

SAINT PETER'S MINI-MAG



**St Peter's Church
The Lawn
Budleigh Salterton EX9 6LT**

December 2022

Editor: Lizzy Doorbar

A MESSAGE FROM THE REVD. MARTIN JACQUES



Dear Friends,

"Chestnuts roasting on an open fire, jack frost nipping at your toes" evokes an image, in my mind at least, of a lovely, thatched cottage surrounded by deep snow, and through the window, safe inside, huddled beside a roaring fire, a beautifully decorated Christmas tree in the corner of the room and presents piled up underneath it. Add a robin, some holly, perhaps some children building a snow man in hats and scarves, and you pretty much have the entire romantic vision of Christmas.

Romantic it may be, but somewhere deep inside we all crave the peace and harmony, sense of expectation and comfort that such a scene evokes.

It may jar terribly with our current reality of money and relationship troubles, with possible illness and even perhaps a sense of crisis and foreboding, but nevertheless that vision of contentment, warmth and happiness is one that we aspire to and try to re-create in our often inadequate and ham-fisted ways.

That vision of hope, contrasting with an often-grim reality, is what the celebration of Christmas has been giving mankind for 2022 years. That is the reason it endures in our imaginations, and no amount of commercialisation can extinguish it.

Hope for a better future, the faith and trust that darkness can never have the final word, is what keeps Christians going and it is a message of hope for mankind that colours our entire attitude to life that extends far beyond Christmas day itself.

One of the names given to Jesus in Matthew's gospel is "Emmanuel" which means "God is with us". No matter what is happening in your life, aim to nurture a relationship with the God who was born into this world just like every one of us, who shared in the trials and tribulations, frustrations and sufferings of life – just like us, and rose above them and triumphed in the end. If you can do that, you really do have a friend in Jesus and a hope in your heart that cannot be extinguished. That romantic vision of Christmas beloved of the Christmas card makers is simply reflecting the hope that is the content of the Christmas story.

Have a happy Christmas and a blessed New Year,

Martin

November 100 Club

Last month's results are: £5 Sue Waddington £10 Joyce Julian £20 Martin Jacques.
Next month we will be able to give the results of the BIG draw!

Fiona Hennah

Salterton Drama Club

Our next production is "Murder in Play", a comedy who-done-it written by Simon Brett. Performances at 7.30pm every night between 5th and 9th December with a matinee at 2.30pm on 10th December. Tickets £12.00 are on sale through our website; Ticket Source or the Budleigh Information Centre.

Judith Stewart-Young

A Little Something to Reflect on

May the God of the stable help us to see the wonder of Christmas:
the wonder of children who can hardly wait;
the wonder of Mary and Joseph who feel the power of God's love;
the wonder of the shepherds who hear the Good News;
the wonder of the Wise Ones who kneel and offer their gifts;
the wonder of the ages that God would come in such a simple birth.

Jean Burrows

Budleigh Salterton Ladies Choir Christmas Concert with flautist Catherine Stoyle

Our Christmas Concert is on Wednesday 7th December 2022 at 7pm in St. Peter's Church, Budleigh Salterton. The concert includes a selection of Christmas and non-Christmas music. Mulled Wine and Mince Pies will be served in the interval. Tickets are £10, available to buy from Budleigh Information Centre, Seachange and on the door. The concert is in aid of Seachange, Budleigh Salterton – Memory Café. A Christmas-themed draw will also be available to help raise funds. Please join us if you can!

Lucinda Stuart-Banks

Budleigh Salterton Male Voice Choir

On Saturday 17th December, the Choir have their Annual Christmas Concert at St Peter's Church, Budleigh Salterton. The concert will start at 7.30pm, when the Choir will sing a range of Christmas Carols and include several with audience participation. After singing successful concerts for various charities this year around the East Devon area and performing at The Menin Gate Last Post Ceremony in Ypres, Belgium, the proceeds of the concert will go toward the bolstering of choir funds.

Tickets for the concert are available from www.budleighmvc.co.uk, The Card Shop Too....at 3 High Street and at the door on the night.

Richard Gerry, Secretary BSMVC

Christmas Events at Budleigh Library

Thursday 1st to Monday 12th December : Father Christmas will be leaving his post box in the library.

Post him a letter and receive a lovely reply!

Saturday 3rd 11 – 12 pm : Lego club with a Christmas theme. No need to book, just turn up and make something amazing!

Friday 9th 9.10 – 9.40 am : Christmas Bounce and Rhyme (there may be a special visitor!)

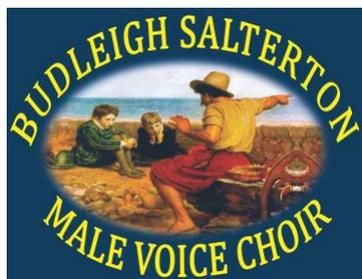
Friday 9th 5.30 onwards : Late night shopping. The Library will be open for mince pies and mulled wine, and of course for borrowing books!

Saturday 10th 10 – 12 pm : Children's Christmas crafts. Come to the library and make something special.

Sunday Morning Coffee

Thanks to your generosity in paying for your coffee on Sunday mornings, we have been able to send £250 to Exmouth Food Bank.

Judith Stewart-Young





Shoeboxes for Ukraine and Moldova

16 brightly wrapped boxes have been prepared and filled by people living in the RMC area, to bring some Christmas joy to families living in these difficult times. These boxes were taken to the collection warehouse of CR2EE, Christian Response to Eastern Europe, to be loaded onto a lorry for delivery in time for Christmas. They contained toys, warm clothing knitted by the Square Circle knitting group in East Budleigh, toiletries, sweets and other welcome gifts.

Alison Newson

Report from Exmouth Food Bank

In December we will be giving out festive hampers in addition to the standard food parcels. Each hamper will consist of nine key items: a tin of ham, biscuits for cheese, fruit juice, savoury snacks, a Christmas cake, mince pies, a Christmas pudding, a variety pack of sweet biscuits and a box of chocolates. Parcels will be collated during the week beginning Monday 5 December and will be distributed the week beginning Monday 12 December.

We will provide parcels for our clients and for some of the agencies we work closely with namely Open Door, Home Start and local churches. We now have emergency out of hours food parcels located in 12 churches and 4 schools in and around Exmouth as well as in local agencies including Open Door, Citizens Advice, Littleham Community Fridge, Seachange and the Wesley Café in Budleigh. Each parcel contains a supply of non-perishable foods that will 'tide a person over' until the food bank is next open.

50:50 Auction in November



A very, very special thanks to everyone involved, especially the team making it happen but also the contributors and of course the buyers. I found out that putting on a professional auction involves considerably more work and commitment than I realised, and it is unlikely that we will be able to do it again. However we managed it and the result was that we were able to contribute a much needed sum in the region of £3,000 to the car park fund. We can't be precise yet as we sent several items over to Piers Motley Auctions in Exmouth. We know they did very well but are waiting for the final cheque to come through. Also quite a few of the "un-sold" items went to the Winter Fayre the following Saturday and helped to boost that.

So again, thanks to all involved.....

Roger Hennah

Sock Sundays December 4th and 11th

Please bring gifts of new or nearly new socks, hats, scarves and gloves to church for distribution by St. Petrock's to homeless people in and around Exeter. A happy idea is to tuck chocolates into your presents.

Judith Aplin

Open the Book



The picture is taken from 'Samuel hears a voice' and shows Eli – asleep! – and the narrator. It was a special story because in all four presentations the part of Samuel was played by a child, each one did brilliantly even though they hadn't rehearsed with us.

Our final presentation this term is on 1st December when we shall tell the Christmas story and think about all the hope that is contained in it, a fitting end to the year. I am really enjoying working with both Open the Book teams and of course with the children; they are always so willing to take part and the staff so welcoming. Please pray for all of us and especially that God's word would take root in the young lives.

Jean Burrows

The case of the Missing Box: Doris Godfrey kindly brought brownies to the Autumn Fair in an oblong plastic box. It has vanished! If you know its whereabouts, please could you return it to the Peter Hall kitchen or to Fran. Doris will put her name on similar boxes in future!

DIARY DATES FOR DECEMBER

Tuesday 6th 9.30 am: St Peter's Prayer Group in the Lady Chapel

Tuesday 6th 5.30 pm: Julian Group at 7 Exmouth Road, Budleigh EX9 6AF

Wednesday 7th 10.30 for 11 am: Fairlynch Coffee Time Talk - John Smith 'The Romans in Exeter'. £5, or £3 for Friends of Fairlynch

Wednesday 7th 7 pm: Budleigh Salterton Ladies Choir Christmas Concert (see elsewhere for more details)

Thursday 8th 12.15 pm: Loaves & Fishes lunch, Peter Hall. Book with Fran, or Mary Jones on 443333 by six days in advance

Friday 9th from 5.30 pm: Christmas Late Night Shopping in Budleigh

Sunday 11th 6 pm: Choral Evensong

Tuesday 13th 2.30 pm: Mothers' Union - Christmas Celebration

Thursday 15th 8.45 am: Men's Breakfast, Seachange. Book on 443333 three days in advance

Friday 16th 9 - 1 pm: Farmers' Market in the Public Hall

Saturday 17th 7.30 pm: Budleigh Salterton Male Voice Choir Concert (see elsewhere)

Sunday 18th 6 pm: Family Carol service

Saturday 24th 5 pm: Christingle service

Saturday 24th 11 pm: Midnight Mass

Sunday 25th Holy Communion at 8 am and 10 am

Wednesday 28th There will be no Holy Communion at 9.30 for this week only!

Rendezvous Café every Friday at 10.00 in the Peter Hall

SERVICES

Sundays Holy Communion at 8 am and 10 am. Choral Evensong 6 pm 2nd Sunday

Wednesdays Holy Communion at 9.30 am

For services at the other RMC churches see www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk

QUICK CONTACTS

VICAR: The Revd. Martin Jacques, The New Vicarage, Vicarage Road, East Budleigh, EX9 6EF. 443473

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RMC Administrator: Fran Mills raleighmc@gmail.com Working from home Mon, Tues, Thurs 01395 568732

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Churchwardens: Iris Cooper 445273 Chris Parrish 07815 129959

Deputy Wardens: Judith Stewart-Young 442197 George Maddaford 446077

Pat Rogers 446304 Eileen Milne 446725

PCC Secretary: Christopher Briscoe 444381 **PCC Treasurer:** Tony Gray 444006

Director of Music & Organist: Stephen Tanner 07804 209226 **Peter Hall Manager:** George Maddaford 446077

St Peter's Burial Ground: Milena McClellan 445366 **Safeguarding Representative:** Tina Ellett 07426 090311

Friends of St Peter's: Co-ordinator Tony Gray 444006 stpetersbudleightreasurer@gmail.com

To join the Mini-Mag email list, please send your address to Lizzy Doorbar at doorbars@btinternet.com

Contributions to the Mini-Mag are most welcome. For the January edition please send them to Lizzy by 15th of December. The earlier I receive your piece, the greater the chance of it finding space in the Mini-Mag!