

News and Notes

For Bodenham, Britford, Charlton All Saints, Nunton and Odstock

February 2021

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**Next
Deadline:**
**14 March
2021**

Lament, Healing and Hope

Happy New Year, we say and wave at our screen from which nine little squares with waves come back. We say it in hope because so far the “new year” has not been that “happy”. It has been filled with loss. For different people different kinds of loss: work, structure, fellowship, travel, freedom, church and of course loved ones. We share the loss, with each other in the community but also with others worldwide and through time. Thousands of years ago an anonymous poet who became known as *Asaph* wrote:

O Lord, God Almighty, how long will you be angry and reject our prayers? You have fed us with sorrow, and made us drink tears by the bucketful. Ps. 80: 4-5.

“How long...” It is a prayer that I recognise as my own prayer. How long will the children be at home? How long can we not have guests? How long for these endless restrictions? How long will we suffer? “God, how long...” In the ancient prayer there is a turning: *Restore us or Come back or Turn us.*

I wonder whether we are beginning to experience that turn. The Cathedral has become a vaccination centre: *restored* to being a place of healing and of hope. I hear that at times the combination of organ music and vaccine is properly restorative.

I wonder what the turn in our own lives and community will look like. I wonder whether it is a turn towards each other, towards closeness in different ways. I wonder whether it is a turn towards all of nature.

The ancient poet writes: “Make your face shine...” or as one translator has it:

Smile your blessing smile: That will be our salvation. Ps. 80: 7

To see God smile in the birth of a baby, in a bird on the feeder, in the first daffodil that flowers, in the wind in the trees, in that gulp of free fresh air. God surely smiles in all the ways in which we help each other.

*Shalom - peace and goodwill,
The Reverend Anna-Claar*

Parish Council Updates

Britford Parish Council Meeting dates for 2021

Thursday 4 March, Thursday 13 May, Thursday 8 July, Thursday 2 September,
Thursday 4 November 2021.

Britford Parish Council will continue to follow Government Guideline and hold their meetings via Zoom. We hope to be able to have face to face meetings as soon as we can. However, in the meantime if you wish to join a meeting or would like an item added to the agenda please contact the clerk on clerk@britfordparishcouncil.co.uk

COVID-19 Support

Britford and Odstock Parish Councils would like to offer any support to those vulnerable or self-isolating residents during this current lockdown. If you would like any extra support or advice, please contact the Britford clerk on clerk@britfordparishcouncil.co.uk and the ONB clerk on opc@odstock.info

Odstock Parish Council – Fly-tipping of garden waste

Fly-tipping within the ONB parish area has become particularly bad in recent months. In most cases the perpetrators come from outside the parish to dump their rubbish, but there is evidence that some of the garden waste in particular has been tipped by local residents.

Please note that all fly-tipping is a criminal offence, and this includes tipping your grass-cuttings and prunings over a fence or hedge, into someone else's woodland or field. Landowners are within their rights to install CCTV equipment in areas where this is a problem, and to prosecute anyone caught.

Clearing up fly-tipped waste is a major issue for our local farmers, so please help them by disposing of your garden waste and other rubbish responsibly, and by reporting anyone you see tipping illegally.

You can report fly-tipping on public land using the new Wiltshire Council online portal:
wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts-online-reporting

Wiltshire Council Consultation on Housing Development

Wiltshire Council has just launched an important new consultation on their plans for housing development in Wiltshire over the next 15 years. The section for the Salisbury area identifies three preferred sites for housing development, two of which border the A338 between Salisbury and Britford. Proposed plans for the site to the South of the A338 include 115 new homes, and the option for a 'country park' in the area adjacent to the road between Rowbarrow and the traveller site.

The consultation documents and all the supporting information can be found on the Wiltshire Council website at: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planning-policy-local-plan-review-consultation. The consultation closes on Tuesday 9 March.

Community News

Wiltshire Council's Well-being Hub

The Hub remains in place for those people who may need additional support. Anyone can access the hub who may be struggling during this difficult time or do not have a support network around them, such as those who are self-isolating, or those who have been identified as clinically extremely vulnerable and asked to shield. You can call the Hub on 0300 003 4576 or email wellbeinghub@wiltshire.gov.uk. For up-to-date information, visit wiltshire.gov.uk/public-health-coronavirus.

Climate Change - Count Us In

People all over the world are taking practical steps to protect what they love from climate change before it's too late. Can we count you in?

Seeking to keep eco matters at the top of the agenda is always a challenge, but there is a continuing groundswell of support for campaigns such as Count Us In, launched internationally on 1st January 2021 and endorsed by Bishop Nicholas.

The Count Us In campaign has 16 steps for individuals and groups, to reduce carbon pollution and persuade others to do the same. These range from 'easy wins' such as talking to friends about the campaign, to more challenging steps such as insulating your home.

Read more in e-News&Notes or visit their website www.count-us-in.org

URGENT: Call to action

Salisbury District Hospital needs extra volunteers

Ward Buddies: This role supports ward staff to enable them to concentrate on the clinical tasks. Tasks will include moving equipment, answering the telephones, running errands, maintaining cleanliness of ward kitchen and general tidying up of patient areas, making patient drinks and delivering food, etc.

Mass vaccination centre volunteers: There is a new mass vaccination centre opening in the City. We are looking for volunteers to help marshal people through the vaccination hub from beginning to end, keeping orderly queue management and some administrative roles booking people in, etc

Read more in e-News&Notes for full details or email sft.volunteering@nhs.net

CRESS Christmas Appeal - Thank you

CRESS would like to say a huge thank you to those who donated towards the CRESS Christmas appeal in support of the South Sudanese refugees in Uganda. Your generosity raised £8300 which enabled CRESS to provide a Christmas meal for over 3,500 people, including the CRESS office and clinic staff teams and their families, as well as over 3000 people living in the Mijale settlement or those attending the central church in Imvepi.

"This Christmas has been so unique because it's the first time since we came into exile that we have gathered together to celebrate Christmas." **Pastor Kenyi Emmanuel**

Read more in e-News&Notes.

Local History

The Salisbury to Fordingbridge Road

There are likely a few people still living in our villages that remember the building of the Bodenham Dual Carriageway in 1962. It was built to relieve congestion on the section of the old main road that up to that time ran past the Radnor Hall and is now only used to access the hamlet of Bodenham and New Hall Hospital. But not many realise that the 'old' road was in itself not that old.

What is now the A338 Bournemouth road was generally called the Fordingbridge road in the nineteenth century and earlier as there was no settlement at Bournemouth until 1837 (before 1810 it was heathland grazed by cattle).

Up until the late 1830's the Salisbury to Fordingbridge road took a different course from Britford to New Hall. After coming up out of Britford dip at the brow of the hill it followed a more easterly route through what is now a small wooded area and continued down the hill towards New Hall on what is now just a woodland track and part of the Longford Estate's private road network past the Mill, over the bridge and out of what is now the Park entrance.

In 1841 an application was made to the Justices of the Peace at the Quarter Sessions in Salisbury to "stop up" this part of the original road and divert all traffic on to a newly constructed road further to the west, the section that we are familiar with running down the hill from Britford and past the Radnor Hall (not at that time built). At the same time an application was made to close a section of the road (now a restricted byway) leading from Homington past Longford Farmhouse where it now entered the Estate. The West gate (at the Salisbury end of the Dual Carriageway) was likely erected at this time and a gate house built. The house has subsequently been demolished and the gate blocked after access issues in recent years. An application was also made to close a "footway" leading from Britford (Steps) to Longford Farmhouse. That the applications were successful is evident and the new road was likely a great improvement on the original route and subsequently proved adequate for the next 120 years.

At the time of the diversion The Attwaters (of Bodenham House) had Estate lands and Buildings in the village and provision was made to access one of their orchards via the old road. The Attwater Estate, houses and farm buildings were later purchased by the Earl of Radnor and incorporated into his Estate.

© Rod Poynting, Bodenham.

Birth Announcement

Willis-Newman: On 16 December 2020, Timothy James, a son for Tom and Claire, a grandson for Jane and Graeme and a great grandson for Derek and Barbara Willis.



Longford Estate



The last quarter seems to have gone in a flash, the November lockdown and a quiet Christmas for everyone and then entering into a third lockdown has meant life is different for us all. We are all adapting as individuals to what is becoming the 'new normal' and the Estate is no different, our teams keep changing work plans and we have to consider what our teams can do safely as more time is spent lone working which in itself has safety implications.

On the farms we have started the hedge cutting programme, some hedges are going to be cut hard this year to reform them as hedges. This will have huge benefits for nesting birds and small mammals that rely on hedgerows to nest and forage from, the hedges will bush out from lower down providing cover and should provide a higher level of fruits and berries.

The cattle moved to their winter grazing in November. In contrast to last year the turnip mix has held up much better in part due to better establishment but the drier season to date means that the cows are not eating as much as last year they had to work harder to keep warm from being wet all day everyday.

Our maintenance team are concentrating on outside jobs and refurbishment of vacant properties. Routine servicing of equipment, essential and emergency works continue but to keep both our team and our tenants safe we are endeavouring to minimise the need to enter occupied properties.

The woods team moved onto the annual firewood campaign at the end of October, working in the woods in the depth of winter can be miserable when the ground is as wet as last year. We have made a concerted effort to move our timber stacks to hard standing, this has made a big difference to working conditions and team morale and means the logs we deliver are of the high standard our customers expect.

The rivers, having been more than full last winter, were experiencing low water levels as we entered the autumn but the rains of November and December have rectified that with levels up and some localised field flooding close to watercourses. We were fortunate enough to see some salmon swimming up river this autumn to spawn in the higher reaches of the Avon, this reflects the quality of our rivers and is a credit to how they are managed both here on the Estate and below us by other landowners.

The recirculation project at our main trout farm continues apace, lockdown not only here in the UK but also in Denmark has caused various challenges with much of the equipment and the construction team coming from Denmark. The new system is edging closer to completion and there is an air of excitement as we get closer to being able to commission the system. A recirculation system is a 'living thing' as it is reliant on bacteria and microbes to clean the water, as such our hatchery which operates a much smaller recirculation system is growing fish to various different sizes in order that we can kickstart the system as soon as it is ready

David Canty | Estate Manager

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Diary of a Local Junior Doctor During The Covid Crisis

A Night shift in a London hospital - January 2021

This night shift has been one of the toughest of my 4 ¼-year career as a junior doctor in the NHS. We are in the midst of the second wave of Covid-19 and the hospitals across London are taking an absolute beating. Ambulances are queueing up outside emergency departments, hospitals are suspending some non-emergency surgeries to increase facilities to manage Covid patients, and all the while some people on the internet somehow have the gall to maintain this is all a hoax. This is all too real, and it's getting worse.

The pandemic has presented me with difficult decisions more frequently. When do we decide that a patient is actually dying? How do we withdraw life-sustaining treatment in a humane and dignified way? What is the best way to discuss these decisions with patients and their families?

I am a GP trainee currently on a hospital-based placement in London, and tonight my responsibility is to look after patients already admitted to a medical ward. Most of the night has been spent reviewing patients with likely or confirmed Covid-19, struggling to maintain blood oxygen levels and requiring supplementary oxygen to do so. Some are losing the fight and need additional help to breathe with mechanical ventilators on intensive care. Many are extremely sick and sadly two have already succumbed tonight.

At 5am a nurse bleeps me about George, an 83 year old grandfather with chronic lung disease who I had personally admitted last night. He had classic symptoms of Covid – tiredness, muscle aches and loss of smell, as well as worsening shortness of breath, and had been looking really ropery. He had pleaded with me to get him home, to be reunited with his grandchildren, who, thanks to the pandemic, he hadn't seen for nearly a year. Things had looked bad yesterday and we were faced with an almost impossible choice: to keep fighting the good fight despite mounting discomfort, or to give him medication that would ease his distress but also reduce the respiratory drive that was helping to keep him alive. George was bright as a button but discussing this decision with him was complicated by the fact that he was wearing a noisy mask helping him to breathe, muffling his words. I could hardly hear him and had to ask him to repeat himself several times. He was adamant he wanted to fight. However, as he tired throughout the next day he started accepting small doses of drugs to ease his suffering.

I call his nurse, who tells me that George had gone from bad to worse, and despite our best efforts, she now needs me to come to confirm his passing. It's hard news to hear and gut-wrenching to think how he had to die without any of his family there to comfort him. I think back to our initial conversation. Could I have been any clearer about his chances of survival? Could I have made his death any more comfortable? I still have several sick patients to see so I push these thoughts to the back of my head. I will see George to confirm his death later.

When I eventually get time to verify his death, I have technically finished my shift and have handed over responsibilities to the day team. I examine him to confirm his death and am now faced with the unenviable task of informing his family. First, I phone his son. It is a terrible thing to tell someone their loved one has died, and not made any easier when you have to do it over the phone. I express my condolences and give him the number of the bereavement service, who will guide him through the process over the next few days.

Next, I have to tell George's wife. As it happens, she was admitted to hospital with Covid-19 the day after George. She is on the next-door ward, and, although on oxygen, is breathing comfortably. Dressed from head to toe in PPE, I go to her bed and introduce myself. "I'm afraid I have some bad news about your husband..." I feel wretched as I break the news that she is now a widow. The rest of her family should be here, to hug her, to look after her, to mourn with her as she realises that her life partner is gone forever. My shift is over and I have no further responsibilities, so I have some time, and we sit in silence together for a while – I can think of no words that will help. How long can I stay to make it better? Ten minutes? One hour? Two? Eventually I pass on the message from her son that he is thinking of her and sends his love, and would like her to phone him, when she feels up to it. Again, I express my deepest condolences, and go. It is difficult to leave her, alone on a ward full of unwell strangers, with the constant hum of oxygen masks and the relentless, interminable beeping of various machines. This does not feel close to an ideal place in which to impart such devastating news.

The public needs to believe in the effects of this virus. If symptomatic, we need to isolate properly. We have to maintain social distancing and wear masks in public. We need to wash our hands regularly. We must prevent situations like this one from happening.

I think about the next unfortunate soul who may be in a similar position to George. Will I do things any differently? Did we allow George to cling to the hope of survival too long, at the cost of more dignity and comfort in death? If we are more pessimistic about patients' chances of survival, how do we tell them? Luckily, these decisions are not purely mine to make. They are shared between patients, their families and medical professionals, and this is a comforting thought. Still I resolve not to shy away from difficult conversations. We cannot always cure patients, but we can give them something equally valuable: a calm, comfortable, peaceful death.

The Editor knows this young doctor, who wishes to share his experiences anonymously. I am very happy to forward any emails to him, if you wished to encourage him in his work. Email: Editor@NewsandNotes.co.uk

Valentine Quiz

With love in the air, here is some St Valentines Day trivia for you

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. In which book does 'Valentine de Villefort' appear? | 7. Who was the founder of '17' magazine? |
| 2. How did St. Valentine die? | 8. Who are Valentine and Proteus? |
| 3. Which musical does 'My Funny Valentine' come from? | 9. Which nickname did Valentine Dyall share with Johnny Cash? |
| 4. What was discovered on Valentine's Day 1929 | 10. Where do Sam Baldwin and Annie Reed finally get together on Valentine's Day? |
| 5. Which Poet Laureate wrote the poem 'Valentine'? | |
| 6. Who played the rogue 'Raffles' in the 1970 tv series? | |

Answers in e-News&Notes

Church News

Britford Church

As we move through this third lockdown the Government have said that churches may remain open for public worship and private prayer but decisions should be made locally. At the moment Britford Church is expecting to be open as usual for the service at 9.30 on Sunday 7 February. We have all the expected Covid safety procedures in place so you are welcome to join us. The final decision on this will be made the week before depending on infection rates and prevalence. The church is open every day for private prayer. - *Reverend Jenny Taylor*

Odstock and Nunton Church

The Church Wardens feel that holding 'in person' church services represents a significant risk to all involved and so we would ask you to continue to follow either the Benefice weekly on-line service or whichever on-line or broadcast service that you enjoy.

We are, however, arranging to have both churches open for private prayer at different times during the week.

- St Mary's, Odstock will be open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10am to 4pm,
- St Andrew's, Nunton will be open on Wednesdays and Sundays from 10am to 4pm.

We plan to have the churches warm and welcoming and would ask you to remain 'Covid secure' during your visit by using the hand sanitiser and following the instructions regarding where to sit. - *Stephanie Elcock and Robert Underhill, Church Wardens*

Charlton All Saints Church

In the light of the continuation and increasing severity of the pandemic the decision has been taken here to close the church with no services being held for the time being. The building will remain locked and therefore will not be available for the purpose of private prayer. This state of affairs is most unfortunate and is compounded by there being no clear picture as to when it will be deemed safe to re-open and for services to continue. The situation will be kept under review. - *Ian Ashworth, Church Warden*

Benefice Lent 2021 Project

'Sit Down for Lent'

Each year the Benefice raises money through the Lent period for a nominated project. We have long established and close contacts with the church primary school in the Diocese of Cueibet, South Sudan.

This year we are supporting their 'Sit Down for Lent' scheme to provide the school in Cueibet with its own chairs and desks. Our aim is to raise approximately £6000 which will allow us to purchase, 18 double desks and 69 benches (£5775) with each desk costing £110 and each bench £55.

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions we will not be able to hold our usual coffee mornings, lunches, talks and events. However, the team are planning other exciting and innovative ways to support the project – so keep an eye out for details in the coming weeks.

The full schedule of services in the Benefice can be found in e-News & Notes.

Church Services



Services in Chalke Valley Benefice - February 2021

BCP = Book of Common Prayer (Traditional Language), CW = Common Worship (Contemporary Language)



Pattern of services during Lockdown restrictions.

Please follow all the safety rules in church. If the Covid 19 situation changes, services may be cancelled at short notice. Churches will normally be open for private prayer.

Please check your church noticeboard and weekly e-bulletin.

7 February 2nd Sunday before Lent	9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Parish Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Family Communion (CW) Family Communion (CW)	Broad Chalke Britford Ebbesbourne Wake Coombe Bissett	Catherine Blundell Jenny Taylor Catherine Blundell Jenny Taylor
14 February Sunday next before Lent	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 3.00pm	Parish Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) All Age Service Evening Prayer (BCP)	Bowerchalke Homington Alvediston Fifield Bavant	Roger Leake Jenny Taylor Biddy Trahair Biddy Trahair
17 February ASH WEDNESDAY	12.15pm 7.00pm	Communion with Ashing (CW) Communion with Ashing (CW)	Broadchalke Coombe Bissett	Catherine Blundell Jenny Taylor
21 February 1st Sunday of Lent	8.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Morning Prayer (BCP) Parish Communion (CW)	Bowerchalke Bishopstone Berwick St John Ebbesbourne Wake Homington	Roger Leake Jenny Taylor Roger Leake Biddy Trahair Jenny Taylor
28 February 2nd Sunday of Lent	9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 6.00pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Family Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Holy Communion (BCP) Evening Prayer	Berwick St John Broad Chalke Bishopstone Alvediston Bowerchalke	Roger Leake Catherine Blundell Jenny Taylor Roger Leake Lay Led
7 March 3rd Sunday of Lent	9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Parish Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Family Communion (CW) Family Communion (CW)	Broad Chalke Britford Ebbesbourne Wake Coombe Bissett	Catherine Blundell Jenny Taylor Catherine Blundell Jenny Taylor

Ministry Team:

Team Rector ~ The Revd Catherine Blundell: 01722 780134

Team Vicars ~ The Revd Canon Jenny Taylor: 01722 503081, The Revd Dr Anna-Claar Thomasson-Rosingh: 01722 238267

Curate ~ The Revd Roger Leake: 07947149456 Licensed Lay Minister ~ Mr David Blundell: 01722 780134

Team Administrator ~ Mrs Emily Broomhead: 07890 262376

URC Ministers ~ The Revds Ana & Tod Gobledeale 01722 330980, The Revd Jackie Lowe: 01722 780008

Assisting Ministers:

The Revd Canon Ann Philp: 01722 555178, The Revd Kate Rosslyn Smith: 01722 780011

Lay Worship Leaders:

Yvonne & Kevin Follett: 01747 828785, Caroline Lamb: 01722 780789, Sally Leaver: 01722 780447, Naomi Martin: 07713031774, Don Morgan: 01722 718557, Richard Morgan: 01722 338868, Adrian Taylor: 01722 325862, Gill Riley: 01722 780538, Janet Roe: 01725 519242, Biddy Trahair: 01722 780666, Rhoderick Voremborg: 07785 304142, James Wardroper: 01722 718152

URGENT: Call to action – Salisbury District Hospital needs extra volunteers

We are looking for assistance with two volunteer roles as described below.

Ward Buddies

This role supports ward staff to enable them to concentrate on the clinical tasks. Tasks will include moving equipment, answering the telephones, running errands, maintaining cleanliness of ward kitchen and general tidying up of patient areas, making patient drinks and delivering food. Full PPE will be issued as well as volunteer t-shirts. Enhanced buddy roles with more patient contact such as feeding some patients. These will require enhanced PPE. There will be a fast track deployment so most of the training will be on the job. We're looking for you to ideally commit to a 2 – 4 hour session once a week every week for the foreseeable future. Volunteers need to complete a health questionnaire and health risk assessment as part of the recruitment process in order to ensure a suitable match. Volunteers must be over 17 years of age, fit and able to do a full shift on their feet and feel comfortable working under their own initiative within defined parameters, in an environment that may feel pressured at times. Free parking at the hospital is available when on shift and/or reasonable travel expenses will be paid.

Mass vaccination centre volunteer

There is a new mass vaccination centre opening in the City centre from next week and potentially running through to the Summer. We are looking for volunteers to help marshal to move people through the vaccination hub from beginning to end, keeping orderly queue management and some administrative roles booking people in, etc. This role requires you to be stood on your feet for potentially long periods of time. We're looking for you to ideally commit to a 4 hour session once a week for at least a month. Surgical masks will be worn. A simple fast track recruitment process will take place including a health risk assessment. There will be on the job training. Free parking in Salisbury city centre will be available when on shift.

If you are interested in either or both roles, please email us on sft.volunteering@nhs.net stating which role is of interest, your name and contact details, and for the ward buddy whether you have any previous experience volunteering or working in a hospital or medical environment, which is not necessary but could be beneficial.

Thank you for considering this and we look forward to hearing from you.

Please stay safe and well.

Best wishes

Jo Jarvis and Monica Wilson

Voluntary Services Team

Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust – Salisbury District Hospital

sft.volunteering@nhs.net



Count Us In

Climate Change Challenge

Seeking to keep eco matters at the top of the agenda is always a challenge, but there is a continuing groundswell of support for campaigns such as Count Us In, launched internationally on 1st January 2021 and endorsed by Bishop Nicholas.

The Count Us In campaign is being publicised by the likes of former UNFCCC* Executive Secretary Christiana Figueres, and has 16 steps for individuals and groups, to reduce carbon pollution and persuade others to do the same.

These range from 'easy wins' such as talking to friends about the campaign, to more challenging steps such as insulating your home.

Count Us In recommends 16 steps to reduce carbon pollution and persuade others to do the same. They are:

1. Fly less- Reduce your plane travel to dramatically cut your carbon pollution
2. Drive electric- Make your next car purchase an electric vehicle
3. Insulate your home- Install or enhance the loft insulation in your home
4. Wear clothes to last- Buy fewer new clothes and wear them for longer
5. Tell your politicians- Ask politicians to act or invest to support our steps
6. Walk and cycle more- Travel by bike or foot wherever you can
7. Cut food waste- Reduce the amount of food that is wasted or thrown away in your home
8. Green your money- Choose financial institutions and funds that invest responsibly
9. Repair and re-use- Repair your belongings rather than buying new
10. Dial it down- Turn down the heating in your home by a degree or more
11. Speak up at work- Come together with colleagues to make change at a bigger scale
12. Talk to friends- Start a conversation about Count Us In and encourage others to take a step
13. Eat more plants- Reduce the amount of meat in your weekly diet
14. Eat seasonal- Eat food produced at its natural time of the year
15. Switch your energy- Move your home to a green energy supplier
16. Get some solar- Install solar panels to generate energy for your home

For more information visit the Salisbury Diocese website [HERE](#)

**UNFCCC is the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*



Thanks to the Chalke Valley Church congregations from CRESS for your support

CRESS would like to say a huge thank you to the people of the Chalke Valley churches for their generosity towards the South Sudanese refugees in Uganda.

Those who joined the live Advent service delivered at the Imvepi camp, were able to share their worship with Bishop Joseph and his congregation living in the refugee camps in Northern Uganda.

The £8300 raised enabled CRESS to provide a Christmas meal for over 3,500 people, including the CRESS office and clinic staff teams and their families, as well as over 2000 people living in the Mijale settlement or those attending the central church in Imvepi.

The feedback below expresses the heartfelt thanks from those who enjoyed their Christmas meal:

"This Christmas has been so unique because it's the first time since we came into exile that we have gathered together to celebrate Christmas." **Pastor Kenyi Emmanuel**

"We are happy that God has blessed us with this Christmas meal. We thank CRESS for the support and the prayers because this day has been a great one"
Archdeacon Karaba

Outstanding monies raised will be used to fund the celebration meal planned for 1,300 Savings Group participants in late January 2021 and to support the expansion of the loud speaker project



*The 500 strong
congregation enjoying
their Christmas meal at
Imvepi*



*Serving the
congregation in the
Imvepi refugee camp*



*Boys happy after having eaten their
Christmas meal*

In December 2020, Bishop Joseph, of the Diocese of Liwolo commissioned 16 women into Mothers' Union membership, licensed 31 Mothers' Union Lay Readers and confirmed 930 Christians in Imvepi Refugee Camp.

This year, with COVID, the Diocese has used different methods to keep in touch and spiritually nourish the refugees. This has included the Loud Speaker Project and later when restrictions eased, the showing of the Jesus Film.



For the latest news and an opportunity to donate, please visit the CRESS website by clicking [HERE](#):

Purveyors of Fine Fresh Food

Here are a few links to local companies providing food during lockdown



Stable & Wick

A new bakery and farm shop in Wick Farm, Wick Lane, Downton.

Open Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 4pm.

Visit their website StableandWick.com

THE *Horse*
&
Groom

We will be continuing to offer takeaways, for collection or delivery.

Take a look at our [Takeaway Menu here](#).

If you would like to place an order, please give us a ring on 01725 510 739

or contact us via our [Facebook Page](#).

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Light Relief

Becoming Senior

OLD FRIENDS

Two elderly ladies had been friends for many decades. Over the years, they had shared all kinds of activities and adventures. Lately, their activities had been limited to meeting a few times a week to play cards.

One day, they were playing cards when one looked at the other and said, "Now don't get mad at me... I know we've been friends for a long time but I just can't think of your name. I've thought and thought, but I can't remember it. Please tell me what your name is."

Her friend glared at her. For at least three minutes she just stared and glared at her. Finally she said, "How soon do you need to know?"

SENIOR DRIVING

As a senior citizen was driving down the motorway, his car phone rang.

Answering, he heard his wife's voice urgently warning him, "Vernon, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on M-25. Please be careful!"

"Hell," said Vernon, "It's not just one car. It's hundreds of them!"

DRIVING

Two elderly women were out driving in a large car - both could barely see over the dashboard. As they were cruising along, they came to major crossroad. The stop light was red, but they just went on through.

The woman in the passenger seat thought to herself, "I must be losing it. I could have sworn we just went through a red light."

After a few more minutes, they came to another major junction and the light was red again. Again, they went right through.

The woman in the passenger seat was almost sure that the light had been red but was really concerned that she was losing it. She was getting nervous.

At the next junction, sure enough, the light was red and they went on through. So, she turned to the other woman and said, "Mildred, did you know that we just ran through three red lights in a row? You could have killed us both!"

Mildred turned to her and said, "Oh! Am I driving?"

SERIOUS LOCK DOWN ADVICE

Everyone PLEASE be careful because people are going crazy from being locked down at home!

I was just talking about this with the microwave and the toaster while drinking my tea, and we all agreed that things are getting bad.

I didn't mention any of this to the washing machine, because she puts a different spin on EVERYTHING!! Certainly couldn't share it with the fridge, because he's been acting cold and distant! In the end, the iron straightened me out! She said the situation isn't all that pressing and all the wrinkles will soon get ironed out!

The vacuum, however, was very unsympathetic...told me to just to go with the flow! But the fan was VERY optimistic and gave me hope that it will all blow over soon!

The toilet looked a bit flushed but didn't say anything when I asked its opinion, but the front door said I was becoming unhinged and the doorknob told me to get a grip!! Meanwhile the curtains told me to "pull myself together!"

We will survive!!

Anon

WOMEN WHO KNOW THEIR PLACE

Barbara Walters, a US journalist, did a story on gender roles in Kabul, Afghanistan, several years before the Afghan conflict. She noted that women customarily walked five paces behind their husbands.

She recently returned to Kabul and observed that women still walk behind their husbands. Despite the overthrow of the oppressive Taliban regime, the women now seem to (and are happy to) maintain the old custom. Ms. Walters approached one of the Afghani women and asked,

"Why do you now seem happy with an old custom that you once tried so desperately to change?"

The woman looked Ms Walters straight in the eyes, and without hesitation said, **"Land Mines"**.

Moral of the story is (no matter what language you speak or where you go)...

BEHIND EVERY MAN, THERE'S A SMART WOMAN.

Quiz Answers

Christmas Quiz

1.	Which song was sung on both sides of the trenches on Christmas Eve 1914?	Silent Night (Stille Nacht)
2.	In which city is Kevin left 'Home Alone' at Christmas?	Chicago
3.	What told Dick Whittington to 'turn again'?	The Bells of London
4.	Who sang 'Lonely this Christmas'?	Mud
5.	Which saint's day is celebrated on December 26th?	St Stephan
6.	The traditional English Father Christmas was not dressed in red. What colour did he wear?	Green
7.	What is the name of Aladdin's mother?	Widow Twankey
8.	The name of which herb is used as a magic word in pantomime?	Sesame
9.	The first Gingerbread Houses were inspired by which fairytale?	Hansel and Gretel
10.	Which Christmas Carol became the first song ever broadcast from space in 1965?	Jingle Bells

Valentine Quiz

1.	In which book does 'Valentine de Villefort' appear?	The Count of Monte Cristo
2.	How did St. Valentine die?	Beheaded on 14th February AD270
3.	Which musical does 'My Funny Valentine' come from?	Babes in Arms
4.	What was discovered on Valentine's Day 1929	Penicillin
5.	Which Poet Laureate wrote the poem 'Valentine'?	Carol Ann Duffy
6.	Who played the rogue 'Raffles' in the 1970 tv series?	Anthony Valentine
7.	Who was the founder of '17' magazine?	Helen Valentine
8.	Who are Valentine and Proteus?	The Two Gentlemen of Verona
9.	Which nickname did Valentine Dyall share with Johnny Cash?	The Man in Black
10.	Where do Sam Baldwin and Annie Reed finally get together on Valentine's Day?	The Empire State Building

With thanks to our Quiz setter - Chris Clark of Charlton All Saints for all her hard work in researching these puzzles. One day we will be able to meet for the Village Quiz and Downton Fish & Chips!