

The  
United  
Reformed Church  
in Cheltenham

In Touch

July/August 2011

Dear Friends,

This is a double issue, reminding us that we are heading towards summer holidays. As I write, I am wrapped in a thick sweater, but one may dream...

I am shortly to be re-acquainted with Taizé, the centre of pilgrimage in France, where, for a week, up to 5000 people (many under the age of 25) gather from all over the world, to pray, sing and study. In the past, it has been my spiritual home and I hope that it will deliver its captivating charms yet again.

We all need to be refreshed and replenished from time to time. Some of you choose not to have a vacation or are unable to leave your homes. However, this does not preclude you from being replenished spiritually. For example, challenge yourself to read a gospel or other book of the Bible; watch a DVD with a friend and discuss who in the story is the Christ-figure. I have just watched *Atonement*, the most tedious film I have had to sit through, but the discussion afterwards was educational and stimulating. You could even be ultra radical and commit to spending five minutes every day in prayer. For those of you travelling to pastures new, try praising God for the wonders of creation – the variety, the colour, the emotional response.

For our young people awaiting exam results in August, I pray they will make the most of July to be refreshed and re-invigorated for whatever lies before them.

Having celebrated Pentecost and Trinity Sundays, the Church herself is in a period of rest during the summer, before harvest festivals kick in. If the story of creation has God taking a day of rest, then we are in good company! So, this summer, look at creation around you and ‘see that it is good.’

Yours in Christ,

*Maz*

## THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH IN CHELTENHAM

**In Memorium:** It is with sadness we report the death of Catriona Rendall, who died of a heart attack on 20 May 2011. She and her husband James were married in St. Andrew's in 1980 and were frequent visitors to the church. Our prayers are with James and the family.

It is with sadness we also report the death of Ronald Scarll after a long illness. Please remember Helen and family in your prayers.

**Our prayers:** we hold in our prayers those for whom we are concerned: Margaret and Peter Coulthurst, Mair McIndoe, Sadie Smyth, Joy Coskery, Maria Kirk, Jack Garside, Betty Price, John Hyde, Brian and Diana Miles.



**Congratulations:** to Lisa Taylor and Ian Brown on their marriage at St Andrew's on the 11th of June.

**Congratulations:** to Joan Constance Thomson, an elder at St Andrew's, on receiving an MBE for service to the community, in this years Queens birthday honours list. Well done Joan.

### **Letter from the Moderator - Revd Roy Lowes**

We have received a thank you letter from the Moderator for the £77 which was collected from the sponsored marathon for the training of Nurses and Teachers in the Church of North India. The letter will be on the notice board and so far they have raised £794.44.

*Ann Lewis*

## **WORSHIP**

### **St Andrew's Communion Offering - July**

Street Pastors is defined as an “interdenominational Church response to urban problems, engaging with people on the streets to care listen and dialogue.” It is a national charity that began in London in 2003 and has expanded to over 100 projects in towns and cities throughout the UK.

Each project is sponsored and setup by the Ascension Trust and run by a local coordinator. It is funded by grants and donations and all the local Street Pastor projects are run entirely by unpaid volunteers. Although it is not stated as an objective, there is now some evidence that the presence of Street Pastors is helping to reduce crime on the streets.

Cheltenham is the third largest night-time economy in the South West, so there is plenty of opportunity for the Churches Together to serve the community. Representatives from 20 churches in and around Cheltenham, including the URcIC, are now involved in Street Pastors.

The work of a Street Pastor offers a practical way of acting out the Christian faith in the community, although pushing religion or individual churches is strictly forbidden - all Street Pastors represent all churches.

Teams consist of four Street Pastors and they are easily recognisable by their distinctive uniform. They patrol the busy night-life streets of Cheltenham on Friday and Saturday nights well into the early hours, listening, talking, helping to find taxis home and dishing out such mundane necessities as bottles of water and flip-flops for ladies who have abandoned their high heels. A fair quantity of alcohol is consumed by revellers, so the atmosphere is generally jolly and the Pastors are generally greeted with a smile and friendly chat.

In addition to donations of money, the Street Pastors project also welcomes donations of time, so volunteers are always needed. Further information is available from Maz Allen or Ann Gimingham, who are already involved, or from the Cheltenham coordinator Rachel Dennis from the website [www.streetpastors.org.uk](http://www.streetpastors.org.uk) or from the notice board and prayer cards in the Link Gallery.

## **St Andrew's Communion Offering - August**

The Windermere Centre in the Lake District is one of the four national URC resource centres, funded by donations and income it generates itself. It provides refresher courses for ministers and a variety of courses on aspects of faith, exploring biblical topics, prayer and everyday living.

The Centre organises retreats and has conference facilities. In addition to the church related courses, it runs a variety of recreational courses: for example; this year there are courses on painting, embroidery, card making and creating a website. Visitors can use the Centre as a base for a holiday in the Lake District holiday. The rooms are all en-suite and catering, up to full board, is available. In cases of need there is the Hannah Fund, which can help with costs for any of the stays or courses at the Centre. Prospectuses and tariffs are available from the Centre direct on 01539 444902 or the website [windermere.urb.org.uk](http://windermere.urb.org.uk).

### **Services at St Andrew's**

Reminder of the singing practice on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July and 20<sup>th</sup> August - 10:50am at St Andrews. Do come early and announce your choice of hymn to practice.

### **Saturday and Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> July - Celebration of 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at St Christopher's**

St Christopher's are celebrating their 50th anniversary. There will be a full day of events on Saturday and a visit from Bishop John of Tewkesbury on Sunday morning to the service at 10.30am.

See also the Events pages for more details.

### **The Reading Group**

The next meeting of the Reading Group will be at 7.30pm on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September at Prestbury URC. The book we are reading is 'The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society' by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows. The book is based during World War II and the German occupation of Guernsey. The group numbers have fallen and new members are always welcome. If anyone would like to find out more about the group please contact Mary Cummings,

**URC in CHELTENHAM MORNING PRAYERS****First Tuesday of the month, 10.30am at St Christopher's****2nd to 4th Tuesdays, 11.30am – 12noon at Warden Hill URC**

28 June (3 July)	Genesis 24:34-38,42-49,58-67 Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	Christ Church, Abbeydale Cheltenham Centre, Churches and Schools Cluster Churches and businesses The unemployed Street Pastors Prayers for the World
5 July (1 July)	Genesis 25:19-34 Matthew 13:1-9,18-23	Montpellier area, Churches and Schools The Bible Society Creative Cards and Traidcraft Prayers for the World
12 July (17 July)	Genesis 28:10-19a Matthew 13:24-30,36-43	Christchurch area, Churches and Schools Lilian Faithful Homes Residential Care URCiC Officers Prayers for the World
19 July (24 July)	Genesis 29:15-28 Matthew 13:31-33,44-52	Tivoli area, Churches and Schools YMCA Printing and communication Prayers for the World
26 July (31 July)	Genesis 29:15-28 Matthew 13:31-33,44-52	The Park area, Churches, Schools and University Higher Education URC Churches in Gloucestershire Prayers for the World
2 Aug (7 August)	Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 Matthew 14:22-33-	Lansdown area, Churches and Schools Police services, Law keeping forces West Midlands Synod Moderator Prayers for the World
9 August (14 August)	Genesis 45:1-15 Matthew 15:21-28	Hatherley area, Churches and Schools Lay Preachers and TLS training Prayers for the World
16 Aug (21 August)	Exodus 1:8-2:10 Matthew 16:13-20	Lower Leckhampton area, Churches and Schools Greenbelt Prayers for the World
23 August (28 August)	Exodus 3:1-15 Matthew 16:21-28	Upper Leckhampton area, Churches and Schools Delancey Hospital, Cheshire Home Geriatric Care Housebound members Prayers for the World

## ARTICLES

### ECO-CHURCH

#### Answers to Water Quiz and some information on water saving devices

1. 2.5% of the world's water supply is freshwater?
2. 263 rivers cross or demarcate international political boundaries? ..263.
3. A person can live a week without drinking water?
4. The South East of England has less water available per person than Sudan and Syria.
5. 15% of the water supply in the UK is lost through leaky pipes?
6. How many litres of water does it take to produce
  - a. a newspaper .. .9.....
  - b. a pint of beer .....3.....
  - c. a litre of petrol ...70.....
7. The average person uses 130 litres of water a day
8. 85 % of bottled water bottles end up in landfills or litter
9. How many litres of water do you use by
  - a. taking a bath ...80.....
  - b. flushing the toilet ...9.5.....
  - c. drinking ...10.....
10. Home water saving devices
  - a. Water butt(s). If every household in the UK got a standard water butt this would save about 30,000 million litres of water each summer.
  - b. Toilet Hippos - the Hippo saves approximately 3 litres of water.
  - c. Water efficient showerhead - a standard showerhead uses about 15 to 25 litres of water per minute - a three star rated water efficient showerhead uses as little as 6 or 7 litres per minute.
  - d. Water meter. The water company regulator for England and Wales, Ofwat, calculates that the typical customer who switches to a meter can save 5-10% on their bill after installation of a meter from their water company.

## Green Tips – Water Saving Home

- Turn off tap while cleaning your teeth, shaving or washing your face. You can waste up to 9 litres a minute by just letting the water pour down the sink.
- Take a short shower rather than a bath this could save you up to 400 litres a week.
- Fix any dripping taps you can waste 90 litres a week which will cost a lot more than the price of a new washer.



- Don't overfill the kettle when making a cup of tea. Only fill and boil what you need, this will save you money on your energy costs too.
  - Only use the washing machine and the dishwasher when you can put on a full load.
  - Keep cool water in the fridge so that you do not need to run water down the sink to have a cold drink.
- Fit water saving device in your cistern to save when flushing.
  - Think before throwing used water down the drain eg water in a pan after cooking, this could be reused for watering plants around the house or in the garden.
  - When waiting for water from the hot tap to warm up, collect the cold in a bucket and use it for watering plants rather than letting it run down the drain.

## Garden

Using a broom and bucket of water for washing down the patio rather than a steady flow of water.

- Install a water butt in the garden to collect the rain water. This will mean you always have water to use of watering the garden without the need to use fresh water from the house.
- Using mulch on the garden will help the soil retain water so it will mean you won't have to water as often.
- Don't overuse hoses or sprinklers in hot weather. A sprinkler can use as much water in a hour as a family of four use in a day.  
Use a sponge and bucket of water to clean your car.

**Please let us have your suggestions – Ann Lewis**





### Changing the world one gift at a time

We are proposing to set up a freecycle page in the next magazine. If you have something that you no longer want but it might be useful to someone else then send a description of the article to the Magazine Editor along with your name and telephone number and if anyone is interested they will contact you. There is no money involved just goods change hands e.g.

Item	Contact
Scrabble de luxe game	Ann Lewis

**The Pensioners' Forum** meeting held on 1st June:

#### AgeUK

AgeUK provides advice and information for people in later life through their advice line, publications and online. **Telephone number for Age UK Gloucestershire is 01452 422660.**

They provide advice on State Pension, Pension Credit, Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit, heating costs and health costs. There is a social fund which can offer Community Care Grants, crisis loans and help with funeral payments. Help with attendance allowance, disability living allowance and common care needs is also available. All these services are free, all you have to do is give them a ring and they will try and help with any problem you may have.

They also have an Advocacy Service which assist with:

- Letter-writing and making phone calls
- Gathering information to help you make choices
- Making sure you know your rights
- Attendance and support for you at meetings

Signposting you to other agencies who may be able to help you.

There is a 'Magic Mouse' project helping older people to use computers, they provide short courses at a small charge. There are three choirs based in Gloucester, Stroud and Cheltenham and 'Fit as a Fish' is project with helps you stay fit and active. Further information can be found on the **Web site** [www.ageuk.org.uk](http://www.ageuk.org.uk)

*Ann Lewis*

### **The Tuesday Forum Outing to Claverton Manor and Gardens on the Tuesday 7th June.**

With the weather unsettled, 45 people set off by coach to visit the much acclaimed American Museum at Claverton Manor, near Bath. We were not disappointed.

The visit turned out to be a unique experience with many displays of American history shown that encompassed items of furniture, porcelain, costumes, jewellery, artwork and an interesting history storyline painted on-walls.

Those that did venture outside saw lovely gardens and another museum showing the life history of Marilyn Monroe as a girl and her acting career at Hollywood.

A welcome cream tea ended the afternoon with thanks to the driver for a glorious run back to Cheltenham, in brilliant sunshine.

*John Standring*



## **News from the Church in Warden Hill:**

### **The Home Produce Sale**

I am pleased to say that the result of the Home Produce Sale, held on the 11th of June, raised a total of £462 after expenses. Thank you

*Brian Miles*

### **Saturday and Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> July - Celebration**

St Christopher's are celebrating their 50th anniversary. There will be a full day of events on Saturday and a visit from Bishop John of Tewkesbury on Sunday morning to the service at 10.30am.

See also the Events pages for more details.

## **News from Prestbury URC**

### **Speech given by Fiona Hall (Church Secretary) at the 145<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations at Prestbury URC – May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2011**

It might be said by some that this church owes its existence to two men – one by design and one by accident. The first was the Revd Morton Brown of Highbury who masterminded the foundation of the church as part of the Congregational Church's 'seeding' programme of the mid 19<sup>th</sup> Century. The second was the Revd John Edwards, an advocate of the Oxford Movement, who succeeded his father as Vicar of Prestbury in 1860, and, after his changes to the building and worship at St Mary's, the need was felt by some in the village for the existence of a more overtly Protestant church.

The Foundation Stone of the Prestbury Chapel, as it was known, was laid by the staunch Congregationalist Henry O Wills of the Bristol Tobacco family on November 2<sup>nd</sup> 1865 and the doors opened for worship at the end of May 1866.



Amazingly, the chapel cost the equivalent of only £32K to build and our chief benefactor was a Miss Delancey who gave £60 (or £2.5K in new money). Susan Delancey may have been one in the long line of Cheltenham's eccentrics for, when she died in 1866, she was a long term resident of the Plough Hotel and had also previously been a resident of the Belle Vue. You may think that she was quite generous in her donation, but when she died in 1866, she was worth nearly £7m in today's terms - I suspect my long departed predecessor as Secretary muttered that she could easily have afforded to pay the lot!

You may now have realised that some of Miss Delancey's money went on to endow the new Cheltenham Fever and Infectious Diseases Hospital in 1874.

And If you are wondering - Mr Wills gave £15. 10s.

The life of the Victorian non-conformist was hard – some church rules from 1882 state that “any member becoming insolvent be suspended from Communion till needful enquiry be made” and that “in other cases of discipline, an offending brother be first admonished by the church; then censured if the admonition be disregarded; suspended, if the censure be not sufficient; and excluded, if the suspension be not followed by satisfactory signs of repentance.”

The church grew and prospered – the Schoolroom behind was added sometime before 1900 and the vestry was extended in 1903 to encompass the space that we now use as the kitchen.

We are onto, at least, our fourth organ and the stained glass windows were dedicated to the memory of Major Capel of Prestbury House who was a great friend to this Church as well as to St Mary's. There are many still in the village who remember the days in the 60's when our church fetes were held at Prestbury House (on the land where Capel Court and the Library now stand) and they were so popular that coachloads of visitors would attend from other churches. Time and vandalism, however, have not been good to the windows, and a few years ago the lower tier of windows were replaced by modern etched windows in memory of several friends and members.

Indeed it may not be obvious, but this is a church full of memorials – from the plaque to Harold Broome, to collection plates, to communion cups to the communion rail, to the lectern.

Looking through the old Church Meeting Minutes we find a rich church life of 3 services a week, lantern lectures, socials, film shows, outings, women's groups and bible study. But there is also a reflection of the prevailing social conditions.

Sometimes the church was in difficulties – in the early 1900's, after several months of the treasurer paying the minister's salary from his own pocket, the church had to let the minister go as they could no longer afford to pay him.

A quick browse through the Centenary History written by Joe Hewinson also gives us some highlights in the life of the church.

In 1895 the Church entered into a formal agreement with Highbury that all members of Prestbury were to be considered members of Highbury as the mother church and that Highbury could veto candidates for membership.

Those of you who know this church well know about our longstanding problems with damp so I am not surprised to read that in 1901 a green baize covering was bought to keep the damp off the organ. But it may not worked for the next year they bought a new one.

In 1910 the church was registered for weddings – the first being on 6<sup>th</sup> August of that year of our very own ‘Wills and Kate’, Miss Kate Godding and Mr William Smith, who were presented with a beautifully bound bible. Rather embarrassingly when the church first enquired about being licensed for weddings it was discovered that the church was not actually registered as place of worship and this was remedied in 1908.

In 1929 – Electric Light was installed.

In the grim 1930’s donations were made to the General Hospital, to Soup Kitchens, to Homes for Motherless Children, St Dunstan’s Home for the Blind and to the Prime Minister’s Fund for the Miners.

In 1939 there was much discussion on the appointment of a new minister on a salary of £2 per week, as it was still the custom that this was paid directly by the congregation. It was also agreed to pay his national health insurance.

In 1940 the Church joined in a united pastorate with Winchcombe Congregational Church, but this was dissolved, rather acrimoniously, in 1949.

By now the church was on a wartime footing and during the winter months the church had a permanent blackout.

Early on there was a discussion on what to do should the siren sound during a service. It was decided that the service would continue at the discretion of the Pastor, but that a spotter should then go outside on duty and that anyone who had to report for duties (or indeed anyone else) would have the opportunity to leave.

In January 1940 teams of volunteers were formed to firewatch in the church during raids and a stirrup pump was obtained.

After an idle conversation with the Mayor at the 1950 Cricket Festival, Mr F O Wills, who was chairman of the Gloucestershire County Cricket Club, realised the significance of the silver trowel that the family had in their possession. On November 2, exactly 85 years after they had been used, the trowel and gavel were presented back to the church.

In 1962 there was a major renovation of the building and the pews were removed and 100 chairs bought instead. This was a far-sighted decision which enables us to use the church much more flexibly today.

In 1973 Prestbury joined the new United Reformed Church. It was in the 70's and 80's that we shared a minister with Warden Hill URC whilst enjoying a friendly relationship with St Andrews. When we were in vacancy in 1991 it was mooted to join the 3 churches in a united Pastorate with 2 ministers – Revd Glyn Jenkins and Revd Joan Winterbottom.

In 1991 we celebrated 125 years of worship here with the making of the cushions that you are seated on. This was a project that acquired a life of its own – stretching out beyond these walls and into the village and beyond – with people with no allegiance at all to our church offering to stitch or to sponsor. It was a mammoth project – and over 100 cushions were made.

So where are we today? – Well, as in 1901 we are still battling the damp!

Thanks to Mike Aldridge and members of the congregation we have a wonderfully modern, airy and light kitchen, hall and vestibule. The congregation is not large, but we are a friendly and welcoming church. Our monthly coffee mornings are a village institution and we do well with our Fairs and Sales, though if a few churches would like to bus in some shoppers we wouldn't say no!

Currently our biggest outreach project is the Urchins Toddler Group which was started by Joan in 1997 – and as anyone who has dared venture over the threshold recently can tell you – the place is absolutely heaving. At the end of EVERY term well over 100 mothers, carers and babies will have ventured in – but thankfully they don't all come at once! We are hoping that our latest initiative – 'Jump 4 Joy' will grow from this base.

Today we celebrate our 145 years of history – but we look to the future too. It may be a little hazy and uncertain but we know that we will always celebrate the spirit of those who, of any era, have worshipped here in this church.

\*\*\*\*\*

We had an excellent weekend on the 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> May for our Prestbury 145-Year Celebration and the Cotswold Churches Festival. On the Saturday the Church was open for teas and to view the historical exhibitions – items from the Gloucestershire Archives, the story behind the seat cushions and a photo wall of people and events. The new Prestbury Local History Society had a stand with some fascinating old photos of the village. On the Sunday we had a full church for an Anniversary Service with the sermon being preached by Revd.Glyn Jenkins. It was wonderful to see him and Sheila again and to catch up with the newly retired Revd. Joan Winterbottom. After the service the congregation and many friends shared a delicious buffet lunch. The Church was open again to the public in the afternoon.

Thanks to all those who decorated the church with flowers and exhibitions, to St Nicolas' Church for the use of their tables, to those who made cakes, served the teas and helped in so many ways, to Home Flair Catering and the Cheltenham Cake Fairy and all our friends who came to the service or who dropped in for tea and a chat.

*Fiona Hall*



Some pictures taken at the celebration weekend



Gwen Hewinson cut the cake (senior member)



From right to left: Revd. Maz Allen, Alister Bathgate, Barbara Driver (Mayor of Cheltenham), Revd. Joan Winterbottom and Revd. Glyn Jenkins

## **News from St Andrew's:**

### **St Andrew's Redevelopment Fund - An Invitation**

On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July we plan to open our home (36 Miserden Road Benhall) to all of you and we hope you will come along and bring many of your friends with you. Coffee and home made biscuits will be available from 10.00am until noon. You can enjoy a Ploughman's Lunch between 12.30 and 2.00pm. Cream Teas will be on the menu from 2.30pm. We do hope this event will be supported not only by our church members but also by the wider community. Please publicise it at your Probus Club, Golf Club, Choral Society or any other group with which you have connections. Flyers with further details will be available in the near future. We hope the sun shines!!!!

*Tim and Dorothy Odell*

### **St Andrew's 2010 Accounts**

The Secretary now has copies of the above accounts if anyone would like a copy please contact the Secretary.

### **Stop Press:**

#### **C4 Choir: "Splash"**

Another great show from the C4 choir at Prestbury and Warden Hill in June. This time it was a vivacious rendering of the story of the Flood. "Splash" is a more modern version with the animals themselves telling and performing the story, with some catchy music and energetic movement and dance, (including some lively "monkeying around"). Very colourful costumes and make-up so aptly completed a super performance. It was great fun to watch and it was obviously greatly enjoyed by the cast as well. Well done everybody! If you haven't yet managed to get to any of the C4 choir performances, don't miss the next one - there will be a next one, won't there?!

## **St Andrew's Redevelopment Report for 2011**

As I write this, it is a fine evening and I had a tour of the stonework today before the scaffolding comes down during the weekend Sat/Sunday 18th/19th June. The work has been a combination of repair and replacement of stone but including removal of previous work that was actually causing more damage. There are areas with visible damage but not bad enough to need repair or replacement at this stage. There are also pillars at the base of the spire that could not be fully repaired, in case taking them out unbalanced the spire further. I was advised that their repair has to tie into doing the spire both inside and outside and that we need to remember and do the wooden framed dormer windows at the same time, because of the amount of scaffolding required to access them. The frames are in a poor condition.

What we now have is stonework that is safe for passers-by in Montpellier Street rather than crumbling and ready to fall. It also looks very impressive and has already been subject to much favourable comment.

There is one aspect still to be fixed and that is the pillars beside the big gate. Discussions and investigations with Gloucestershire Highways are ongoing but we should have new safe pillars sometime this summer. The new guttering also helps protect the stones as it is getting the water to ground level but we know that there are, again, tree routes in the pipes on the Montpellier Street side and that is another discussion with the Highways Department. Separately there are still some repairs to be completed on the parapet next to the passageway to the kitchen but that is a different contractor who took over from the one doing work in early 2010 before he abandoned it.

I keep getting advised that the final contract works by Mustoes will come in at no more than their budget which is about 90% certified before retentions. Most of the VAT in their last few invoices will be recoverable and that helps keep costs under control. They have finished the indoor work other than snagging and the Hall is fully operational. The Hall certainly got a full work out with the science festival as schools from London, Cardiff and other towns came to learn. The flower room has its sink back and will have shelving in place by the time you read this so that items in store in the Mews Room and north vestibule area can be relocated back to the correct place to complete the work.

With regards to funds raised, Donna has identified about £8,000 specifically to the end of May, including event income and giving for the redevelopment appeal, so we are starting to make inroads towards the remaining target of £100,000 that I advised at our AGM in March. Please support Ian and his team in their many events and projects over the next months and remember that your talents donation can be gift aided if you are a taxpayer. In my next report I will detail costs to the end of July and projections to completion as all contractor work should be finished by then.

On another topic we have been having discussions with the county council officials about the parking proposals for this area. We need to pray that the eventual proposals that go forward for implementation are not as draconian and potentially disastrous in their effects as those initially submitted. We will keep you informed at services as matters progress because we have little access to alternative parking facilities.

David Black

14.06.11

## **EVENTS**

### **July:**

#### **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July and 6<sup>th</sup> August - Coffee Morning - Prestbury URC**

Please do come along to our Coffee Morning on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July and 6<sup>th</sup> August from 10.30am to 12.30pm; you can be sure of a very warm welcome!

#### **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July - Cotswold Childrens Choir - St Andrew's at 7.00pm**

#### **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July: PCC BBQ**

#### **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July – Pensioners Forum - Bowel Cancer Screening Programme – St Andrew's at 11am**

This is an important new service which is available for older people. Early detection of bowel cancer can provide a speedy recovery. We have with us one of the specialist screening nurses who will be able to answer any concerns that we may have.

**We will not be running Soup and Chat for the present time, thank you to those who have supported this venture.**

**There is no meeting in August** but we will resume on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September** when the speaker will be Healthy Lifestyles Development Officer.

*Ann Lewis*

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July - Wednesday Women - St Andrew's at 7.30pm** (7.15pm open for refreshments). **Plants and Pimms** - bring a plant and buy another to take home.

#### **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July - Spirituality Network for Gloucestershire:**

Fran Toland, Social Responsibility Officer for the county, leads "A Spirituality for Everyone" at Hope Brook C of E Primary School in Longhope from 10am until 3pm. Cost £10, contact 01453 824034 to reserve your place. Poster in all churches.

## **9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> July – St Christopher’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary weekend**

### **Saturday:**

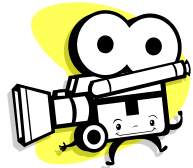
- 9.30 am: Bellringing
- 2-4pm: Celebratory Fayre including display of the history of St Christopher’s, refreshments and stalls
- 5-7pm: BBQ
- 7.30: Concert: £5 in aid of 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary appeal.

### **Sunday**

- 10.30 am: Anniversary service including Holy Communion
- 12.30 pm: Buffet lunch (please sign up)
- 6pm: Festal Evensong

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July - Charlton Kings Choral Society - St Andrew’s at 4.00pm.**

## **Classic Film Show**



**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July**

**Warden Hill URC**

at 2.30pm (doors open at 2.15pm)

**Film - Mr Hulot’s Holiday - U Cert**

**(Note: the change of date)**

Free entry - Family and Friends welcome

Refreshments available

## **Songs of Praise - Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July in Montpellier Gardens at 4pm**

Following the very successful Songs of Praise held in the Garden last year, The Central Churches of Cheltenham are having another one this year on 17<sup>th</sup> July at 4pm, so come along and join in the singing, bring a garden chair with you as seating is limited.

**‘JUMP4JOY’  
at St Andrew’s  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July  
9.30am – 10am**



**Informal Short Service for all the family  
followed by a picnic in the park**



**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July - Footsloggers  
Walking Group.** Details of the walk to be led by Marcus and Florence are to be found on Church Notice Boards nearer the time. All are invited. There will be a BBQ and meeting at Miserden Road after the walk.



**‘JUMP4JOY’  
at Prestbury URC  
Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July  
at 10am**



**Informal Short Service for all the family**

Please join us at the URC for our short service and activity for pre-schoolers and their carers on Tuesday 26 July at 10 am. All are welcome!  
**Please note that there will not be one in August and J4J restarts on Tuesday 27 September.**

**Friday 22nd July - Qi Gong** – St Andrew’s at 12.15pm



***KNIT AND CHAT***

**Next meeting**  
**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July - 1:00pm to 2:00pm**

**(We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month,**

**In the Garden Room**  
**@ St Andrews URC**

**We have received donations of wool and needles and have patterns for knitting or crochet.**

**If you would like to join us please call in.**  
**Coffee and Tea provided (cake if we are lucky)**

***Note: there is no meeting in August,***  
***the next meeting is on Thursday 15th September***

**More information from Lizzie George**

**HOME-MADE CAKES AND SOUPS TO ORDER**

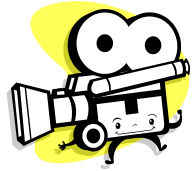
**Cakes 1lb tin       -       £2.50**

**Soups 1pt       -       £1.25**

**Contact Lyn and Peter Ricketts THANKS L AND P**



## Community Film Show



Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

Warden Hill URC

at 2.30pm (doors open at 2.15pm)

**Film - film to be announced**

Free entry - Family and Friends welcome

25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> July. If you like to help at the **Holiday Club** at Warden Hill in the afternoons from 2-4pm, please sign the list on the church notice boards. This years theme is "Desert Detectives".



Do you need **Help** with your Computer on

**Outlook, Word, Excel**  
Including e-mails and internet

Then contact Ann Lewis



Lessons at £5 per hour in your own home

## **A Date for Your Diary**

On **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July** (quite soon) Dorothy and Tim Odell will be using their “talents” monies to organise an “Open Day” at their home.

**Where’s that ?** 36 Miserden Road, Benhall

### **Timing?**

10.30 to 12.50 – Coffee/Tea and Home Made Biscuits

12.30 to 2.00 – Ploughman’s Lunch

2.30 to 4.30 – Cream Teas

### **How Much?**

Coffee/Tea and Home Made Biscuits £1.00

Ploughman’s Lunch £2.50

Cream Teas £2.50

**Who’s invited** – You are, your friends are, our neighbours are, your children are, your grandchildren are, in fact the whole world is!!! -

Also a chance to use your Talents Monies – Set up a stall – run a Raffle – Organise a Tombola

**Looking forward to seeing you all there.**

### **Advance notice:**

A workshop for all involved in children’s work will be held on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November at Warden Hill. Further details nearer the time, but please put this in your diary.

## **August/ September Events**

**For your diary:**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August** - Qi Gong – St Andrew's at 12.15pm

**Service at St Andrew's on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August**

On 14<sup>th</sup> August, St Andrew's at 11am is having a 'Songs of Praise' service which is being organised by the Elders.

If you have a special hymn which you would like included please contact Ann Lewis and if you could provide a narrative to go with the hymn it would be much appreciated.

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> August** - Summer Soup and Pate "At Home"

Lyn and Peter Ricketts invite you to an "at home" on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> August and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August from 12 pm - 2 pm for a sociable light lunch of home-made soup, pate tea/coffee. Cost £5. Booking essential - (all proceeds to the redevelopment fund}). Looking forward to seeing you.

**26<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> August** - Greenbelt Festival.



**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> August** -

**Footsloggers Walking Group.**

Details of the walk to be led by Bob and Jill are to be found on Church Notice Boards nearer the



**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September** Elders' Training at St Christopher's time to be agreed.

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September** - Harvest at St Andrew's - Jump4Joy service at 9.30am, breakfast at 10am everybody invited, followed by Harvest Service at 11am. We will be supporting Water Aid this year.

## **Administration**

All contributions for September's issue of In Touch to be in by Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> August please. Distribution day is 28<sup>th</sup> August.

For many months now, the In Touch and other interesting articles are made available for you to read on the church website: [www.urchic.org.uk](http://www.urchic.org.uk), thankfully uploaded each month by our webmaster, Fiona Hall.

Should you wish not to receive your paper copy of In Touch (to save paper) and / or would like the Church notices sent to you by email, please feel free to email the church office with your request.

The In Touch Coordinators for respective churches are as follows:

### **Prestbury URC**

Please see Ian Brooks directly or forward contributions via e-mail ([ianbrooks444@btinternet.com](mailto:ianbrooks444@btinternet.com)). Ian can also be contacted on Contributions most welcome.

### **Prestbury URC - Church For Hire!**

If you would like to hire the main church and/or the hall and kitchen for a children's party, meeting, exercise class or group then Prestbury URC is available for hire at a reasonable rate. If you require more information then please call Fiona Hall on or via email [prestbury@urchic.org.uk](mailto:prestbury@urchic.org.uk)

### **The Church in Warden Hill**

Please see Carole Pennington directly or forward contributions via e-mail: [magazine@urchic.org.uk](mailto:magazine@urchic.org.uk) or to church office, [office@urchic.org.uk](mailto:office@urchic.org.uk). Likewise contributions very welcome.

### **St Andrew's**

Please see John Standring directly or forward contributions via e-mail: [magazine@urchic.org.uk](mailto:magazine@urchic.org.uk) or to church office, [office@urchic.org.uk](mailto:office@urchic.org.uk). John can be contacted on

## PROPERTY AND POOLCARE

Extensions  
Loft/ Garage Conversions  
**Kitchen/ Bathroom Specialist**  
(Insurance work completed)

Excellent work and price

References & completed projects to view, Fully Insured  
Contact: Ade Stepney on 07971 600 756 or 01242 514307  
3 Briar Walk, Prestbury, Cheltenham



**JASON BOND**  
**CARPET FITTING**

Carpets & Domestic Vinyl  
Supplied & Fitted

"Shop at Home Service"

Full Range of Carpets & Vinyl Available  
Contract Work

Tel or Fax

**01242 708305**

**Mobile 07850 317703**

[www.jasonbond.co.uk](http://www.jasonbond.co.uk)

Email: [jason@jasonbond.co.uk](mailto:jason@jasonbond.co.uk)  
5 Abbots Close, Cheltenham

*Over 20 Years Experience*  
*Competitive Rates*



## **N.T. Boothroyd** **Plumbing & Heating Engineer**

**Over 20 Years Experience**  
**& City & Guilds Qualified**

### All Plumbing Works Undertaken

**Tap Washers & Replacement Taps**  
**Leaks, Burst Pipes & Blockages**  
**Ball Valves / Overflows**  
**Toilets, Baths, Basins & Sinks**  
**Shower Installations**  
**Radiators & Thermostatic Valves**  
**Cylinders, Pumps, Tanks & Stop Taps**  
**System Cleaning By Power Flushing**  
**Loft Insulation & Pipe Lagging**

No Job too small please give me a call

**Mobile: 07816 103709**

**Tel: 01452 552192**

Email: [ntboothroyd@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ntboothroyd@hotmail.co.uk)

JULY DIARY				
2 <sup>30</sup>	Sat	10.30am	P	Coffee Morning
		7.00pm	SA	Cotswold Children's Choir
3	Sun	10.30am	P	Mrs Julie Jefferies
		10.30am	URC	Family Service with Carole Pennington and Celia Hodges
		11.00am	SA	Revd Dr John Sutcliffe <i>Communion</i>
		6.00pm	SA	Mr Roy McBane
		6.00pm	SC	Evening Eucharist
6	Wed	11.00am	SA	Pensioners' Forum
		7.30pm	SA	Wednesday Women
9	Sat	10.00am		Spirituality Network day at Longhope
St Christopher's 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Weekend				
9	Sat	2.00pm	SC	History Display and Refreshments
		5.00pm	SC	Barbecue
		7.30pm	SC	Concert
10	Sun	10.30am	SC	Service with Bishop John Went of Tewkesbury and the Revd Maz Allen <i>Family Communion</i>
		6.00pm	SC	Choral Evensong
		10.30am	P	No service
		11.00am	SA	Revd Eric Massey
12	Tues	7.30pm	SA	Elders meet
16	Sat	2.30pm	URC	Classic Film M.Hulot's Holiday
17	Sun	9.30am	SA	Jump4Joy
		10.30am	P	Morning Service
		10.30am	URC	Revd Jacqui Hyde <i>Communion</i>
		11.00am	SA	Revd Maz Allen
		4.00pm		Songs of Praise in Montpellier Gardens
		6.00pm	SC	Evening Eucharist
19	Tues	7.30pm	URC	ECC meet
		10.00am	P	Jump4Joy
24	Sun	10.30am	P	Revd Maz Allen <i>Communion followed by Church Meeting</i>
		10.30am	SC	Revd Jacqui Hyde <i>Communion</i>
		11.00am	SA	Bob Alger
		6.00pm	SC	Evensong
25	Mon	2.00pm	URC	Start of Holiday Club week
30	Sat	10.00am	Chel	Open Day with Dorothy and Tim Odell

JULY continued				
31	Sun	10.30am	P	No service <span style="float: right;">31</span>
		10.30am	URC	Revd Maz Allen <i>Holiday Club Service</i>
		11.00am	SA	Revd John Beardsley
		6.00pm	SC	Evensong
AUGUST DIARY				
6	Sat	10.30am	P	Coffee Morning
		2.00pm	SA	Wedding
7	Sun	10.30am	P	Revd Robin Littlewood
		10.30am	SC	Pam Dainton <i>Family Service</i>
		11.00am	SA	Revd Maz Allen <i>Baptism</i>
		6.00pm	SA	Revd Maz Allen <i>Communion</i>
		6.00pm	SC	Evening Eucharist
10	Wed	2.00pm	SC	Ministry 60+
14	Sun	10.30am	P	No Service
		10.30am	URC	Revd John Rideout <i>Communion</i>
		11.00am	SA	Songs of Praise <i>Elders</i>
16	Tue	10.00am	P	Jump4Joy
17	Wed	2.00pm	SC	Ministry 60+
21	Sun	9.30am	SA	Jump4Joy
		10.30am	P	Morning Service
		10.30am	URC	Revd Jacqui Hyde <i>Communion</i>
		11.00am	SA	Revd Maz Allen
		6.00pm	SC	Evening Eucharist
24	Wed	2.00pm	SC	Ministry 60+
26	Fri		Pitt	Start of Greenbelt at the Racecourse
				The People's Bible
27	Sat	3.00pm	SA	Wedding
28	Sun	10.30am	P	Revd Maz Allen <i>Communion</i>
		10.30am	URC	Mr Roy McBane
		11.00am	SA	<i>Elders</i>
		6.00pm	SC	Evening Eucharist
SEPTEMBER DIARY				
3	Sat	10.30am	P	Coffee Morning
4	Sun	10.30am	P	Revd John Beardsley
		10.30am	SC	Mr Roy McBane <i>Family Service</i>
		11.00am	SA	Revd Maz Allen <i>Communion</i>
		6.00pm	SA	Mr Bob Alger
		6.00pm	SC	Evening Eucharist
7	Wed	11.00am	SA	Pensioners' Forum