

# POSTLEBURY NEWSLETTER

June 2021

## From the Rectory

As the weather slowly tries to bring us into summer, the wedding season is also hotting up. Along with couples who booked weddings this year, couples who postponed their ceremonies last year because of the pandemic will find one or two changes in the ceremony.

Since 1837, clergy of the Church of England have issued the marriage certificate to newly-weds immediately following their wedding. New legislation introduced on 4th May 2021 is moving away from the current paper register: the traditional Register and Certificate books that were signed by the couple and their witnesses. The new electronic register will allow for the names of multiple parents of the couple to be included in the marriage entry and on marriage certificates, instead of just the fathers' names as was previously the case. (This is the same system that is already in place for registering Civil Partnerships.)

There are two differences that couples will notice at their ceremonies. Firstly, they will not sign register books. Couples and their witnesses will sign a single sheet of paper called a Marriage Schedule which is unique to the couple. Secondly, couples will no longer receive a certificate of marriage on the day of the ceremony. Instead, these will be posted to couples 'within 5 working days' of receipt of the Marriage Schedule by the Registry office. (You are of course, legally married from the moment you have said your vows and the minister pronounces that you are married!)

Something to be aware of is that these new changes may present a problem for couples wishing to go away straight after their wedding. Some honeymoon offers require proof of marriage to validate a special offer, or the couple may be travelling to a country where couples must be legally wed to share a room. As the certificate will not be available for up to 5 days, couples would be well advised to check in advance what other proof businesses or travel destinations will accept. In the long run, it is hoped that standardising the legal aspect of weddings 'across the board' will simplify the service that couples of whatever denomination or creed can expect on their big day!

## With Every Blessing, Fr. Anthony

Please Note: Monday is now my day off. Please leave a message on 01373 837 337 or email [nunney.rectory@gmail.com](mailto:nunney.rectory@gmail.com) and I'll respond as soon as possible.

# June 2021

## Services in the United Parish of Postlebury churches and the East Mendip Churches

### 30<sup>th</sup> May – TRINITY SUNDAY

10.00 Leigh-on-Mendip      Holy Communion COMBINED  
BENEFICE SERVICE *Rev D Gatcliffe*

### 4<sup>th</sup> June (Friday)

10.00 Nunney                      No Service

### 6<sup>th</sup> June – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity

09.30 Wanstrow                  Holy Communion *Martin Weymont*  
11.00 Leigh-on-Mendip      All Age Service *Henry Pomeroy*  
18.00 Stoke St Michael      Evensong *Jane Evans*

### 11<sup>th</sup> June (Friday)

10.00 Nunney                      Holy Communion BCP

### 13<sup>th</sup> June – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Trinity

09.30 Stoke St Michael      Holy Communion  
11.00 Witham                      Family Communion

### 18<sup>th</sup> June (Friday)

10.00 Nunney                      Holy Communion BCP

### 20<sup>th</sup> June – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Trinity

09.30 Nunney                      Holy Communion  
11.00 Stoke St Michael      Family Communion  
18.00 Downhead      Evensong

### 25<sup>th</sup> June (Friday)

10.00 Nunney Holy Communion BCP

**27<sup>th</sup> June – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

**09.30 Leigh-on-Mendip**

Holy Communion

**11.00 Cloford**

Holy Communion

**11.00 Marston**

Matins *Jonathan Cheal*

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**2<sup>nd</sup> July (Friday)**

**10.00 Nunney**

Holy Communion BCP

**4<sup>th</sup> July – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

**09.30 Wanstrow**

Holy Communion

**11.00 Leigh-on-Mendip**

All Age Service

**18.00 Stoke St Michael**

Evensong *Jane Evans*

**9<sup>th</sup> July (Friday)**

**10.00 Nunney**

Holy Communion BCP

*All services are led by Rev. Anthony Dickson unless otherwise stated*

**From the Register: May 2021**

The wedding of Barnaby Charles and Cordelia Francis took place in Marston on 29th May.

The Funeral service and burial of Clive Vine took place at Stoke St Michael on 28th May.

## Parish of Postlebury - Key Contacts

**Priest-in-charge:** Rev. Anthony Dickson, The Rectory, Nunney BA11 4LZ

Telephone: 01373 837337. Email: Nunney.rectory@gmail.com

**PCC Secretary and Assistant Administrator:** postleburysecretary@gmail.com

**PCC Hon Treasurer:** Mr Steve Elliott - treasurerpostlebury@gmail.com

**Benefice Administrator:** Mrs. Anthea Brooks - nunney.rectory@gmail.com

### **CORRECTION**

The churchwarden of Wanstrow Church, Elizabeth Sargent, can be reached by email at wanstrowchurch@icloud.com 01749 850654

### **Covid Restrictions**

For the moment, the restrictions on how we hold our services in church - in terms of Covid safety - remain. As soon as we are allowed to reduce them, we will carry out new risk assessments and review how we hold our services.

For now, congregations in church should still: maintain social distancing outside household groups or bubbles, wear masks, not sing, have communion in one kind only and avoid touching things unnecessarily.

We will continue to sanitise the churches - regularly and in most services, in line with the rules, we have small choirs providing hymns.

### **Postlebury Annual Guide 2021**

This should be published in the first week in June. We will be distributing it to every household in the parish so it would be very helpful to have a few additional volunteers. If you are able to help, please contact Jennifer Brook on jenniferbrook254@gmail.com or 07711 788654. When you have received it, please do let us know what you think of it by emailing postleburynews@gmail.com. We hope to do the next one at Easter next year and it would be good to know how we can improve it.

### **Covid Recovery Fund**

We are pleased to report that we have received a modest grant from the Covid Recovery Fund (2) for Heritage which is to cover our insurance costs for 2021 and to help fund our communications plan. After the publication of the Postlebury Annual Guide, we will be working on a website,

# manna

From the Church of England Diocese of Bath and Wells

June 2021

## Giving back to our schools

**T**eachers and headteachers have been doing admirable work to support pupils during the pandemic. They have not been alone in that dedication, however, they have been supported by a community of committed school governors. Since January, we have been appealing for more volunteers to become governors in our church schools and while some places have been filled, schools still have vacancies to fill.

Governors are crucial to the successful running of schools, offering a variety of skills and knowledge to support the overall operation of the school. While all



governors share these common responsibilities, there are vacancies too for Foundation Governors who also promote the distinctiveness of the school as a church school and help with the development of positive relationships between the school and its local churches.

Ray Pilgrim is a School Governor at Christchurch Primary School in

Weston-super-Mare. He says, "It's great fun, hard work and gives me a great sense of achievement when I see all the positive outcomes."

School Organisation and Governance Adviser, Vicky Christopher says, "It's a great opportunity for people to put their skills and experience to good use and develop skills in other areas. Now more than ever our fabulous church schools need our support, and what better way to do that than by volunteering as a governor?"

Schools are looking for governors from all walks of life, could you have something to offer?

[Find out more and hear from more of our existing governors.](#)

## News in brief

### Twin your bin

Around 2 billion people worldwide don't have their rubbish collected which is why St Andrew's Church, Backwell has twinned their bins with Tearfund. By twinning your bin for £45, you can help fund a community project that's preventing disease, protecting the environment, and creating jobs.

Jane Canning from St Andrew's said: "We're delighted to be involved with an initiative of such global reach and importance. I worked in Tanzania for two years. When I arrived we expected terrible roads and poverty, but what shocked me was that nobody collected our rubbish. We had to burn it or bury it in the garden."

[Find out more about Bin Twinning](#)



Wild and beautiful Priddy

### Join us for Wilder Churches

Missed the popular Wilder Churches events run in partnership with the Somerset Wildlife Trust (SWT) in March? Don't worry, you haven't missed your chance to find out how to manage your churchyard with wildlife in mind. You can still watch the March session on line or register to join a session on 30 June. [Visit the Somerset Wildlife Trust website](#) to find out more

### Marking a year of chaplaincy

Just over a year ago, Ewen Huffman became Chaplain to Hincley Point C, the first salaried Chaplain to the construction industry. Starting work at Europe's largest building site just as a global pandemic took hold was never going to be easy, but Ewen has continued to work on site throughout the year and has quickly become a familiar and valued part of the team.

He's established a Christian group, runs regular prayer meetings and works alongside other health and mental health workers to provide support to anyone who needs it

# A time to learn

By Ruth Worsley, Bishop of Taunton

**I** am always ready to learn although I do not always like being taught,' wrote Winston Churchill. I think many of us would echo that.

A huge 'thank you' to our teachers and all who support our schools! There has been a tremendous effort across to ensure our children have been able to continue their education during the pandemic. Not only have the children been learning but teaching staff have had to learn new means of communication. Governors, church communities and individual volunteers have gone the extra mile too, to encourage our teachers through gifts and cards and prayer. The whole school team deserves our gratitude.

Learning online is a challenge.

Those of us who are spending many hours in Zoom rooms online can vouch for that. It's tiring! At the end of this month we shall be celebrating the ordinations of our new priests. Last year they were ordained as deacons in September following three months as lay curates as a result of the pandemic restrictions.

What a year to be a deacon! They've had a very different learning experience than normal, with not so much opportunity of the 'hands-on' experience. I'm looking forward to hearing their stories!

Our incoming deacons are being licensed as lay curates initially this June. For them, colleges and courses have taken place principally online and they've had experience

of digital worship on top of regular lectures and seminars. How might that prepare them for our 'new normal' of blended worship, with live-streaming of services in person?

As the Church emerges into this 'new normal' we have the opportunity together to learn and discover new things, new gifts, new ways of being the people of God. It is the same good God, the same story of His love to share with others, but there's a new landscape.

"One learns from books and example only that certain things can be done. Actual learning requires that you do those things."

(Frank Herbert)

Every blessing

+ Ruth Worsley

## Bridging the diversity gap

Sharon Warmington, CEO of the National Black Governors Network (NGBN), on improving school governor and leadership diversity.

**W**hat brought about the NGBN?

After many years of being both a governor and a clerk to governing bodies, I realised I was often the only person of colour in the room, and I felt very strongly that that needed to change.

You recently led a session for Somerset schools on Bridging the Diversity Gap, what did that cover?

I always try and promote an honest conversation, suspending political correctness and pussyfooting around the challenges. We talked about governance through the lens of race and identified practical steps to help them recruit and retain a more



Sharon Warmington, CEO of the National Black Governors Network diverse governing body, without it being a box ticking exercise.

What practical steps can schools take?

Skills audits and succession planning is one area to look at. If you review your governing body and realise that you could really do with supplementing your legal skills,

where are you going to look for that person? Have you approached the Society of Black Lawyers? Have you approached your local university for a young person's voice?

What are your hopes for the future in schools?

There are no quick wins here. Change will take time. Every school needs good governance and I hope to continue to support schools in their bid to diversify their governing boards and also their leadership teams.

Find out more

Read more of this interview on the Bath and Wells website. Hear more from Sharon on the [The Governors' Podcast](#) or visit the [NGBN website](#).

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