs Rosie Cunningham	630321
	Mrs Ali Lacey	630385

LAY PASTORAL ASSISTANTS

Mr Bill Bracher	630173
Mrs Anne Prince	630008

UPAVON RUSHALL & CHARLTON LINK

Link Line	07501 004349
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TOGETHER MAGAZINE ADVERTISING AND REVENUE and items of news or notices for the next issue, contact the Together team, Tel: 01980 630023 or email: togethmag@btinternet.com by the 15th of the month, please.

Please contact a member of the clergy to discuss Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Confirmation, the Blessing of your home, Service of Prayer and Dedication, Renewal of Wedding Vows. To visit in hospital, and the dying at home or in hospital. The clergy are here to help and serve, with our Lay Pastoral Assistants

HOSPITAL VISITS - If you need a visit in hospital, or know someone who has been taken in who would like a visit, please contact a member of the clergy.

HOME COMMUNIONS - If you know someone who is unable to get to church and wishes to receive Communion, please contact Bill Bracher on 01980 630173 and he will make arrangements for this to happen.

THE CLERGY LETTER

I wonder if you have started something new this year. Do you have new things happening in your life; good or bad? Life is all about change; with endings and new beginnings.

On the last Sunday of each month if you come to Pewsey in the afternoon, you may notice a trail of people of all ages, together with a friendly dog or two, going for a wander and a wonder through the green spaces and countryside. Besides the wandering, younger members often find things such as trees and streams to explore. This is Muddy Church (which can live up to its name!).

The ethos of Muddy Church is to encourage us to take time to be aware of God around us in the natural environment and to share this with others. Whilst walking there are things to look at and questions to explore and ponder. Recent questions focused on looking for signs of new life and I guess we have all seen our first snowdrops by now and noticed birds pairing up and building nests.

God is constantly making all things new, including renewing and restoring our souls and our hearts. When we believe and trust in God, a new creation comes and the old goes. Or to put it another way, God can change our old hearts which may be anxious or uncaring and give us a new heart of peace and joy.

During our recent Muddy Church, we reflected on the cycle of life, looking at the fresh green leaves of the snowdrops, daffodils, wild garlic and Arum lilies shooting skyward through the leaf litter of last year. Through such a simple sign of spring we were reminded that our God is a God of hope.

God might seem far away during dark wintry times of the heart and soul, but God is there always, ready to hear us. In God we can find hope, our mood lighten and our spirits raised.

The snowdrops do not worry if they there will be space to spread, the birds do not worry about finding the perfect nesting material. They just get on with life. Placing our faith in God, believing in God's promises of new life and looking for God's presence within us, we too can spring anew, we can be renewed, with hearts of joy and hope. Remember, God's love is constant and unconditional.

We would love to see you at our next Muddy Church. Meet at St Johns church at 3pm, Sunday 27th February and check it out at

valeofpewsey.org/muddychurch and

www.facebook.com/steppingstonespewsey

And may you enjoy a wander and wonder with God and others.

Anne Mantle LLM

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals:

May they Rest in Peace

Bill Jones Funeral on 26th January at Kingsdown Crematorium

Wendy Cook Funeral on 25th January at West Wilts Crematorium

Richard Evans Funeral on 20th January at North Wilts Crematorium

Reg Sampson Funeral on 19th January at St Peters, Manningford

Vera Franklin Funeral on 11th January at St Peters, Milton Lilbourne

Doreen Mann Funeral on 12th January at St James, North Newnton

Jasper Holmes Funeral on 21st December at St Peter, Milton Lilbourne

Philip Mayhew Funeral on 29th November at St Peter, Milton Lilbourne

Vanessa Smith Funeral on 26th November at St John the Baptist, Pewsey

Dennis Collins Funeral on 3rd December at St Mary, Upavon

Peter Miles Funeral on 15th December at St Peter, Milton Lilbourne

Weddings

Michael Farr & Rachel Wheeler Married on 29th December at St Mary Magdalen, Woodborough

Churches Services at Upavon, Rushall and Charlton St Peter

6 February

St Mary's, Upavon, 9.30am Parish Communion

13 February

St Matthew's, Rushall, 11am Holy Communion BCP

St Peter's, Charlton St Peter, 6pm Evensong

20 February

St Mary's, Upavon, 8am Holy Communion BCP

St Matthew's, Rushall, 11am Holy Communion

27 February next before Lent

St Matthew's, Rushall, 11am Matins BCP

St Peter's, Charlton St Peter, 6pm Parish Communion

Morning Prayer

A short prayer meeting takes place every Tuesday in St Mary's Church, Upavon, at 0915. Everyone is welcome to join this short service (around 20-25 minutes) of readings and prayers - a reflective time together at the beginning of the day. If anyone would like particular people or situations to be included in prayers (confidentially of course) - please contact churchwarden Bill Coker (cokerwjan@btinternet.com)



**Coffee Mornings & table top sale
in St Mary's Church, Upavon**

*We hope to be able to have a coffee morning on
Saturday 26 February 10 to 12am*

but this will be confirmed in the weekly Upavon
email nearer the time

All Welcome

Come and enjoy coffee or tea, with cakes and biscuits
and a chat

Any prevalent Covid guidelines will apply

The Social Committee of St Mary's Church, Upavon, would like to thank all the stall holders, helpers, attendees, musicians and local businesses who contributed towards our very successful Christmas Fair. It was a happy event and we raised £635 for the Church

Special thanks to Father Christmas who managed to come and meet the children in spite of his heavy workload at that time of the year

Keep well everyone and look forward to the plant sale in the summer
Details to follow

MOTHERS' UNION

We meet in St. John's Church, Pewsey, on the first Wednesday of each month at 2pm

Our next meeting is on February 2nd and will be our AGM when we will discuss the future of our Branch. Do please come and give us your thoughts over a cup of tea and cake.

On March 2nd there will be a talk on John Wesley, who visited Pewsey to preach.

If you need a lift to get there please ring Pam Kimber on 01672 562389



The martyrdom of Thomas Becket from the Carrow Psalter c.1250

Which jobs are the most dangerous? Work on a North Sea oil rig? Railway track maintenance? High rise construction? Surprisingly, being Archbishop of Canterbury is quite risky. Of the one hundred and five archbishops since Augustine, five died violently, so an Archbishop of Canterbury has a one in twenty-one chance of being killed!

The first was Alphege, slain in 1021 by the Vikings. In 1381 Simon of Sudbury was beheaded during the Peasants' Revolt. In 1556 Thomas Cranmer was burned at the stake in Mary Tudor's bloody reign. In 1645, when Oliver Cromwell was Protector, William Laud was executed for treason.

Thomas Becket is the best-known Archbishop to have been murdered. At dusk on the 29th of December, 851 years ago today, the monks of Canterbury Cathedral were singing Vespers when four knights burst in and ran to the north west transept. They confronted Becket, robed and on his way to the choir. Accusing him of treason, they wielded their swords. A blow shattered the Archbishop's skull, scattering his brains over the pavement. This terrible sacrilege sent shockwaves through medieval Europe. Becket's former friend, King Henry II, was soon blamed for the murder. Born in London in 1118, Thomas was destined for the Church. After grammar school he entered the household of Theodore, Archbishop of Canterbury, who noticed his intellect and sent him to study in France and Bologna. In 1154 Becket was made an archdeacon in the diocese of Canterbury. The following year Theodore introduced him to the newly-crowned King Henry II. They soon became close friends. In 1155 the King appointed Becket Chancellor of the Realm, the equivalent of Prime Minister. Although a deacon in holy orders, Becket enjoyed the worldly rewards of high office. In 1161, on Archbishop Theodore's death, Henry had a brainwave. He resented the privileges of the English clergy, especially exemptions from his laws. His friend and ally Thomas Becket would become Archbishop of Canterbury and bring the Church to heel! Presumably unaware of Henry's motives, the Pope consented to Becket's

appointment. Becket was ordained priest on 2nd June 1162 and consecrated Archbishop the following day, the swiftest promotion allowed in canon law. Rejecting the King's cunning plan, Becket embraced his new role with independence of mind. He resigned as Chancellor and became a zealous defender of the Church. Some biographers believe his consecration was a conversion experience like Saint Paul's on the Damascus road. More probably, Becket had long taken faith seriously and became fully committed to the Church soon after becoming Archbishop. Despite his former friend's volte-face, Henry persevered against the Church. In 1164, at Clarendon near Salisbury, he tried to bully the Archbishop into agreeing to weaker ties with Rome and severe constraints on the Church's privileges. Becket refused. Later, at Northampton, Henry tried him for treason, but Becket fled to a French abbey for safety.

In 1170, with the Archbishop of Canterbury in exile, King Henry had another brainwave! To ensure the succession, his son Henry the Younger would be crowned during his father's reign. The King persuaded Roger, Archbishop of York and other bishops to perform this unusual coronation at Westminster Abbey, defying the ancient prerogative of the Archbishops of Canterbury to crown English monarchs. Becket had to act. On 1st December he returned to Canterbury to reassert his authority. He suspended Roger and the bishops of Norwich and Salisbury for participating in the coronation of Henry's son. They went to Normandy to complain to the King. Raging against Becket, Henry is said to have cried 'Who will rid me of this troublesome priest?' Believing they should take the king at his word, four knights left for England. Henry tried unsuccessfully to have them intercepted, but the knights reached Canterbury and murdered Thomas during divine worship in his cathedral. Christendom was outraged at the profanity. Thomas was quickly venerated as a martyr, not only in England and France, where he had spent six years in exile, but throughout Europe. In February 1173, only two years after his death, Pope Alexander III declared him a saint.

The martyrdom of Becket and reports of miracles at his tomb made Canterbury a leading place of pilgrimage. In 1220 his remains were transferred to a splendid new shrine in a specially-build chapel. Pilgrims came from all over the British Isles and the Continent to venerate his relics. In 1538 Henry VIII, with motives similar to those of Henry II, ordered the shrine's destruction and attempted to obliterate the Archbishop's memory. He failed.

Becket remains a truly European saint, an outstanding witness to the cost of spiritual opposition to unbridled earthly power.

Canon Alan Deboo

This was published on the 29th December in the message that goes out twice a week from Pewsey Deanery. The messages were started at the height of the pandemic, and now go out all over the world. If you would like to be included please email pewseydeaneryprayers@gmail.com

Every 4th Sunday of month 3pm

Muddy Church is a relaxed, informal event, often meeting at St. John's and heading out for a wander nearby. As we go, we'll wonder about our world and its creator.



Graphic sheets help us think and chat about the theme each time. We've done Bees, Sheep and Psalm 23 so far. Just something to ponder on as we walk, all ages together, 0-10! Ending with a hot choc or tea and maybe a short craft activity



The whole route is about a mile, but there's a shorter version if that's too far – whatever you can manage there's a way to be involved in Muddy Church. Dogs on a lead are welcome too.

www.valeofpewsey.org/muddy-church



UPAVON VILLAGE HALL

All of our existing groups have now returned to the hall and are enjoying being back together once again.

The committee have been busy over the past couple of months making continued improvements to the hall – we are now sporting a newly fitted kitchen!

We always welcome new hires – maybe you are thinking of a family get-together or a meet up with friends? Or maybe starting a new group activity?

Please address all enquiries to upavonvillagehallbookings@gmail.com or Lesley Edmunds 01980 630191 – further committee member contacts can be found on the notice board outside the hall.

Upavon Village Hall AGM

We shall be holding our AGM on Wednesday 23rd February 2022. You are invited to join us between 19:00 – 19:30 for refreshments. The meeting will start promptly at 19:30.

Update on our recent Cheese and Wine Evening

With the help of all of you lovely people who attended our Cheese & Wine evening, we are delighted to announce that a grand total of £782.60 was raised. The event was subsidised by the hall which is why our takings were up on previous years. Alongside that a quiz was held at The Ship last Sunday and a further £111.50 was raised. The grand total going to The Salisbury Stars appeal is £894.10!!

Thank you all so much to everyone for being so generous.

Hot Chocolate On the Blue Bus

Youth Club 11-16yrs

First Tuesday in the month

**6.00pm till 8.00pm on Andover road
by the upper playing field**

**Cheese toasties
Ice breakers
Cooking, Arts,
Games & chat
Table football**



First Tuesday in each month:

Open Blue Trust
7 The Market Place, Chippenham,
Wilts. SN15 3HD
Phone: 01249 445277
Mobile: 07738 474290
E-mail: djs@openblue.org.uk
Registered Charity No: 1097725

UPAVON PARISH COUNCIL

OPEN BLUE BUS

The Open Blue Bus is a Charity run Mobile Youth Club for young people aged 11-16 yrs. The organisers of the Bus are looking for volunteers to help man the Bus. Contact David Sandberg for details davidsandberg@openblue.org.uk

John Tighe Councillor Upavon Parish Council

01980 630246 07831 344999

Parish Council information may be seen on the Parish Council website:

www.upavonpc.co.uk

TALES of a 
COUNTRY PARISH 

COLIN HEBER-PERCY

'A delightful book from a gentle, generous spirit.'
SIMON RUSSELL BEALE

Published by Short Books, £12.99



To celebrate the launch of
Tales of a Country Parish
by

Colin Heber-Percy

there will be two events across the Pewsey Deanery on the
following dates:

**7pm Thursday February 17th at St Mary's
Great Bedwyn**

and

12 noon Thursday February 24th at St John's Pewsey

Enjoy a glass of wine and the chance to hear Colin reading
from the story of these parishes as together we all
experienced the ups and downs, openings and closings of the
last two years.

There will be a chance to buy the book and have it signed.

*

'Erudite and beautifully written, this collection of reflections
and meditations is a surprise and a delight. The kind of shot
in the arm the Church of England badly needs - and is so
rarely to be found.' — SALLEY VICKERS

PEWSEY VALE u3a

enhance your retirement
over 40 activities to choose from
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- * History
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- * Talks & Quizzes
- and more

go on line at [Pewsey Vale u3a](#)
or pick up a leaflet from Pewsey Library

Enford Gardening Club

Excellent plants for all the year Jane Moore

Thursday 10th February 7.00 for 7.15 pm

ENFORD VILLAGE HALL

Bring and buy plant stall. Raffle

Tea and coffee, entry £4

Everyone Welcome!

Further details from Steve Stringer 07899 758222

email: steve.stringer@outlook.fr

Rushall & Charlton St Peter Village Hall

The village hall is now open and most of our regular bookings are back. We have a modern hall with under floor heating, a large, fitted kitchen and off-street parking for up to 28 cars.

For all enquiries and bookings regarding the hall please contact us on:

Email: RCVH2000@gmail.com or

New Phone Number: 07407 216763

CHARLTON ST PETER 100 CLUB

(Licensed by Wiltshire Council for the Vale of Pewsey Team of Churches.)

Our November 100 Club Draw took place at the end of the month.

Congratulations to the lucky winners:-

- £100 H. Mansell (Manningford) No. 53
- £50 J. Darby (Charlton) No. 75
- £50 N. Golding (Charlton) No. 86
- £25 B. Stygal (Charlton) No. 2
- £25 T. Kirby (Charlton) No. 99

Our Christmas 100 Club Draw took place at the end of the month.

Congratulations to the lucky winners:-

- £250 G. Boyle (Charlton Cat) No. 46
- £50 R. Cave (Charlton) No. 35
- £50 J. Dixon (Charlton) No. 90
- £25 T. Fowle (Charlton) No. 17
- £25 N. Golding (Charlton) No. 69

Our January 100 Club Draw took place after our service on Sunday 23rd

January. Congratulations to the lucky winners:-

- £100 P. Prince (Rushall) No. 68
- £50 G. Townsend (Upavon) No. 57
- £50 T. Lacey (Pewsey) No. 59
- £25 C. O'Neill (Charlton) No. 11
- £25 T. Kirby (Charlton) No. 99

Our February 100 Club Draw winners will be drawn after our service on Sunday 27th February at 6pm and published in the next edition of the magazine.

We still have a few numbers available, so if you are interested in purchasing number for £5 a month, please contact Ali Lacey 630385.

RIDE and STRIDE

Message from the Chairman

I am delighted to let you know that altogether the Wiltshire Ride and Stride fundraising effort in 2021 raised £41.5k for Wiltshire churches and chapels. This amount will be split evenly between contributing parishes and WHCT grants to help all Wiltshire churches and chapels with significant fabric and community projects.

Congratulations to St Andrew's, Wootton Rivers who have been awarded the Brooke Cup for raising £2,614, with St James, Bratton runners up; and to St Michael's, Tidcome who have been awarded the Junior Group Cup for raising £875, with St John the Baptist, Marlborough runners up.

This year's Ride and Stride will be on September 10th, so all you keen walkers and cyclists mark the date to raise money for our local churches

WILTSHIRE LIBRARIES

Wiltshire Council

Mobile Library Service

Dates and times of all mobile library stops are available online via the website <https://libraries.wiltshire.gov.uk> and from printed timetables available from the mobile library. We look forward to seeing all of our customers when we next visit you.

Rushall 10.10 - 10.30am outside the school: 31 Jan, 28 Feb, 28 Mar.

Upavon 10.00 – 10.20am The Nursery, Watson Close: 14 Feb, 14 March, 11 Apr.



Prestigious charity ball returns to Swindon in 2022

Prospect Hospice's popular Full Length and Fabulous charity ball, hosted by singer and entertainer Jonathan Wilkes, is making a welcome return in 2022.

After having to cancel its fundraising ball in 2020 to celebrate its 40th anniversary because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the charity has announced it will be going ahead on Saturday 14 May 2022 at the STEAM Museum, Swindon, at 7pm and tickets are now on sale.

Sheryl Crouch, head of income at Prospect Hospice, said: "We're really looking forward to holding our charity ball in 2022 after a break of two years and we'd love our supporters to join us. It will be a James Bond themed ball with first-class entertainment, fine dining and a chance to win fabulous prizes in our auction and raffles, including a piece of diamond jewellery donated by Deacons jewellers in Old Town, Swindon."

Sheryl added: "We've had businesses and their employees, families and friends of patients cared for by the hospice attending our balls in the past, so if you're looking for a fantastic night out with colleagues, family or friends you really don't want to miss our Full Length and Fabulous Ball. You'll also help make a real difference to the lives of local people needing our care."

Tickets for the ball are £80 per head or £800 for a table of ten. To book your place email SherylCrouch@prospect-hospice.net or call 01793 816159.

Virtual nurse recruitment open days

If you are an experienced nurse or newly qualified nurse and would like to work in end of life care, Prospect Hospice, Wroughton, is holding virtual open days.

The hospice, which is rated Outstanding by the Care Quality Commission, is recruiting for community nurses and inpatient nurses. The virtual open days will provide an opportunity to hear about the services at the hospice, hear from nursing and medical staff who work at the hospice and learn about the training and career progression opportunities available.

The virtual open days are on 4 and 5 February 2022. For more information visit www.prospect-hospice.net