

SAINT PETER'S MINI-MAG



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

December 2024

Editor: Lizzy Doorbar

A MESSAGE FROM THE REVD. MARTIN JACQUES



Dear Friends,

In the immortal words of saint Noddy Holder of Walsall, "IT'S CHRISTMAS". Time to get the lights out from the loft and see if the bulbs still work, dust off the artificial tree, send your annual cards to people you only remember once a year, plan Christmas dinner with family, remember past Christmases and people we've loved and lost, spend too much money on gifts, put the decorations up and wait the Christmas specials on the TV – especially "strictly" 'cos it's a good one this year.

It's a time when time honoured family rituals come into their own and without them, Crimbo just wouldn't feel right.

We have two Christmas trees, one artificial (mine!) which I and my daughter used to decorate, topped with a fairy called "Joan" named after an acquaintance probably long since shuffled off this mortal coil and decorated with things my daughter made in primary school. My wife always likes a real tree which looks magnificent but which I curse when it sheds hundreds of needles on the carpet and in the car transporting it down to the Lime Kiln carpark in the new year. Yes, I know it's all a rigmorole and I know most of it is superficial but I wouldn't be without any part of it.

Somewhere hidden deep in the discarded wrapping paper, glimpsed briefly behind the fairy lights, and dad snoring in front of the telly waiting for the King's speech there is something there – a thought, an idea, a notion that all this effort actually might point towards something quite important, but we can't quite put our finger on it. Then we hear the strains of someone singing the first lines of "Silent night" and it quietly dawns on us that all this fuss is actually because of something but just what eludes us.

The birth of a baby 2024 years ago that the whole world still can't forget even though it has tried its utmost to try and forget, rationalise away, say never happened, disbelieve, or just avoid. But then...we hear the reason again:

God was born on earth in a dusty fly-blown corner of the Roman empire unnoticed save by a few shepherds and foreign travellers. Emmanuel – God is with us.

Love and Peace this Christmas,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Martin'.

November 100 Club draw result

No 18: £5 Martin Jacques.

No 84: £10 Angie McKenna.

No 68: £20 Marjorie White.

Fiona Hennah

Given the time of year, as you may guess, we need to print the January Mini-Mag early, so please send your contributions to me by the 15th of December. Normal service will resume next month!

Editor Lizzy

[Salterton Drama Club's next production is Agatha Christie's 'Murder on the Nile'](#)

Performances are at 7.30pm every night between Monday 2nd December and Friday 6th December with a matinee at 2.30pm on Saturday 7th December. Tickets £14.00 are on sale now through our website; Ticket Source or the Budleigh Information Centre.

Judith Stewart-Young

Exmouth Food Bank particularly needs the following items over Christmas: **Tins** of soup, tomatoes, baked beans, spaghetti, tuna, stews, meatballs, cold meats, fruits, custard and rice pudding. Also packets of spaghetti and rice as well as a few festive goodies! Donations can be left on the back pew in church, or in the Spar or the Co-op in Budleigh. *Sue Low*

Budleigh Salterton Ladies Choir 40th Christmas Concert is on the 4th December at 7 pm. Tickets are £10 - which includes seasonal interval refreshments. Our guest artists this year are the fantastic Isca String Quartet. This year we are raising money for **Hospiscare**. Tickets are available on the door (cash, card or contactless).

Maggie Cairns

The Mothers' Union last meeting was Jo and Chris Cant telling us about the Community Sponsorship Programme they are involved in, thank you Jo and Chris. Our next meeting is Tuesday December 10th at 2.30 pm "A Christmas Celebration". We are invited to bring contributions: poems, carols to sing, readings, reflections. Everyone is welcome. *Rosemary Baker*



[Our new Bishop came to Evensong](#)

The new Bishop of Exeter, Mike Harrison and our Archdeacon Andrew Beane came to Evensong in November. The well-attended service began with a splendid procession, which included the churchwardens of the three RMC churches carrying their 'wands' (the poles beside the wardens' seats). The choir was in full voice under the expert guidance of Stephen Tanner, and we also enjoyed the stirring organ-playing of Andrew Millington.

The Bishop started his sermon with comments on what he has learned about vestries, so it is appropriate that I took a picture of (left to right) the Bishop, our Martin and the Archdeacon in our vestry! In his sermon the Bishop spoke about separating wheat from weeds, and how fear can lead to judgement of others. He concluded his thoughtful sermon with, 'Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear'.

Editor Lizzy

[Budleigh Salterton Male Voice Choir](#)

On Saturday 21st December at 7.00pm the Choir will perform their Annual Christmas Carol Concert at St Peter's Church. Tickets are £12, which can be obtained from the Choir's website www.budleighmvc.co.uk or purchased from The Card Shop Too at 3 High Street from early December. They can also be obtained by paying cash on the door on the night or from members of the choir. We look forward to seeing you and all your family on 21st December. *Richard Gerry*

[News from St Peter's Primary School](#)

The Year 5 and 6 pupils have triumphed again at the Exmouth Touch Rugby Tournament. The school has recently celebrated Recycling Week, when SUEZ Recycling and Recovery UK Ltd, a British waste management company, delivered workshops to help the children learn more about recycling and sustainability. On Remembrance Day the school had its own service, with pupils allowed to wear any item of red clothing – and Rainbows, Beavers, Cubs, Brownies and any cadets could wear their uniform. On Sunday 8th December 1:30-4PM we have our Christmas Festival Fair: Santa's grotto, craft stalls, raffle, tombola, refreshments and £3 jingle bell jog.

Andrew Kingsnorth. Governor

[A Little Something](#)

I love Advent which begins on 1st December, and not just for the chocolate Advent calendars. The word Advent comes from the Latin *adventus*, meaning an 'arrival' or an 'approach' but *adventus* can also mean an invasion, an arrival that sweeps away resistance and changes everything. Jesus' invasion started with his birth in an obscure town in Palestine and that's what we celebrate at Christmas, not just a birth but what it was the beginning of, the invasion of God into our world, God in human form, the 'Word made flesh'. The slow transformation of the world by God working through flesh and blood, through Jesus and now through us. An invasion which, as Christians, we are all part of, changing this world and looking forward to the world to come. Happy Advent and Happy Christmas!

Jean Burrows

The Church of England Children's Society

I have been a supporter of and fund-raiser for the Children's Society since moving to Budleigh over 40 years ago. In the last few years, the only fund-raising event here has been the Christingle service on Christmas Eve at 5pm. Downsizing to our new house means we will in future always be away at Christmas and therefore unable to help with organising that event. It is therefore sadly time for me to pass this task on.

Please will you all support: Fran as she orders the items needed to make the Christingles; Judith Stewart-Young as she organises the assembly on the morning of Christmas Eve; Rev Jean Burrows who conducts this wonderful cheerful service, and our treasurer Tony Gray as he counts the donations and sends them to London. Happy Christmas from *Sally Rogers*

Open the Book

A big thank you to Jenny Steele (St Peter's) and Ann Wilson (Temple Methodist) who supervised Open the Book while I was in Tanzania. This term has seen some changes in personnel; we said goodbye to Janet Lovett (All Saints, East Budleigh) who has moved from the area and to Brenda Plumer (Temple Methodist) who has reluctantly had to give up Open the Book. Jane Buckland-Wright (East Budleigh/Otterton) who has made wonderfully imaginative and creative props for Open the Book from the beginning and stored them all in her garage has now passed them on to be stored in a shed we can use in St Peter's School. We have welcomed Nicky and Mark Perry (St Peter's) and we have another newcomer from Temple Methodist 'in the pipeline'(!) hopefully joining us in the new year. Thank you to all who enable us to 'Open the Book' in our local schools; the children really enjoy our visits and we enjoy taking part, age is no barrier! *Jean Burrows*

People in our church: Eileen Milne

Originally I am from Darwen, a town in Lancashire and have an older brother and sister. Our home was on the edge of the moors so we enjoyed a happy outdoor childhood. School years were at Darwen Grammar School, where I was good at sport and also enjoyed the academic work. Having a love of books and reading I went to college in Birmingham to train to be a librarian. Whilst working in Blackburn Library I had the idea of becoming an air hostess.

I was accepted by British United Airways (BUA) and 'moved south' to begin training at Gatwick Airport. Our classroom was an old grounded Hermes aircraft with big leather seats and a fully operational galley. Training covered all aspects of flying and service. The bulk of it consisted of Safety and Survival and Medical. The uniform was traditional; a smart navy suit, skirt below the knee, white blouse and gloves and a small hat (no tights in those days; it was girdles and stockings) with regular checks on weight and appearance.

BUAs 'blue riband' route was to South America. The whole trip took three weeks, calling at Las Palmas, Rio, Buenos Aires and Santiago, Chile. A long time to be away, but it opened up a whole new world of different cultures, people and countries. So began a way of life rather than just a job. In time BUA merged with Caledonian Airways and BCAL was born. A new uniform, still white blouse and gloves but a tartan jacket with a kilt four inches above the knee (thank goodness for tights!).

Long trips meant free time away from home, so during that period I studied with the Open University and have degrees in Social Sciences and English Literature.

It was a time before flight deck doors were locked and we often sat there for take-off and landing. There was always a good view of the Northern Lights. Flying over snow-capped mountains is a wonderful sight. Whatever the weather on the ground, once we had climbed through the clouds it was sunshine all the way. I consider myself very fortunate to have seen many of the world's iconic sights; Machu Picchu, the Taj Mahal, great waterfalls. I have done white water rafting on the Zambezi River and swimming with dolphins in the Caribbean.

When British Airways took over, I had the opportunity to work part-time. I used to spend a week each month on a friend's farm in Devon working with their retired racehorses. My love for Devon was such that I took early retirement and arrived in Budleigh Salterton in 2004. I have been a deputy warden at St Peter's since 2016. I open the church for the early risers at the 8 am service on Sunday mornings. Moving away from friends and family was not a problem because they all come and visit often! I joined the local literature group, started Pilates and volunteer as a steward for Fairlynch Museum. Having a dog gave me the opportunity to explore the lovely countryside, and you always make new friends when you have a very sociable dog!



DIARY DATES FOR DECEMBER

Sunday 1st 6 pm : Advent Carol Service

Tuesday 3rd 9.30 am : St Peter's Prayer Group in the Lady Chapel

Wednesday 4th. 7 pm : Budleigh Salterton Ladies Choir Christmas concert (details elsewhere)

Sunday 8th 1.30 - 4.30 : St Peter's School Christmas Fair (details elsewhere)

Sunday 8th 6 pm - Choral Evensong

Tuesday 10th 2.30 pm : Mothers' Union - Christmas Celebration (details elsewhere)

Wednesday 11th 6.30 pm : New treatments for Dementia - talk by Louise Jacques

Thursday 12th 12.15 pm : Loaves & Fishes lunch, Peter Hall. Book with Fran, or Mary Jones on 443333 by six days in advance. Cost £10

Saturday 14th St Peter's Candlelit supper

Thursday 19th 8.45 am : Men's Breakfast, Seachange. Book on 443333 three days in advance

Friday 20th 9 am - 1 pm : Food Market and Crafts - Public Hall

Saturday 21st 7 pm : Budleigh Salterton Male Voice Choir Christmas Concert

Sunday 22nd 12.30 pm : Solos Lunch. Book with Fran or Christine Channon on 442927

Sunday 22nd 6 pm : Family Carol Service

Christmas Eve 5 pm : Christingle Service

Christmas Eve 11 pm : Midnight Mass

Christmas Day 8 am and 10 am : Holy Communion

Wednesday 1st January : no 9.30 service this week only

Rendezvous Café every Friday at 10 am in the Peter Hall

SERVICES

Sundays Holy Communion at 8 am and 10 am Choral Evensong 6 pm second 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

revmartinjacques@gmail.com (not Fridays)

RMC Administrator: Fran Mills raleighmc@gmail.com Working at home Mon, Tues, Thurs 9 - 1 07880 331465

Working in RMC Office Weds 10.00 – 12.00, Friday 10.00 – 2.00 443397

Churchwardens: Iris Cooper 445273 John Rockey 445520

Deputy Wardens: Judith Stewart-Young 442197 George Maddaford 446077

Pat Rogers 446304 Eileen Milne 446725

Angie McKenna 911243

PCC Secretary: Fran Mills 07880 331465 **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