



Five Crosses

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2017

Tintinhull, Chilthorne Domer, Yeovil Marsh,
Thorne Coffin, Lufton

Priest: **The Reverend Peter Down**, The Rectory, Vicarage Street, Tintinhull (829058)

Licensed Lay Reader: **Mrs Sallyann Batstone**

Axes Close Farm, Chilthorne (840218)

PTO Reader: **Mr Norman Preston**, Westbury, Chilthorne Domer (840580)

Editor: Mrs. Hilary Cozens, Little Crofton, Yeovil Road, Tintinhull

Telephone 01935 824220 e-mail hilary@littlecrofton.co.uk

United Benefice Website can be found at <http://fivecrosses.weebly.com>

Dear Friends,

I wrote last month about our day looking at our communities and thinking about how we can work together *Towards a Caring Community*, so this is just a reminder. The day is on **Saturday 23rd September from 9.30 am to 3.30 pm**. Lunch and refreshments will be provided but we do ask for you to register if you are coming. It should be an interesting day so we hope many of you will join us. To register email stmargaret.tintinhull@gmx.com or phone **829058**.

For the first time since I have been in the Benefice we have had some trouble with minor acts of vandalism in two of our churches. At St Mary's, Chilthorne Domer one of our pews has been slightly damaged and candles lit and paper set fire to. At St Andrew's, Thorne Coffin, some windows have been

broken in what looks like an attempt to break into the church. We are very proud of all of our churches and would not wish to see them damaged or worse. If you see anyone behaving in a way other than we would expect please let us know; if you can, do pop into the churches or churchyards when you are passing, perhaps whilst out walking the dog, that might deter trouble makers. We are keen to keep our churches as accessible as we can to our local communities and to visitors and do not wish to lock them any more than is necessary so much appreciate anybody who does what they can to keep an eye on them.

September is, as always, the start of a new school year. Some children are starting school for the first time at Chilthorne Domer Church School, at St Margaret's School and at Kingfisher School (at

the moment in Huish School but moving soon to their new building on Lufton estate). Other children are moving to a new school and many of our young people are moving on to further or higher education. All of our schools are brilliant places for our children to learn and we are fortunate to have them serving our communities. Each of them is unique and a special place for our children in our communities. Please pray for the staff and children at all three schools – and don't forget the staff and learners at Cambian Lufton College which does great work with the young people with special needs.

And you've probably noticed as you drive by that the new estates and Brimsmore and Lufton are now growing quickly, which means that lots of new people are moving into our parishes. Please remember them in our prayers and pray for our ministry to the estates which will grow increasingly more important over the next months and years.

With best wishes in Christ, Fr Peter
A Letter from the Right Reverend Peter Hancock, Bishop of Bath and Wells:

“One of my favourite poems is John Masefield's poem *Sea Fever*. I read it often as it reminds me of the sea and the joy I find in simply looking at the sea. The second verse is this:

*‘I must down to the seas again,
for the call of the running tide
Is a wild call and a clear call
that may not be denied;
And all I ask is a windy day
with the white clouds flying,
And the flung spray and the*

*blown spume, and the sea-gulls
crying.’*

There is something liberating, inspiring and energising at being beside the sea and just looking at it, hearing it, smelling it and seeing it move as the waves go up and down and the tides go in and out. And when I am by the sea, whether it is tranquil or stormy, fathomless deep blue or angry and squally, I am aware of the presence of God. As the Psalmist said:

‘For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods. In his hands are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. The sea is his and he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.’ (Psalm 95) ‘The sea is his and he made it.’ What inspiring words they are and the psalmist speaks also of singing for joy to the Lord; bowing down before him in worship; and kneeling before him. For he is the Creator of all things.’ We are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care’.

It was lovely therefore to be able to go to the beach most days during our recent holiday in France. Several times the waves were daunting and the surf intimidating. So much so that one day I didn't even dare to go in. But when I did there was that exhilarating experience of being literally lifted up and carried along by the surf. In the midst of our busy lives it is good to find time to rest and also to find places where we can enjoy the sheer beauty of God's creation. Isaiah speaks about the Lord renewing those who are weary and tired and lifting us up that we might soar on winds like eagles. Those waves certainly lifted me up physically and we

need to look to the Lord each day to lift us up spiritually as we come to him in joy and bow before him in worship.

“ *+Bishop of Bath and Wells*

News from around the Parishes

LUFTON

Susan Collins writes: “We were delighted to have been joined on Sunday 6th August, by so many visitors from our surrounding parishes, for our Benefice Holy Communion Service. It was good to see the Church so full. Most visitors stayed to enjoy our traditional summer refreshments and to socialise after the service.

Our Harvest Thanksgiving Service will be held on Sunday 17th September at 6.00pm. All suitable produce e.g. useful store cupboard items and useable fruit and vegetables will, once again, be donated to The Pathways Project at Barnabus House, a foundation dedicated to helping the homeless and those in the community needing support (between the ages of 16 – 65). Please offer to help our small team with produce, cleaning or preparing the Church in any other way. All are most welcome at this very special service. Produce may be left in the Church porch, if desired, during the few days prior to the service. We hope to be joined by students from Lufton College during September. We shall welcome new students and those returning.

In Lufton we mourn the loss of Jean Unwin who passed away, peacefully on 9th August. Jean and her family have lived in Lufton for 50 years and have been valued members of our Church and community for all that

time. A Service of Thanksgiving for Jean’s life will be held at 2pm on Tuesday 5th September in St. Margaret’s Church, Tintinhull, following a private family funeral.”

TINTINHULL

John Gower writes: “I have been away quite a lot during August. I recently when to the Wednesday coffee morning at the WMC. The place was buzzing with talk and laughter. I am delighted that Carol Perry and Val Hallett have taken on the organisation from Hilary and are continuing Hilary’s high standards. I am sure we are all grateful to them and to all the volunteers who help run these mornings. Also, on an equally bright note, three of us met with our surveyor recently and have, at last, made some progress on the necessary repairs to the Church and possibly a start to a new heating system!”

Diary date: St Margaret’s UB **Harvest celebration** 10.30am, October 1st , followed by Harvest lunch in church.

YEOVIL MARSH

Christine Salmon writes: “It’s exciting to see the progress towards replacing the bell at All Saints - however we are aware there may be a little inconvenience caused during the process which we will endeavour to keep to a minimum. Apologies in advance if this should be the case and thank you very much for your co-operation. “

There’s no news from Chiltorne this time but the summer holidays are upon us. Thorne Coffin news: there’s a UB service at 10.30am on Sept. 3rd. And cut off day for October issue is 19th September. *editor*

SERVICES DURING SEPTEMBER 2017

Day	Tintinhull	Chilthorne Domer	Lufton	Yeovil Marsh	Thorne Coffin
September 3rd Trinity 12			6 pm Eucharist (BCP)		10.30 am Benefice Eucharist
September 5th		10 am Eucharist (BCP)			
September 10th Trinity 13	8 am Eucharist (BCP) 10.45 am Together4God	10.45 am Matins	6 pm Evensong	10.45 am Morning Prayer at the Elms	6 pm Evensong
September 17th Trinity 14	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	10.45 am Parish Eucharist	6 pm Evensong	6 pm Evening Worship	
Saturday September 23rd	9.30 am to 3.30 pm <i>Towards a Caring Community</i>				
September 24th Trinity 15	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	10.45 am Matins	6 pm Eucharist (BCP)	10.45 am Parish Eucharist	
October 1st Trinity 16	10.30 am Benefice Eucharist		6 pm Evensong		

You are most welcome at any of the Parish services mentioned above and you are warmly invited to join in with our **Towards a Caring Community** day so do have a think about coming to that where ever you live - your views will be valued.