

SAINT PETER'S MINI-MAG

St Peter's Church

The Lawn

Budleigh Salterton EX9 6LT



Editor: Lizzy Doorbar

October 2025

A MESSAGE FROM THE REVD. MARTIN JACQUES



Dear Friends,

October is the time for Harvest festivals, which is a surprisingly modern innovation in the Anglican church, only being started in 1843. But don't be misled by that. Harvest – giving thanks for the abundance of the natural world, tended and harvested by farmers, is as old a religious feast as civilization itself.

Once mankind started to move away from Hunter/Gatherer nomadic communities and settled into communities that tilled the soil, we have depended on good harvests to feed an ever-growing settled society. All societies have their own version of harvest festivals, held at different times of the year to reflect different climates and crops. In the UK this is generally in October and it is a moveable feast.

Devon, of course is quite rural so we live closer to the land than most people nowadays but we are all aware of stories of inner city kids having no idea where milk comes from or that beefburgers start off as a cow. This started a trend in my lifetime to start inner city farms to let city kids experience first hand where the food they eat comes from.

I am an urbanite myself brought up in Kent which you might think is fairly rural but on our council estate you might as well have been living in deepest London for all the connection with nature or farming we had. I still don't know the names of many trees or flowers but I have learned to appreciate the hard work of farmers, and walking through the fields and moors of Devon I have learned to appreciate nature.

Of course the ecological consciousness of us all has been raised over recent years though I would hesitate to get into any dispute over Green or "Net Zero" policies because I don't feel I know enough to take a definitive decision but I think we can all agree that the countryside is special, life giving and at the end of the day – rather beautiful.

As Christians who believe in a creator God - well he created all of it - and we can not only sit back and admire his handiwork but we can tend and use it for our benefit and feed millions of people with its bounty – just as he intended.

Love and Peace,

September 100 Club results

£5 No 38 Lizzy Doorbar (for Percival)

£10 No 68 Neil Downes

£20 No 81 David Waddington

At last! My first win after many years! Editor Lizzy

Fiona Hennah



Open the Book

Our first presentation of the new academic year....Adam & Eve who disobeyed God after being tempted by the serpent to eat from the forbidden apple tree. The children were enthralled by the story and very surprised when they heard the voice of God speaking but couldn't see Him! The serpent had a special mention regarding her hissing abilities. Great fun, tiring but so worthwhile.

Jenny Steele

A little something from south of the equator

Living abroad makes you value what you take for granted in your home country. If I was with you celebrating harvest festival I would be giving thanks for the variety of food in the UK. Here there is a certain variety of fruit and vegetables, all fresh and seasonal; the only thing that is frozen that it's possible to buy is fish. The students have a very simple and monotonous diet, basically ugali, beans, spinach, a few other vegetables, and occasionally meat and fruit. Their poverty limits what they can buy. So give thanks for variety and availability but be mindful of our food wealth, especially when it's at others' expense.

Jean Burrows

Macmillan Coffee Morning



On Friday 19th September we followed Doris's example and held a coffee morning to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. We had great fun and thanks to donations of delicious cakes and exciting raffle prizes we raised £130.

Wendy Simson

Alison Newson

Maggie Tapping

Our Church Harvest Lunch will take place in the Peter Hall on Sunday 5th October at 12.30. Tickets are available from Iris Cooper and the church office costing £12.50. Please note tickets must be bought in advance and the final day for purchase is Friday 3rd October.

This month's Big Thank you goes to people who lead us in prayer

Thoughtful, inspiring, challenging, kind, considerate, spiritual, and overall prayerful. These words apply both to the prayers that we hear on Sunday mornings, and to the people who write the prayers and lead us in prayer. Thank you to you all.

Editor Lizzy

Mother's Union



At the September meeting we enjoyed a wonderful presentation by George Hislop on the work of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. The films shown of seas so rough (some of us felt sea sick) made sure we knew of the dangers faced by brave volunteer crew members. A collection was taken which will be sent to the RNLI who rely entirely on donations to keep up their

outstanding work. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 14th October at 2.30 in the Peter Hall when the speaker will be Wendy Reynolds telling us more about her Falkland Island Experiences. Everyone is welcome.

Maggie Tapping

FunFaith is coming back on Sunday 19th October. It will run from 10 am to 11.15, with sessions including arts and crafts, fun and games, and prayer and praise. It will be suitable for children between the ages of 3 and 11. For more information call Stacey on 07891 482 169, or email at funfaithbudleigh@gmail.com.

Stacey James

Budleigh Almshouses

Budleigh Almshouses will open in 2026, offering affordable accommodation for older local people of limited means. The aim of almshouses has remained largely unchanged since Saxon times: to allow older people of limited means to remain living in their local area, thereby maintaining balanced, stable communities. Residents don't pay rent; they're not tenants. Instead, they pay a contribution towards the upkeep of their almshouse, set at an affordable level.

The history

In April 2020 Shandford House closed its doors and was later sold at auction. In 2022 proceeds of the sale were passed to a new charity, The Shandford Trust, whose trustees decided to apply most of those funds to providing local almshouses while retaining sufficient funds to provide for small grants to satisfy urgent needs of local older people.

In early 2025, planning permission was granted for three new-build almshouses on an ideal site next to the local health and wellbeing hub in Budleigh Salterton (Seachange) and with a bus stop on its doorstep. The design delivers warmth, comfort, security and low running costs combined with sustainability. Building will complete toward the end of 2025 and the first residents will cut the ribbon in early 2026. The site will have accommodation for three couples or singles. Day to day support will be provided by the staff at neighbouring Seachange.

How to apply

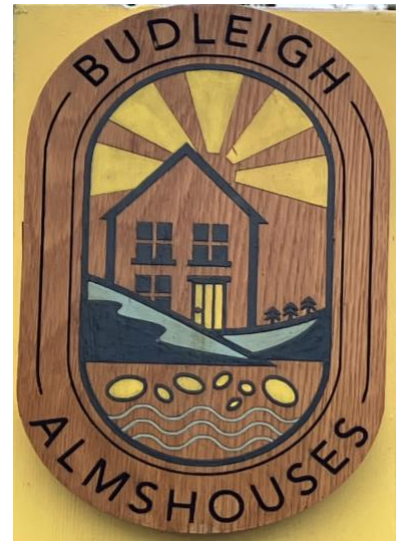
Applications will be initially through the website www.budleighalmshouses.org.uk. Applicants must meet specific criteria, and be resident in Budleigh Salterton, East Budleigh, Otterton, Colaton Raleigh or Bicton. Priority will be given to those with the greatest need. Each application will be reviewed by a panel to ensure that the most deserving people are offered housing.

The History of Almshouses

This is not a new idea: the oldest English almshouse still in use dates from about 990AD! By the middle of 1500s, there were about 800 medieval hospitals spread across the country, but many were either sold off to landowners or left to ruin after Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries. Then, in the late sixteenth century, the medieval craft guilds founded many hospitals to provide care for the "elderly decayed" members in their declining years. Benefactors came from all walks of life; Kings and Queens, Archbishops and clergy, the aristocracy, merchants and liverymen. During the Victorian era, housing became a huge social problem as people migrated to towns looking for work. Wealthy philanthropists endowed almshouses, generally for their local area and in groups of 6-12 dwellings. About 30% of current almshouses are thought to have been founded during this period. An abiding feature of an almshouse charity throughout the ages is that they are governed by locally recruited, volunteer trustees.

The Movement Today

The National Association of Almshouses was formed in 1950. The objectives of the Association are to assist charity trustees to manage their resources effectively, to support them in providing good quality housing for those in need, to promote the welfare and independence of residents and to preserve the historic tradition of almshouses for future generations. Today, it supports over 1600 independent almshouse member charities that provide homes for around 36,000 residents across the United Kingdom.



The Future

This is just the start. Almshouses satisfy a small but vital proportion of the social housing need. With a social housing waiting list in Budleigh and its villages for older generations of more than 50, the value of further almshouses is clear. After all, each almshouse occupied by the older generations moves younger applicants further up the main social housing list.

Please Support Us

Trustees. We need one or two more local people to act as trustees.

Contributions. We have raised most of the cost for the build but a shortfall of some £50,000 remains. Any contribution will help us complete the fitting out of the almshouses, retain a reserve to help with other short-term needs of our older community, and plan for further almshouses here in Budleigh.

Businesses. We would be grateful for any support in kind, particularly in the final fitting out phase.

Fundraisers. We are keen to add experienced fundraisers to our team.

Louise Jacques, Trustee of the Shandford Trust

DIARY DATES FOR OCTOBER

Sunday 5th 12.30 : Harvest Lunch

Monday 6th 2.30 onwards : Bay Court Coffee afternoon

Tuesday 7th : St Peter's Prayer Group in the Lady Chapel

Tuesday 14th 2.30 pm : Mother's Union – Wendy Reynolds : More Falkland Island Experiences

Thursday 9th 12.15 pm : Loaves and Fishes lunch, Peter Hall. Book with Fran, or Mary Jones on 443333 by six days in advance. Cost £10

Sunday 12th 6 pm : Choral Evensong

Thursday 16th 8.45 am : Men's Breakfast, Wesley's (Methodist Church Hall). Book with Malcolm Jones on 443333 by three days in advance

Sunday 19th 10 am to 11.15 am : FunFaith (see above for details)

Sunday 26th 12.20 pm : Solos Lunch. Book with Fran or Christine Channon on 442927

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

CONTACTS (landlines all begin with 01395)

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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 – please send them to me by the 20th of the month.