

Charlton St. Peter, Rushall & Upavon
TOGETHER
Church & Village News



March



2025

WHO TO CONTACT:

Team Rector: Revd. Canon Rhona Floate, The Rectory, Pewsey, SN9 5DL (day off Friday) Tel: 01672 705130 rhonafloate@aol.com

Team Vicar: Revd. Mark Windsor, The Vicarage, Wilcot, Pewsey, SN9 5NS (day off Thursday), Tel: 01672 564265 markwindsor923@btinternet.com

Associate Priest and Rural Dean: Revd. Canon Gerald Osborne, Tel 01672 563459 gerald.osborne@lawnfarm.co.uk

Team Vicar for Community Outreach & Mission: Revd. Hazel Davis, Tel: 07393 116123 revhazeld@gmail.com

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Licensed Lay Ministers:

Anne Mantle 01672 564252 anneimantle@gmail.com

Libby Turner 01672 851141 libbyturner537@gmail.com

PEWSEY TEAM OFFICE: Bouverie Hall, Pewsey 01672 562221

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 11am to 3pm; Wednesday 12noon to 3pm.

EMAIL: team.office@valeofpewsey.org website: <http://www.valeofpewsey.org>

Churchwardens

Upavon Dr Bill Coker 01980 630803

Mrs Linda Ward 07976 805592

Rushall Mr Richard Wohanka 07920 067563

Charlton St Peter Mrs Rosie Cunningham 01980 630321

Lay Pastoral Assistants

Mr Bill Bracher 01980 630173; Mrs Anne Prince 01980 630008

Hospital visits - If you need a visit in hospital or know someone who has been taken in who would like a visit, please contact a member of the clergy.

Home Communion If you know someone who is unable to get to church and wishes to receive Communion, please contact Bill Bracher on 01980 630173 and he will make arrangements for this to happen.

Please contact a member of the clergy to discuss Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Confirmation, the Blessing of your home, Service of Prayer and Dedication, Renewal of Wedding Vows. To visit in hospital, and the dying at home or in hospital. The clergy are here to help and serve, with our Lay Pastoral Assistants

Catholic Parish Priest: Father Saji Mathew 01980 622177

Services at Christ the King, Lords Croft, Amesbury SP4 7EP

Weekday mass 10.00 am; Vigil Mass 6.00 pm Saturdays; Mass 11.00am Sundays

Methodist Minister: Revd. Stephen Skinner 01672 512457 rev.stephen.skinner3@gmail.com

Pewsey Methodist Church, Sunday services 10.30am

Upavon Baptist Chapel Contact: Mary Jarvis 07876193640

Services 2nd Sunday of each month at 3.30 pm

UPAVON RUSHALL & CHARLTON LINK

07501 004349

TOGETHER MAGAZINE ADVERTISING AND REVENUE and items of news or notices for the next issue, please contact stef.cascarini@gmail.com by the 14th of the month.

The Clergy Letter

Dear All

After ending the Christmas season of celebration the day after the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, Lent is suddenly upon us. It is so lovely this year to have a longer period to adjust to Lent, a time of sacrifice and repentance, in preparation for Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection. Part of this preparation for Holy Week and Easter is to be reflective and put into action changes that would help us to develop into being more 'Christ like'. That is the aim of every Christian – to become closer to the image of Christ as God intends for each of us.

This isn't always about giving something up!! So often this has been done not to benefit others so much as to benefit ourselves. Leaving out chocolate, alcohol, cream cakes etc – benefits ourselves first of all as it help us to achieve a goal that we may have found difficult to attain during the rest of the year! Sometimes we may pay a forfeit into a Charity Jar when we fail to resist temptation! However, the aim is not to pay anything in!!

Perhaps, it is better to take something up! I certainly think that to take something up which is focussed on the needs of the poor, the sick, the lonely, the abused, plus those oppressed, those that homeless.....and many more, is preferable!

Some ideas.....sell those things you no longer need and give a portion of what you sell them for to a charity of your choice; give your surplus clothing and other bits and bobs to charity to sell; if you have plenty of time then maybe you could lend a neighbour a hand with their allotment or garden; perhaps you could give someone a lift to the shops or do somebody's shopping for them. There are so many things we can do to help each other, whatever our age – Lent is a good time for Acts of Random Kindness (ARK)!

A good Lent leads to a good Easter! Enjoy it!

Every blessing to you all
Ann (Massey)

Church Services at Upavon, Rushall and Charlton St Peter

2 March (Last Sunday before Lent)

St Mary's, Upavon, 9.30am Informal Worship

5 March (Ash Wednesday)

St Mary's, Upavon, 7.00pm Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes

9 March (Lent 1)

St Mary's, Upavon, 9.30am Parish Communion

St Matthew's, Rushall, 11.00am Holy Communion BCP

St Peter's, Charlton St Peter, 6.00pm Evensong

16 March (Lent 2)

St Mary's, Upavon, 8.00am Holy Communion BCP

St Matthew's, Rushall, 11.00am Parish Communion

23 March (Lent 3)

St Matthew's, Rushall, 11.00am Matins BCP

St Peter's, Charlton St Peter, 6.00pm Parish Communion

30 March (Mothering Sunday)

St Mary's, Upavon, 10.00am Mothering Sunday Service

St Matthew's, Rushall, 11.00am Holy Communion

THE ST TIMOTHY FOUNDATION

Dear All

Thank you once again for your fabulous support for the Burns' Night and for the Water Project. Special thanks go to our Piper, Tony Ashford-Brown, to Margaret for the Presentation of the Haggis and to the Pewsey Male Voice Choir for helping to get everyone in the mood with their Scottish traditional songs. Next year, we will be better prepared for such a wonderful turn-out. We are already looking for a larger venue. If anyone knows of anywhere please let me know! Unfortunately, we most probably can't use the Bouverie Hall as it is likely to be booked again for the Pantomime, at the same time as celebrating Burns' Night on the 24th January (Saturday)!

So far, we have raised £3,600 towards the £5,000 pledged for the work within the school (St Timothy's) compound for the Water Project. The opening of the system to the school for use is in a few days' time. By then, we also expect handbasins to be in place to help with personal hygiene.

During Lent we have arranged Lent Lunches across the Pewsey Vale Team in Upavon, Rushall, Woodborough, Beechingstoke, Pewsey, Wootton Rivers and Milton Lilbourne. Thank you to everyone who is hosting and making soup. Please, if you are not hosting then please do support them. Donations only, so you give only what you feel able to give. All donations will go towards the Water Project.

Once again, if you would like to make a special donation to the Water Project to bring water into St Timothy's School then please go to our donate page on www.sttimothy.org.uk where you can gift aid your donation if you are able. If you prefer to donate offline the Gift Aid form can be downloaded and the donation made by bank transfer to Sort Code: 40-52-40 Account No: 00101395 Account Name: The St Timothy Foundation or just drop it into me. Every penny you give will go towards the Water Project. Please note that our website: www.sttimothy.org.uk will give you more information on South Sudan, the Water Project, our schedule of events and fund raising activities for the first half of 2025.

With abundant thanks, for your support..

Ann (Chair)
The St Timothy Foundation

01980 630256
info@sttimothy.org.uk
www.sttimothy.org.uk



The taps inside the St Timothy School Compound that are a result of the Water Project.

Rushall & Charlton St Peter Village Hall

We have a most comfortable hall with under-floor heating, a large fitted kitchen, off-street parking and Wi-fi.

Morning, afternoon and evening sessions are available to book so please get in touch. Why not come and see us at one of our Hall Fund Raising Events.

1st Mar - Coffee Morning 10am to 12pm.

5th Apr - Coffee Morning 10am to 12pm.

10th Apr - EASTER BONGO 7.30pm.

3rd May - Coffee Morning - 10am to 12pm.

For all enquiries and bookings regarding the hall please contact us on:

Email: RCVH2000@gmail.com

Phone: **07407 216763**

Website: www.rushallcharltonvh.org.uk or

Facebook: **Rushall & Charlton Village Hall**

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer Link driver?

URC Link is a group of local volunteers offering transport and good neighbour services to people living in Upavon, Rushall, Charlton St Peter and the surrounding areas.

The service is available to any adult who has difficulty getting to medical appointments and other activities when they are unable to drive themselves or use public transport.

We are funded by donations and drivers are reimbursed at 45p per mile with free hospital parking permits.

What should you do if you think you can help?

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer Link driver, even only occasionally, please get in touch by phoning us on **07501 004349** and ask to be put in touch with the URC Link Secretary, who will be happy to provide more information and discuss next steps with you.



URSULA IS 1000! No, not 1,000 years old, but the thousandth person to join Pewsey Vale u3a. Of course in the 16 years we've been running, members have come and gone, but we're big enough to have lots of interesting activities to choose from, and not so big that we're impersonal. The only qualification you need to join us is to be retired (or semi retired). You'll be treated as an individual and made to feel welcome.

What do we do? We have over 40 groups for you to share your interests with other members, or to get involved in something new. Mix and match physical activities, discussion groups, creative clubs, and social activities. There's something happening on almost every weekday of the year. Want to know more? See us on <https://pewsey.u3asite.uk/> and get in touch. We look forward to hearing from you.

PS Pewsey Vale u3a covers Pewsey and surrounding villages, as the name suggests. If you're outside our area, other u3as are also available.

The Arts Society – Pewsey Vale

March and April lectures.

The March lecture of The Arts Society - Pewsey Vale will take place on Tuesday 4th March at the Bouverie Hall, Pewsey at 2.30pm.

Anne Haworth will speak on **From Vincennes to Sevres: The Dawn of the French Royal Porcelain Manufactory.**

Sèvres was the most illustrious and innovative porcelain factory in 18th Century France, employing brilliant artisans as painters, modellers, and gilders. Spectacular vases and finely decorated dining services made at Sèvres found their way to the grandest of state rooms and the most intimate of boudoirs in the nearby Palace of Versailles. However, the origins of this most fashionable porcelain factory were very different. Established in 1740 within the old royal Château de Vincennes, the first steps were a struggle between avoiding financial collapse and the desire to develop a suitable porcelain paste which could tolerate the intense heat of the kiln. Encouraged by the patronage of Madame de Pompadour and King Louis XV, these early struggles resulted in the creation of a fine white soft-paste material, a tactile glaze, and brilliant jewel-like background colours such as bleu lapis, and the vibrant bleu céleste, a turquoise pigment which would become one of Sèvres's signature colours. After those early years at Vincennes, by 1756 the workshops moved to Sèvres and so began a new golden age for what would become a royal enterprise.

Anne Haworth was a senior ceramics specialist at Christie's London with more than 20 years experience of working within some of the world's greatest museums and most prestigious art collections. She works as an independent scholar and historian.

Doors open at 2.00pm and visitors are always welcome - £7 cash or card on arrival.

The April lecture of The Arts Society - Pewsey Vale will be held on Tuesday 1st April at the Bouverie Hall, Pewsey at 2.30pm.

Harry Venning will speak on **The Art of the Cartoonist.**

Harry will be tracing the history of his profession with examples from early practitioners like Cruickshank and Hogarth, to more contemporary artists such as Giles and Schulz, bringing events right up to date with cartoons he will draw for us on the day! He can not, however, draw hands or horses!!

Harry Venning has been a professional cartoonist for thirty years, during which time he has provided cartoons for several high profile UK publications (The Guardian, Radio Times). He was awarded UK Strip Cartoonist Of The Year for his Guardian strip Clare In The Community, which he adapted into a Radio 4 sitcom. Harry tours his cartoon workshop around schools, theatres, arts centres, cruise ships and festivals. He is an Honorary Fellow of the English/Creative Writing departments of Aberystwyth University, winner of a Sony Radio Award for Comedy and a former UK Strip Cartoonist Of The Year.

Doors open at 2.00pm and visitors are always welcome - £7 cash or card on arrival.

Upavon Priory

Upavon Priory was a small Benedictine establishment located in the village of Upavon, in Wiltshire, England. Its origins can be traced back to the Domesday Book of 1086, which recorded that the Benedictine Abbey of Saint-Wandrille in Normandy held land at Upavon. This suggests that the priory was linked to the wave of Norman influence following the conquest of England in 1066. It is believed that the priory itself was established in the 12th century, as a dependency of the Abbey of Saint-Wandrille, which controlled several such small priories in England.

During the 13th century, the church at Upavon gained increased importance and became a prebend of Salisbury Cathedral. The Abbot of Saint-Wandrille was granted the title of canon at Salisbury, further cementing the priory's religious significance. Additionally, the nearby church at Charlton St. Peter was appropriated to Upavon Priory, providing it with additional resources and influence within the local ecclesiastical structure.

A valuation conducted in 1324 detailed the priory's modest assets, which included livestock, two horses, two beds, three tables, and minimal chapel fittings. Unlike larger and wealthier monastic institutions, Upavon Priory was a small and relatively poor religious house, with limited financial and material resources. The priory's role would have been more localised, serving as a centre of worship and land management for the Abbey of Saint-Wandrille rather than as a major religious powerhouse.

The political and military tensions between England and France in the late 14th century had profound consequences for many such alien priories (those controlled by foreign abbeys). In 1378, during the reign of Richard II, all monks from alien priories were expelled from England due to concerns over their allegiance. As a result, the three resident monks at Upavon were forced to leave, and the priory ceased its religious functions. The lands and properties associated with Upavon Priory were instead used for farming and were effectively absorbed into the local economy.

In 1423, ownership of Upavon Priory and its associated assets was transferred to the Augustinian canons of Ivychurch Priory, located southeast of Salisbury. This transfer ensured that the priory's resources remained under English control, as part of the broader efforts to repurpose former alien priories for the benefit of English monastic institutions. The canons of Ivychurch managed the estate until the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the 16th century, when Henry VIII disbanded monastic institutions across England and confiscated their assets.

Historical records indicate that priors were in place at Upavon between 1262 and 1361, but following its closure, the priory left little physical trace. The last remaining structure associated with it, a barn situated between the church and the River Avon, was demolished in the early 1820s. Today, there are no visible remains of Upavon Priory, though its history is well documented. Its legacy provides insight into the impact of Norman influence, the challenges faced by alien priories, and the transformation of monastic properties during the medieval period..

Bob McDonald

Pet Service

This month St. Mary's Church had a pet service, and these are some of the animals that were blessed.

We are planning another Pet Service in Sept, outside in the Church grounds as the weather will be warmer.

Please do come with your dogs, hamsters, gerbils, horses, camels, and any other pets. (Well, perhaps not spiders).

We look forward to seeing them all.



St Mary the Virgin Church Upavon Parochial Church Electoral Register

Dear Villagers

Would you be interested in joining the Parochial Church Electoral Register.

Being a Member of the Electoral Register is a way of demonstrating your willingness to help shape the future of the Church not only locally but also Nationally. It also enables you to participate and vote in the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) which is held in St Mary's Church in April.

This will also give you a platform to put forward any suggestions you may have to improve or enhance the day to day running of the Church and any events that are held there.

If you would like your Name to be added to the Register the appropriate Forms can be found in the Church or please contact:

Linda Ward – Electoral Officer - Tel: 07976805592.



Wiltshire
Community
Foundation



WORRIED ABOUT THE COST OF GOING TO UNIVERSITY?

Wiltshire Community Foundation offers bursaries of £1,600 a year to young people who need support with the costs of studying an undergraduate degree at university.

Bursaries can be used towards:

- general living expenses
- course costs
- travel costs
- books and equipment.

For more information scan the QR Code below, visit our www.wiltshirecf.org.uk or call 01380 738985.



You can apply for a bursary if:

- you, your parents or guardians receive two means-tested benefits, two elements of Universal Credit or you are in the care of the local authority
- you are between 17 and 24 years old
- you have been living in Wiltshire or Swindon for at least two years*
- you are eligible for funding through Student Finance England
- you are planning to study (or already studying) for your first undergraduate degree at a UK university/institution.

*There are some exceptions to this so please call us to discuss.

www.wiltshirecf.org.uk
Registered charity no. 1123126

LENT SOUP LUNCHESES 2025

In aid of Water for St Timothy's School, Nzara, South Sudan

**5th March – Ash Wednesday
11.30am short act of worship
followed by soup lunch from noon
at Upavon Village Hall,
11 Andover Road, SN9 6EB**

**Wednesday 12th March – The Church Rooms, Church Road,
Woodborough, SN9 5PH**

**Wednesday 19th March –
Box Cottage, Beechingstoke, SN9 6HQ**

Tuesday 25th March – Rushall Village Hall, SN9 6EN

Wednesday 2nd April – 12 Easterton Lane, Pewsey, SN9 5BP

Thursday 3rd April – Wootton Rivers Village Hall, SN8 4NH

Tuesday 8th April – Westering House, Milton Lilbourne, SN9 5LQ

Soup lunches are served from mid-day!
No charge but donations are welcome for
The St Timothy's Foundation Water Project

*Everyone is welcome. We look forward to seeing you!
Please call Ann on 01980 630256 if you would like more
information*

My mum, always
**gave the
best hugs**



Mum left a gift in her Will to Julia's House.
Now she's helping their nurses and carers to always be
there with special care and the best hugs.



Find out how to leave a gift in your Will at
juliashouse.org/alwaysthere 01202 644220

Registered Charity No. 1067125

always there 

New Year, New interests?

Upavon Village Hall is looking for a Treasurer.

You do not need to have any book-keeping background but some understanding of spreadsheets would be helpful. You will be given a comprehensive handover with support if required.

So, if you have 5-6 hours to spare each month,
& would like to join our friendly team of volunteers in the
running of our hall, then please contact:-

Lesley 07545543861 or
email upavonvillagehallbookings@gmail.com

ENFORD GARDENING CLUB



“Why is a Tree a Tree?”

with Paul Cobbing

Tuesday 11th March 2025

Bring and buy plant stall, Raffle

Tea and coffee

7.00 for 7.15 pm Enford Village Hall

Entrance £5

Everyone Welcome!

Contact steve.stringer@outlook.fr

Tel 07899 758222

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals

Robin Walters Funeral at St Mary, Upavon on 4th December

Brian Henson Funeral at St Mary, Alton Barnes on 9th December

Janet Lovat-Short Funeral at North Wilts Crematorium on 11th December

William Humphreys Funeral at St Andrew, Wootton Rivers on 8th January

Stella Eyles Funeral at St John the Baptist, Pewsey on 14th January

Margaret Kerr Funeral at St Mary, Alton Barnes on 27th January

Laurence Lovelace Funeral at St Peter, Milton Lilbourne on 28th January

Martin Carty Funeral at Holy Trinity, Oare on 31st January

Christine Goodman Funeral at St John the Baptist, Pewsey on 5th February

Shirley Hyde Funeral at St Mary Magdalene, Woodborough on 12th February

Patricia Holloway Funeral at St Mary, Upavon on 20th February

David Jackson Funeral at St Mary, Upavon on 21st February

Thank You

St Mary's Parochial Church Council thank all village residents who have contributed so generously to the Food Bank, situated in the porch of St Mary's Church.

The Church Council continues to welcome donations of food, toiletries and financial donations to maintain the Food Bank, which is used by those in the village in need of support.

Financial donations may be made either by completing one of the slips on the table in the church and posting this along with the donation into the small wall safe on the right hand wall as you enter the church; or by contacting the church treasurer, Donal Connon - on 01980 630951 or

dconnon@btopenworld.com

CHARLTON ST PETER 100 CLUB

(Licensed by Wiltshire Council for the Vale of Pewsey Team of Churches)

Our January 100 Club Draw took place after our service on Sunday 26th January at 6pm.

Congratulations to the lucky winners:-

£100 S. Long (N. Newnton) No.50

£50 B. Stygal (Charlton) No.2

£50 C. Lacey (Charlton) No.13

£25 R. Golding (Charlton) No.70

£25 J. Giles (Pewsey) No.61

Our February 100 Club Draw will take place after our service on Sunday 23rd February at 6pm and published in the next edition of the magazine.

We still have a few numbers available, so if you are interested in purchasing number for £5 a month, please contact Ali Lacey 630385.

Upavon Village Hall

Large, well maintained hall available for hire

Competitive hourly rates: village residents £8.00 per hour
(non-residents £9.00)

Suitable for large gatherings for up to 60 people with ample plates, cups and saucers etc.

Free Wi-Fi

A well equipped kitchen

For enquiries or to book please email

upavonvillagehallbookings@gmail.com or call Lesley

07545543861

**We are always looking for new people to join our committee.
If you feel you could help please contact us!**

Nurture Nature: March 2025

It's good to see and hear on the Radio and TV more attention being given to Nature and the ever-increasing problems around the world with declining habitats, declining species, many birds and animals worldwide on Red Lists. The Black Hornbill in Borneo for one, due to habitat loss, and that goes for many species the world over.

Headlines such as "Humans to blame for ocean changes" which creates stronger ocean currents and wind direction changes, which are worse for the planet., and one species in eight threatened with extinction by 2032. More frequent storms and droughts are creating mass migration of peoples on all the populated continents. It is reported that we humans are to blame for these changes, no doubt with recent pronouncements from OPEC world leaders these events will get worse.

Scientific studies worldwide are warning about the rising temperatures and scientists internationally are warning that global warming will continue. As readers follow the news worldwide you will draw your own conclusions.

To give two examples of the effects on nature, sycamore trees in this country are being hit by a devastating disease called 'Sooty Bark Blight', and storms such as Storm Darragh and others felled thousands of trees around the British Isles. Devastating fires continue in many countries. Birds and animals worldwide are at great risk. The above has only touched on a minute biodiversity loss.

Still, should you wish to get away from it all here's quite a nice job advert: "Wanted, Ranger for remote island three miles off the West coast of Scotland. Applicants should have a good sense of humour". There has been no full-time human inhabitant since 1843. Over the summer Handa is home to over 100,000 birds, including Fulmars, Guillemots and Kittiwakes, and a smaller number of Puffins and Arctic Skuas. Offshore, whales, seals and dolphins are often seen. There's a caveat to this exciting job advertised by the Scottish Wildlife Trust – that the successful applicants must take with them at least enough food for two weeks minimum. Well, if they run out they could always have a cliff nesting sea bird's egg for tea, Now Now!! - as the inhabitants of Hebridean islanders had as a main source of food in earlier centuries.

Should you be holidaying in Wales this year and have never seen a red squirrel go to Plas Newydd on the wooded shores of Anglesey and you could be lucky. (Note: the writer has only ever seen one red squirrel in the British Isles in a wood at Kingsley Green on the Surrey/Sussex border at the end of the Second World War in 1945.)

Finally, should one have a large nest egg, come into a big inheritance, won the pools (do they still exist?), won a major lottery prize, consider joining Bird Life International's 'Millionaires' Club -The Rare Bird Club, subscription £5,000 per annum! This moneyed Club does great conservation work around the world, especially for rare and declining species, details on the Web.

Lastly, a call to the female of the species, this time of the humankind, for more women to become ringers (no, not wringing necks – ringing bird legs). Details on the BTO website. In conclusion, the Royal Mail is bringing out a special issue on March 11th about Garden Wildlife. Apart from the stamps, the info sheet should be of interest. We must keep encouraging our children and future generations to be Guardians of our planet.

. Otis Tarda

Enford Film Club Tuesday Enford Village Hall, Longstreet SN9 6DD

Dates for the Diary: Film Club 2025

Tuesday 25 March – ‘The Courier’ starring Benedict Cumberbatch
The story about Greville Wynne who was drawn in by the American and British Secret Services as a courier at the time of the Cuban Missile Crisis. An excellent film and interesting true story.

Tuesday 29 April – film title tbc

Tuesday 27 May – film title tbc

As soon as they are available on DVD films may include ‘The Brutalist’, ‘Lee’, ‘Bridget Jones: Mad About the Boy’ and ‘Paddington in Peru’ - please do send in suggestions for any favourites, new and old!