

The United Benefice  
of Tintinhull with Chilthorne Domer, Yeovil Marsh  
and Thorne Coffin

✠ **NEWSLETTER** ✠  
**JUNE 2015**

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

**Dear Friends,**

It's June and summer's here (at least I hope it is). In Church we enter the long season of the Sundays after Trinity. Behind us is Christmas, Lent, Easter and Pentecost. I've always rather liked the rhythm of the Church year. I like the way that it has high points, the way it has periods of solemnity and periods of high celebration. I like, too, this season when nothing much happens – just the occasional saints' day. Many years ago Kermit – the Muppet frog – sang a song, *It's not easy being green*. He sings first about how easy it is to be overlooked because green is such a common colour, but ends by saying that he's happy to be green because green can be cool and friendly-like. And green can be big like a mountain, or important like a river, or tall like a tree. It's easy to overlook how important the everyday can be. We speak often of ordinary things in a dismissive way but I think we are wrong to do so. Life needs the ordinary. Unless we experience the ordinary we can never truly know the special. And too much special can leave us exhausted or overwhelmed. We would never cope if everything were super-charged or totally demanding of our time and

attention. We need to rest.

At the office of Compline we pray, in the words of an ancient prayer, that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world, may rest upon your eternal changelessness. It is often the case that God encourages, inspires, empowers, motivates and drives us to be active and busy in his service. But he also calls us to relax and rest in him. And that's important. In the story of creation it is just as important that God rested on the seventh day as it is that he created the world in six. What a great gift to the world the week is with its days of rest – for six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath for Yahweh your God. You shall do no work that day. The world today is so busy, everything seems so urgent and important. For many families every day is a day of work. The struggle to resist Sunday opening is long lost – and whether you think that is a good or a bad thing is a matter of opinion – but losing the idea of a regular break from the daily routine surely has a detrimental effect on many people in our society. So, I think it is good that in the Church we have a long season when nothing much happens – it gives us a chance to

recharge our batteries, to reflect on what is important and to ready ourselves for what God is calling us to do and to be.

It's June and summer's here – time to take it a bit easy.

*With best wishes in Christ, Fr Peter*

A message from the Bishop of Bath and Wells: ***Thinking differently about poverty***

“As I look forward with great anticipation to my first trip to Zambia as Bishop of Bath and Wells, I am aware that I am doing so with a touch more insight than I had when this visit was first put in my diary. A week ‘Living Below the Line’ for Bath-based charity ‘Send a Cow’ and ‘Sharing the load’ for Christian Aid Week can never replicate the challenges faced by those living in poverty in Zambia or other parts of the developing world but it can bring understanding.

It was certainly more than a publicity stunt or ‘playing at being poor’ which were just some of the criticisms levied at those taking part. Of course, I was not struggling around Wells with my bundle of firewood worried about being attacked by hyenas – just injuring innocent shoppers – and I knew my five days of hunger living on £1 a day would come to an end, but they were still a challenge.

They made me think differently about what living in extreme poverty really means and to question the choices we make every day. I hope I managed to share that message to others and encouraged everyone to play their part in addressing this global issue.

As we continue to strengthen ties of companionship and celebrate the richness and diversity of our global faith with the vital Christian community in Zambia this summer, I will be doing so in the knowledge that it is a country in which the vast majority live in

increasing poverty. It is also, however, a country that is rich in terms of its people and we have much to learn from each other. The Zambian people choose to face the country's challenges with vitality, patience and tolerance and with only a limited number of priests the lay population chooses to take on a major role in the church that is much valued.

In our modern, busy lives we are faced with a myriad of choices every day and it is not easy to take the time to look beyond our personal, parish or national boundaries. Being challenged to do so through my recent experiences was a sobering and humbling experience, and the benefits ripple close to home as well as in Africa.“

## **THE UNITED BENEFICE**

### ***Poetry and Prose***

Jill Harris is looking forward to entries for the annual poetry and prose to be held in St Margaret's Church on Thursday, 9th July 7.30pm. Open to all in the Benefice; free entrance with light refreshment. Please contact Jill on 822320 for more information. You may like to nominate someone to read your chosen piece on your behalf. Come along and be impressed by contributions from pupils from our church schools.

## **TINTINHULL**

**Churchwarden John Gower writes:** April has been a quieter month with the exception of the Service commemorating the 70th Anniversary of V.E. Day. This took place due to an inspired idea of Ray and Hilary Cozens and the service, arranged by Fr. Peter, consisted of hymns, prayers and readings relating to the war time years. The Church looked magnificent with an array of floral decorations including the font and a floral cross which looked out of this world.

The service was extremely well attended and many people said to me how this moving service had meant so much to them. Thank you to all who took part.

The Wednesday coffee shop mornings held during the Post Office at the WMC go from strength to strength and are greatly enjoyed by many of the village (despite a problem at present with kitchen floor renewal). On Wednesday 1st July, a Bring & Buy Sale will be held during the Post Office session which I hope will be well supported; all profits will be put into the church flower account for future church festivals which we all enjoy.”

Whilst still on the subject of the Bring & Buy sale which is being held between 10am and 12 noon on 1st July - a plea from Hilary Cozens to our wonderful Tintinhull home bakers for any donations of cakes, small and large, which can either be sold on the morning or cut up for refreshments. There will be a book stall as well as a bric a brac stall so do please come along prepared to bring and buy! I am still thrilled with the smart once worn, pink shoes that I purchased last year (normally we don't sell clothes) and I actually have a wedding to wear them to very soon. Who knows what bargains you will find? In advance very many thanks to the helpers at the Coffee Shop who will be giving their support on the morning alongside some of the church flower arranging team. If you have several items contact me on 01935 824220 and I will collect.”

On the 3rd May *Tommy Martin Hallet* was Baptised in St Margaret's Church; we welcome him into our church family.

### **CHILTHORNE DOMER**

Very good news from Jill Coe who has just come up with the final figure of what money will be sent to Christain Aid. Jill and her helpers ran a very successful jumble sale in the Village Hall

raising £255 and together with the 50 appeal envelopes that Jill managed to post through letter boxes the final total to be banked is a magnificent £649.50p. Very well done by all - especially those who gave their time and effort.

### **THORNE COFFIN**

There are two services during June to which all are welcome and then on 5th July St Andrew's will be the venue for the United Benefice Service which begins at 10.30am. It's a lovely church so do try to support it if you can by attending the service.

### **YEOVIL MARSH**

*Mike Kane writes:* “I had been meaning to replace the padlock on the door of All Saints with a proper lock for some time now and eventually got round to it this afternoon, Saturday 16th. I had been in the church for about half an hour when I noticed a couple standing by the porch door. They said they had been passing and saw the door open and wondered if they could look around for a few minutes. They had got married in All Saints twenty five years previously on the exact day that I was changing the lock. The husband's mum used to own the Elms nursing home and they were on their way to see her in Mudford where she now lives. I don't think it was a coincidence that I was there when I was but I believe that God gets us where he wants us when he wants us to be there. Some of the members of the benefice churches may well know the couple that I met today or may even have been at their wedding.”

*and from Christine Salmon:* “we will be holding our morning service at the Elms on Sunday 14th June with the residents there and would be glad to welcome those who would like to join us. The home make us all most welcome and it is a joy to share our praise in this way.”

## SERVICES DURING JUNE 2015

Day	Tintinhull	Chilthorne	Yeovil Marsh	Thorne
<b>Tuesday 2nd June</b>		<b>10am</b> No Eucharist this month		
<b>Sunday 7th June Trinity 1</b>			<b>10.30am</b> United Benefice Eucharist	
<b>Sunday 14th June Trinity 2</b>	<b>9.15am</b> Parish Eucharist	<b>10.45am</b> Parish Eucharist	<b>10.30am</b> Morning Prayer at The Elms	<b>8am</b> Eucharist (BCP)
<b>Sunday 21st June Trinity 3</b>	<b>8am</b> Eucharist (BCP) <b>10.45am</b> Together4God	<b>10.45am</b> Matins		
<b>Sunday 28th June Trinity 4</b>	<b>9.15am</b> Parish Eucharist	<b>8am</b> Eucharist (BCP) <b>10.45am</b> Together- 4God	<b>10.45am</b> Parish Eucharist	<b>4pm</b> Evensong
<b>Sunday 5th July</b>				<b>10.30am</b> United Benefice Eucharist

### *Last but not Least:*

**A NEW OPPORTUNITY:** A part time Village Agent is to be re-appointed for your parishes, and in addition will also include Ilchester. Village Agents are highly trained, paid professionals who help to connect vulnerable and isolated people to statutory and voluntary services. The agent will live in the area, and become a trusted community member to provide people with easier access to information and services.

Interested? Contact Jinny Uppington, the Village Agent Project Manager on 07971 024496 or e-mail to [jinny@somersetccc.org.uk](mailto:jinny@somersetccc.org.uk)

Going out for a drive? you might be interested to know that the Haynes International Motor Museum has a new eatery - the Café 750 is open to all (including non-museum visitors) serving morning coffee, lunch or afternoon tea. Also available - six function rooms ideal for parties and anniversaries. Details on [www.haynesmotormuseum.com](http://www.haynesmotormuseum.com)

If you have any contributions for the July issue of the UB Newsletter please let me have your copy on or before 19th June. Many thanks editor.