

Parish Newsletter

Compton Dundon and
Littleton



September 2017

Incorporating **The Herald**

Passchendaele Centenary A Compton Dundon link



The centenary of the Battle of Passchendaele (31st July to 6th November 1917) has been commemorated this summer. A notable link with Compton Dundon exists and the story of Harry Patch and of Stanley Cooper is related on page 4 by village resident **Victoria Holmes, Stanley's great-granddaughter.**

In Victoria's words, "It is beyond extraordinary to think that these two men fought more or less alongside each other, and now the great-granddaughter of one lives in the home of the other".

Village Lunches

The village lunches are at 12.30 p.m. on the final Wednesday of each month. To book a meal, please contact either:

Ally Dore 01458 445463
allydore@btinternet.com) or
Pauline Atkins 01458 272485
paulineatkins1944@gmail.com)

The next village lunches are on the following Wednesdays:

27th September

25th October

29th November

13th December

(Christmas Lunch)



If you are able to join the rota for cooking the meals or to assist your support will be very much appreciated. Please contact Ally or Pauline.

To submit news items/
information for the October
newsletter, please contact Alan
Dean by either:

1. Tel: 01458 270057
2. alan.dean14@btinternet.com
3. Drop details into Foothills,
Peak Lane, Compton Dundon,
TA11 6PE

The deadline for the October
2017 newsletter is the 15th
September 2017.

*(Please note that I will be leaving for a
holiday hence the early deadline
date)*



This newsletter and past
issues may be found on the village
website:

www.comptondundon.com.

For the latest community news
and information, follow Compton
Dundon on Facebook:

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

Correction

Village Directory

Please note on page 4 under
'Women's Institute' the number
for Pat Maddaford should be
448530 (not 445830)

Compton Dundon Toddler Group

Many thanks to Emily who has finished two years as Chairperson for the group. Helen Miles has now taken over.



We welcome babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers together with their parents, grandparents or carers.

There is a large selection of toys, ride-on cars and dressing up clothes to keep everyone entertained! Our youngest members can have fun and play safely in our dedicated baby area.

The Toddler Group meets every Tuesday from 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon (term time only) at the Meadway Hall, Ham Lane, Compton Dundon. Sessions include coffee and cake for the adults and a drink and healthy snack for the little ones.

Admission is £1-75 for the first child; £2-00 for a family. Your first session is free!

Take a look at our Facebook page to keep up to date with what is going on.

We restart on Tuesday 5th September and look forward to welcoming you along.

Contact Helen Miles: 07528 123164



100 Club Winners

July 2017

£15.00

#62 Andrew Curtis

£10.00

#74 Jan Steer

£5.00

#65 Peter Robinson

August 2017

#51 Terry Parker

#65 Peter Robinson

#66 Marlene Perrysmith

The Passchendaele Centenary: Remembering Harry Patch

31st July 2017 marked one hundred years since the start of the Third Battle of Ypres during World War One, better known as the campaign for Passchendaele, a tiny village in the middle of Flanders, Belgium. This anniversary has special significance for Compton Dundon thanks to its most famous former resident: Harry Patch, the Last Fighting Tommy. From 1942 to 1953, Harry Patch lived in one half of what is now Kerris Cottage on Compton Street. In his autobiography, Harry described his years in Compton Dundon as some of his happiest, and I like to think that he found peace at Kerris Cottage, with his orchard full of rare native apple trees.



In contrast, Harry spoke hauntingly about his experiences at Passchendaele, **which led him to believe that “no war is worth the loss of a couple of lives, let alone thousands”**. Harry was injured during an horrific shell attack on 22nd September, and was sent back to England.

I now own Kerris Cottage, and by a strange twist of coincidence, my great-grandfather Stanley Cooper died at Passchendaele on 13th August, 1917. My grandmother was left without a father at the age of five, and the dramatic changes that her loss wreaked on her life have cast long shadows into mine. There is no marked grave for Stanley Cooper but his name can be found on the Menin Gate. Stanley was in the Westminster Rifles so I can't say if he crossed paths **with Harry's 7th Battalion of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry**, but it means a great deal to know that I can honour the memory of both these brave men during this important centenary year.



Compton Dundon is deeply honoured to have Harry Patch among its former sons and we should not forget about him, or the debt we owe to all of the names on our memorial. It is heartbreaking to read names which live on among our neighbours, and to think of the sacrifices made all over the world during that terrible time.

Victoria Holmes, Kerris Cottage, Compton Dundon

Village Show Success - 12th August 2017



Best in show for both vegetables and fruit - Les Taylor. Flowers - Mary Burt. Cookery - Joan Carbin. Handicraft - Kathy Chiffers. Photography - Paul Harwood. WI shield - Julie Gordon. Childrens Cup - Bethany Jones. Flower Cup - jointly by Angela Castle and Mary Burt. Floral Art Cup - Moira Harrison. Wine Cup - Alan Riley. Cookery Cup - Mary Burt. Preserves Cup - George Cormack. Art Cup - Sylvia Wright. Photography Cup - Paul Harwood. Handicraft Cup - Trish Cox. Rose Bowl - Pat Maddaford. Vegetable Cup and the Banksian Medal - David Rose.

Entries as a whole were up following a low number last year, but unusually in the normally popular Cookery section entries were down and so were Childrens.

At 2.30 p.m. the Hall was full of visitors looking at the exhibits and sampling the tea and cakes.

The prizes were presented very ably by David Hatrey and assisted by Royston Maddaford.

The Garden Club would like to thank all those who entered and all those who helped beforehand and on the day.

We made the front page of the Western Gazette last week.

Report by Kathy Chiffers (****Unclaimed prize on green ticket No. 414****)

The Somerset Day
15th September



Sunrise
6.47 a.m.
Dawn
6.14 a.m.



Sunset
7.24p.m.
Dusk
7.57p.m.



Highlights from the July & August meetings at Meadway Hall, Compton Dundon

12th July - **“Edible Crystalline Flowers”**

Someone once famously said “life is too short to stuff a mushroom” but is it too short to crystallise a flower? Apparently not because our Speaker, Jill Fade kept us enthralled with her entertaining, instructional talk on this very subject. Jill runs her own cottage industry, selling crystallised flowers on her website. Jill warned that there is a definite knack to it, you will get sticky but everyone can crystallise a flower. You need egg white (very lightly whipped) a paint brush, caster sugar (not the golden one) and very fresh flowers. These are best picked directly from the garden, do not use flowers from florists or supermarkets as these may have been sprayed. If unsure about any flowers, play it safe and do not use them. Reliable sources of information are the internet and seed wholesalers. Not all edible flowers will crystallise, good ones include violas, honeysuckle, cornflowers, daisies and any herb flowers. Very poisonous are sweet peas, azaleas, buttercups, hellebores, foxgloves and wisteria amongst others. Jill was a most entertaining and enthusiastic speaker and she was warmly thanked by Claire Aixten.

Our visitors included seven members of Bucklers Mead W I, Sharon, and we were delighted to welcome back Doreen Smith who has been in hospital recently.

The competition for an arrangement in an egg cup was won by Pat Maddaford and unusually we had first second and third prizes in the flower of the month competition, these being Mary Burt with a most unusual dahlia, Joan Carbin with antirrhinum and Trish Cox with sweet peas.

The drama group entertained us with their very special rendition of Cinderella and a varied finger buffet rounded off an extended but interesting evening.

21st July - Quiz at Castlebrook Inn

This evening was very successful, with thanks to the Quiz Master, Robin.

9th August - **“Minature in Dolls’ Houses”**

This experimental meeting, held in August, was well attended. Please note because of this trial, there will be no meeting in September.

Our Speaker, Anne Goold introduced us to her miniature world bringing with her an extensive display of dolls houses in various settings, shops, spectacular examples of knitted dolls' clothes tiny dolls' cradles holding even tinier babies. When renovated Anne donates the houses to residential care homes, having furnished them in the style of the 1940's, it proves to be a memory stimulant for the residents. Anne teaches at classes, again concentrating on clients with special needs, so keeps things as simple as possible.

Materials used include the insides of toilet rolls, which are sterilised by placing in the microwave. Simply cut to look like a chair, upholstered with material attached with essential PVA glue, the result was amazing.

Other objects are made using any form of cardboard, cocktail sticks, makes a realistic clothes airer, lollipop sticks and wooden coffee stirrers and you have a sledge. Coconut fibre makes realistic sweeping brooms, this material is also used for thatching roofs. And so it went on, polymer clay to make sweets, vegetables, little figurines, this is therapeutic as it involves rolling and cooking. Anne uses every medium except metal or glass.

Outstanding in her display were the clothes Anne knits, using sizes 19's 20's and 21's, 1 ply wool or crochet cotton. These garments were exquisite, in all styles and fashions. One pair of knickers, complete with elastic was no bigger than my little finger nail, and was fitted on a tiny doll! It is difficult to cover everything we saw and heard but it was a fascinating experience. Christina Napper thanked Anne, mentioning our own Craft Club saying the members will be inspired to try the new ideas.

The competition for a miniature object was won by Sue Hibberd with a collection of vehicles, Angie Castle with a crocheted handbag second and Janet Davies third with a wooden mushroom.

The flower of the month was won by Pat Maddaford with a rose.

The correspondence included a thank you from Bucklers Mead W I for our recent hospitality, we will visit them on October 10th when the subject for the **Speaker will be "My Life on a Fairground"**.

Dates to Remember:

13th September outing to the Rope Works at Isle Brewer, followed by lunch at the Smokery, Hambridge.

September 29th Polden Hills Group Meeting at Puriton 7.30 p.m

December 6th Christmas Dinner, venue to be arranged.

October competition: Wartime Memorabilia

Reports by Wendy Edwards



Forthcoming Women's Institute Meetings at Meadway Hall - second Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m.

13th September		No meeting
11th October	Tony Bagwell	Nine Thankful Villages
8th November	Rachel Harding	Ballroom & Latin Dancer
13th December	Kay Wych	Maid at Glastonbury Abbey

Compton Dundon Golf Society

Our July meeting brought out the sun and the knees as we travelled up North to Saltford with one of our largest groups – 17 in all. We think that the increased numbers went to Ian Dillamore's head as he turned up with his own personal caddy, in the shape of his grandson, in an attempt to emulate the professionals. Several members queried whether he was paying the minimum wage or just making use of child exploitation.



Ian Witcombe, joining us for the first time, set the tempo for the day as his first drive overtook the group in front and then followed this up by playing out of a bunker straight down the hole – **didn't anyone tell him about the standard of our golf? Fortunately for the rest of us, it didn't last and he sank to the levels of our play!**

Whatever was said in the Cookson car on the way to the venue is unknown, but Karen did her very best to hit Phil with her drive from the first tee, just missing him by a few inches as he stood on the fairway in front viewing his second shot. That motivated him to play faster to get away from presenting her with too easy a target!

Rob Litston, ever inventive, found even a new way to try to target people his fellow members by hitting a tree and just missing his playing partner with the rebound – he has yet to perfect his angles, but practice will make perfect!

Chaz decided that he would get the best value for money from the course, trying out several bunkers, bushes and playing more strokes than anyone else – sound economics – **paid for it so let's use it.**

Saltford has a lovely hole – the 17th down in a valley, surrounded by bunkers, bushes and water and from the tee high above it looks a beautiful sight. Royston **was so impressed he couldn't bring himself to hit a ball anywhere near the picturesque green** and hit several balls to various parts just to avoid disturbing the tranquillity of the scene!

Dave and Erica were so impressed with the beautiful views across the valley to-

wards Bath that they failed to notice that their trolleys had set off down the fairway on their own in the direction of the green – spooky – is this an indication of the future – **buggies that follow their owner's ball?** **The nearest the pin competition** on the 9th was abandoned as no one managed to get a ball on the green (note earlier comment on standards!) Top team was Phil, Simon and Doreen.

So to August – it appeared we chose the best day of the week for the weather as the sun shone brightly as we travelled to the far flung reaches of Long Sutton. Sunstroke may have had a hand in the proceedings, for Brian Love was seen on his knees searching for a golfing glove that was hanging from his back pocket, and Andy Curtis was observed crawling under a bush to play a shot from a prone position.

This erstwhile couple spent much of their round hiding in trees, much to the angst of their playing partner Dee, who was left alone and despondent on the fairway!

Ditches played an interesting part in the day's proceedings. Alan Witcombe was seen trying to perfect a one legged shot from the depths of one, and Brian managed a trick shot to bounce his ball up out of the ditch, off a bridge and onto the fairway some distance behind his starting point!

Why is it that Rob Litston's playing partners appear to vie to outdo his ventures at targeting players in front? Jim Searle managed to miss Ian Dillamore by a few inches (Ian reckons Jim was really targeting his wife Pat, who was standing near to Ian at the time – golf does promote such wondrous marital harmony!)

We were pleased to welcome a new member – Dave Davies, sadly not of Kinks fame. He managed to outdo all of them – playing a shot that overtook the whole group in front and landing his ball on the practice putting green several yards beyond the actual target – Rob could only stand and admire!

As to the “competition” nearest the pin in one shot was won by Simon Dore – the first time in 3 years that he has managed to get a ball on the green at one of these holes! Ian, Pat and Alan excelled themselves at this failing to even get one ball on the green after two shots each! Hamish won a bottle of wine for the top score - thanks to his new mega driver. (He could have bought several bottles of wine for the price of that driver- need we say more?!) Alan Witcombe and Dave Davies won the top pair score.



The next outing - Wednesday 13th September at Yeovil Golf Club. New guests welcome – contact Royston Maddaford if you would like to join us for some social golf. The cost for all venues is £40 which includes a bacon roll and coffee beforehand, a round of golf and a two course meal afterwards .

Compton Dundon Gardening Club

Programme for 2017 – 2018

Date	Topic	Speaker
4 th September 2017	No meeting	
2 nd October 2017	Growing and using edible flowers (AGM at 7 p.m.)	Stephanie Hafferty
6 th November 2017	Alluring Alpines	Paul Crumbleton
4 th December 2017	Christmas floral demonstration	Anne Hassad
8 th January 2018	New year quiz	
5 th February 2018	The Pharmacy in the Plant	Alan Dean
5 th March 2018	Orchids	Howard Burnett
1 st /2 nd April 2018	Easter weekend	
9 th April 2018	History & development of bishops' palace gardens	James Cross
May 2018	Visit to Sweet Acre Nursery, Glastonbury	
June 2018	Visit to Hestercombe House & Gardens	

Meetings are normally held in Meadway Hall each month on the first Monday of each month from September to June starting at 7-30 p.m.

We need more Committee members. Please contact Kathy if you are able to help.

Contact Kathy on 01458 27431 or 07870831811 for information about the Gardening Club.



Boules Tournament

Sunday 17th September

Meadway Hall
Play starts 12pm



Teams of 4

£20 per team (includes **ploughman's lunch**)

To enter contact Simon Dore

01458445463 or cdvillagehall@gmail.com

Entries by 14th September

No experience needed. Bring your own drinks – Village cider will be available. Depending on the number of teams entering, each team will play a few games in a round robin, followed by a knock out to find the overall winners.

Why not get a team together?

Compton Dundon Short Mat Bowls Club

The Club held their Charity Triples Competition on Saturday 24th June. Sixteen clubs from across the county took part in the all day event. The club catered for their visitors, providing bacon rolls, salad lunches and home made cakes for tea. A raffle and book stall helped to raise a total of **£600** which will be donated to The Beacon Oncology Unit at Musgrove Park Hospital.



Top photo: - the winners Oake and runners-up Evercreech are presented with a cheque by the chairman Michael Bell

Middle photo: - some of the teams during play



Bottom photo: - Mary and Gwen running the raffle



The Bowls Club meets at 7-15 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays each week, in the Meadway Hall. As well as club evenings, they regularly compete in both friendly and league matches. Why not come along for 3 free evenings, with bowls provided. Any enquiries, please ring Michael Bell (01458 442046)

Compton Dundon Walking Group



The dates for walks for the rest of this year are as follows (not all follow 'third Sunday of the month' pattern to avoid busy times): -

September 17 October 15 November 19 December 10
Contacts: Martin & Lynda Tel: 01458-273591

Compton Dundon Cricket Club

Match reports

2nd July - Cranmore 399-3 beat Compton Dundon 204 all out
At Warminster, **Cranmore won the toss and batted first and Compton's weekend** bowling conceded 399 runs: only taking 3 wickets. Ben Chislett made 74 and Adam Shields a quick 26. Compton ending on 204 all out. They managed to make it back to the Castlebrook Inn before closing time.

9th July - Compton Dundon 175-5 beat Broadwindsor 172-8
A strong Compton side beat travellers Broadwindsor at a packed out Hayes road. Compton bowled first, and kept Broadwindsor down to 31 off the first 8 overs. Broadwindsor managed to get themselves through the 40 overs, climbing to 172. Compton were saved by the "strong and stable" innings of the season's top run scorer Ben Chislett (87 n.o). Compton got to the required total in the 35th over.

16th July - **Queen Camel 142 all out beat Compton Dundon 130 all out**
Compton bowled steadily and kept Camel under pressure, with 142 all out off 35 overs. Ben Chislett was bowled off the first ball of the 2nd over but Compton moved along steadily and at 122 for 6, victory still looked possible, but the last 4 wickets fell for 8 runs. Both teams retired to the Mildmay Arms.

23rd July - Crewkerne (Away) - Cancelled

30th July - Butleigh Home - Abandoned (Rain)

6th August - Middle & West Chinnock (Home) - Compton lost by 80 runs.
Compton chased a total of 286 for 7 but were all out for 206 in the 37th Over.

13th August - Butleigh (Away) - Compton lost by 1 wicket

Compton were bowled out for 80 on a "low" wicket at Butleigh.

Butleigh lost a wicket for only one run and they proceeded to lose wickets at a regular rate but Jack Tucker (29) saw them home with only 1 wicket remaining. Toby Weech 4 for 16. Compton retired to the Rose and Port feeling hard done by in a game they should have won.

Friday 18th August - T20 vs Long Sutton - Compton won by 2 wickets

20th August - North Perrott Away - Abandoned (Rain)

Sunday Mid-Wessex league last fixtures: -

3rd September Kingsdon (A) The club bar open to all on home match day.

Junior Coaching

This years Coaching Sessions came to an end in July, were very well attended; a peak of 23 children one week. Thanks to the coaches; Dave Morgan and Greg Jones. See you all again next year.

Contact Greg Jones: - greg@morcott.co.uk Tel: 07976 539907



The Parish Council



Parish Council Members

Cllr Greg Jones (Chairman) 272531 greg@mor-cott.co.uk
Cllr Hugh Thomas 274427 hughthomascdpc@gmail.com
Cllr Diane Churches 442078 diane.churches@live.co.uk
Cllr Tiffany Kearton 440031 faerys@gmail.com
Cllr Stephen King (Vice Chair) 274926 Pat_SteveKing@yahoo.co.uk
Cllr Geoffrey Walker 446487 walkermessages@gmail.com

Clerk: Stanislaw Berkiet FCSI, Castlebrook House,

Compton Dundon, Somerton, TA11 6PR. Tel 01458 448921

Email comptondundonclerk@gmail.com

Website: www.comptondundon-pc.gov.uk

The next Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday 6th September 2017 in the Meadway Hall, starting at 7-00 p.m.

Vacancy on Parish Council

The secretary has issued notices for the filling of the Council vacancy by co-option at the September meeting. Form CV3 to be completed by applicants and forwarded to him by 31 August 2017.

Dean Ruddle is our County Councillor and District Councillor for the Wessex Ward.

Next surgery Saturday 16th September in the White Hart, Somerton 9-30 to 11 a.m. To make an appointment either call 01458 274865 or email anne.yates@btinternet.com



Stephen Page, South Somerset District Councillor for the Wessex Ward (Somerton and Compton Dundon)

Next surgery on Saturday 30th September 2017 from 11.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon in the 'Full of Beans' Cafe, 6 West Street, Somerton.

All are welcome to meet with Stephen and discuss any concerns or issues. To make an appointment

email stephen.page@southsomerset.gov.uk or 07519 739137

South Somerset District Council Online Services

<http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/online-services/>

Parish Council Planning Business

The Parish council met on 14th August before the scheduled September meeting.

There was a large public attendance for discussion of the Telefonica/Vodafone application for a telecoms mast at M Wrights, near Ham Lane/Peak Lane junction (Ref: 17/02392/TEA).



From the July Council meeting : -

1. Pre-planning consultation update on Decoy Farm, Peak Lane.

A revised design for the proposed development was presented and a full discussion took place. Generally, councillors liked the new plans and commented on the change to a full new build and the improvement to the exit onto Peak Lane.

2. Update on Telefonica application for a telecoms mast.

An extension has been given for responses to 18 August 2017. Following extensive discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would write to Adrian Noon (SSDC Planning) to put the record straight regarding **communications from the Telefonica's consultants. Further a working party consisting of three Councillors and three members of the Action Group would be immediately set up to ensure that the Community's concerns were** fully pursued. The working party will report to the Parish Council. Since there is no resident expertise on the subject it was agreed that the working party would commission a technical specialist to support their work. The Council **RESOLVED** to pay specialist expenses of up to £500.

3. Objections received regarding Metcalf House proposal for caravan and motorhome facility.

A number of complaints had been received by the Parish Council regarding the proposal. It was explained that this is not a planning issue that the Council has any formal powers of response. However, it has written to the Caravan and Motorhome Club advising of the contents of the complaints and highlighting the road safety issues in the village.

Speed Limit Change Proposed from 50 mph to 40 mph
Somerset County Council proposes to make an Order in pursuance of the provisions of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, the effect of which is to introduce a 40 mph Speed Limit on the B3151 Castlebrook, Somerton Road, Compton Dundon from a point 208 metres from the junction with Ham Lane in a southerly direction for a distance of 1360 metres (i.e. replaces existing 50 mph on stretch of road from Compton Dundon to Littleton with 40 mph limit)



Newsletter of
St Andrew's Church
 Compton Dundon

The Herald

Any enquiries with regard to Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals should be directed to the Priest in Charge, The Reverend Sharon Walker; Tel: 01458 442297 or sharonannewalker@hotmail.com.
 Church Officers
 Church Wardens: Martyn Steer 273455 & Helen Thomas 274427
 Treasurer: Margaret Sutton 272811

Services & Events - 3rd September to 1st October 2017
All Sunday services start at 10.00am unless otherwise stated

Date	Service	Preacher
3rd September	First Sunday	Revd Diana Greenfield
10th Sept	Holy Communion	Revd Diana Greenfield
17th Sept	Holy Communion	Revd Toby Salisbury
22nd Sept	Organ Restoration Concert at 7-30 p.m. <i>(see poster page 20)</i>	
24th Sept	Holy Communion	Revd Brian Gillet
1st October	Harvest Festival & Lunch at 11-00 a.m.	Revd David Hatrey

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, COMPTON DUNDON

INAUGURAL CONCERT

**JOIN US TO CELEBRATE THE
RESTORED ORGAN**

ON

**FRIDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER 2017
at 7.30pm**

**DAVID BRIDGES (ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER)
TOGETHER WITH VOCALISTS AND OBOIST FROM
TAUNTON SCHOOL**

Concert followed by refreshments

PLEASE CONSIDER SPONSORING AN ORGAN PIPE (£10)

Contacts: Helen (274427) Martyn (273455) Margaret (272811)



Sunday 1st October at 11-00 am at St Andrews Church
Revd David Hatrey will lead the festival and will be auctioning any donations of perishable goods after the Harvest Lunch (see below)
Non-perishable goods will be donated to the Street Food Bank.
Donations of perishable items such as vegetables, fruit or cakes, and of non-perishable items such as teabags, jars or tins, will all be welcome at the Harvest Service.
There will also be a box in the Church throughout September for any non-perishable items.
Perishable goods may be left in the donations box in the church from Friday 29 September.



HARVEST LUNCH

Sunday 1st
October 2017



The annual Harvest Lunch will take place at the Meadway Hall after the Harvest Festival Service.
Tickets will be on sale shortly and should be purchased in advance (adults £8, children 11 or under £4) for catering purposes.
Help on the day, and/or a dish such as a salad or a pudding, would be very much appreciated.
If you are able to help in any way, please contact Margaret Sutton on 272811 or Pauline Atkins on 272485, or another member of the Parochial Church Council.

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.

The Right Reverend Peter Hancock
Bishop of Bath and Wells



MERCY SHIPS

FUNDRAISING EVENING

Millfield School, 30th September,
7.30pm

This concert is to raise awareness and funds for the charity, Mercy Ships. It includes music, and illusionist and information and videos about the hospital ship which offers free surgery and health care in Africa.

Tickets are available, price £7, from Sonia Beaty at the Mission Church or from www.mercyships.org.uk/tour.

Please note: The show is billed as unsuitable for under sixteen's.

Sponsored Bike Ride Sierra Leone 2017

To everyone who kindly sponsored me for the bike ride to enable a child to go to school in Sierra Leone :

Here we are just before successfully completing the ride and raising enough funding to send two children to our link school for one year, a great result.

We were lucky enough to be offered the bikes rent free too and we cycled along the River Parrett and round the levels villages. Many thanks again for your support, Patrick King



London Marathon 2018 - Clare Lindsey runs for the Motor Neurone Disease Association

Former Compton Dundon resident Clare is running to raise funds for MNDA the charity that works for the care and support of sufferers of this currently incurable disease. Clare is inspired by the loss of her Uncle Nigel to the disease five years ago.

Any donation big or small will be very greatly appreciated. You can donate at :

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/clare-lindsey?utm_id=13

