

The Net

May 2007. Vol. 7 No.9.

A magazine for the Gauzebrook Area
Alderton, Easton Grey, Foxley, Hullavington,
Luckington, Norton, Sherston and Stanton St. Quintin

Building communities of wholeness with Jesus at the centre.



St Mary's



All Saints'



St Giles

Minister's Letter

The resurrection appearances of Jesus happen unexpectedly and at times and in places which take the disciples by surprise. They are gathered together in a room, fearful of their neighbours, and yet Jesus appears to them. Thomas doubts of course, and only believes when he sees and feels for himself the wounds of Jesus. Mary meets Jesus in the garden and Peter and the other fishermen, who have returned to the life they knew before Jesus called them, meet him for breakfast as he cooks fish for them on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. These are everyday encounters in everyday situations but they bring with them the awesomeness of what Jesus achieved through God's power on the cross.

This month we celebrate two major Christian festivals. The first is Ascension when Jesus finally leaves the disciples and is taken back into heaven. In those last moments before he departs from them, Matthew records that he says 'Remember I will be with you for all time' words both of solace as they grieve afresh the loss of Jesus' physical presence with them and also words of hope that through the resurrection Jesus will live at the heart of the Christian community for all time.

The second great festival is Pentecost which is effectively the Church's birthday. Here the promise of Jesus that the Holy Spirit will bless the ministry and mission of the Apostles is fulfilled and so over powering is that sense of God's presence at the heart of their community that old fears are swept aside and Peter and others begin to proclaim the 'Good News' of what happened during Passover and the days following.

The mission of those early Christians was not without its problems, both in the context in which they proclaimed the news of Jesus resurrection, going to the synagogues and temples to talk to those who remained faithful to the Jewish faith and within their own community who wanted this good news to remain for the Jews only and challenged the right of Paul and others to literally go abroad into the gentile world with the message of the gospel.

St. Peter in the first great exposition of the Christian faith on the day of Pentecost declared that 'God will pour my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and daughters shall prophesy and your young men shall see visions and your old men shall dream dreams'.

Within the blessing of the Spirit, what would your prophesies for the church be? What are your visions and your dreams?

Are they limited to a church that's life is only lived out within the confines of a building at a set time, according to the same order, each week? Or is your vision for a community that gathers for worship, acknowledging that Jesus is Lord and at the heart of the living faith has an inherent restlessness that wants to live out the faith in its daily life taking risks which are both painful and costly?

Jesus is with us, encouraging, engaging and enabling and we can achieve all of that of which we dream when we realise that in God all things are possible. The challenge is to believe!

Andrew Evans

Current and past copies of The Net are now published every month on the **Hullavington village web-site** <http://www.hullavington.info/> Click on "St Mary Magdalene Church" and then on "The Net".

**ST. GILES LIVING
CHURCHYARD PROJECT**

We will be meeting for our monthly practical session on Saturday 19th May 09.30-12.00. Come along and join in the fun of Churchyard wildlife gardening. Everyone welcome. Refreshments served.



Our wildflower of the month is Lords and Ladies *Arum maculatum*. Lords and ladies is an unusual wild arum. It has attracted many strange names including parson-in-the-pulpit and parson-in-his-smock. Come along and see if you can spot our Vicar in the grass!

For any further information contact Ivan Randall 01249 657684 or Liz Cullen 01666 837921.

There is another guided walk this month with the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. We will be visiting 'Little Grubbins', a SSSI downland rich in flora in the Castle Combe Valley. Leaving Upper Castle Combe car park 2.00 p.m. Saturday 12th May.



As part of its 40th Anniversary season, the **Bristol Bach Choir** presents **An Evening of Choral Masterpieces in Malmesbury Abbey** on **Saturday, 12th May, 7.30pm**

Peter Leech, conductor • Nigel Nash, organ

Join us for an evening of magnificent music spanning five centuries, including music by Tallis, Bach and Mozart, some serene and spiritual gems by Rachmaninov, Tchaikovsky and Pärt, and the sublime 'Crucifixus' by Lotti.

Tickets £10 (£8 concessions). Includes a glass of wine in the interval.

Available from **MusicBox 01275 349010**, the Abbey Bookshop or at the door.

Registered Charity No. 253338

Further details from Sarah Evans on (01249) 782885, or from

www.bristolbach.org.uk



The Mothers Union is meeting on Ascension Day, Thursday May 17th at 7pm in Sherston Church. For further information please contact Pat Whitehouse on 840640

Rod Walsh will be speaking at Hullavington Village Hall at the invitation of Mount Zion Chapel on Thursday 17th May at 7.30 p.m and showing his 2m scale model of Noah's Ark. All welcome

**WEST KINGTON GARDENS DAY 2007
SUNDAY 20 MAY**

Once again this year, the village of West Kington is opening a number of its gardens and welcoming visitors. The date this year is Sunday 20 May from 11 am until 5 pm.

There will be a wide variety of gardens open, some attached to larger houses, some to small cottages, some well established, and others still in the course of development. The village church, adjoining Church Farm, will be decorated and open.

This year we are again offering delicious light lunches at the West Kington River Café, as well as teas with home-made cakes at venues at either end of the village. There will be stalls for plants grown in the village and for home-made marmalade, jams and chutneys.

The gardens will be open from 11am to 5pm; tickets will cost £5 per person, children under 16 free. Proceeds from the day will go towards supporting West Kington Church and Wiltshire Air Ambulance

For further information please contact Daphne Smith on 01249 782218 or Julia Cockell on 01249 782267

GOSPEL ANAGRAMS
Answers to April anagrams

rachnioz	Chorazin	Matthew 11 : 21
amastrain	Samaritan	John 4 : 5
moboredrig	bridegroom	Mark 2 : 19
badmainma	Amminabad	Luke 3 :33
masoil	Siloam	John 9 : 6

Our thanks to Furry Tails, your local pet suppliers of Chippenham and Cirencester who have extended their sponsorship of The Net. Tel 01249 444332, 01285 650444 or 01225 775375

Services in May

Hullavington

6th 6.00pm Evensong
 13th 11.00 am Holy Communion
 20th 4.00pm Evening Praise
 27th 4.00pm All Age Family

Norton

6th 9.30am Holy Communion
 20th 11.00 am Service of the Word

Stanton St Quintin

6th 11.00am Morning Praise
 13th 9.30am All Age Family
 20th 9.30am Holy Communion
 27th 11.00am Open Air Service Lower SSQ

Alderton

13th. 10.00am Family Service

Easton Grey

6th 9.00am Mattins
 20th 9.00am Holy Communion

Foxley

13th 6.00pm Open Air Service
 27th 9.30am Family Service

Luckington

6th 11.00am Family Communion
 13th. 11.00am Mattins
 20th 11.00am All Age Family Service
 27th 11.00am Holy Communion

Sherston

6th 8.00am Holy Communion
 9.30 am Sung Eucharist
 6.00 pm Evensong
 13th 8.00am Holy Communion
 9.30am Sung Eucharist
 20th 8.00am Holy Communion
 9.30am Family Service
 6.00pm Holy Communion
 27th 8.00am Holy Communion
 9.30am Sung Eucharist
 6.00pm Evensong

Don't forget.....

Coffee at Serendipity

every Friday morning from 10 until 12.

Mustard Seeds in church at 10.30 on Sunday mornings

Golden Threads on the last Wednesday

Of the month in the Village Hall at 2.00pm

Deuteronomy youth group meets twice a month on Wednesday evenings.

For more information about any of the above ring Alison on 01666 837661

Gauzebrook Group Service at Holy Cross Sherston for Ascension Day, Thursday 17th May at 7.30 p.m. followed by fireworks from the Tower.



Sunday 27th May
St Giles Open Air Service
for Pentecost
On the green
Lower Stanton St Quintin
11 am
All are welcome
(in the church if wet!)

!!...COMING SOON...!!

St Mary Magdalene, Hullavington

CHURCH FETE

Saturday 9th June 2pm
 in the garden of Court House
 Details next month

Summer Concert at St. Giles, Stanton St Quintin



Concert of Words and Music
 with
 The Chippenham Male Voice
 Choir & Local Talent

Friday, 22nd June 2007 At 7.30 pm

Tickets £5 -To include refreshments

Tickets from Hilary Greene 01666 837850
 or Angela Smith 01666 837478

TEA PARTY IN ST GILES CHURCHYARD
 ON

SUNDAY 24TH JUNE 4PM
 TOURS OF THE LIVING CHURCHYARD

Deadline for contributions to the June edition of the Net is Monday 14th June—please email your copy to the_net@hotmail.co.uk.

