



THE WINDRUSH BENEFICE

EMBRACING THE PARISHES OF
ALDSWORTH * GREAT BARRINGTON *
LITTLE BARRINGTON *SHERBORNE * WINDRUSH
website: windrushbenefice.weebly.com

Rector: Nick Fisher

Providence House, High Street, Northleach, Gloucestershire GL54 3EU
telephone: 01451 861195 e-mail: nick@5fishers.co.uk

Administrator: Margaret Shaw, 39 Sherborne, Cheltenham GL54 3DH
telephone: 01451 844218 e-mail: w.benefice@gmail.com

(the Rector is always pleased to learn of anyone who might be helped by a visit at home or in hospital, or who would like to receive holy communion at home)

NEWSLETTER for JUNE 2017

For many people, Spring is their favourite season of the year, with fifty shades of green, and more, contributing to a glorious sense of freshness, vibrancy and new life all around. An additional excitement this year is the hosting of BBC Springwatch by the National Trust's Sherborne Park Estate. I am sure that the resulting larger number of visitors than usual to the Benefice will not only appreciate the freshness of Spring here but will sense the vibrancy of our community life, too.

Much of our community sense of wellbeing derives from the success and vibrancy of local amenities represented by Sherborne Village Shop and Tearoom, the three pubs in the Benefice (The Fox, The Inn for All Seasons, and The Sherborne Arms), Sherborne Social Club, Little Barrington Garage, Sherborne Church of England Primary School (currently enjoying under its new headteacher a significant increase in demand for places), and, not least, the continuing presence of active congregations in our five glorious Cotswold churches (Windrush, for instance, is proudly advertising its remarkable achievement of having raised almost £100,000 within eighteen months for repairs to its floor).

This chimes in well with the Church calendar's observance of two festivals that encourage a continuing, post-Easter, vibrancy in our faith: firstly,

BENEFICE JOTTINGS



Our new Benefice Organist starts this month!

Michael Wicker was brought up in a Christian musical family and from an early age played for Sunday services. Experienced as a choir trainer, composer and conductor, he has worked for the last 20 years in Rochester Diocese at Meopham, as Director of Music to the Parish Church, Meopham Community Choir and Meopham Brass. Michael is very much looking forward to encouraging and promoting singers and musicians in the Windrush area to bring a good basis for worship in the Benefice. And we are very much looking forward to welcoming him to the Benefice.

Concert in Sherborne Church

Many thanks to Catherine Woolley, James Russell and their friends for putting on a most attractive concert in Sherborne Church towards the end of April. The first half was a beautifully judged programme of music ideal for a Spring evening, and the second half provided a deliberate contrast with the performance of a classical quartet. The expertise and enthusiasm of these young performers was greatly appreciated and made a helpful contribution to the upkeep of the church fabric. Many thanks indeed, and we look forward to welcoming you back before too long!

Archdeacon's Visitation, 2017



Each year the churchwardens in the diocese are commissioned for the coming year by an archdeacon on behalf of the Bishop of Gloucester at a small number of special services. Sherborne Church was privileged to host one of these this year, the occasion being made more special by it being presided over by the new Archdeacon of Cheltenham, the Venerable Phil Andrew, who was only appointed in March. It was a very happy and uplifting service involving a full church, with Jane Hett pulling out all the stops on the organ (perhaps not *quite* literally) and the formalities finishing with a splendid tea organised by Margaret Shaw and Emmie Penfold, helped by Evie Penfold (who revealed herself to be already an accomplished cook). Congratulations and thanks for taking on their vital role to our churchwardens Jonathan Benson and Andrew Woolley (Sherborne), David Wilcox and Shirley Crewe (Aldsworth), Richard Crosbie Dawson (Great Barrington), Rosella Matthew and Elizabeth Jukes (Litle Barrington) and Charlie Neil and Penny Pocknell (Windrush).

Our picture shows the area dean, Canon Katrina Scott, chatting to members of the congregation at the end of the service (Archdeacon Phil had meanwhile slipped away unobtrusively before camera and subject could be lined up together).

[credits for the photographs on these pages to Bill Bond, Andrew McKerlie and Sophie Barrett]



Jo McKerlie's hugely enjoyable Italian Supper Evening at Windrush Village Hall on 13 May was a great success on all counts (calories excluded) and raised a magnificent £950 (pounds in a good way) for the Church Floor Appeal. Taking into account further generous donations from villagers recently, the Appeal is now just under £6,000 short of reaching its final target of £105,000.

Rogation Sunday



This year a service to ask for God's blessing on the crops that had recently been sown took place in Aldsworth. Following a tradition that was very popular in rural areas before the Reformation, the congregation processed round part of the village, before returning to the church for refreshments. The photograph shows prayers being offered at Wall Farm, with a very fine crop of David Wilcox's cattle in the background.

Aldsworth 'Outlaw' Village Fete

Saturday 1st July 1.30 – 5pm, Village Hall GL54 3QU, £2 entrance

Come and see the local outlaws and meet the famous Bill Spectre telling tales of our local highwaymen.

Also see snakes and lizards, enjoy the classic cars and try the rum bar!

Real ales and scrumpy ciders, teas, soft drinks, coffee and cake or a pork roast to keep you going for the day!

Stalls include white elephant, the famous bottle tombola, rustic relics, cakes, plants and produce.

Enjoy the darts for ale, bowling for pig, coconut shy, Punch and Judy, close up Magic and tug of war, music from the amazing local folk band The Red Shift.

Money is being raised this year for Stroud & Cirencester Parkinson's centre, the local church & the village.

See you there!

Gardening tips for June by Alan Abraham

Thin out vegetable seedlings and plant out French and runner bean plants. Sow wallflowers, sweet williams, and Canterbury bells, and thin apples and pears. Start lifting early potatoes. Take pipings (cuttings) of pinks, divide irises, and stop cutting asparagus. Finally, watch out for aphids, and make another sowing of French beans and carrots. But above all, enjoy yourself!

Sherborne School latest

Many congratulations to the Year 5 & 6 pupils who entered an archery and mountain biking competition on 23 May at Stow-on-the-Wold and came away with team gold medals in both events, and individual medals for Jonty and Jazzy. Brilliant – many congratulations!

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 4 June (Pentecost) hymns 174, 191, 175, 474

9.45am Matins **Sherborne**

11.15 am Eucharist **Aldsworth**

Sunday 11 June (Trinity Sunday) hymns 516, 555, 380 (odd vv.), 612

9.30am Eucharist **Windrush**

10.45am Holy Communion (1662) **Little Barrington**

Sunday 18 June (Trinity 1) hymns 369 (om. 2), 621, 516, 612

9.45am Holy Communion **Sherborne**

11.15am Morning Praise **Aldsworth**

Sunday 25 June (St Peter & St Paul) hymns 1, 380 (odd vv.),

9.30am Morning Praise **Windrush** 490 (om. 4), 496

10.45am Holy Communion (1662) **Little Barrington**

6pm Compline **Great Barrington**

Sunday 2 July (St Thomas) hymns 222, 467, 175, 386

11.15am Eucharist **Aldsworth**

6pm Evensong (1662) **Sherborne**

Sunday 9 July (Trinity 4) hymns 474, 490, 585 (odd verses), 582

9.30am Eucharist **Windrush**

10.45am Matins (1662) **Little Barrington**

Sunday 16 July (Trinity 5) hymns 627, 275, 627, 538

9.45am Holy Communion (1662) **Sherborne**

11.15am Morning Praise **Aldsworth**

Sunday 23 July (Trinity 6) hymns 270, 278 (vv. 1, 3,4), 565 (vv. 1,3,4),

9.30am Morning Praise **Windrush** 308 (om. vv. 3,4)

10.45am Holy Communion (1662) **Little Barrington**

Sunday 30 July (Trinity 7) hymns 558, 494, 444 (om. 4), 393

11am Benefice Eucharist **Great Barrington**

Sunday 6 August (Transfiguration) hymns 385, 589,248, 607 (om. 4)

9.45am Benefice Eucharist **Sherborne**

EVENTS IN JUNE

The Benefice's website is windrushbenefice.weebly.com and is now being maintained by Steven White. We are most grateful to him for taking on this responsibility.

Every Thursday in June – Aunt Sally at the Sherborne Social Club. Details from Roy on 844657

Tuesday 6 June Geophysical survey in Upper Ground. For further information, or offer of involvement, contact drdlovell@gmail.com

Wednesday 14 June, 2pm 'The Sherborne Princesses'. Repeat of Diane Lovell's fascinating presentation, in Sherborne Church

Sunday 18 June, 3pm – 5pm Cotswold Cream Tea in Windrush Village Hall, serenaded by the Palm Court Violin Duo, Mr and Mrs Gerald Hopkin, in aid of the Church Floor Appeal.

Saturday 24 June Windrush Film Night. 'Lion' (2016: cert. PG). Adaptation of the memoir 'A Long Way Home' by Saroo Brierley, who, as a 5 year old boy, gets lost in Calcutta and is adopted by an Australian couple. Years later he decides to search for his birth family. Film starts 7.30 pm Tickets £3.50 on door.

Sunday, 25 June, 9am – 12.30pm Farmers Market, Countrywide Stores, Bourton-on-the-Water. Fresh, high quality food direct from local farmers and small producers. Expect to find seasonal fruit and vegetables, lamb, beef, pork, poultry, free-range eggs, local game, honey, preserves, cakes, cheeses, fruit juice and plants, some organic produce and more . .

FUTURE EVENTS

Saturday 8 July The Sherborne Fête has been cancelled

Sunday 16 July Concert by Fretwork in Sherborne Church

Saturday 22 July Windrush Flower Show, Great Barrington

Sunday 6 August Lunch on the Green at Windrush.



... where children can develop their full potential – naturally

Headteacher, John Moore 01451 844277