

Dear friends,

What a busy but exhilarating weekend that included a huge wedding on Saturday, our normal services and Annual Parochial church meeting, and a concert at St. Peter's on Sunday evening that blew my mind.

Over 100 singers, including our own choir, St. David's singers, and Heritage singers with some fantastic soloists (I found the tenor Thomas Hobbs extraordinary) accompanied by Stephen Tanner, David Davis, Mark Perry and Andrew Millington on piano and organ. A great tribute to our former Director of Music Sylvia Pritchard. It was St. Peter's honouring one of its own and an incredible £1,450 was raised for the charity hospice care. Louise and I had walked down to the church and the walk back along a calm seaside and back up the river Otter was warm, calm and quite deserted at that time in the evening and was the perfect end to a great day.

Thursday is Ascension Day and Colin Randall is marking the occasion by presiding at a Eucharist which changes location every year but this year it is at **St. Peter's**. The service **starts at 7pm** and the ascension marks the end of the 40 day period of resurrection appearances by Jesus preceding the giving of the Holy Spirit.

Sunday 29th May – 7th of Easter

I will be presiding at the 8am and 10pm services at St. Peter's and Reverend Margaret Scrivener will preside at All saints 9.30 service and the 11.00 service at St. Michael's. I will then naturally hotfoot it back to St. Michael's to chair their APCM.

Acts 16: 16-34. This passage tells two stories of deliverance. One from demonic forces and one from human power. Both the girl and the jailor were slaves, the girl was a slave of an individual and the jailor was a slave of the city, both precarious positions, though the Jailor had certain privileges that came with doing an important job like the right to own property (as here) and the right to marry. It shows the apostles acting in the power of the living Jesus and also includes baptism "of the entire household" which presumably included children and has been used as a proof text supporting infant Baptism.

Revelation 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20-21. Revelation offers a different emphasis on the Parousia (often translated as the second coming of Jesus Christ) maintaining that it is imminent and will execute swift judgement. How we are to interpret that since 2000 years have elapsed since this was written? We do well to remember that it was written to a Christian population that were being persecuted and needed hope. The underlying logic of all apocalyptic writing is that God is in control of events even when things look bleak. God is the beginning and the end, the Alpha and the Omega, so even through suffering and death, you will be redeemed in the end.

John 17: 20-26. John's proclamation of mystical divine/human indwelling and unity of act and purpose is enough to make the modern church slink away in shame at our triviality and tribalism. Often used by the Ecumenical movement, John was operating at a deeper, less ecclesial level. To be saved is nothing less than being incorporated into the divine life, bringing John's mysticism to its climax.

Music at St. Peter's

Friday 27th May at 1.30. Stephen Tanner our musical director on the organ.

Sunday 5th June 6.30pm – The Queen's Platinum Jubilee concert with St. Peter's choir which also includes a contribution from the Benefice Choir from All Saints and St. Michael's.

Friday 10th June at 1.30pm. Organ2 – duets for organ and other instruments featuring Stephen Tanner and Andrew Downton.

The Famous East Budleigh Scarecrow Festival is taking place on **Saturday 11th - Sunday 12th June** ending with a scarecrow songs of praise service in All Saints church on Sunday at 6pm. It is organised as ever by the "Friends of All Saints church" and It will be great I'm sure!

Friends of All Saints
East Budleigh

THE FAMOUS EAST BUDLEIGH SCARECROW FESTIVAL

- Refreshments and entertainments in and around the Village Hall
- Church Tower visits
- Knitting Display
- East Devon Rock Choir (Saturday)
- Rally Car Procession (Sunday)
- Classic Cars and Bikes (Sunday)
- Dog Show (Sunday)
- Songs of Praise (Sunday)

**Saturday 11th -
Sunday 12th June
2022**

CASH IF POSSIBLE PLEASE!!!!

Exmouth - Budleigh Salterton -
East Budleigh - Otterton -
Sidmouth 157 bus route

markfullerdesign.com

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Thought for the Day

It's difficult to get through the day without hearing about the "cost of living crisis" nowadays and of course everybody including all individuals, families, businesses and associations, charities and clubs are being affected in the same way. And as our treasurers at our three churches would not hesitate to tell you - The church is no exception! So as a statement of intent and trust in God and the future of the RMC, Louise and I have already increased our giving to all three churches by 8.33%. We give the same amount to each church in the RMC by standing order each month and it would be wrong of me to ask anyone else to do something that we weren't prepared to do

ourselves so in leading by example I hope gives me the moral authority to ask if everyone could look again at what they give to the church to see if they could find a little extra because every little helps! Of course, I recognise that this is not possible for many on fixed incomes, feeling the pinch themselves, but there will also be many others who I'm sure might be able to increase their giving to the church. Failing that, have you ever considered leaving a legacy to the church in your will? In this way you can safeguard the future of your church in the RMC without incurring any current extra cost to your household budget – a wonderful legacy knowing you would be safeguarding the future of our church for future residents of Budleigh Salterton, East Budleigh and Otterton. Please give it some prayerful consideration.

The Prayer for Today was written by Brother John Charles Vockler.

I'm glad to be alive – to breathe and walk; to laugh and cry;

To see life's beauty and its grandeur.

I know too its beastliness and squalor; its poverty, disease and hate.

As I give thanks for all my blessings, give me Lord,

the will to share with others what I have been given.

Make me loving, courteous, considerate;

Give me a listening ear, a compassionate heart and a generous mind.

Let me live my life in your sight for others so that they too,

May find you and give you thanks.

Love and peace,

Martin