



# NEWS & VIEWS

from the Benefice of Cinderford with Littledean

## Inside this Month...



## Who's on the Trike (with Mike)?



## Vicar's Letter

Dear friends,

I wonder how many people know of a connection between Billy the Kid and Ben-Hur. The connection is Lew Wallace. Wallace (born in Indiana in 1927) was a lawyer, a Union General in the American Civil War, Governor, politician, diplomat and author.

In 1878, Wallace began his term as Governor of New Mexico Territory. An early task was to resolve the Lincoln County War ongoing between groups of county residents. Henry McCarty, aka William H. Bonney, aka Billy the Kid was an Old West gunfighter involved in the feuding. He was an outlaw and fugitive. Wallace offered a bounty of \$500 for Bonney in late 1880, which was eventually received by Sheriff Pat Garrett who killed him in 1881.

Also in 1880, Wallace finished a novel set in first Century Israel. The book was Ben-Hur: A Tale of the Christ. It was a huge success and became the best-selling US novel of all time, a position it initially held for over 50 years. The book was made into a short film in 1907, a full length silent film in 1925 and the 3 1/2 hour full colour widescreen epic in 1959. The 1959 film has been watched, and loved, by millions; won 11 Oscars and changed film making for ever. Book sales surged again. The book was blessed by Pope Leo XIII, the first novel to be honoured in this way. It is said that Wallace became a Christian when reading the Bible to research the setting for his book and wanted to reflect something of his new faith in the text.

An animated version of the film was released in 2003 and a mini-series followed in 2010, but it is the 1959 version that is seen as the definitive version. It is recognised as one of the greatest films ever made, and is on many lists of favourites, certainly mine. I think it is a great film, with a moving and captivating story, an amazing score, and great action and battle sequences, but for me, it is the subtle references to the story of Jesus unfolding in the background that give it the depth that makes it so memorable. I love that we do not see Jesus' face and do not hear him speak, but we see his impact on all those with whom he comes into contact. I love when we see Jesus giving Ben-Hur some water, we are not told who it is, but it is obvious. Ben-Hur sees something in Jesus' face and remembers it years later. I also love the idea that one of the wise men comes back to find Jesus later in his life. Awesome.

There is a new, full length, big-budget, version of Ben-Hur released in the UK in September. Early reviews from the US are very mixed. Lots of people are questioning whether a new version needed to be made. There is discussion about seeing and hearing more of Jesus, and some debate about changes in the ending. I think that the critical and popular reception will continue to be mixed and I am personally concerned that the portrayal of Jesus will be less powerful. I am hoping to see the film, but I don't want to be disappointed. If you see it before I do, let me know what you think (but don't tell me too much). If you are interested in what I think, please ask.

If you want to discover something of the Jesus that Wallace encountered, read the book. The one he read, not the one he wrote!

God Bless,

*Mike*



	Bilson	St Ethelbert's	St John's	St Stephen's
<b>Sun 4 Sep</b>	3.00 pm FS	10.30 am FS	9.30 am CBE 6.00 pm <b>Harvest</b>	11.00 am MW, JC, WILD 3.00 pm ES
<b>Sun 11 Sep</b>	10.30 am <b>Confirmation</b> at St Stephen's			
<b>Sun 18 Sep</b>		10.30 am <b>Harvest</b> 5.00 pm <b>Songs of Praise @URC</b>	9.30 am PE	11.00 am Baptism, JC 3.00 pm CBE
<b>Sun 25 Sep</b>	3.00 pm <b>Harvest</b>	10.30 am MP	9.30 am PE	11.00 am <b>Harvest AAW</b>
<b>Sun 2 Oct</b>	3.00 pm FS	10.30 am FS	9.30 am PE <b>at St Michael's</b>	11.00 am HC, JC, WILD 3.00 pm ES

AAW = All Age Worship; CBE = Communion by Extension; EP = Evening Prayer; ES = Evensong; FS = Family Service; HC = Holy Communion; HS = Healing Service; JC = Junior Church (preschool up to Y6); JS = Joint Service; MP = Morning Prayer; MW = Morning Worship; PE = Parish Eucharist; WILD = Youth Group (Y7 - Y13).

### Midweek Service Times

	St John's	St Michael's	St Stephen's
<b>Wed 7 Sep</b>			10.00 am CBE
<b>Wed 14 Sep</b>		10.00 am HC	7.30 pm Shalom
<b>Wed 21 Sep</b>			10.00 am HC
<b>Sat 24 Sep</b>	4.00 pm Reader Licensing Service at Gloucester Cathedral		
<b>Wed 28 Sep</b>		10.00 am CBE	7.30 pm Shalom
<b>Wed 5 Oct</b>			10.00 am HC

CBE = Communion by Extension; HC = Holy Communion.

### Confirmation - Sun 11 Sep

Bishop Rachel will be making her first visit to the Benefice to lead a Confirmation Service at St Stephen's Church on Sunday 11 September at 10.30 am. Bishop Rachel will also be preaching and confirming candidates. The service will be followed by cake to celebrate with all those being confirmed.

### Reader Licensing

After 3 years hard work, Richard and Chris will be licensed as readers at a service on Saturday 24 September at 4.00 pm in Gloucester Cathedral. All are welcome to attend the service and join in celebrating afterwards with a Bring and Share meal at St Stephen's.

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## Mothers' Union



Although we do not hold a formal meeting in August we do join with other branches for a Mary Sumner Day event on 9 August. This usually takes the form of a picnic hosted by one of the branches. This year we met in the adjoining field to the Pludds Village Hall. The weather was fine, if a little breezy at times! We all took our own picnic and the ladies from Drybrook provided teas and soft drinks. I think we all enjoyed a relaxing afternoon and it was nice to hear the complimentary comments on our lovely Forest at this time of year.

We also celebrated 140 years of the MU at our Afternoon Tea on Saturday 20 August, but more on that in the next magazine!

On Sunday 4 September, we hold our "Wave of Prayer," but due to the timing of our slot clashing with services in the Benefice, it has been decided to each pray in our homes, or join with someone else, between 9.00 am - 9.30 am.

The next MU meeting is on Tuesday 6 September at 2.00 pm in St Stephen's, when Dot Ffello will be our speaker. All very welcome!!

## Operation Christmas Child



Continuing with our aim to pack 100 shoeboxes as a Benefice at the Packing Parties in October...

We have plenty of soap, toothbrushes, toothpastes and flannels; but still need more of the following:

- hairbrushes / combs and hairslide or hairbands
- stickers
- little toys (ie. small puzzles, plastic toys, skipping ropes - really anything that isn't sharp or war related. If you aren't sure, just ask!)
- balls (tennis balls, bouncy balls, deflated footballs and pumps, etc)
- pencil cases
- crayons (don't worry, they honestly won't melt!)
- soap bags (but no soap, etc needed!)
- hats, scarves, gloves
- notepads (that would fit in a shoebox) or loose paper (plain, coloured, striped - can just be the end of a notebook as we will wrap them at the packing party) or colouring in sheets.
- younger children's jewellery (as in that suitable for either a 2 - 4 year old box or 5 - 9. Plastic beads on elastic style is always popular!)
- Barbie type dolls and clothes (we have some unclothed barbies, so clothes without dolls would also be appreciated!)

A BIG thank you to Court Farm Garage in Littledean for their wonderful donation of a toy car for each box along with some much needed stationery.

We are also collecting sweets for the boxes. They need to have a sell by date of March 2017 or later and they can't be chocolate as this does not pass customs regulations for many of the receiving countries. No other food is allowed.

If you would love to help, but don't feel able to go out and purchase suitable items, there are other ways you can help! Eunice and Lynne have both collected some shoeboxes that could be wrapped. Each box costs £3 to transport. We have also purchased some "Go-boxes" which are predecorated flat-packed shoeboxes. This means we don't have to collect and wrap the full 100 boxes, these cost 40p each. We have already had some donations towards both of these costs, but more would be most welcome!

Packing parties will take place at St Stephen's on Thursday 6 October from 10 am - 1 pm and at Bilson on Wednesday 26 October from 2 pm - 4 pm. All welcome.

If you aren't sure if an item is suitable or would like more information about anything to do with Operation Christmas Child, please speak to Eunice Wilson (826753), Rachel Witham (719438) or Lynne Chaundy (825997).

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Cinderford Churches  
**Our Churches**



**St Ethelbert's, Littledean, GL14 3NL**  
Holds a range of services at 10.30 am. On the 3rd Sunday of each month the service alternates between St Eth's and Littledean URC.



**St John's, Cinderford, GL14 3EX**  
9.30 am services in the moderate catholic tradition with a Eucharistic and sacramental focus.



**St Michael's, Soudley, GL14 2UA**  
Chapel of Ease in Soudley with a similar tradition to St John's. Eucharist on alternate Wednesdays at 10 am.



**St Stephen's, Cinderford, GL14 2AA**  
Different worship styles at 11 am and 3 pm. 11 am services reflect an evangelical tradition with a worship band & children's and youth activities; 3.00 pm services are traditional (BCP) with organ. Various midweek services.



**Bilson Mission, Cinderford, GL14 2TQ**  
A tin church, originally built in 1880, hosting traditional services on three Sunday afternoons each month at 3 pm.

**Our Partner Churches**

Salvation Army  
Forest of Dean  
01594 839106

Our Lady of Victories  
Roman Catholic  
01594 833173  
www.foresrcc.co.uk

Forest of Dean  
Community Church  
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www.fodcc.org

Cinderford  
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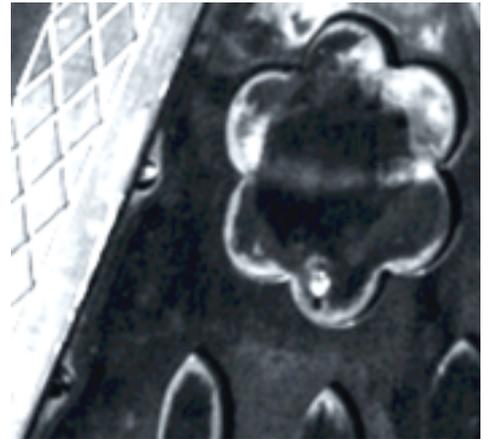
Littledean URC  
01452 760271

**Seen walking around the Benefice, but where?**



Answers can be found on page 11.

**I'm in a Benefice church, but where?**



Answers can be found on page 11.

**From the Registers**

**Baptisms**

21 August Oliver George Bradley St Stephen's

**Weddings**

25 August Colin Gwilliam & Susan Lane St John's

**Funerals**

4 August	David Burt	St Ethelbert's
4 August	Stanley Jordan	Forest of Dean Crematorium
19 August	Darren Hale	St John's
25 August	Alison Perks	Forest of Dean Crematorium
31 August	Ted Hemmings	St Ethelbert's

**A Special Birthday!**

St Ethelbert's service was very special on Sunday 14 August as it was Beryl Sleeman's 90th birthday. She has been an organist here for about 70 years which is sterling service. We sang 'Happy Birthday' and enjoyed a delicious cake afterwards. Thanks to Jo for baking it. - Ann Ladd

**Craft Fayre - Sat 22 Oct - St Stephen's**

The Craft Fayre is nearly fully booked, to book a table (£5 each) to sell handmade goods, please contact Rachel (719438 / mrswitham@gmail.com) as soon as possible. The event will run from 10 am - 1 pm and there will be light lunches and cakes along with craft activities for children/young people. Come along and support local artisans!



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## Harvest around the Benefice

Harvest is celebrated in various ways at the churches around the Benefice, this year St John's starts off the festivities with a Harvest service at 6.00 pm on Sunday 4 September followed by a Bring & Share Supper. Any Harvest donations will be given to the Foodbank.

Littledean Churches are next with their Harvest celebrations on Sunday 18th September. At 10.30 am there will be a service at St. Ethelbert's followed by refreshments. At 5.00 pm there will be a Songs of Praise at the URC, come along and have a jolly good sing of harvest hymns and songs. Afterwards at 6.00 pm there will be a Harvest Supper which will be a Bring and Share Meal. Everyone is welcome but it would be useful to know how many are coming and what food you intend to bring. Please contact Ann Ladd

(822735). There will also be an auction of produce which is always good fun.

On Sunday 25 September, St Stephen's celebrate Harvest at the 11.00 am All Age service which will be followed by Fellowship lunch and the Harvest and Fairtrade BakeOff. There will be a chance during the service to bring forward donations for the



foodbank. Bilson are also celebrating on Sunday 25 at 3.00 pm.

The 'rules' for the Harvest BakeOff are simple, try and include as many Fairtrade or locally produced ingredients in as possible! As the lectionary reading for this year revolve around the "Bread of Heaven" it would also be fun to include a Bible theme with your cake, which could be picking up on foods mentioned in the Bible (there are lots!) or just revolving around a theme of your choice from the Bible (it's probably worth including the reference on your entry!). Cakes will be judged on the number of Fairtrade or locally produced ingredients, inclusion of a Bible theme along with overall appearance and taste! There will be prizes in children's and adult categories. Ready, steady... bake!!!

As several churches are collecting for the foodbank, the following is a list of items that are on the list for our local Trussell Trust Foodbank. If you ever require help yourself, please contact the vicar, Mike Barnsley (822286), in total confidence.

Milk (UHT or powdered), sugar, fruit juice, soup, pasta / curry sauce, tinned sponge puddings, tinned tomatoes, tinned vegetables, cereals, tinned rice pudding / custard, tea bags, instant coffee, instant mashed potatoes, rice, pasta, tinned meat, tinned fish, tinned fruit, jam, biscuits, packaged cake, snack bars. (Not on official list, but always gratefully received: toilet rolls, nappies, jars of baby food, ladies' toiletries, dog and cat food.)

## Littledean Church of England Primary School



People with time for Children

### Leavers Service

We would like to say good bye and good luck to all of the children who have moved on to secondary school – we will miss you all. We have also said goodbye to Mrs Readings who, after 20 years at Littledean, has retired to spend time with her family.

### Attendance Awards

We are very proud of all of the children who achieved attendance awards for last academic year; the number of children with 98%, 99% and even 100% attendance has been higher than ever!

### New Beginnings

We are all looking forward to the start of the new academic year and welcoming back all of our existing children and also those who will be new to the school; we are also welcoming Miss White and Mr Virgo to our staff team.



## Activity and Event Times

<b>Harvest Supper</b> at St John's	Sunday 4 September - 7.00 pm (following 6.00 pm service)
<b>Mothers' Union</b> at St Stephen's	Tuesday 6 September - 2.00 pm
<b>Ride &amp; Stride Book Sale</b> at St Ethelbert's	Saturday 10 September - 10.00 am - 1.00 pm
<b>Leonard Clark Exhibition (plus Ride&amp;Stride)</b> at St Stephen's	Saturday 10 September - 10.00 am - 4.00 pm
<b>BoB Breakfast</b> at St Stephen's	Saturday 17 September - 9.00 am - 10.00 am
<b>Harvest Auction &amp; Supper</b> at Littledean URC	Sunday 18 September - 6.00 pm (following 5.00 pm service)
<b>Ladies' Curry Night</b> at The Curry Leaf	Tuesday 20 September - 7.00 pm
<b>people@prayer</b> at The Vicarage	Wednesday 21 September - 7.00 pm - 7.45 pm
<b>Bible Study</b> at The Vicarage	Wednesday 21 September - 8.00 pm - 9.00 pm
<b>Community Prayer Breakfast</b> at St Stephen's	Saturday 24 September - (8.45 am for) 9.00 am - 10.15 am
<b>Harvest Decorating</b> at Bilson	Saturday 24 September - 10.30 am - 12.30 pm
<b>Bring &amp; Share Celebration</b> at St Stephen's	Saturday 24 September - following Reader service at Cathedral
<b>Harvest Lunch and BakeOff</b> at St Stephen's	Sunday 25 September - 12.30 pm

## Weekly Activities

- Monday: 7.00 pm - 8.45 pm Bellringing**, St Ethelbert's Church (**not on the first Monday of the month**)  
- Group to practice ringing for Sunday services. (Bells rung on a Sunday from 9.45 am - 10.30 am)
- Tuesday: 10.30 am Pause for Prayer**, DoubleView Villa, Littledean Hill Road  
- Group meeting to pray for the needs of the church, community and mission partners
- 2.00 pm Craft & A Cuppa**, St Stephen's Church (**restarts Tuesday 13 September**)  
- Craft group where members bring along their own craft and share fellowship
- Friday: 10.00 am Coffee Morning**, St Stephen's Church  
- Chance to meet for fellowship and enjoy some Fairtrade tea and coffee
- 5.00 pm - 6.00 pm F.A.N. Club** (Years 1-6), Bilson Mission Schoolroom  
- Craft and activity club for primary school children (**restarts Friday 9 September**)
- 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm SMILE** (girls, Year 7+), The Vicarage (**restarts Friday 16 September**)  
- Youth group for girls in secondary school with food, games and activities
- 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm IF** (boys, Year 7+), St Stephen's Church (**restarts Friday 9 September**)  
- Youth group for boys in secondary school with food, games and activities
- Sunday: 7.00pm WILDER (Year 9 +)**, The Vicarage (**restarts on 18 September**)  
- Chance for the older half of the youth group to discuss the 'big issues' over food.

## Curry Meal

On Tuesday 20 September, all ladies are welcome to join in the ladies' night out at The Curry Leaf (Cinderford). The meal starts at 7.00 pm and costs £10 each. Please contact Sian (822286) for a menu and to give her your deposit (£5) by Sunday 18 September.

## Bottle Gift Bags

If anyone has any bottle gift bags they are willing to donate, St Stephen's would like to 'upgrade' their "Whine or Wine?" stall to using bottle bags rather than newspaper. Please contact Rachel (719438) or drop off at St Stephen's.

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## Historic Churches Trust Ride & Stride - Sat 10 Sep

The Historic Churches Trust Annual Sponsored Ride & Stride takes place on Saturday 10 September. The national event is supported locally by the Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust (GHCT).

Various churches around the county will be open and the event encourages people to try and visit as many as they can either cycling, walking, horse-riding or even driving. As the idea is to raise money for your local church as well as GHCT, the aim is to be sponsored whilst 'collecting churches.'

St Ethelbert's, Littledean is supporting the event (as they have done for many years) and will be open from 10.00 am - 1.00 pm. Refreshments will be available along with a book sale. Jim Duffin (and maybe also his son-in-law) will be on an exercise bike 'riding' the distance between local churches and would welcome sponsors.

Members of St John's will be walking around Gloucester City centre churches; they will be collecting sponsorship as a team for the churches they 'collect' on their travels. Whilst St John's will not be open, there will be a sheet on the door for people to record their attendance at the church.

St Stephen's will be open from 10.00 am - 4.00 pm, with refreshments being served.

There's also a Leonard Clark exhibition that day (see below). Andy Cole and Chris Witham will be riding between churches in the Forest and would welcome sponsors.

If you're interested in riding or striding, sponsoring any of the individuals or teams or for more details please see the Benefice website or speak to a churchwarden (see page 12).

## Leonard Clark Heritage Open Day - Sat 10 Sep

Leonard Clark loved the Forest. It was the natural beauty of the Forest that entranced him as a young man, inspiring his poetry. For him, the Forest landscape, trees and ecology were a thing of outstanding beauty, something wonderful and spellbinding. His early poems featured Abbotts Wood, Chestnut Wood and Flaxley. He loved the great beeches in Chestnut Wood and was distraught to find it cut down when timber was needed in WWII. He wrote: 'I was brought up in a forest, which means, if you like forests, that trees become part of you, your brothers and sisters, as it were. The trees of my forest became part of me, so that even now I must live where trees are; I pale when I hear that one is to be cut down. I become a different creature when I move among trees; their woody spirit seems to enter into me. I inherit their silence: I breathe more freely in a forest than on any windy moor or exposed sea shore.'

He remained devoted to the people of the Forest all his life. He was brought up by a foster mother on Belle Vue Road, in an intensely loving family. He shared the grief of losing a step brother in the First World War. The family worshipped at St Stephen's Church and it was the community of the church and Cinderford that made him feel secure and safe. In 1965, looking back on his childhood in his autobiographical *Fool in the Forest*, He wrote: 'the Forest of dean, that place of my happy, if uncertain, youth - those far off, shining years of forty years ago, when I thought.....all things abided eternally as they were in their proper places.'

Leonard Clark's highly successful career took him to Devon, Yorkshire and finally to London where he died. In his later years he wrote some of his most eloquent poetry about the Forest. He longed for his old home and the tress, and was nostalgic for the past, recognising Cinderford had changed, and yet found its draw irresistible. He wrote: 'The river still curves to the sea, The woodlands throb with song, But the town has changed, More prosperous, cosmetic, Almost like any other town. I remember its drabness but also its pride; the faces of the colliers have all been washed white, and something fierce and passionate gone. My hope is I am given a last sight of it all, Skies, fields, riverbank and glade, Before I am finally tidied up for the night.' His wish was granted, he made one last visit to Cinderford with his son Robert, and after seeing his favourite places, asked him to bring his ashes back to Cinderford and St Stephen's Church, where they rest today.

As part of the Heritage Open Day events across the country, there will be an exhibition of Leonard Clark's books, information about his life and recordings of him reading his work from 10.00 am - 4.00 pm on Saturday 10 September at St Stephen's. The organisers are aware that many parishioners knew Leonard Clark, may have corresponded with him or have insights into his life and would be very pleased to meet with you on the day and see any memorabilia.

## Mike's Question:

If you were applying for asylum here on grounds of being a Christian and facing persecution in your home country, one of the questions you would be asked in order to verify that you are a Christian is "Name the 12 disciples". How many can you name without looking them up? (There are lists in Matthew, Mark and Luke. You might want to try and learn them, although the lists are slightly different!)

## Mike's Challenge:

With respect to the names of the twelve disciples, what problem do we encounter in John's Gospel?

Answers will be in next month's "News & Views" but please do discuss with Mike in the meantime!

## Answers to last month's's:

The seven churches that the Revelation is addressed to are Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea.



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## Getting to Know You ... with Lynne Chaundy



**Favourite ice-cream flavour?** Mango.  
**Favourite book?** Any historical novel.  
**Favourite season?** Spring.  
**Favourite item of clothing?** Trousers.  
**Favourite colour?** Green.  
**Favourite City?** Florence.  
**Favourite actor/actress?** Judi Dench.  
**Favourite film?** Tea with Mussolini or Lawrence of Arabia.  
**Favourite hymn or church song?** Dear Lord and Father of Mankind.  
**Favourite Church Building?** Pershore Abbey.  
**Favourite flower or tree?** Cannas and Trailing Geraniums.  
**Are you a cat person or a dog person?** Generally a cat person.  
**First job?** Assistant on a fruit and veg stall outside of Blakeney.  
**Worst job you've done?** Ward orderly in an orthopaedic hospital during one summer holiday from college.  
**Favourite food & drink?** Asparagus soup, salmon and mulled wine (or anything with mango in!).  
**What was your best holiday?** Coach tours of Austria.  
**What would be your ideal holiday?** Cruise round the Mediterranean.  
**Would you prefer to live in a big city or small village?** Small village.  
**Earliest memory?** Messing about in a sunken garden which my parents have just created (I even have a picture of my dad pushing my sister around in a wheelbarrow in the garden!).  
**Which living person do you most admire?** The Queen.  
**Where would you most like to be right now?** Any beach (Winchelsea).  
**First car (and did it have a name)?** Ford Anglia - no name.  
**If you could have any car in the world, what would it be?** Any small hatchback that goes and is fairly fuel efficient.  
**When were you happiest?** Up a mountain in Austria (with Margaret Ricks!).  
**Favourite TV programme?** Any detective series.  
**What do you owe your parents?** The chance to be myself.  
**If you could go back in time, where would you go, and why?** Back to Victorian Britain to be one of my mother's ancestors in Hampshire. They had a rather wonderful life and are commemorated in a chapel in Kingsclere church.  
**If you could choose your own first name, what would it be and why?** Happy with Lynne, never thought about being called anything else.  
**Favourite place to eat out?** By the lake in Austria, Halstatt.  
**What would your superpower be?** Ability to relieve suffering.  
**Favourite building?** Some of the buildings in the ancient hill towns of Italy.  
**Favourite family memory?** Exploring the Welsh border castles.  
**Favourite place to go shopping?** Bexhill-on-Sea.  
**If you could be any animal, what would you be and why?** A cat, they have a nice life and find all the warm spots to sit in winter.  
**Best job you've ever had?** I'm going to go with funniest job - being the only female teacher at an all boys school in Derbyshire.  
**Most treasured possession?** The Bible given me at my Reader licensing.  
**What four people (dead or alive) would you invite to a dinner party?** Dame Judi Dench, Colin Jackson, Disraeli, Queen Victoria.

## Lectionary

### 4 September (15th Sunday after Trinity)

Deuteronomy 30:15-end      Psalm 1  
 Philemon 1-21      Luke 14:25-33

### 11 September (16th Sunday after Trinity)

Exodus 32:7-14      Psalm 51:1-11  
 1 Timothy 1:12-17      Luke 15:1-10

### 18 September (17th Sunday after Trinity)

Amos 8:4-7      Psalm 113  
 1 Timothy 2:1-7      Luke 16:1-13

### 25 September (18th Sunday after Trinity)

Amos 6:1a, 4-7      Psalm 146  
 1 Timothy 6:6-19      Luke 16:19-end

### Harvest Lectionary

Deuteronomy 26:1-11      Philippians 4:4-9  
 Psalm 100      John 6:25-35

### 2 October (19th Sunday after Trinity)

Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4      Psalm 37:1-9  
 2 Timothy 1:1-14      Luke 17:5-10

### 2 October (Michael and All Angels)

Genesis 28:10-17      Psalm 103:19-end  
 Revelation 12:7-12      John 1:47-end



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## David Burt

We were all saddened to lose David, who was such an integral part of the life of St Ethelbert's Church and all the churches in our Benefice.

He moved to Cinderford in 1992 when he retired from the M.O.D and soon after joined us in Littledean, very quickly involving himself in all aspects of church life.

He was a very keen, able bell ringer and maybe that is why he chose St Ethelbert's as he rang in the tower most Sunday mornings. He prided himself that he had rung in over 1000 churches throughout the country including St Paul's and Canterbury Cathedrals. We will remember him for the game he devised for our fetes 'Pick the Bell Tower'.

David's strong faith led him to train as a Reader and we will also remember him for the many services he led. He loved to read The Bible and each day read a chapter from the Old and New Testament. When he had read through the whole Bible, he would begin on a different version. He spent his life 'Loving the Lord' and his life reflected this.

He was a loving, caring man and helped so many people as he was prepared to do anything for anyone. He wanted to make a difference. He served in so many ways - Teens in Crisis, Citizens' Advice Bureau, Churches Together in Cinderford, Our PCC, Deanery Synod and Street Pastors Management Committee.

He was really pleased when, in 2007, the Littledean Partnership of Churches was formed and was the treasurer of the LEP until he became ill. Since his teenage days he was passionate about Church Unity; his great belief, 'One Church, One Faith, One Lord'. He always looked outward from the church building to the wider world. He had great empathy with people and their situations and readily engaged in conversation which usually ended with, 'Hope all goes well for you!'

My special memories of Dave are of him helping at The Salvation Army Homework Club every Thursday, attending Devotions at the URC and often leading it and his contribution to Open the Book. He once mentioned that he had a facial problem so couldn't smile often making him appear miserable (which he definitely was not) but it enabled him to act some wonderful roles in the Bible stories - Jonah the Groaner, Pilate and usually the King in the story which he enjoyed. He said, 'I always play the miserable git!'

We will miss you Dave for your loving, caring ways - a truly Christian life and your legacy is far reaching as you touched the lives of so many people. Our sympathy goes to Barbara, William, Linda, Janette and their families. - Ann Ladd

## CTiC Evening with Charles Price - Sat 8 Oct

Charles and Hilary Price are visiting for an evening of Worship & the Word on Saturday 8 October, 7.30 pm at the Spotlight Theatre, Freedom Leisure Centre (GL14 2AF). There is no charge.

Charles was formerly the principle of Capernwray Bible College and has served as the teaching pastor of The People's Church, Toronto for the last 15 years. His teaching ministry has stretched across the world via the popular TV and radio broadcast on Living Truth (livingtruth.co.uk). Hilary is also a much loved author and international speaker.



## Little Acorns Nursery



We offer morning sessions for children from age 3 years +

Funding available – 3 year olds entitled to 15 hours free childcare per week, speak to us for further details.

### Places available now

**Monday – Friday 08.45 until 11.45am**

Based on-site at Littledean C of E Primary School.  
Give your child the best start – Rated 'Good' by Ofsted.

**Call 01594 824159 or pop in and see us.**

### Please pray for:

- Bishop Rachel
- those who have recently been bereaved
- anyone who is unwell
- others around the Benefice who need prayer
- Chris and Richard; preparing for licensing as readers on September 24
- Anthea; in her ministry as deacon
- Eunice, Linda and Lynne; our Licensed Readers
- Jim and Adalia Fisher, in the Philippines
- Felipe and Sarah Yanez (CMS partners in Spain) and their sons Sam and Aaron
- Cinderford Street Pastors
- children, young people and leaders
- Colin & Susan, married in August
- those baptised in August
- children, young people (and their teachers) as they start a new school year; especially for all those starting at a new school
- Harvest celebrations around the Benefice and the Foodbank that collections will be made for

**Torch Services** Every third Saturday in the month at 10.30 am (not December) short Services ('Torch') are held at Hanover Court for people who are blind or partially sighted. All are welcome to attend. For further info, please contact Peter Christmas (827984) or Nicola Hyett.



## Fairtrade Focus

### No Bake (!) Cookies and Cream Tart

#### Ingredients

- 300 g / oz Traidcraft cookies\*
- 100 g / oz butter, melted
- 250 ml / fl oz double cream
- 300 g / oz Fairtrade chocolate,\*
- 200 g / oz fresh fruit
- Grated chocolate\*
- Sprinkle of Fairtrade icing sugar#



(All starred (\*) ingredients are Traidcraft products available at the Fairtrade stall at St Stephen's; ingredients marked with a hashtag (#) are available as Fairtrade but not from church - speak to Rachel for advice on where to purchase - 719438).

#### Method

1. Line a 23 cm / 9 inch cake tin with greaseproof paper.
2. Crumble the cookies using a food processor to 'blitz' them or place them in a strong food bag and smash with a rolling pin.
3. Mix in the melted butter.
4. Place the biscuit mix into the prepared tin and pat down till even but with a slight lip around the edge.
5. Freeze for 10 minutes.
6. Whilst the biscuit mix is setting, prepare the filling by gently heating the double cream and then adding the chocolate, allowing the warmth of the cream to melt the chocolate.
7. Pour over the biscuit base and top with the fruit.
8. Refrigerate for about 3 hours (until set).
9. Garnish with grated chocolate (or melted chocolate) and sprinkle with icing sugar.

Choose your fruit and chocolate type based on the cookies you pick for your base. For example, the stem ginger cookies are delicious paired with Divine Dark Chocolate and rhubarb! (You'd need to cook the rhubarb before using - just chop into small pieces and spread onto a baking tray, sprinkle with a little sugar and roast for 20 minutes).

**Did you know?** Traidcraft's FairPalm is also used in their Clean & Fair range (also available at St Stephen's).

#### Traidcraft's Fairtrade Double Chocolate and Stem Ginger Cookies contain FairPalm.

Palm oil is a pretty incredible product, in that it can be used for so many different things! You have probably already used palm oil today, possibly without even realising! Palm oil is in soaps, toothpastes, cookies, ice cream, cleaning products, pizza, pet food! In fact it's in more than 50% of the packaged goods we buy from the supermarkets. It's often simply labelled as 'vegetable oil' so you may not even know a product contains it.

The sad thing about palm oil is the way that it is farmed in so many places around the world. The bulk of palm

oil used in products comes from Indonesia, where vast swathes of rainforest are cleared to produce more and more palm oil. This loss of rainforest not only destroys the natural landscape of Indonesia but also destroys all the other flora and fauna that live in it. This includes orangutans and tigers, both endangered already. Over 90% of Sumatra's orangutan population has disappeared since 1990 and they face the real possibility of extinction in the near future. The UN estimates that by 2022, 98% of Indonesia's natural rainforests will have been destroyed!

As well as the huge harm it is doing to local animals and biodiversity, the burning of the forests causes massive health problems for the local population. Many children (and adults) suffer from lifelong respiratory problems from constantly breathing in smoke.

So, why is Traidcraft excited about including palm oil in anything? Well, the FairPalm that Traidcraft are using comes from the Serendipalm plantation in Ghana. Here the palm oil is grown alongside other crops, like cocoa. So no mass forest destruction. Palm oil originated from West Africa, so it is a natural environment for it to grow in.

Serendipalm was set up in 2007 and is based near Assoum in the Eastern Region of Ghana, to get there you have to travel for several hours along bumpy dirt tracks. Around 400 farmers cultivate and grow palm oil organically and supply 'fresh fruit bunches' to a central processing unit, known as a crammer, where over 200 people are employed (mostly women). Here the fruit is sorted by hand and processed to extract the oil ready for export. Farmers are paid 10% above the local rate and also enjoy a Fairtrade premium for use in local community projects. The factory workers are also top earners in the district, earning around 25% more for the area and have excellent terms & conditions as well as a safe working environment. There is also a great social atmosphere among the workers. Many of the women are thrilled to have another opportunity to get work as jobs for women are very few in the area.

Community projects that the Fairtrade premium has funded so far include farm maintenance programmes, bore holes for clean water, construction of nurses quarters so communities have access to medical and maternity assistance, public toilets and water facilities, school uniforms and books for children.

Sofia and Josephine are the midwives who now live at the newly built accommodation, as a result of them living in the community maternal and child deaths have vastly reduced. In the first year of their being there, there had been no deaths for a year, which is a huge improvement!



They also help with other aspects of healthcare in the general community, including care and information about malaria and trying to prevent the disease.

### I'm in a Benefice church, but where?



Lectern at St Ethelbert's Church, Littledean.

### Seen walking around the Benefice, but where?



Painting on the side of a house in Steam Mills.

### Who's on the Trike (with Mike)?



**Sheila Moore**

MU Branch Leader, Deputy Churchwarden at St Stephen's, Maker of Delicious Cakes (and fabulous Butterscotch Sauce) and all round wonder woman!

# crcr

## Crome Creations Limited

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### Dates for Your Diaries...

- Sat 8 Oct - 7.30 pm **CTiC Evening with Charles Price** at Spotlight Theatre, Freedom Leisure Centre
- Fri 14 & Sat 15 Oct - **SHINE Ladies' Conference** at St Stephen's
- Sat 15 Oct - 7.00 pm - 8.00 pm **Pregnancy and Infant Loss Wave of Light** at St Stephen's
- Sat 22 Oct - 10.00 am - 2.00 pm **Craft Fayre** at St Stephen's's
- Sun 30 Oct - 6.00 pm **All Souls Service** at St John's
- Mon 31 Oct - 5.30 pm - 9.00 pm **Light Party** at St Stephen's
- Sat 5 Nov - 10.3 am - 2.00 pm **St Stephen's Christmas Fayre**
- Sun 13 Nov - **Remembrance Sunday**
- Sat 26 Nov - 11.00 am - 1.30 pm **St Ethelbert's Christmas Market**
- Tue 29 Nov - 6.00 pm - 9.00 pm **Ladies' Christmas Evening** at St Stephen's

## Contact Us

**Vicar:** Mike Barnsley  
01594 822286  
07903 436009

mike@cinderford-churches.org.uk  
(Mike's regular day off is Monday,  
if you need to speak to someone urgently,  
please contact a churchwarden)

**Assistant Curate:** Anthea Beresford  
01594 822396

anthea@cinderford-churches.org.uk  
(Anthea has a full-time job and her regular  
church day off is Saturday. Please phone /  
email and she will respond as soon as possible)

**Churchwarden at St Ethelbert's:**  
Peter Meredith - 01594 822445

**Churchwardens at St John's:**  
Evelyn Smith - 01594 822755  
Chris Taylor - 01594 824197

**Churchwardens at St Stephen's:**  
Nick Jones - 01594 825902  
Chris Witham - 01594 719438

### Urgent Prayer Requests –

Sian Barnsley - 07932 193291  
Eunice Wilson - 01594 826753  
Mike Barnsley - 07903 436009

### Benefice Safeguarding Officer:

Karen Jones - 01594 825902  
safeguarding@cinderford-churches.org.uk

### Visit the Benefice Website:

[www.cinderford-churches.org.uk](http://www.cinderford-churches.org.uk)

### Or join us on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/cinderfordchurches](https://www.facebook.com/cinderfordchurches)

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### Or find us on Instagram:

[www.instagram.com/cinderfordchurches/](https://www.instagram.com/cinderfordchurches/)

### Editorial Team

St John's - Ann & John Holliday  
St Eth's - Maureen Wheeler  
St Stephen's - Rachel Witham

If you have anything for the next magazine  
(articles, photographs) or would like to  
enquire about placing an advert please  
contact [magazine@cinderford-  
churches.org.uk](mailto:magazine@cinderford-churches.org.uk) by Thursday 15 September.

**Comments and opinions expressed do not  
necessarily reflect the views  
of the Editors, the PCCs or  
the Vicar of the Benefice.**

## Keswick Convention 2016

Once again, a group from around  
the Benefice headed to Keswick  
for the Convention at the end of  
July. The Convention takes place  
over 3 weeks and is free to attend.  
There are activities for children  
and young people alongside the main meetings in the big tent. There  
are also a variety of seminars you can choose to attend.



Of course, one of  
the most wonderful  
things about the  
Keswick  
Convention is the

stunning location in the heart of the Lake District. Afternoons were  
filled with Lakeside picnics, drives around the countryside,  
meandering through town, visiting Hilltop and  
those that were brave enough -  
swimming in Derwentwater!



If you'd like to know more, speak to  
the vicar, Mike Barnsley (822286)  
or anyone that went along this year. It would be  
wonderful to expand our group next year!



## Vicarage BBQ

