

# THE WINDRUSH BENEFICE

ALDSWORTH ❖ THE BARRINGTONS ❖ SHERBORNE ❖ WINDRUSH

*Church of England – Diocese of Gloucester*

## JUNE 2022

edition of Windrush Benefice *pEw News*.  
published on the *last Friday* of each month.

The Vicar is usually available  
**THURSDAY to SUNDAY**  
of each week.

SEVEN SERMONS ON

## ACTS

REASSURANCE  
*for* CHRISTIANS



## PRACTICAL FAITH

FOR ORDINARY PEOPLE

## SERVICES THIS MONTH

**3 June** *Friday*

**2.30 p.m. LITTLE BARRINGTON**  
**Jubilee Thanksgiving**

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**5 June** *Pentecost*

**11 a.m. SHERBORNE**  
**Jubilee Thanksgiving**

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**12 June** *Trinity*

**11 a.m. LITTLE BARRINGTON**  
**Morning Prayer *BCP***  
**5 p.m. via Zoom**  
**Evening Prayer**

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**19 June** *Trinity 1*

**11 a.m. WINDRUSH**  
**Morning Prayer &**  
**Holy Baptism *CW***

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**25 June** *Saturday*

**1 p.m. WINDRUSH**  
**Wedding**

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**26 June 2022** *Trinity 2*

**11 a.m. ALDSWORTH**  
**Holy Communion *CW***

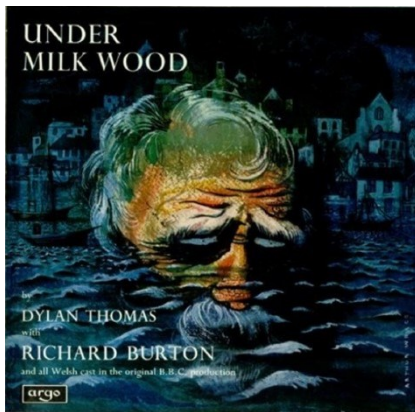
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## We are not wholly bad or good...

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First published in the year I was born, its author had died in New York only a few months earlier. It was part of the syllabus for my A-level English studies. It stood out from the others works that we had to study (such as Huxley's *Brave New World* and Orwell's *1984*) in that it was, in places, laugh-out-loud funny. Unusually, for all the copies of the book that have been published, in more than thirty languages, it was never meant to be *read* so much as to be *heard*. The author made that clear in the sub-title that he gave to his work: *A Play for Voices*. I have in mind, of course, *Under Milk Wood* by Dylan Thomas.



For many years I had a boxed-set recording of the first BBC radio production, which featured Richard Burton as the 'First Voice'. Burton was still in his twenties when he recorded it and yet had already developed his richly-rounded voice, although with hardly a trace of his original Welsh accent.

In that same BBC production, the voiced part of the 'Rev. Eli Jenkins' was played by Philip Burton, who was a school teacher in South Wales. He had wanted to be a professional actor and was said to have been looking for a young protégé through whom he could achieve an acting success. The arrival of Richard Jenkins as a pupil in his school was to prove such an opportunity. The boy eventually became his legal ward and so took his surname – and became Richard Burton.

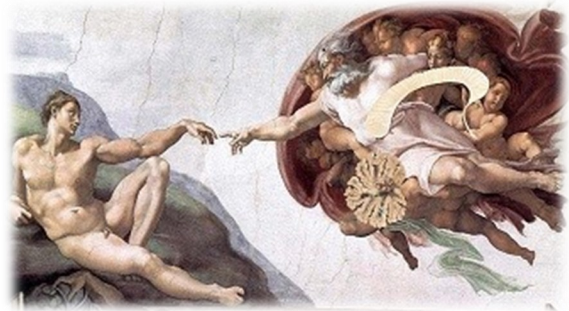


The play *Under Milk Wood* will be performed as a 'dramatized reading' as part of the Burford Festival, in a single evening performance on **Saturday 18 June**. I am delighted to be involved, playing the part of the 'Rev. Eli Jenkins', along with a great cast of local people, including Joanna McKerlie of Windrush.

In Jenkins, the character of a church minister is kindly drawn. A poet, though clearly of modest talent, and a local historian whose 'great book' remains unpublished, he clearly loves the people and the place to which he has been called with a true affection. His 'Sunset Prayer', towards the end of the play, offers this by way of supplication to God:

*'We are not wholly bad or good  
who live our lives under Milk Wood,  
And Thou, I know, wilt be the first  
to see our best side, not our worst.'*

Here is a good example, as so often happens in our prayers, of 'spiritual projection'. That is, of projecting what we are like onto God and of hoping that the divine nature is much the same. So Jenkins, being a kindly and tolerant type, expects that God will be just like him. Over the years I have heard and seen people describe God in ways that reveal far more about them than about God.



The festival of Pentecost falls on the first Sunday of June this year. Outside of church walls, it is the least observed of the 'big three' Christian festivals of Christmas, Easter and Pentecost. This year it will be overshadowed because it coincides with our Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Like Eli Jenkins, we may think of ourselves as being 'not wholly bad or good' but it has always taken far more than merely a kindly tolerance to really change lives, to transform them for the better – as the annual observance of Pentecost makes plain. ❖

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## LOOKING AROUND

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### WINDRUSH WONDER

*Windrush* (herd name) *Lancaster* (pedigree line) *Sovereign* (given name must start with S) d.o.b. 12.05.22, a wonderful example of a British Beef Shorthorn, with the registered number of 700007 !



### JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

THURSDAY 2 JUNE

**WINDRUSH** Lighting of a Jubilee Beacon and Drinks outside the Village Hall.

**GREAT BARRINGTON** Lighting of a Jubilee Beacon. Beacons will be lit nationwide at 9.45 p.m.

FRIDAY 3 JUNE

**THE BARRINGTONS** Thanksgiving Jubilee Service in the parish church at 2.30 p.m. followed by Afternoon Tea on Barrington Green.

**ALDSWORTH** Village Tea Party at 2.30 p.m. at the *Sherborne Arms*.

SATURDAY 4 JUNE : 'Derby Day'

**WINDRUSH** Village Photograph by *Lea Mary* at 10.15 a.m. Photos will be available to buy from **Tony Mortlock**. Please do take part in this historic village record – but if you really can't be there on the day, then Tony will arrange to take an individual photo of residents. This will be followed by refreshments in the Hall after the photograph—sandwiches and nibbles – or bring your own picnic food, if you prefer.

**SHERBORNE** Jubilee Picnic at *Stones Farm* from 1 p.m. By kind permission of **Peter** and **Johnny Summers**. Bring your own picnic lunch. Plentiful parking and shelter if wet. There will be a Dog Show with 'small, medium and large' classes. Top-up bar available.

4.30 p.m. 'The Big Race' at Epsom.

SUNDAY 5 JUNE *Pentecost*

**SHERBORNE** Jubilee Service in the parish church at 11 a.m.

**THE BARRINGTONS** Jubilee Picnic for residents at Back Lane, Great Barrington. Bring your own picnic lunch.

### WANTED

#### SOME HELP WITH BENEFICE ADMINISTRATION

As the life of the five churches begins to expand, following the lifting of the Covid restrictions, there is a vacancy for a volunteer to work alongside our Benefice Administrator, **Carolyn Lee**, in helping the Churchwardens and Minister of this benefice be more responsive to their communities, particularly through a better management of emails and phone calls. **Could this be you or someone you know?**



### CHOIR CONCERT

SHERBORNE CHURCH

7.30 p.m. FRIDAY 27 MAY 2022

The **Gloucester Police Male Voice Choir** will be giving a concert in Sherborne church. Tickets £10. In aid of the Church Fabric Fund. Tickets at the door.



### PEONY PARTY

SUNDAY 12 JUNE 2022

At the Malt House, Windrush, by kind invitation of **Liza Sears**. Champagne & canapés, 5.30 – 7 p.m. Tickets £10 pp. In aid of *The Friends of Windrush Church + Church Fabric Fund*. Limit to 50 people, so please book early. Please contact **Dallas Ariotti** for payment details: [dallas.ariotti@gmail.com](mailto:dallas.ariotti@gmail.com)



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# FOR YOUR PRAYERS

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## *Jubilee*

GRACIOUS GOD, we give you thanks for the reign of your servant Elizabeth our Queen, and for the example of loving and faithful service which she has shown among us. Help us to follow her example of dedication and to commit our lives to you and to one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## *Pentecost*

HOLY SPIRIT, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

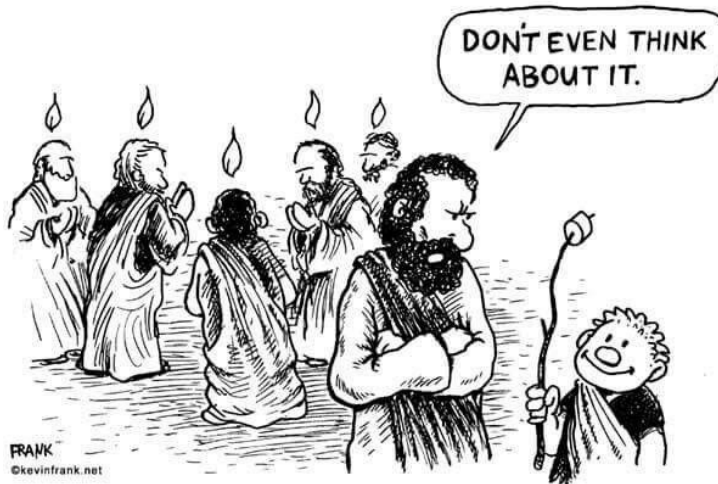
## *A Prayer for Ukraine*

GOD OF PEACE and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

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## FOOTNOTE

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*'They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.'*

Acts of the Apostles 2:3

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