

# Parish Newsletter

Compton Dundon and  
Littleton

March 2018

Incorporating The Herald

## A Hard Pull Up Lollover

Many of us have walked to the top of Lollover Hill, even to see the type of winter scene shown in the photograph.

Think of the poor old donkey who had to haul the trig point up to the top in a cart!

Frank Vining always called the bridle path

**that leads up to the gate & stile 'The Donkey Track' because he was around when they installed the trig point.**



*(Lollover Hill is a triangulation pillar at Grid Reference ST 47403 32476 at a height of 90.004 metres above sea level. It is classified as a third order station - there are 378 primary pillars around the country; secondary pillars fill the gaps between primary pillars; 3rd order fill gaps between the second order; 4th order points fill gaps between 3rd order. GPS Stations are classified as 13th order.)*

## 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  
(allydore51@gmail.com) or  
Pauline Atkins 01458 272485  
(paulineatkins1944@gmail.com)

The next village lunches are on the following Wednesdays:



28th March

25th April

30th May

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.

## 100 Club

Thanks to everyone for supporting the 100 Club in 2017.

Tickets for 2018 are on sale in January and February to start in March 2018.

Tickets are £10 for the year.

For tickets, please contact Janet Davies on 01458 272877



## Newsletter entries

The deadline date for the April newsletter is Friday 23rd March 2018. To submit news items/information for the newsletter, please contact Alan Dean by either telephone (01458 270057), or email ([alan.dean14@btinternet.com](mailto:alan.dean14@btinternet.com)) or drop details into Foothills, Peak Lane, Compton Dundon, TA11 6PE

*Please send documents and files in a PC compatible format - Apple 'PAGES' documents need converting. Photo and image files should not be compressed.*

## Churchfitters Concert Review

### Saturday 17th February 2018



Another fine concert; many on the night said it was the best yet. What brilliant musicianship and interesting instruments and arrangements; although we have heard them often before, this was the first time that we have heard Chris play partly filled glasses of water. I must admit that I was a bit sceptical in advance but when he played them in the context of

the tunes I was suitably impressed. Chris added some classic violin skills; he plays a mean fiddle. We were also treated to the ethereal sound of the musical **saw and Boris's collection of homemade instruments. Boris provides a driving** rhythm to their ensemble with his bass ( a converted motor bike petrol tank ) and guitar (Mercedes hub caps) playing accompanied by his magic drum shoes. The bing-bong machine is always a favourite with the audience.

Rosie has the most beautiful voice and plays a great assortment of instruments all with amazing enthusiasm and energy. I believe the Meadway Hall full of an enthusiastic audience gives a group the required energy to perform at their best and on this occasion, we were amply rewarded. Frances was also treated to her favourite Churchfitters song - *To Althea from prison*, a Richard Lovelace poem set to music by Dave Swarbrick.



Another successful Meadway Sessions concert. **If you didn't go, well you don't know what you are missing and it's right on your doorstep. The next Meadway Session is Faustus on November 30<sup>th</sup> so get it in your diaries, you don't want to miss it.**

Alan Riley

# Andrew Chiffers Memorial Ceilidh



**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7.30pm**  
**Meadway Hall, Ham Lane,**  
**Compton Dundon TA11 6PQ**



## Somerset Levellers Ceilidh Band

Somerset Levellers will entertain with music, songs and dance. The dances are taught by an experienced and friendly caller interspersed with tunes and songs to allow dancers to 'catch their breath'.

The Band is supported with music and songs from SUBS the **'Somerton Ukulele Band and Singers'**.

The Ticket will include the price of a HOG ROAST.  
There will be a bar with local real ale and wine.

Tickets are £10 and are available from: -

Simon Dore 01458 445463

Alan Riley 01458 447223



## Livestock Worrying

Rural Crime Team message for all dog walkers



Livestock worrying is a big concern as we approach the Spring. We are seeing an increase in such reports and would like to take this opportunity to politely remind dog walkers to keep their animals on leads around livestock.

Remember to follow the Countryside Code especially during the lambing season. If your dog attacks livestock, you could end up being responsible for offences including criminal damage and sheep worrying, as well as potential prosecution for offences under the Dangerous Dogs Act.

Farmers have the right to shoot dogs that are worrying or attacking livestock. **We don't want anyone to lose their beloved family pet.**

The Avon and Somerset Police Rural Crime Team recommends:

- Always checking for livestock in fields when walking your dog/s
- Always making sure you shut gates behind you
- When in or near fields with livestock, keep your dog/s on a lead and under control at all times. The only time you should release your dog is in the event of being chased by cattle. By restraining the dog in this circumstance you put yourself at risk of being injured
- If you live near livestock and own a dog/s make sure that your property and garden are secure so your pets cannot escape

Leading rural insurer NFU Mutual saw a 50% rise in dogs attacks on livestock in the UK in 2016.

## Craft Club



Meetings are on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday in the month at Meadway Hall

March 6th & 20th

April 3rd & 17th

Contact Trish Cox on 01458 447075 or email at [coxelders@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:coxelders@yahoo.co.uk)



We think there is demand for a table tennis session in the village hall?

Suggestion for playing on Thursdays between 3.00 & 5.00 p.m. or times to suit the majority.

If you are interested please contact Michael Bell (442046) or Rebecca Wells (273874)



## Highlights from the January & February meetings at Meadway Hall, Compton Dundon

**January** - Our Speaker for the first meeting of 2018 was Karen Burge whose subject was **'Detoxing and Exercise'**.

Karen is very passionate about her subject and explained in great detail how important it is to regularly detox our bodies of impurities.

Karen is not a great believer in dieting in order to achieve weight loss as she feels the underlying causes of being overweight are much more complicated and need to be dealt with in very different ways. If consulted, Karen offers help in managing stress, mental health problems and digestive disorders.

Apart from eating the wrong foods, toxins can be taken into the body by other means and Karen stressed we must be very careful just what products we put on our skin. As we all know, one of the most important and simple things we can do is to drink lots of water.

Karen gave us a great deal to think about and she was thanked by Angela.

Subscriptions were due this month. Trish announced she was to run her Savings Club again this year and Pat presented the Financial Statement

Angela explained that although Tony Warren had printed and produced an excellent programme for our forthcoming year, Tony was not completely happy with the quality and hence made no charge, this is very generous, thank you Tony.

12th April - A visit to the racing establishment of Andrew Balding followed by a trip to Highclere Castle (Downton Abbey).

Scrabble evenings will start again and several members expressed an interest in taking part in a Kurling Competition hosted by Walton WI on Friday February 16th at Walton Village Hall.

The competition for an action photograph was won by Janet Davies; second Denise Larson; third Pat Maddaford. Trish Cox presented the winning flower of the month with a bright and cheery marigold.

*(Continued on page 7)*

**February** - Alan Dean, who has lived in Compton Dundon for two years, kindly stepped in as Speaker following the illness of the booked Speaker.

Alan and his wife both qualified as pharmacists, and he worked as the Chief Pharmacist for the Calderdale hospitals in Yorkshire for 30 years. His subject, **'The Pharmacy In The Plant'**.

Aided by a slide show Alan showed us the advances made over the last fifty years in the use and development of medicines derived from plants. He outlined the large changes in pharmaceutical practice since his training. Latin was then the principal prescribing language and many medicines were compounded in pharmacies from these prescriptions. We saw pictures of pill rolling equipment, moulds for pessaries and suppositories, cachet machines, an old pharmacy and the prepared products. Pills are very different from tablets made with machines. One sure way of finding out if pills were poorly made was to hear them rolling around in the bed pan!

Plants are producers and manufacturers of chemical compounds, and static and vulnerable to attack whilst animals are consumers and mobile, pursuers and grazers. Plants developed defence mechanisms either physical e.g. thorns etc and/or chemical by being damaging to or attacking the nervous system of predatory animals.

Over the years the development of medicines taken from plants has needed to be carefully controlled and this needs to be applied equally to herbal medicines to ensure safety and good standards.

Various groups of plants were discussed including Mallow which produce a gum like substance; seaweed such as Great Kelp for alginates used to treat gastric reflux problems and dressings for the treatment of wounds; Belladonna for atropine in eye examinations, Yew which is toxic used to treat some forms of cancer and many more, too numerous to mention here.

Frances Riley thanked Alan, saying that it was the second time she had heard Alan speak on this subject, previously at Gardening Club, and it spoke volumes as to the quality of the Speaker that she had found it equally fascinating the second time around. We all agreed with this sentiment.

At the business meeting, Trish welcomed back Verity who has been absent for some months following a fall at home and a hip replacement. Verity thanked members for flowers, cards and especially a visit from Mary.

Events during the month: -

Four members went to a Kurling competition hosted by Walton W I at Walton village hall, it was a superb evening, all of the W Is in the Group represented, lots of skills demonstrated, much laughter and well meant advice, tea and cake consumed and Compton Dundon reached the semi final, much to our surprise. Thank you Walton for inviting us.

Trip to the Octagon Yeovil for the Vicar of Dibley, preceded by tea Thursday 22nd February.

*(Continued on page 8)*

**Scrabble at Sue's** Wednesday 21st February 6.45 p m .

### Dates to Remember

1. Saturday 28th April: - Banner Parade celebrating 100 years of W I.
2. Wednesday 21st March: - Road Show at Meadway Hall  
Hosts - Compton Dundon  
Speakers subjects: - Dogs Trust and the S.S. Great Britain.
3. Saturday 26 May: - Centenary Events at Meadway Hall  
12 noon to 3.30 p m. - Come and support your W. I.

The competition for a heart shaped article - winners were Angie Castle with a cushion, Sue with a glass heart and Trish a heart shaped stone.

Wendy won the Flower of the Month with a sprig of daphne.

Next month: -

**Speaker, Georgie Newberry on 'Wedding Flowers'**

Competition: - a buttonhole in any medium.



*(This report by Wendy Edwards )*



## **Forthcoming Women's Institute**

Meetings at Meadway Hall - second  
Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m.

14th March	Georgie Newberry	Wedding Flowers
11th April	Yvonne Bell	Hobble Skirts & Harem Pants
9th May	Daphne Atkinson	Life Below Stairs
13th June	Dr Frances Burroughs	A Victorian Garden



This newsletter and past issues may be found on the village website:  
[www.comptondundon.com](http://www.comptondundon.com).



For the latest community news and information, follow Compton Dundon on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/comptondundon](http://www.facebook.com/comptondundon)



# Compton Dundon Gardening Club

Next meeting Monday 5th March - 7.30pm

## 'Orchids'

A talk by Howard Burnett

The garden club has need of some more committee members. If you would consider serving on the committee and would like more details you can get in touch with Kathy on 01458 27431 or 07870831811.



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

Date	Topic	Speaker
1st/2nd April 2018	Easter weekend	
9th April 2018	History & development of <b>bishops' palace gardens</b>	James Cross
May 2018	Visit to Sweet Acre Nursery, Glastonbury	
June 2018	Visit to Hestercombe House & Gardens	

## Compton Dundon Golf Society

### CDGS Dinner 2018

The Annual Dinner was held at the Ashcott Inn, where over 30 of us enjoyed a very nice meal. There were a few awards handed out, including to Jim Searle, the Memorable Moment of the Season. Peter Robertson received "**The Man In The Bushes Award**" and Simon Dore received the **Champion's Cup** by being far too advantageously handi-capped.

A new programme has been arranged for 2018 starting on Thursday March 8<sup>th</sup> at Shirehampton Park Golf Club. All welcome to join us. Contact Royston Maddaford Tel: 448530

**\*\*Don't Miss\*\* - 'Golfing Ode 2018' on page 20**



## Compton Dundon Short Mat Bowls Club

The Bowls Club meets at 7-15 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays each week, in the Meadway Hall.

Why not come along for 3 free evenings, with bowls provided.

Any enquiries, please ring Michael Bell (01458 442046)

## Compton Dundon Walking Group

Unless decided otherwise, 2018 walks will all be on the third Sunday of each month (exceptions being if any dates clash with busy times like Mothers' or Fathers' Day, etc). The usual start times will be 10.00 a.m. at the Village Hall (to share cars if possible), or directly from a walk start point at around 10.30 a.m. (in which case details will be given with general information about a particular walk). Lunch after at a suitable hostelry.



Remaining dates for 2018 are as follows:

March 18th      April 15th      May 20th  
 June 24th (avoid Fathers' Day on the 17th)    July 15th    August 19th  
 September 16th      October 21st      November 18th  
 December 9th (avoid busier dates nearer Christmas)

As usual, we need volunteers to lead walks and arrange lunch venues.

Contact: - Martin & Lynda    Tel: 01458-273591

The Somerset Day  
15th March



Sunrise  
6.23a.m.  
Dawn  
5.50 a.m.



Sunset  
6.16 p.m.  
Dusk  
6.48 p.m.

# Compton Dundon Cricket Club

Interested in playing cricket in the village?

The usual program of Junior Coaching will take place between May and July on a Friday Evening.



Compton Dundon will be competing in the Mid Wessex League on Sundays throughout the summer. (The bar will be open at home games)

We are always looking for new players (old and young) so why not get in touch to find out more.

Greg Jones (Secretary) 01458 272531 or [greg@mor-cott.co.uk](mailto:greg@mor-cott.co.uk)

## Easter Bonanza Bingo!

24th March 2018 - Meadway Hall,  
Ham Lane, Compton Dundon -Doors  
6:45 Eyes down 7:30

Including all new cash bingo final flyer  
Top Prize £70

Bumper prizes at this annual charity Bingo night:  
£50 M&S voucher Spirits, wine and Easter Eggs  
Special raffle prizes too (See our Facebook Post)

Home-made cakes, teas and coffee

A fun night out for all the family. Book it in your diary now!

### All proceeds to MNDA

Raffle tickets available in advance - please follow on Facebook for details: -  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/306027039907324/?ti=icl>

or contact Peter Lindsey at [peter@somersetlindseys.com](mailto:peter@somersetlindseys.com) or 01458 440607



## ABOUT CATS

### Tony Warren's tale: -

In December I moved in with my Mum to assist with her care. I came with a 4 bedroom house's worth of stuff and two nine year old cats, Athene, a short haired grey, black and white tabby and Odysseus a huge ginger cat also short haired. I kept the cats locked in for the first six days as I was concerned that on the wind from Somerton they would be able to smell their old territory and disappear in that direction.



**I needn't have worried on that count.**

All went well at first until the New Year came around. Food was disappearing faster than my cats were eating. Then I happened to be in the lounge when "Athene" came in, went over to the all day cafeteria and started to Hoover up the food. Although the markings Food hoovering continued and it wasn't until I stood up and started moving toward it that this cat made a hasty exit through the cat flap.

That night, at 3.30 am to be precise, I became aware of cat world war III taking place downstairs. Once the dust settled and I got downstairs I found no cats in doors, but a considerable amount of cat fur by the cat flap. The disputing carried on and one morning I found Athene limping. Took her to the vet and found a bite on her bum. Antibiotics and anti-inflammatory were injected, she was locked in for two days and is now fine. No sign of invader cat. Then I caught her food hoovering again so clearly the cease fire has failed and hostilities have been resumed. Hopefully they can sort it out between themselves soon.

## ABOUT DOGS - Gary Downs of Littleton, a Puppy Parent for Canine Partners, writes:-

Canine Partners needs more puppy parents! Can you help their recruitment drive for more volunteer puppy parents, who take assistance dogs in training into their homes until they are 12 to 14-months-old. The volunteers provide early socialisation, and help with basic obedience and skills training, with **full ongoing support from one of the charity's experienced puppy trainers.** Food, equipment, vet bills and temporary holiday care is provided.

For more information call [01730 716017](tel:01730716017) or visit [caninepartners.org.uk](http://caninepartners.org.uk).



**my amazing puppy**

Which amazing puppy will you sponsor?  
[myamazingpuppy.org.uk](http://myamazingpuppy.org.uk)

Dasher and Dancer available from  
01 October to 31 December 2017

Dasher Dancer

# The Parish Council



## Parish Council Members

Cllr Greg Jones (Chairman) 272531 [greg@mor-cott.co.uk](mailto:greg@mor-cott.co.uk)  
Cllr Hugh Thomas 274427 [hughthomascdpc@gmail.com](mailto:hughthomascdpc@gmail.com)  
Cllr Diane Churches 442078 [diane.churches@live.co.uk](mailto:diane.churches@live.co.uk)  
Cllr Tiffany Kearton 440031 [faerys@gmail.com](mailto:faerys@gmail.com)  
Cllr Stephen King (Vice Chair) 274926 [Pat\\_SteveKing@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Pat_SteveKing@yahoo.co.uk)  
Cllr Geoffrey Walker 446487 [walkermessages@gmail.com](mailto:walkermessages@gmail.com)  
Clerk: Helen Richardson Email [comptondundonclerk@gmail.com](mailto:comptondundonclerk@gmail.com)

Website: [www.comptondundon-pc.gov.uk](http://www.comptondundon-pc.gov.uk)

The next Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday 7th March 2018 in the Meadway Hall, starting at 7-00 p.m.

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

Next surgery on \*\*\*FRIDAY\*\*\* 9th MARCH 2018 in the White Hart Inn, Somerton from 9-30 a.m. until 11-00 a.m.

To make an appointment either call 01458 274865 or email [anne.yates@btinternet.com](mailto:anne.yates@btinternet.com)



Stephen Page, South Somerset District Councillor for the Wessex Ward (Somerton and Compton Dundon) will be holding his regular monthly surgery on Saturday 24th March 2018 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 at [stephen.page@southsomerset.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.page@southsomerset.gov.uk) or 07519 739137

## South Somerset District Council

Latest News: -No cuts to public services after Full Council agrees balanced budget for 2018/19

To achieve that balance whilst maintaining services, the Council is implementing a strategy to modernise services and secure efficiencies alongside being more commercial and business minded whilst generating additional income to replace the cuts in central Government funding.

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

## Parish Council Planning Business



Items on the agenda of the February Council meeting: -

a). To receive notifications of district council planning determinations: -

1. 17/04658/PDE: Mrs T Dombey, Castlebrook House, Castlebrook, Compton Dundon TA11 6PR. Proposed Rear Extension. PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT.
2. 17/04204/FUL: Adrian Smith, Manor Farm Barns, Littleton. TA11 6NP. The Erection of a cycle and bin store. PERMIT.
3. 17/03891/FUL: Mr D Davis, Maisemore, Compton Street, Compton Dundon. TA11 6PS. Proposed demolition of existing building and the erection of a new 4 Bedroom dwelling on land to the east of Maisemore. PERMIT with CONDITIONS.
4. 17/03501/FUL: Mr & Mrs Whitcombe, Decoy Farm, Peak Lane, Compton Dundon. TA11 6NZ. Partial Demolition of Farmyard and the erection of 4No Dwellings associated access, turning, parking, gardens, orchards and visibility splay improvements at Decoy Lane/Peak Lane junction. PERMIT with CONDITIONS.

b). To agree responses to planning and legal consultations: -

1. 18/00058/FUL. Mr G Jones, Compton Dundon Cricket Field, Hayes Road, Compton Dundon, TA116PF. Erection of an equipment storage building.
2. 18/00029/REM. Mr & Mrs Paul Riley. Land East of 9 Ham Lane, Compton Dundon. TA11 6PQ. Application for Reserved Matters following approval of 16/04312/OUT for the erection of 2 No dwellings to include details of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale.

c). Other planning consultation issues

1. Pre-application discussion about potential development at Home Farm, Compton Dundon

## THE ARTS SOCIETY, MID SOMERSET

20th March - Eating with Queen Victoria: a Greedy Queen

17th April Velasquez - The Great Magician of Art (10.30)

15th May Charles Saatchi - A modern Medici

19th June Three Great Families and their Gardens



The Arts Society illustrated lectures at Caryford Hall, Castle Cary BA7 7JJ at 11-00 a.m. - free parking. Entry fee £6. Information 01963 350 132



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 - 4th March to 1st April 2018**  
*All Sunday services start at 10.00am unless otherwise stated*

Date	Service	Preacher
4th March	Non-Eucharist Service	Revd Diana Greenfield
11th March Mothering Sunday	Family Service ***Village Hall*** Croissants from 9-30 a.m.	Revd Sharon Walker
18th March	Non-Eucharist Service	Revd David Hatrey
25th March Palm Sunday	Holy Communion (Donkey procession 9-45 a.m. from the cricket pavilion)	Revd Toby Salisbury
29th March (Thurs.) Maundy Thursday	Passover Meal Village Hall at 7-00 p.m.	Revd David Hatrey
30th March (Friday) Good Friday	11 a.m. Meditation 12 noon Crosses up Lollover	Revd Sharon Walker
1st April Easter Sunday	Holy Communion	Revd Diana Greenfield

St Andrew's Church, Compton Dundon

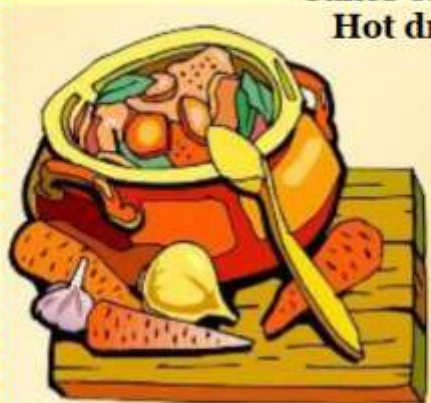
# Lent Lunch

Tuesday 20th March

12:30— 2:30 p.m.

The Meeting Room,  
Village Hall,  
Compton Dundon

Soup and roll  
Cakes or fruit  
Hot drink



Donations will support  
Christian Aid, for those  
forced to flee their  
homes.



# PASSOVER MEAL

Maundy Thursday - 29th March 7 p.m. - Meadway Hall

Paul Atkins writes: - As Christians we talk about the last supper and we understand that it was the last meal Jesus had with his Disciples before he was crucified. Although he was the Son of God Jesus was brought up as a Jew and would have followed the observance of the Passover in remembrance of the deliverance by God of the Hebrews from slavery to the Egyptians. Have we ever thought of how they do that?

Last year my wife Pauline and I saw that on Maundy Thursday, the Rev. David Hatrey was telling the story of the Passover with readings and symbolic food which would give the experience of partaking and working through the nature of the Feast of the Passover. As neither of us had experienced such a service before and were interested in what the Jews might do, we thought we would take up the opportunity to do so. We were so pleased we did.

For both of us it was a very interesting and moving experience and gave us an insight into the significance of the food and what it represented. There is a strict order in which the food is eaten and how it symbolises the journey of suffering, to freedom. We must not forget of course this was also the meal at which Christ shared the bread and wine to symbolise the sacrifice that he would make by his death to redeem mankind.

I am delighted that David is once again going to preside over a Passover meal celebration, this time it will be at the Meadway Hall in Compton Dundon on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March. I could have written in detail about the food and the order of service but it would spoil the experience. For this reason I would strongly recommend, if you can, please try to attend and experience what we did.

Annual Parishioners and Parochial Church Meeting

**This meeting will be held at St Andrew's Church during the Service at 10.00 a.m. on Sunday 8th April 2018. All are welcome to come along.**

There is a great need for Parishioners to serve on the Parochial Church Council. If anyone wishes to join the P.C.C., would they please contact the Secretary, Susie Robertson, or one of the Churchwardens.

# FLOWER FESTIVAL

St Andrew's Church, Compton Dundon

## “Memories”

Saturday May 26th to Monday May 28th  
2018 from 10-00am to 5-30pm

Donations for Refreshments

Plants, Produce and Cakes on sale

Sunday 27th - Choral Evensong at 6-00pm

Monday 28th - Spring Fete & Barbecue  
and Parachuting Teddies from the Tower

(If you would like to make a donation in memory  
of a family member please call Angie on 01458  
272371)



Monday 28th May - Spring Fete & Barbecue  
**Churchyard, St Andrew's Church, Compton Dundon**  
12 noon to 3-00 p.m.

To ring the changes, we decided to hold a Barbecue and Fete on the Spring Bank Holiday Monday this year instead of the usual Hog Roast. Chris Swain and Sarah Morris of Jurassic Hog are very kindly supplying the barbecue.



This will coincide with the Flower Festival weekend from 26th to 28th May, **when our church will be decorated to the theme of “Memories”.**

Please come along to this very happy event for the whole family. There will be stalls, fun activities and a bar. A great opportunity to meet friends and neighbours from across the parish, to enjoy yourselves and to support your local church and community.



Letter from the Right Reverend Peter Hancock, Bishop of Bath and Wells - March 2018



## Making space

**I remember my father once saying ‘as you get older the seconds seem longer, but the years go by faster.’ I think he was right. Perhaps that’s your experience too? In March 2014 I officially became the Bishop of Bath and Wells and began to ‘take up the reins’ and it’s two years since I was appointed the Lead Bishop for Safeguarding.** The time has flown by. Even more amazing is that this year I shall have been ordained for 38 years and I thank God for all that he has enabled me to see and **do through those years. In my study there’s a picture of a much-younger me, taken at my ordination in 1980. Looking at it reminds me of the Lord’s grace and goodness to me and to Jane through those years.**

I will be taking some time some study leave in May and June this year. At one **time these were called ‘sabbaticals’ and that word is from the same root as ‘Sabbath’, which means to take time to rest. I am particularly grateful to Bishop Ruth and the Bishop’s Staff who have encouraged me to take this time, especially as it will mean they will have to ‘keep an eye on the shop’.**

This will give me an opportunity to spend time reading and reflecting on what God may be saying about the priorities and opportunities for the diocese and the wider Church - and time to pray and think more about the challenges which lie ahead of us. During this time Jane and I have arranged to go to Israel. Neither of us has been there before and that in itself will be a wonderful experience.

In the midst of busy, noisy and often crowded lives it is hard at times to make space to read and to pray, to make time to listen to God and to build our relationship with him. I am sure that having this precious gift of time will mean that I return renewed and refreshed for all that lies ahead as together we seek to live and tell the story of Jesus.

Taking care of our spiritual lives is something we all need to do and Jesus took time to be apart with his Heavenly Father. I know not everyone can take study **leave, but even a half day will often help to charge the ‘spiritual batteries’.** I look forward to sharing with you some of what I have learnt when I get back to the desk.

With warm Christian greetings,

Rt Rev Peter Hancock  
Bishop of Bath and Wells

## 'Golfing Ode 2018' by Simon Dore

Dear Friends, relax, tip back your chair,  
While this golfing tale I with you share  
Of an assorted band, a motley crew,  
And their achievements all the season through.  
'Achievements' – that word may slightly flatter  
But among friends does that really matter?  
During midwinter when the local courses were  
muddled  
Royston prepared and new techniques he studied.  
Improving his game from the very first tee  
Bad habits removed, great improvements he'd  
see.  
Some of these changes, we couldn't help thinking  
He'd thought up when he'd been heavily drinking.  
Twice His routine made everyone mutter  
When he walked to the tee carrying only his  
butter.  
Then at Lyme on the tee he took out his long  
wood  
And hit the ball just as hard as he could  
The ball it went straight at the tee marker block-it  
rebounded and flew o'er his head like a rocket.  
Andy Curtis was standing and watching this feat  
And thought "That's not a shot I would care to  
repeat"  
But as soon as that thought had entered his mind  
At the very next hole Fate crept up from behind.  
His shot from the tee, to cut short the preamble  
Replicated this shot finding thickets of bramble.  
So he replaced his ball, played a shot, hit a tree  
And the ball it came back to his feet on the tee.  
So Royston, thought Andy, you Compton Jet  
setter!  
Any shot you can play – I can play better!

Most of the band have a trolley for their bag  
But pushing or pulling for some is a fag.  
So battery power helps them keep up to date  
Or helps keep them fit at any rate  
For several times we heard a loud groan  
As a trolley set off down the fairway alone  
And the owner chasing on but not out of puff  
So you see battery power keeps you quite fit  
enough!  
Peter Robertson appeared with a new powered  
cart  
Assembled it smugly – it was quite an art.  
'I got it quite cheap' he said "'twas a steal"  
He shot off up the fairway and off came a wheel!

Of equipment and clothing there is much to tell  
Shorts they came out – and knees did as well.  
The members turned out in a wide range of attire  
And attempts to be fashionable were higher and  
higher.  
Jim Searle as always cut a figure so dashin'  
Studied closely the on-going in new golfing  
fashion.  
Noted debate – whether one glove or two  
And thought to himself "I know what I will do!  
A fashion statement – it's just up my street  
A different shoe on each of my feet!  
My best foot forward – that shoe will be black  
The other foot, that one in brown – at the back."  
Sadly for Jim problems struck, unforeseen,  
He played golf on that day at a ten degree lean  
For the black sole was thick and the brown one  
was thin  
And poor Jim was a-limping when he came in.

Karen Cookson, it seems, of her husband thinks  
ill,  
For a few times this year, she's just missed young  
Phil  
As he stood on the fairway assessing his shot  
Karen's ball, from the tee, found the very same  
spot.  
"Twas lucky I moved" thought young Phil, in his  
prime  
Karen muttered "you wait! I'll do better next time!"  
So what of the golf that took place? You may  
sigh.  
Was there a change in our golfing standards so  
high?  
Well many a golfer swung smoothly and free  
And stood and admired as their ball hit a tree.  
They copied their shots from the golf coaching  
books  
But still lost their balls through atrocious wild  
hooks,  
And used words that are generally considered not  
nice  
As their ball soared off right with a terrible slice.  
But Rob Litston turning over a completely new  
leaf  
Not targeting people, had a round full of grief.  
When from more than 100 yards from the target  
unseen  
Struck a ball which went away at a pace to the  
green  
When he and his partners approached at a stroll  
No ball could be seen, 'til they looked in the hole.  
Last year though, I noted, members tried very  
hard  
To avoid ignominy from the pen of the bard.  
The golf was much better – practice they say  
makes a difference to the way that you play.  
Perhaps we'll be good – he says to loud cheers  
If we practise daily for another 6 years.