



**Swindon Old Town Partnership of Churches
Anglican - United Reformed - Methodist
Est. 1969**

PARTNERSHIP MAGAZINE

JULY/AUGUST 2019

80 PENCE



**Our Partnership of Churches
taking part in the Old Town Festival
on Sunday 9th June**

One in Christ - Together in Mission

Old Town Festival,

l to r:

Daniel Pitt, (Partnership Chair), Rev'd Robert Jordan, Barbara Aftelak, (Partnership Secretary), Rev'd Simon Stevenette (holding the Cup the Partnership won for the best float), & Rev'd Mark Barrett at the Partnership Service at Holy Rood on The Lawn, Sunday 9th June.



Bernard decorated his mobility scooter and attached his wife Joan's transport behind. Congratulations, Bernard on such a fantastic contribution.

Laura and her mum enjoyed taking part in the Parade.



Your Contacts

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WORKING TOGETHER WITH OTHER CHURCHES IN OLD TOWN

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Partnership Letter

Christ Church Vicarage

Dear Friends,

How do you speak about God?

‘When was the last time you had a really good conversation?’ This was the question posed at a memorable talk given by the philosopher poet John O’-Donahue at Greenbelt several years ago. ‘Conversations that really reach the heart of the matter are rare indeed and are memorable for them.’ Having a good conversation, of course, takes two and requires as much listening as it does speaking; when this happens mutually it is always a conversation worth remembering!

In July, I have been invited to join an eleven day conference at St George’s College, Windsor entitled: *Some Conversations: How do you speak about God?* During my time there, I will be listening to a variety of visiting speakers, two of whom are Martin Bashir, BBC New Religious Affairs correspondent and our own Dean of Bristol, The Very Rev’d. Dr David Hoyle presenting talks on various challenging themes. We are required to prepare and present a paper on an aspect of our own ministry which reflects how we speak about God today. My subject is how I speak about God through my role as a football chaplain. We have a long list of books to read and review, covering a range of issues affecting society today, which we will discuss. These are:

- Today’s Church
- Drugs Issues / Policy
- Mental Health and Young People
- Community Empowerment Issues
- Sustainability
- Refugees and Migration
- Church and the Media
- God & The Arts

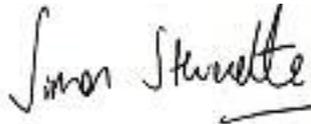
We have Bible studies to prepare for, and to deliver, to help us reflect on what the Bible has to say to us about these issues. Working in groups, we will have the opportunity to unpack some of the relevant theological perspectives. As we all know, it is often the case that we learn most when we engage with each other, listening to and sharing ideas. All this will be framed in the daily routine of services – Morning Prayer, Holy Communion and Evensong in St George’s Chapel. ➤

So what do I hope to learn from this experience? My hope is that I will be able to grapple with some of the really challenging questions which punctuate all our lives, for instance, climate change and sustainability. I expect to hear powerful stories about refugees and migration. We shall talk about the struggles of local communities, such as when big manufacturing businesses close down, as in our case at Honda, and the impact this has on communities. We shall consider the struggle of young people as they navigate mental health challenges. And we shall think about the church of today and how we speak about God to our local community, friends and family. I expect to be challenged, I expect to be invigorated and I expect to learn much from others who will be there too.

How can you be involved? Please do remember me in your prayers as I prepare and when I am there. Please do reflect, with me, on some of these fascinating topics, and please do pass on any of your own ideas, thoughts or recommendations.

I look forward to having some good conversations on my return as we continue to wrestle with those subjects which are challenging us all within our churches and in our local community today.

Every blessing to you all

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Simon Skerrett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

PS: And if you fancy reading the set books, then here is the reading list:

Marilynne Robinson, Gilead (Virago: London, 2005)

Topic: Today's Church

Hubert Selby, Requiem for a Dream (Penguin: London, 1979)

Topic: Drug Issues

J D Salinger, The Catcher in the Rye (Penguin: London, 1951)

Topic: Mental Health and Young People

Amy Goldstein, Janesville (Simon & Schuster: London, 2018)

Topic: Community Empowerment Issues

Jeff Goodell, The Water Will Come (Black Ink: Australia, 2018)

Topic: Sustainability

Mohsin Hamid, Exit West (Penguin: London, 2017)

Topic: Refugees and Migration

Heinrich Böll, *The Lost Honour of Katharina Blum* (Vintage: London, 2017)

Topic: Church and the Media

Dante, *Inferno* (Penguin: London, 2012)

Topic: God and the Arts



RIDE + STRIDE

Saturday 14th September from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

What, in the majority of towns and villages, is the most impressive building? You've guessed it: the church! And Wiltshire, as much as any county, has a rich variety of styles of architecture and historical features to explore.

Ride+Stride provides an ideal opportunity to visit some of our county's beautiful churches. Most will be open on Ride+Stride Day, Saturday 14th September, and many will have someone to welcome you with refreshments.

If you can at the same time get friends, family and church members to sponsor you, you can make a valuable contribution to church funds, as half the money raised goes to your church and the other half to the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust, enabling it to give grants for the upkeep and enhancement of churches and chapels around the county. 40 churches benefited from grants last year.

Participants can take part on a bike, on foot or on horseback. Last year, the ages of the 350 or so who took part ranged from 3 to 86, and over £62,000 was raised. There is no enrolment fee – just get a sponsorship form and instructions from your Parish Organiser or from the website and then plan your own route. Whether you simply walk from one local church to another or more ambitiously aim to cycle to fifty churches, you are a welcome participant.

There are also prizes for the most successful individuals and parishes.

See page 18 for details

FAMILY EVENTS

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the family of the Church

CHRIST CHURCH

May 18 Ellis Buchanan
May 26 Isabelle Rose Edmeads
Finn Harrison Vic Grant

MARRIAGE

We wish joy and happiness to

CHRIST CHURCH

June 15 Pasquale Mazzotta and Elena Carpinelli

BLESSING OF MARRIAGE

May 18 Michael and Fiona Williams

DEATHS

We extend our sympathy to the loved ones of

BATH ROAD

May 18 Brian Alderman, 84 years,
June 7 Elizabeth Howell, 95 years

CHRIST CHURCH

May 25 Cynthia Doreen Desmond, 81 years
June 6 Christine Martin, 65 years
June 10 Edward Eastcott-Smith, 97 years

IMMANUEL

May 31 Peter Read, 91 years
June 5 Geoffrey Nalder Day, 76 years

FLOODLIGHTING

If you would like to sponsor the floodlighting of Christ Church in celebration of a birthday, wedding anniversary, special occasion, to advertise your Company, or in memory of a loved one, the minimum gift per evening is **£30.00**.

Cheques to be made payable to 'Christ Church PCC'. Please write to the PARISH OFFICE, COMMUNITY CENTRE AT CHRIST CHURCH, SWINDON, SN1 3HB at least a week before the date of the floodlighting. GIFT AID:

If you are a UK taxpayer and wish Christ Church to reclaim the tax, you may Gift Aid your donation. **Please note:** If you would like the floodlighting to be in the magazine for the appropriate month, we will need to have your request by the 12th of the preceding month.



9th June: Pentecost Sunday Partnership Service as part of the Old Town Festival

Pentecost Sunday saw a massive presence by the Partnership of Churches at the Old Town Festival. Numbers were so impressive that we won the cup for the “best float” in the parade.

Up on the Lawns, volunteers from our churches had mounted and staffed a stand that displayed the history of the partnership as well as the community activities that go on in our buildings.

Happily the rain held off for most of the day and our open air service took place as planned in the ruins of the old Holy Rood Church.



Led by the three principal clergy of the Partnership, and with music from Geoff and a music group, a congregation of almost ninety enjoyed some uplifting, up-beat hymns and songs. It was altogether a very remarkable day of witness and evangelistic outreach.

Steve Brain

Immanuel

Church Meeting

The Church Meeting on the 2nd June accepted the nominations proposed by the Elders for the positions of Church Secretary and Church Treasurer: for the coming year David Leadbeater will act as secretary and for a three-year period Sue Goodall will take on the mantle of treasurer. We are grateful to them for agreeing to stand and at the same time extend our thanks to Liz Gleed and Helen Marson for all the work they have carried out over the past years.

TEA SERVICE in Immanuel Church Hall Sunday 14th July, 4.00 pm to 5.30 pm

If you enjoy singing some of those favourite old hymns and songs, then come to our Tea Service. It's a simple act of worship where you can enjoy good company and a 'cuppa' in an informal friendly atmosphere. Choose a favourite hymn and we will all sing it! The next one will be on 22nd September.



Summer Sing Along



at Immanuel United Reformed Church, Upham Road
SUNDAY 18th AUGUST at 6.30 pm

for the Partnership Churches and the community

Come and sing some favourite hymns and songs

Piano - Drums - Organ

BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY COME YOURSELF

Join in the fun at this year's Greenbelt festival 23rd-26 August at Boughton House, Northamptonshire.

The Revd Anne Sarderson, convenor of the United Reformed Church (URC) Greenbelt planning committee, reflects on what people can look forward to at this year's festival.

In our regular spot at the corner of a busy Greenbelt thoroughfare, it'll be easy to spot the URC tent, whether you've been before or not.

With our tent decorated with postcards created by wonderful URCs from all around the country, you'll be drawn into a space where you can sit and chat, do some crafts and crosswords, hear a story, say a pray or just be, as we explore what it might mean to *Walk the Way with Wit and Wisdom*.

There'll be space to talk about whatever you want or to join us as we see how we can change the conversation around immigration (Saturday 10–11am), Islamophobia (Sunday 8–9pm) and Poverty (Monday 10–11am).

But we won't just be in our tent: you'll also find us round and about the site, ready for a chat about anything you like as you look for foxes and owls in all sorts of places, or join in some historical quiz fun, or listen in to a panel discussion on Faith and Comedy. And then of course you'll need to keep an eye open as we wander around the site in snail-like fashion, worshipping as we go.

The team is busy putting ideas into reality and coming up with new ones to help make the fourth URC Greenbelt as good as ever.

We just need one thing at the festival itself: for YOU to come along and find us and join in our wandering, waiting, walking and wondering.

The United Reformed Church (URC) unanimously voted to divest from fossil fuel companies at its recent meeting of Mission Council. The Rev'd. Dr David Pickering, Moderator of the URC National Synod of Scotland, who presented the resolution, said: 'I think it's fantastic that a prophetic decision was taken by the URC to end investments in fossil fuels and to up investments in renewable energy.'

Christ Church with St. Mary's

Following the tragic death of his daughter, John Stooke wrote this letter to the Swindon Advertiser and he has given us permission to use it in the magazine...

Compassion and love in times of despair

Our lovely daughter Kelly was laid to rest last week following a long struggle. More than 320 people attended the Christ Church service and so far well over £1200 has been donated to the charity, Winston's Wish, in Kelly's name. Our thanks to all those generous donors.

I and our family want to thank everyone who helped us in any way to say goodbye to Kelly. There are just too many good and kind friends to list them all here.

Whilst it's hard to single out anyone, I must make special mention of the team at Christ Church. We are not a committed Christian family and we don't live in the parish, so they could have easily said they could not help. In fact the polar opposite was the case.

Whilst the building itself is truly magnificent, the church staff and leadership are beyond commendation. The Rev'd. Simon Stevenette spent hours with distressed family members as well as leading the interment and, later, the service, with unrivalled warmth and compassion. His message of patience love and understanding needs to be given much wider currency today, as our political system polarises opinion, providing legitimacy the worst kind of bile and rhetoric at the extremes.

His team Helen, the Clerk, Daniel, Sandy, Mike and others, gave freely of their time to make the day bearable and were simply magnificent in their kindness and dedication.

Whilst it might be fashionable today to dismiss the relevance of the Christian Church, they quietly get on day-to-day, doing outstanding work in our community, frequently plugging the gaping holes left by local authorities... and this is not only the Christ Church team. Additionally, church premises are used by thousands of interest and support groups, so integral to the workings and fabric of a caring society. ➤

Perhaps it's a bit like the built heritage and independent shops -- you don't really miss them until they're no longer there?

I commend Swindonians to get to know the team Christ Church, spend some quiet time in the majestic building and its historic environs and you, like me, will discover what simple compassion and love in times of despair really looks like.

Editors' note:

It was heartwarming to read this letter of appreciation and it was kind of Mr. Stooke to take the time to write it. Being there for people, whether they are church members or not, is what we do. This is what the church is all about and I don't mean just Christ Church, this is what the Christian church does.

The Joy of Gilbert & Sullivan

Swindon Gilbert & Sullivan Society present

an evening of celebration containing a full concert performance of

'TRIAL BY JURY'

and selected highlights from other operas.



Friday 5th July, 7.30 pm
at
Christ Church, Old Town,
Swindon

Tickets £10

further details available from
david.stephenson333@ntlworld.com
Tel. 01793 695685



ALL PROFITS TO PROSPECT HOSPICE

Martin Lee

1946-2019

Martin Lee, who died on Friday 17th May 2019 in Prospect Hospice, was one of God's special people! He was born and grew up in Leicestershire, was a lifelong supporter of Leicester City Football Club, played five-a-side into his final year of life and was a very much loved General Practitioner in Swindon.

His desire to be a doctor arose through his own prolonged stay in hospital when he was 12 years old. Despite disbelief from his teachers, he became determined to succeed and entered training in Birmingham in 1964.

He married Celia in 1969 and they had three children, Catherine, Erica and Rosie, and when they moved to Swindon he became involved in church life at Gorse Hill Baptist Church, Croft Christian Fellowship, New City Church, Christ Church and, towards the end, committed with Celia to the work at St John's in Parks.

His commitment to Christ arose through a 'Damascus Road' experience in 1976 when he was on holiday in Kendal, and he had a vision of Jesus. The following year, he felt God calling him into hospice work and later spent a sabbatical at St Christopher's Hospice in London. Shortly after his arrival in Swindon in 1980, he was instrumental in the commencement of the service which was to become the Prospect Hospice.

As well as palliative care, he was also committed to work with ME sufferers and set up the first support system in Wiltshire, where, on top of his GP work, he saw 1000 referrals from across the county and moved the developing service into the Great Western Hospital.

One consultant referred to him as "a gentle giant". To his family, to his friends and to all who knew him, he was that, and he was living testimony to the Christian faith and to his God.

David Howell



**TEA/COFFEE and CHAT at the Goddard Arms,
Tuesday 2nd July and Tuesday 6th August
2.30pm to 4.00 pm.**

ONLY £1, INCLUDING UNLIMITED REFILLS.



You can have a small dessert for an extra charge of £1.50. We meet in the side room of the Goddard Arms on the first Tuesday of each month. We meet informally and all are welcome whether you belong to a church or not.

Series: 'The Way Things Were'

This month by Margaret Harber

Wartime memories

I was nearly 6 years old when World War II started. I lived with my parents and grandparents in Leamington Grove, Swindon. My dad worked in the GWR factory and as his job was a reserved occupation he didn't have to go into the forces, but several of my friends' fathers were called up.

It was for me an exciting time, probably because we were all together as a family and I was too young to understand how serious the situation was. I realise now how anxious my parents and grandparents must have been. Invasion was a real threat.

After the Dunkirk evacuation, my grampy used to invite the soldiers whom he met on Marlborough Road to come in for cups of tea; they were on their way to Chiseldon camp to regroup. Every Sunday afternoon, American soldiers, usually 2, also came to our house for tea; we were in a scheme organised by the American Red Cross. Several times Mum was asked to write to their families to tell them that their sons or husbands were not in London, which was being heavily bombed.

The air raid siren was quite near our house, so when it sounded, it was very loud for us. My dad and my grampy dug an air raid shelter in our garden but I don't remember that we ever used it. Dad was in the Home Guard. He went to Wales sometimes where he was firing rockets. When aeroplanes were flying over we used to try to guess if they were 'ours' or 'theirs'; British aero engines sounded different from German ones. ►

I went to Lethbridge Road School. We were lucky that our education was not interrupted, but some children were not so lucky. Many male teachers were called up for military service, so we had temporary teachers to help out.

We used to listen to Mr. Churchill's speeches on our radio at home. I remember hearing Lord Haw-Haw who was broadcasting Nazi propoganda. There were also reports from BBC war correspondents.

Towards the end of May 1944, my grandparents were looking forward to their Golden Wedding Anniversary on June 5th, but just before that day they realised it was actually June 6th which turned out to be D-Day, the day the Allies landed in occupied France.

Now, 75 yrs on, as we have been commemorating D-Day and all those who fell in battle, I am still in touch with the relatives of Edmond, one of the American soldiers invited to our home by my grandparents in 1942.

Sadly, Edmund died in 1943. His regiment had been posted to North Africa with Operation Torch where he contracted Polio after swimming in the Mediterranean and was buried near Rome.

I am pleased to say that wasn't the end of the contact. Edmond was a talented artist and his nephew Pierre sent me two of his paintings. In December 2017, Pierre and his twin brother Louis came to see me. In June this year, I heard from Louis that there had been a successful exhibition of Edmond's paintings in New England called "The Work of a Lost Soldier", so his memory lives on. ■



This almost perfect heart shape formed in the lather in a bowl of washing up water but, alas, not a beau in sight!

Bath Road

The 39'ers



The 6 of us were born in 1939. We call ourselves the 39'ers. We celebrated 10 years ago by going to the Bath Spa for the day, very enjoyable, a day never to be forgotten. Then on the Sunday we took the service at Bath Road, singing hymns and songs we learnt when we were young.

This year we celebrated our birthdays by having a special tea at Littlecote House where we were spoilt rotten with tiny sandwiches and cakes and refilled pots of tea, followed by a tour of the original house.

I wonder what we will be doing in 5 years time and even better, 10 years!

Pam Little

Bath Road Church Lunch Club

We are extremely grateful for the kind donation by a church member of our new cooker with a gas hob and electric oven that we, in particular, have enjoyed using over the past three months. We no longer have to worry about sponges and tarts looking fine on top until we discovered burnt black 'bottoms!! We can now thoroughly enjoy cooking once a fortnight, on a Tuesday, for our 38 members who, once they have joined us, soon become our friends, chatting together before enjoying a variety of different meals. ➤



Our thanks go to each of our three teams, totalling fifteen volunteers who prepare vegetables, lay tables, help with the cooking and serving the meals before the inevitable washing and clearing up. We continue to welcome the help of the young people who come from King William Street School each week during term time.

Fran Browning, Liz King, Gwen Knight

Visiting The Queen's Foundation Birmingham, June 8th 2019

Many of you will remember Latika Singh who came to England from India when her husband Ajay was appointed minister at Bath Road Church. Having studied to become a Local Preacher, she then continued studying at The Queen's Foundation, Birmingham for two years.

Queen's, as the students and staff affectionately call it, is an ecumenical theological college in Birmingham where students learn, pray and grow together in a lively, inclusive, international, ecumenical community, supported by a wide range of staff.

This was very evident at their service to celebrate the past academic year and to commission the leavers on Saturday June 8th when it was quite obvious that staff and students had become one large international family supporting and encouraging each other. Unfortunately, it was very wet and quite cold as staff, students, family and friends gathered together in a very large marquee in the grounds of the college. It was a very meaningful service, including communion, and all those who had completed their course and were leaving Queen's placed a marker on the map to show where they were going to serve.

Church of England and Methodist students study together and it is only in their second year that they have some specific lectures and seminars concerning their own denomination and become aware of their different pathways.

Certificates were given in the afternoon to all the students who had completed their various courses, with some going to serve in the Church of England where they would be ordained by their bishop to be a deacon, serving alongside an experienced vicar for a year, and then most likely be ordained as a priest a year later. Those going to serve in the Methodist Church start as a probationary minister for two years, working in a circuit providing them with supervision, while undertaking further study one day a week, before being ordained two years later. ►

Latika will be a Probationary Minister, serving in the Bromsgrove and Redditch Circuit, with her main church at Catshill in September, while Ajay will be serving in the neighbouring Birmingham (West) and Oldbury Circuit with his main church at Quinton.

Gwen Knight

To bee or not to bee?

This summer, spare a thought for the bees who visit your garden. What will they find there to eat?

Albert Einstein once said that mankind cannot live without bees, such is their importance in the survival of the global ecosystem. For bees do far more than make honey - they pollinate more than 90 crops that we rely on for food, including apples, pears, blueberries, tomatoes and strawberries. In recent years, the bee population has plummeted. Attacks by varroa mite, the overuse of pesticides and herbicides, combined with intensive farming, is thought to have killed millions.



What can we do to help, in even a small way?

Plant some traditional cottage garden favourites such as rosemary, lavender, bluebells, foxglove and comfrey in your garden - all of which bees love. Be welcoming in your garden!

Wroughton Choral Society

'Come and Sing'

VIVALDI'S GLORIA

Saturday 28th September at Wroughton Parish Church

An enjoyable day for singers and music lovers generally.
Meeting to rehearse in the morning and early afternoon,
with the performance taking place at 4.30 pm.

Watch this space for full details in next month's edition, but in the meantime put the date in your diaries. For current details phone 521891

'God 24/7'



Having celebrated Easter in April, when it had been good to welcome many friends making Easter gardens, decorating crosses and Easter Eggs, and enjoying fairy cakes decorated with small Easter Eggs for tea, the theme 'God 24/7' for May, was an obvious choice.

The resurrection story came from the Great Commission, Matthew 28: 16-20, when Jesus reappeared to his disciples, charging them to tell everyone about Him. This certainly came across with the activity, where using four differing size circles, different maps were glued on each one - a map of the world, then a map of the UK, followed by a map of Swindon and finally a circle on which was drawn a picture of their own home. Using a paper shaped suitcase, into which pictures were placed, was a reminder that the disciples would have had to travel, often long distances.

Praying of course is very important in carrying out this special commission, so paper tubs were decorated and brightly coloured craft sticks, onto which the names of people to pray for had been written, were placed in them.

A prayer chain was made in the form of a traditional paper chain with names written on each chain. Some very attractive bracelets of assorted brightly coloured beads, with some in the shape of a cross, were soon being worn, encouraging people to show them to those they met and tell them where and why it was made.

Plastic pots were enthusiastically covered in blue paper before being placed over tea lights, representing the way that Jesus shines over all the world.

Outside in the sunshine, great fun was had filling jugs with water, then filling a teapot before pouring it into cups to see how many could be filled in one minute, because to tell others about God's message one needs to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

At our act of worship, before tea was enjoyed, the various things that had been produced during the afternoon were shown, including a number of mountains which individual young people had made to remind us of the story where Jesus had appeared to his disciples and to encourage us to continue to tell his story to those we meet.

We look forward to seeing you on Sunday 21st July, 3.30 pm at King William Street School. No meeting in August.

RIDE+STRIDE

for Churches

14TH SEPT. 2019

WILTSHIRE'S CHURCHES OPEN DAY

Join us on a bike, on foot or on horseback to keep to keep Wiltshire's historic churches, chapels and meeting houses looking beautiful and open for the future.

Half of the money you raise for Ride+Stride goes to the church of your choice and the other half to the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust, enabling us to make grants to local churches to help with urgent repair and maintenance costs.

Choose your own route and travel at your own pace – enjoy the day.

Join us

CHRIST CHURCH
Devizes Wilt

Between 10.00 am and 6.00 pm

More details are available on the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust web site or contact your local church organiser for a sponsorship form and more details:

Bath Road	David Sinclair	611931	d.sinclair302@btinternet.com
Christ Church	Arline Stovell	520691	royandarline@gmail.com
Immanuel	Liz Gleed	721364	liz.gleed@gmail.com

<https://www.wiltshirehistoricchurchestrust.org.uk>.

PARTNERSHIP DIARY FOR JULY

02	Tues	2.30 pm	Tea/Coffee and Chat at the Goddard Arms Hotel
03	Wed	10.30 am	Christ Church, Holy Communion
		6.45 pm	to 8.45 pm St. Mary's Mindfulness and Meditation
04	Thur	10.00 am	Christ Church, Lawn Primary School Pentecost Educational visit
05-06			All day LAMDA Exams at Bath Road
05	Fri	11.15 am	Christ Church, King William Street School visit
		7.30 pm	Christ Church, Gilbert & Sullivan concert, <i>see page 10</i>
06	Sat	7.30 am	Christ Church Men's Breakfast
		7.00 pm	to 11.00 pm Christ Church, Jazz fundraiser for 2nd Swindon Jazz & Soul Festival (April 2020)
07	Sun	8.00 am	Christ Church, 1662 Holy Communion
		9.00 am	St. Mary's, Holy Communion
		10.00 am	Bath Road, Holy Communion, Rev'd. Mark Barrett,
		10.00 am	Christ Church, All-Age worship
		10.30 am	Immanuel, Holy Communion, Rev'd. Robert Jordan
		6.30 pm	Bath Road, Evening Service, Rev'd. Mark Barrett
		6.30 pm	Christ Church, Holy Communion
		6.30 pm	Immanuel, Evening Service, Rev'd. Robert Jordan
10	Wed	10.30 am	Christ Church, Holy Communion
		6.45 pm	to 8.45 pm St. Mary's, Mindfulness and Meditation
		7.30 pm	Healing Prayer group at 39 Sandown Avenue
12	Fri	9.30 am	to 2.00 pm Christ Church, Educational visit from St. Joseph's Catholic College
13	Sat	9.00 am	to 11.00 am Community Breakfast at Bath Road
		6.00 pm	Brass Band Concert at Christ Church
14	Sun	8.00 am	Christ Church, Holy Communion
		9.00 am	St. Mary's, Holy Communion
		10.00 am	Bath Road, Morning Service taken by Worship leaders, Junior Church Anniversary.
		10.00 am	Christ Church, Family Holy Communion
		10.30 am	Immanuel, Morning Service, Rev'd. Robert Jordan
		4.00 pm	Christ Church, Sunday @ 4
		4.00 pm	to 5.30 pm Immanuel, Tea Service
			No Evening Service.

- 14 Sun** 6.30 pm Bath Road, Evening Service, David Easter
6.30 pm Christ Church, Common Worship Evensong
6.30 pm Immanuel, Evening Service, Rev'd. Robert Jordan
- 15 Mon 7.30 pm Christ Church Standing Committee at the Vicarage
17 Wed 10.30 am Christ Church, Holy Communion
6.45 pm to 8.45 pm St. Mary's, Mindfulness and Meditation
19 Fri 6.00 pm Community Cinema at Christ Church
- 21 Sun** 8.00 am Christ Church, Holy Communion
9.00 am St. Mary's, Holy Communion
10.00 am Bath Road, Morning Service, Rev'd. Mark Barrett
10.00 am Christ Church, Contemporary Holy Communion
10.30 am Immanuel, Morning Service, Bryan Elkington
2.30 pm to 3.30 pm, Swindon Male Voice Choir at Christ Church
Service of Commemoration and Celebration, 100 years
3.30 pm Messy Church at King William Street School
4.00 pm Service at Christchurch Methodist Church, Marlborough
to bid farewell to the Rev'd. Heather Cooper.
No Evening Service at Bath Road
6.30 pm Christ Church, Healing Service
6.30 pm Immanuel, Holy Communion, Rev'd. Robert Jordan
- 24 Wed 10.30 am Christ Church, Holy Communion
1.30 pm King William Street School Leavers' Service at
Christ Church
6.45 pm to 8.45 pm St. Mary's Mindfulness and Meditation
- 28 Sun** 8.00 am Christ Church, Holy Communion
9.00 am St. Mary's, Contemporary Holy Communion
10.00 am Bath Road, Morning Service, Chrissy Whittington
10.00 am Christ Church, Family Holy Communion,
10.30 am Immanuel, Morning Service, Ailsa Palmer
1.00 pm Christ Church, Holy Baptism
**6.30 pm Christ Church, Choral Evensong Partnership
Service with the Archdeacon of Malmesbury,
The Ven. Christopher Bryan**
- 31 Wed 10.30 am Christ Church, Holy Communion
6.45 pm to 8.45 pm St. Mary's Mindfulness and Meditation

PARTNERSHIP DIARY FOR AUGUST

- | | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| 03 Sat | 7.30 am
1.00 pm | Christ Church, Men's Breakfast
Christ Church, Wedding of James Coles & Emily Roberts |
| 04 Sun | 8.00 am
9.00 am
10.00 am
10.00 am
10.30 am
1.00 pm

6.30 pm | Christ Church 1662 Holy Communion
St. Mary's, Holy Communion
Bath Road, Morning Service, Trevor Durston
Christ Church, All Age Service
Immanuel, Holy Communion, Revd. Robert Jordan
Christ Church,
Wedding of Alexander Newbold and Lauren Martin
Partnership Service at Bath Road Methodist Church |
| 06 Tues | 2.30 pm | to 4.00 pm Tea and Chat at the Goddard Arms |
| 07 Wed | 10.30 am
6.45 pm | Christ Church, Holy Communion
to 8.45 pm St. Mary's, Mindfulness & Meditation |
| 10 Sat | 9.00 am | to 11.00 am Community Breakfast at Bath Road |
| 11 Sun | 8.00 am
9.00 am
10.00 am
10.00 am
10.30 am
6.30 pm | Christ Church, Holy Communion
St. Mary's, Holy Communion
Bath Road, Morning Service taken by Worship Leaders
Christ Church, Family Holy Communion
Immanuel, Morning Service, Revd. Robert Jordan
Partnership Service at Holy Rood on The Lawn |
| 14 Wed | 10.30 am
6.45 pm
8.00 pm | Christ Church, Holy Communion
to 8.45 pm St. Mary's, Mindfulness & Meditation
Healing Prayer group at 39 Sandown Avenue |
| 16 Fri | 6.00 pm | Community Cinema at Christ Church, |
| 18 Sun | 8.00 am
9.00 am
10.00 am
10.00 am
10.30 am
6.30 pm | Christ Church, Holy Communion
St. Mary's, Holy Communion
Bath Road, Holy Communion, Rev'd. Mark Barrett
Christ Church, Contemporary Holy Communion
Immanuel, Morning Service, Revd. Robert Jordan
Partnership Service at Immanuel:
Summer Sing Along, see page 7 |
| 21 Wed | 10.30 am
6.45 pm | Christ Church, Holy Communion
to 8.45 pm St. Mary's, Mindfulness & Meditation |

25 Sun	8.00 am	Christ Church, Holy Communion
	9.00 am	St. Mary's, Contemporary Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Bath Road, Morning Service, Eric Hewitt
	10.00 am	Christ Church, Family Holy Communion
	10.30 am	Immanuel, Morning Service,
	6.30 pm	Partnership Service at St. Mary's
28 Wed	10.30 am	Christ Church, Holy Communion
30 Fri	6.00 pm	Community Cinema at Christ Church

WEEKLY EVENTS

WALKING FOR HEALTH, every Monday, 10.30 am, starting and finishing at Christ Church, followed by refreshments. Excluding Bank Holidays.

OPEN HOUSE every Monday morning, at Bath Road Methodist Church between 10.30 am and 12 noon. Excluding Bank Holidays.
Come and join us for drinks and a chat.

BRIGHT LIGHTS PARENT & TODDLER GROUP, every Monday during term time, 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm in the Community Centre at Christ Church.

AFTERNOON GROUP every Tuesday, 2.00 pm-4.00 pm in the Community Centre at Christ Church for tea, cake and chat, activities or a speaker.



Gosh! How many carrots is that?
A Phil Mason cartoon



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**COPY for the SEPTEMBER MAGAZINE
by MONDAY 12th AUGUST, please.**

Contributions ahead of the deadline are always welcome.

**Please send to: Mrs. Diana Swann, 58 Sandown Avenue, SN3 1QQ
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The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily the views of those held by the Old Town Partnership of Churches.

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**Flora and Fauna in Old Town
Jill and Roger's colourful garden**



**Dragonflies on
Janet and Noel's
garden pond**

With 'Wind in the Willows' in mind, when a water feature was being topped up, this toad appeared, looking very indignant, as if to say 'what are you doing flooding me out of my home?'





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